

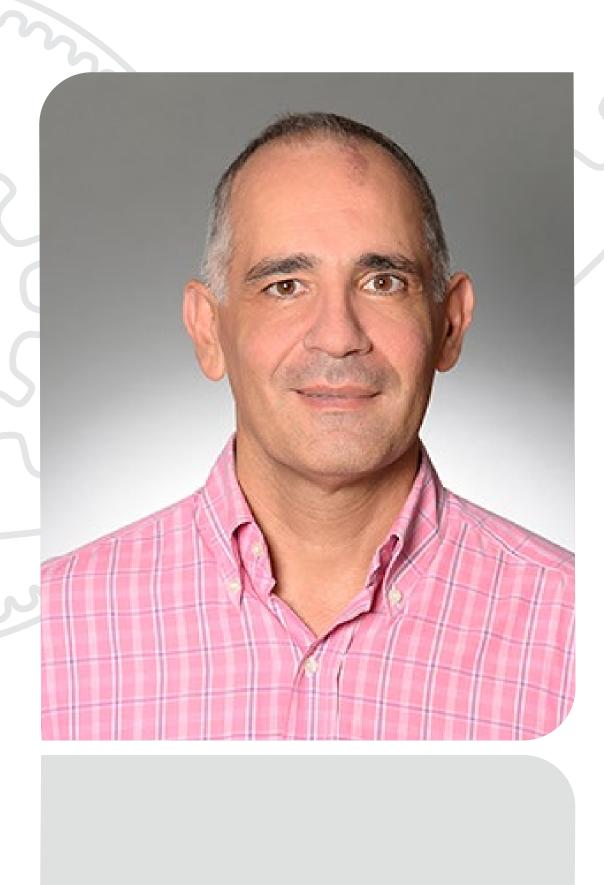






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NOTE FROM THE DEAN

Despite the hardships, it is a joy to see the birth of our first Faculty of Engineering Newsletter. Our great gratitude goes to Ms. Nancy Turc and our administrative assistants who took this project on board. The Covid-19 pandemic has taken, and continues to take a heavy toll in the world, particularly in Lebanon. We hope with confinement, and the arrival of the vaccine, there will be some relief on the horizon. In parallel, with the imposed lockdown, this Newsletter serves to bridge the disjunction of students, faculty members and staff, and will continue as an effective form of communication thereafter.

Fall 2020 was also a difficult semester with the loss of our colleague and friend Dr. Francis Francis. We all remember his pleasant personality and poetic "zajaly" skills during our gatherings. His memory shall remain with us as well as our defunct.

On-line teaching is a great challenge and an occasion to acquire new skills. It is indeed revolutionizing our universities. We have witnessed great enthusiasm among faculty members who shared experiences, hints, and frustrations with exams.

In this first issue, several efforts have been deployed to capture bits of our work, accomplishments, activities and events. We are gratified of our colleagues' publications and participation in interesting events. Students activities are also the pride of the faculty of engineering. It shows that in-spite of all the difficulties, we still have vibrant dynamic young student professional societies sharing common interests and organizing on-line events.

I sincerely hope that this gathering newsletter persists as a semestrial tradition and expands to our engineering alumni around the globe. I invite all our colleagues to send more of their contributions. I know that we have hidden talents and unlimited potentials. Let us all share it with delight and gratification.

Sincerely Yours,

Jacques N. Harb Dean, FE



PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Faculty members are actively involved in research. During 2020, their publications were submitted to high impact journals as well as international conferences. Some publications are listed below:

Peer-reviewed Journals

- > C. Ghnatios, E. Cueto, A. Falco, J.-L. Duval, F. Chinesta. "Spurious-free interpolations for nonintrusive PGD-based parametric solutions: Application to composites forming processes". International journal of material forming, 2020, doi: 10.1007/s12289-020-01561-0.35.
- > A. Barasinski, C. Ghnatios, E. Abenius, S. Bechtel, F. Chinesta. "Electromagnetic field propagation in a composite laminate and induced thermal field, application to microwave composites processing". International journal of material forming, 2020, doi: 10.1007/s12289-020-01562-z.36.
- > A. Ammar, C. Ghnatios, F. Delplace, A. Barasinski, J.-L. Duval, E. Cueto, F. Chinesta. "On the effective conductivity and the apparent viscosity of a thin rough polymer interface using PGD-based separated representations". International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering, June 2020, doi: 10.1002/nme.6448.37.
- > R. Ibanez, F. Casteran, C. Argerich, C. Ghnatios, N. Hascoet, A. Ammar, P. Cassagnau, F. Chinesta. "Data- Driven Modeling of Reactive Extrusion", MDPI Fluids, 2020, 5(2), 94.38.
- > C. Ghnatios, K El Rai, N. Hascoet, P.-A. Pires, J.- L. Duval, J. Lombardi, J.-Y. Hascoet, F. Chinesta. "Reduced Order Modeling of Additive Manufacturing: From Calibration to Parametric Part Distortion», International journal of material forming, accepted January 2021.
- > Akiki, G., & Balachandar, S. "Shear-induced lift force on spheres in a viscous linear shear flow at finite volume fractions." Physics of Fluids, 32(11), 113306. (2020).

