



Qatar University
Annual Research Forum & Exhibition
28 October 2020

University of the Future:
Reimagining Research and Higher
Education

Panel Book

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About the Forum

Qatar University Annual Research Forum and Exhibition (QUARFE) is the meeting point for students, researchers and academics from the University's colleges, centers, and institutes, including partners and stakeholders, to assess and review the institution's research enterprise.

This year's high profile event will revolve around the "University of the Future", a university playing its role in sustainable development, despite the current regional and international challenges. It is an occasion to demonstrate new tools or reports on implementing new programs, collaborations, innovations and other relevant projects that take bearing from the Qatar University (QU) Research Roadmap 2018-2022, Qatar National Research Strategy and Qatar National Vision 2030.

QUARFE offers QU the opportunity to demonstrate how it has been addressing the community's challenges through research anchored on a vibrant partnership with various industries and stakeholders, including institutions and research centers. The forum will also highlight the important and award-winning research being conducted at QU that promotes the vision of the University, and supports the research priorities of Qatar and the goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Through this, the University aims to achieve research-driven learning, discovery, and entrepreneurship. The event also provides leverage for QU faculty and students to be able to access and make the maximum use of opportunities offered by respective partners.

Key Contacts

Qatar University Annual Research Forum & Exhibition
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Agenda (Doha Time)

- 9:00 Welcome Address by Dr. Hassan Al-Derham, President, Qatar University
- 9:05 Opening Address by H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Al-Naimi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Qatar
- 9:10 Overview of Research and Graduate Studies activities by Prof. Mariam Al-Maadeed, Vice President for Research & Graduate Studies, Qatar University
- 9:20 Keynote Speech by Prof. Miguel Marques, Vice-Rector, Catholic University of Portugal, Portugal
- 9:40 Research Excellence Awards Ceremony
- 9:45 Panel Discussion I: "University of the Future": Perspective from National and International Collaborators
- 10:45 Break and Posters Gallery Session via the Mobile App
- 10:55 Panel Discussion II: Regional & International Challenges and their Impact on Research Collaboration
- 11:55 Posters, Visualization and Graduate Studies Awards Ceremony

Sessions details

Keynote speech by Prof. Miguel Marques

Vice-Rector, Catholic University of Portugal, Portugal

28 October 2020, 9:20 – 9:40 am

Does the University have a future?

The future of the University is about transformation for survival. It is an adaptation to disruptive new times and challenges. If the universities, as we know them today, are not capable of aligning with societal trends, technological advances, new ways of producing science, and fresh means to disseminating knowledge, their sustainability in the long run can be questioned. Ticking all these challenges will not be enough, though, because the future of the University is also dependent on its capability of being useful to the human kind, by fostering responsibility in preserving the environment, by committing to social justice and reduction of inequality, and by adopting rigorous attention to the resources it consumes, and how it governs itself to serve its many stakeholders.

Universities and institutions of higher education, in general, are at unprecedented crossroads. Indeed, “an avalanche is coming” in this sector of human activity. The relative protection it has enjoyed over centuries may be about to end.

Universities must learn fast to be more collaborative and serve the business community. They must be research institutions of creativity, culture, and entrepreneurship. They must produce relevant science, but also improve on how to apply it in combination with industry and government. Universities must help people find a space of harmony in a needed work-life balance, they must prepare citizens to 60+ year working lives, and they must anticipate and get ready today for the jobs of tomorrow.

Only by foreseeing change and be ready to transform, while serving humans and offering them the skills and competences they need for society and its many institutions, will the University have a future.

Panel discussion I**28 October 2020, 9:45 – 10:45 am****"University of the Future": Perspective from National and International Collaborators**

Planning, leading, and changing have always been premier features of effective universities. Well-recognized universities have been known for many achievements including quality academic programs, research, and local as well as international collaboration towards the advancement of their societies and the world.

While technological innovations have widely opened venues for collaboration between universities in the world, they have also loosened the grip of universities on the local communities; indeed, these communities are exposed to arrays of knowledge streaming from all over the globe. Envisioning their roles in the future is a key for success of universities. Being a research university may be seen as an entrepreneurial entity, which may imply changes in the governance principles. As events unfold in high speed, university leadership will have to rethink how to position their institutions to be effective from the views of the recipients.

Though research is a prime component of almost all universities, it tends to be associated with quality researchers, physical and financial resources, effective and flexible governance; indeed, it is a comprehensive ecosystem. No more than ever has this been evident than as in the current challenge of the Covid-19 where we come to rethink about the allocation of resources to research that touches on vital areas such as health and technology. Indeed, allocation of resources introduces questions equality and fairness, which sets the stage for the debate over the importance of an ethical framework (ethics) in higher education and the "University of the Future".

What should the University of the Future be? How can that university be relevant and of value? What is a possible way(s) to be in that "future"?

Moderator:

Prof. Saif Alsowaidi, Professor of Economics, Qatar University

Panelists:

- **Prof. Dzulkifli Abdul Razak**, Rector, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Malaysia
- **Prof. Marek Pawelczyk**, Vice-Rector for Science and Development, Silesian University of Technology, Poland
- **Dr. Al-Hareth Al-Khater**, Deputy Medical Director at the National Center for Cancer Care & Research, Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Qatar

Panel discussion II**28 October 2020, 10:55 – 11:55 am****Regional & International Challenges and their Impact on Research Collaboration**

Research cooperation, like other academic process aspects, depends on the local social, political, and economic contexts where the research institutions exist. These contexts are connected to different regional and international contexts on many levels, thus, it is extremely important to discuss them in details.

The political context and its interactions create numerous effects upon research cooperation; these effects are varied, given a set of facts that may push towards more or less cooperation. Following are some of these facts:

Usually, stable political environments push for more cooperation in research, because of the need for continued progress and preservation of stability. Moreover, when the cooperation in research is strengthened, the stability challenges recede, and society moves to advanced stages of creativity. Such assessment cannot be absolute because types of research and its connectivity to social or physical sciences are indispensable for the cooperation process. Research cooperation in humanities & social sciences encounters some challenges such as the specificity of the community culture, which may make cooperation rather difficult or even impossible. Of course, this does not apply with the same effect on research cooperation in areas of natural sciences. Unstable environments do not motivate research cooperation with the same enthusiasm, as the concept of priorities pushes toward stability as a top priority, which makes other priorities such as research cooperation fall back.

Research cooperation is affected by many factors, such as:

- Competition in the knowledge production. This is a permissible competition because of the desire to stay in the top positions. This tendency might make retreat in research cooperation though this is not necessarily the general case.
- Levels of academic freedom and its standards in the cooperating academic environments. This is reflected in the cooperation's ability to survive and continue. Add to that its ability to produce high-quality research and studies.
- Level of access to information and data, and this is not far from academic freedom. Research cooperation that does not have the right to obtain information at the appropriate times and in the required form will result in poor research output in terms of quality and diversity.
- The belief in the idea of knowledge and the ability to market it. Communities that do not believe in knowledge production, and that research and studies are the tools through which knowledge can be produced, will not necessarily push towards research cooperation and provide for what achieves its success.

In institutions that provide umbrellas for research cooperation, the decision-making process is a decisive element in the success or failure of that cooperation. This is connected to the idea of knowledge production, which in its turn pushes the human being for a better life. In this context, politicizing research institutions and directing them to produce a specific type of knowledge without following objective and scientific methodologies and references, appear to be the topic of interest.

Finally, the level of success or impact of research cooperation can be measured by its final product and its response to the community's issues and challenges. Any research product that does not reflect this may turn into a kind of waste of the intellectual and economic resources.

Moderator:

Prof. Mahjoob Zweiri, Director of Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University

Panelists:

- **Prof. Hassan Al-Sayed**, Professor in Public Law, College of Law, Qatar University
- **Prof. Amine Bensaid**, President, Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco
- **Prof. Dolla Karam Sarkis**, Vice-Rector of Research, Saint Joseph University of Beirut, Lebanon
- **Mr. M'hamed El Aisati**, Vice President of Product Management, Funding and Content Analytics, Elsevier

Speakers

H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Al-Naimi

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Qatar



Dr. Ibrahim Al-Naimi graduated with a bachelors degree from Qatar University from the first batch of graduates in 1977. In 1983, he obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Southern California in the United States. He began his academic career as an assistant professor and then was promoted to associate professor until he became a professor of Organic Chemistry at Qatar University in 1996.

He assumed several academic and administrative positions, including dean of College of Science (1990-1994), then president of Qatar University (1994-1999), then the founder and president of the Dutch CHN University in Qatar (2000-2006). He was appointed as chair of the Committee for Attracting Distinguished Foreign Schools (2006-2008). In 2008, Dr. Al-Naimi was assigned as chair of Founding Committee for the Community College in

Qatar. He established the College and became its President ever since its inception until 2018. Upon the Emiri Decree No.19 of the year 2017, he was appointed as an Undersecretary for the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

Dr. Al-Naimi founded and chaired the Qatari Scientific Club, since its inception in 1986 until 1990. In addition, he chairs the Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue from its inception in 2007 until now.

Dr. Al-Naimi served as member in the editorial board of the Arab Gulf Journal of Science since 1991 up to date, a member of the Advisory Committee of the Asian Journal of Chemistry from 1996, member of the Advisory Committee of the Journal of Saudi Chemical Society since 1999.

In addition, he is member of the Advisory Committee of Ajman Journal of Studies and Research, Umm Al Moumineen Women's Association in the UAE since 2001, and member of the editorial board of "Adyan" Magazine issued by the Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue since 2010.

He participated in the membership and presidency of several committees, as he is a member and the Vice-Chairman of the Appreciative and Incentive State Awards Committee since November 2004. He has been Chairman of the Certificate Equivalency Committee since May 2014. Dr. Al-Naimi had also served as a member of the Center for Muslim Contribution to Civilization (1990-2006).

Dr. Al-Naimi received the GCC Medal of Excellence in Science in 1997, the Order of Academic Palms from the Prime Minister of France in November 1997, and the Voluntary Man Annual Award in the State of Qatar by the Supreme Council of Youth in October 2000.

Dr. Al-Naimi published more than 40 papers in the field of Organic and Organometallic Chemistry in prestigious scientific journals and presented them at international conferences.

Dr. Hassan Al-Derham
President, Qatar University



Qatar University's 6th President, Dr. Hassan Rashid Al-Derham, is recognized for playing a major role in advancing research activity at both university and national levels.

Dr. Al-Derham assumed the position on 15 June 2015. He was previously vice-president for Research from 2007 during which he guided QU to its current status as leader of research excellence in the GCC region, which was enhanced by its continuous success in winning the largest percentage of grants in the National Priorities Research Program (NPRP) and Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) under the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF).

He also served in several earlier roles at QU, including associate VP for Research and head of Civil Engineering at the College of Engineering.

He holds a Ph.D. and post-graduate diploma in Construction Project Management from the University of Glamorgan (currently the University of South Wales), UK, which followed obtaining a masters degree in Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech, USA. His undergraduate is in Architectural Engineering from North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University, USA.

During his term as VP for Research, Dr. Al-Derham successfully developed and implemented the organization's research policies, procedures, and priorities as well as an ambitious research road map fielding strategic national priorities.

Additionally, under his leadership, several research centers were initiated, including the Gas Processing Center, Qatar Road Safety Studies Center, Qatar Mobility Innovations Center, KINDI Lab for Computing Research, Laboratory Animal Research Center, and the Biomedical Research Center. He also led the inauguration of the University Research Complex.

Dr. Al-Derham's research interests include construction productivity, project optimization, legal contracts and procurement. In 2009, along with his research team, he won Best Paper of the Year in ASCE Journal of Construction Engineering and Management. He is also a member of several professional international societies and organizations.

Prof. Mariam Al-Maadeed**Vice-President for Research & Graduate Studies, Qatar University**

Prof. Mariam Al-Maadeed is the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, and a professor of Physics and Materials Science at Qatar University. Since 2016, she has been leading research and graduate studies' development strategies and programs at the University. She has played a significant role in developing research and graduate studies programs and promoting and strengthening national and international relations in this field.

Before that, Prof. Mariam was the director of the Center for Advanced Materials, she founded the Materials Science and Technology Program. She has extensive and internationally recognized experience in higher education, research strategies, materials science, and nanotechnology. She has published more than 200 papers in international journals and conferences, in addition to chapters in books and patents, and has edited four books.

Prof. Mariam led many research grants and projects with different universities and institutions around the globe and national and international companies. She is an active member of distinguished associations in science and administration and worked as a reviewer for many scientific journals and conferences.

Being an expert in her field, Prof. Mariam has conducted various workshops with a diverse group of organizations, across industry and government ministries. She chaired several conferences and was invited as keynote speaker for many international conferences, and was member of many internal and external committees.

Prof. Mariam received several awards, including the Physics State Award in 2010, the Gulf Petrochemical Association (GPCA) Plastic Excellence Award in 2014, and the Leadership Excellence Award for Women from the conference and exhibition of engineering for the Middle East in 2015. She was also a leading member of the Al-Bairaq team, which won the World Innovation Summit for Education Award in 2015. In 2016, she received the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) Prize in Science & Technology.

Prof. Miguel Marques

Vice-Rector, Catholic University of Portugal, Portugal



Professor Marques is Vice-Rector (Vice-President) of Universidad Católica Portugal and Professor of Business at Católica-Lisbon School of Business & Economics. He teaches International Business and Corporate Governance.

He holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration and Finance from the University of Glasgow. As part of his academic duties, he taught at CEIBS – China Europe International Business School (Beijing, Shanghai) and other business schools, in Graduate and MBA Programs.

In business, Miguel A. Marques currently serves as Vice Chairman and Lead Independent Director of Galp Energia, SA (multinational oil & gas, and energy). He is also a member of the Board of Brisa-CR, SA (infra-structures and concessionaire of tolled highways).

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Miguel regularly contributes to non-profit organizations and charitable activities.

Prof. Saif Said Alsowaidi

Professor of Economics, College of Business and Economics, Qatar University



Prof. Alsowaidi holds a Ph.D. in economics since 1990.

Currently, he is Professor at the College of Business and Economics.

His previous academic experience includes, serving as vice president for administration and finance and vice president for institutional development and planning at Qatar University.

Prof. Saif served in numerous committees and teams at Qatar University, and managed several strategic projects both in the academic and admin areas. In the community, his past and present experience includes Qatar Exchange, Al Meera, Ministry of Economy and Industry, in addition to many committees.

Prof. Dzulkifli Abdul Razak
Rector, International Islamic University Malaysia.



Prof. Dzulkifli is currently the Rector of the International Islamic University Malaysia. He was the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) from 2000 until 2011. He is the immediate ex-president of the International Association of Universities (IAU), a UNESCO-affiliated organization based in Paris.

He was the convenor of the Regional Centre for Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development based in USM beginning 2005. Prof. Dzulkifli was awarded the prestigious 2017 Gilbert Medal by Universitas 21 in recognition of "his long term commitment to a sustainable approach to international higher education". He is a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (FASc), the World Academy of Art and Science (FWAAS), and the World Academy of Islamic Management (FWAIM).

He is an Honorary Professor at the University of Nottingham since 2014, and more recently appointed Senior Advisor at Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya. He is also the Co-Chair of Right Livelihood College Steering Committee based at the University of Bonn, Germany, and an Advisory Board Member, Institute of Sustainable Development and Learning in Leuphana, Germany. He was an invited speaker at the 2015 Nobel Dialogue in Sweden.

Since almost twenty-five years, he writes weekly op-ed columns for various Malaysian news media like The New Straits Times, The Edge, and The Sun.

Prof. Marek Pawelczyk
Vice-Rector for Science and Development, Silesian University of Technology (SUT), Poland



Full professor, Vice-Rector for Science and Development, Head of the Department of Measurements and Control Systems. Former President and current Vice President for Professional Relations of the International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration (IIAV).

Prof. Marek is Managing Editor of the International Journal of Acoustics and Vibration (JCR recognized), a member of Editorial Boards of 4 journals. He is expert in control sciences, mathematical modeling, and minerals processing.

Author of 3 books and over 220 journal and proceeding papers, supervisor of 8 PhDs, co-author of 9 patent applications. He has been Coordinator of over 20 research projects sponsored by state institutions or industry, with many solutions commercially available (over 1000 sold licenses) and Coordinator/Supervisor of 6 European Union sponsored structural fund projects (over €21 million).

Chair or Co-chair of 10 International Congresses on Sound and Vibration organized each year in a different country with 700-1300 participants from more than 50 countries. A member of about 60 Scientific Committees of international conferences and organizer and chair of about 60 scientific

sessions. He delivered 15 plenary lectures during international scientific conferences or at universities.

Received many state and international awards, including awards from SIEMENS, FIAT, Polish Academy of Sciences, among others. Member of the Committee on Acoustics and the Committee on Automatic Control and Robotics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, 3 committees of the International Federation of Automatic Control. At SUT, as Vice Rector he is responsible for: development of the University, research, and scientific career of the University staff, cooperative and collaborative projects, evaluation of University scientific achievements, international cooperation, implementation of the research University Programme, IT Centre, Computer Centre, Regional Contact Point for European Union Research Programmes.

Dr. Al-Hareth Al- Khater

Deputy Medical Director at the National Center for Cancer Care & Research, Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Qatar



Dr. Al-Hareth M. Al-Khater was granted a Qatari national medical scholarship and obtained his medical degree at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He then joined Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) where he did his internship & medical residency before obtaining a national medical subspecialty scholarship.

He completed his internal medicine residency, hematology and medical oncology fellowship training at the University of Missouri-Columbia, working at the University Hospital, the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veteran's Hospital & Ellis Fischel Cancer Center.

Dr. Al-Khater obtained American Board certification in internal medicine, hematology and medical oncology. He is currently a senior consultant medical oncologist, deputy medical director at the National Center for Cancer Care & Research, & Chair of the Healthcare Ethics Committee at HMC, Doha, Qatar.

He is also a Medical Advisor for the National Cancer Program in the Ministry of Public Health, Qatar & represents the State of Qatar as a member of the Governing Council for the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), Lyon France.

He has participated in many institutional, national & international committees, including being a member of the Qatar National Research Ethics Committee, member of the Qatar State Awards Trustees' Committee, member of the executive committee for the Board of Regents of Qatar University, member of the Advisory Committee for the Gulf Center for Cancer Control & Prevention, Riyadh, K.S.A., and past member of the Scientific Council for the (IARC).

His main interests are urological cancers and healthcare ethics at an advanced age.

Prof. Mahjoob Zweiri**Director of Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University**

Dr. Mahjoob is the Director of the Gulf Studies Center. He is an Associate Professor in the Contemporary Politics of the Middle East at Qatar University.

Before joining Qatar University in 2010, Dr. Zweiri was a visiting professor at the School of Government & International Affairs at Durham University. From March 2003-December 2006, he was a research fellow and then director of the Centre for Iranian Studies in the Institute for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at Durham University.

Dr. Zweiri has more than 60 publications in the areas of Iran and Contemporary Middle East History and Politics. In addition to Arabic, Dr. Zweiri is fluent in Farsi and English. He tweets @mzweiri.

Prof. Hassan Al-Sayed**Professor of Public Law, College of Law, Qatar University**

Dr. Hassan received a Ph.D. in Law in 2003 from the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, a masters degree in Public Law from the University of Jordan in 1997, and a bachelors degree in Law from the University of Kuwait in 1993.

He is currently a Professor of Public Law at Qatar University and a judge and a member of the Board of the Qatar International Court at the Qatar Financial Centre.

Dr. Hassan was a former director of the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University from August 2016 to August 2020. He was also a member of the Ministry of Justice's Bar Admissions Committee 2006-2015, a delegated consultant for the development of the Programs of the Center for Law and Judicial Studies at the Ministry of Justice from June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016, and Dean of Academic Affairs at the Police Academy (2013-2014). In addition, Dr. Hassan was the Dean of the College of Law at Qatar University in the period 2007-2010.

Dr. Hassan is a former member of the boards of directors of some private institutions that serve the public good such as the Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue and the Family Counselling Center. He was also the vice-president of the Qatar Bar Association until 2010. He has numerous legal and research literature published in well-established scientific journals. He was awarded the State Incentive Award in the field of Law, 2012.

Prof. Amine Bensaid

President, Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco



Dr. Amine Bensaid is a University Professor and President of Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane since November 2019.

He served as president of Mundiapolis University in Casablanca between 2011 and 2019. He was chairman of the Board of the Moroccan-American Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange (the Fulbright Commission in Morocco) between 2017 and 2020.

He holds a BS in Information Systems, an MS in Computer Engineering, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science & Engineering from the University of South Florida (USF).

He has held research assignments at the Technical University of Delft and Carnegie Mellon University. He was a faculty member at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (AUI), Morocco, from 1995 to 2009. He served as department chair, dean of engineering, then VP for Academic Affairs and Research. Prof. Amine was a UNDP expert on quality assurance (2002-2007).

As a computer scientist, his research and publications have been in the areas of fuzzy pattern recognition, data mining, and Arabic computing. He served as associate editor for the IEEE transactions on systems, man and cybernetics from 1999 to 2010, and as an advisor to the Chairman and CEO of MAScIR – a Moroccan institute devoted to market-driven research and technology. His current interests focus on the role of higher education for employability and the thriving of millennials in the fast-changing 21st century world. Prof. Amine is a Fulbright Scholar, a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Golden Key, Tau Beta Pi honor societies.

Prof. Dolla Karam Sarkis

Vice-Rector of Research, Saint Joseph University of Beirut, Lebanon



Prof. Dolla holds a Pharm D, a Ph.D. and is the head of Clinical Biology Laboratory. Prof. Dolla is currently the Vice-Rector of Research at Saint Joseph University of Beirut since September 2013. She is also a Professor of Microbiology at the Faculty of Pharmacy at Saint Joseph University.

Before that, she was the president of the International Conference of Deans of French-speaking Pharmacy Faculties (CIDPHARMEF) from July 2007 to May 2013, and president of the Scientific Council of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) from December 2013 to December 2016.

Prof. Dolla was dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy at Saint Joseph University from 2001 to 2013, director of the Doctoral School of Sciences and Health from 2008 to 2013, director of the Rodolphe Mérieux-Liban laboratory from 2012 to 2017, and head of the Microbiology Laboratory of the Hôtel-Dieu de France University Hospital Center in Beirut from 1993 to 2012.

She is a member of the National Academy of Pharmacy of France since December 2002, the French society of microbiology since 1984, the Lebanese Advisory Committee for Communicable Diseases and Antibiotic Resistance of the Lebanese Ministry of Health since 2004, the CEDRE Committee, the Board of Directors of the Hôtel-Dieu de France from September 2001 to September 2013, and the Order of Pharmacists of Lebanon since 2001.

She holds the Distinction of the Academic Palms of the French Ministry of Higher Education, awarded in June 2010.

Mr. M'hamed El Aisati

Vice President of Product Management, Funding and Content Analytics, Elsevier



M'hamed El Aisati is Vice President of Product Management, Funding and Content Analytics, at Elsevier.

He holds an MSc in Computer Sciences from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. After joining Elsevier in 1998, M'hamed contributed to the realization of the first Elsevier digital journals platform preceding ScienceDirect, and later on in 2004, stood at the cradle of Scopus, which he helped launch.

In 2010, he took on the role of Director of Content & Analytics, heading a technology and analytics team in assembling relevant data, supporting large research performance evaluation programs, and applying analytical tools in large-scale projects that aim to provide insights to research institutions, governments and funding agencies.

M'hamed is also a university ranking expert being Elsevier's antenna working directly with ranking providers such as THE and QS. Recently, his responsibilities expanded to include Research Funding solutions helping researchers and institutions with funding insights and decisions for increasing funding success rates, and funding agencies develop strategies for improving funding allocation and demonstrating impact.

M'hamed holds two patents and specializes in product development, big data, analytics, and service-oriented architecture.