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

- > Iskandar, R., Allaw, K., Dugdale, J., Beck, E., Adjizian-Gérard, J., Cornou, C., Harb, J., BadaroSaliba, N., Cartier, S., & Zaarour, R. (2020). Agent-based simulation of pedestrians' earthquake evacuation; application to Beirut, Lebanon. 17th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Sendai, Japan.
- > Feghali, Daniel J. van de Pas, Andrew J. Parrott, and Kirk M. Torr, ACS Macro Letters, 2020, 9 (8), 1155-1160. Bio-based Epoxy Thermoset Polymers from Depolymerized Native Hardwood Lignin.
- > E Feghali, L Tauk, P Ortiz, K Vanbroekhoven, W Eevers, Polymer Degradation and Stability, 2020, 179, 109241. Catalytic chemical recycling of biodegradable polyesters.
- > Ibrahim Mjallal, Elias Feghali, Mohammad Hammoud, Charbel Habchi, Thierry Lemenand, Solar Energy, 2021, 214, 19-25. Exploring the colligative properties of Arachidic acid for potential use as PCM.
- > Salem, T., Kazma, M., and Metni, N. (2020) "Impact on Thermal Comfort from the Integration of Solar Panels under Stagnation in Buildings: A Numerical Investigation", Proceedings of ASHRAE 4th International Conference on Efficient Building Design, November 5-6, 2020, Beirut, Lebanon.
- > Salem, T., Kazma, M., Metni, N., and Hanna, H. (2020) "Numerical Investigation of the Impact of Integrating Solar Collectors under Stagnation", Proceedings of the 5th IEEE International Conference of renewable Energy in Developing Countries, June 29-30, 2020, Marrakech, Morocco.

Abstract

> Impact of the 4th of August 2020 Beirut, Lebanon, port explosion on dynamical building properties Guillier B., Cornou C., Harb J., Youssef Abdel Massih D., Guéguen P., Mercerat D., Salameh C., Aslan Y., Atwi Y., Bedran E., Chedraoui R., El Hajj M., Fahed M., Mannah J., Nassif H., Rouhana C., Saghbini C., Tannous, C. SSA, January 2021.

4

SOCIETIES' NEWS



The AIChE Elections:

In June 2020, four NDU students were elected to the AIChE executive student committee. Student Elie Nader was elected the Chair for the 2020-2021 Middle East Regional Subcommittee, both Karen Atallah and Samar Yammine were elected to the position of Middle East Regional Liaison for 2020-2021 whereas Mia Hajj was elected to the position of Social Media Coordinator – Instagram on the Publications Subcommittee of the AIChE Executive Student Committee (ESC) also for 2020-2021.

Another highlight of this news is that the AIChE NDU Student Chapter is the only chapter in Lebanon that is represented in the ESC and is the most represented chapter by number of members in the ESC in the Middle East.

AIChE-NDU Event:

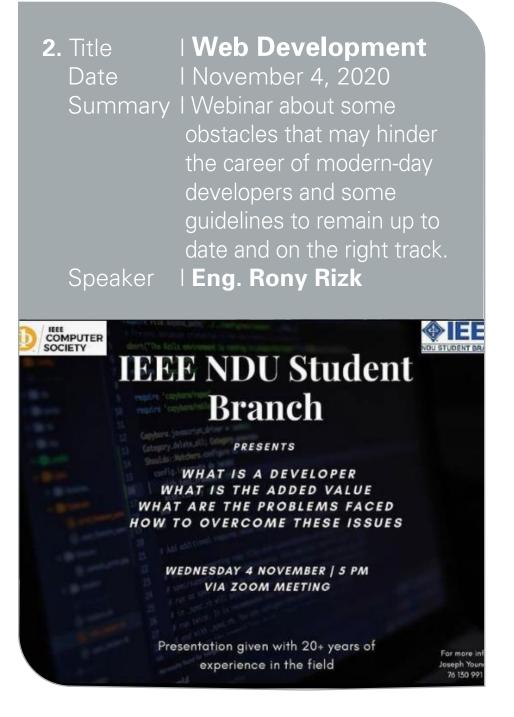
In the framework of the AUF collaboration, the AIChE-NDU organized a webinar on November 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. entitled "Promotion Phenomena in Heterogeneous Catalysis for Greenhouse Gas Mitigation" that was given by Prof. Elena Baranova a Full Professor at the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Ottawa. In her presentation, Prof. Baranova emphasized mainly on the following points (1) Electrochemical Promotion of Catalysis, (2) Examples of EPOC with nano-scale catalysis, (3) Metal-support interaction and (4) Connecting Metal-support interaction and EPOC.

IEEE Events:

During Fall 2020, IEEE has organized several events as follow:



| Support Sessions 1. Title for Python October 16-17, 2020 Date Summary I Support Sessions to all NDU students facing difficulties in their Python courses. Sessions Support sessions for NDU students currently enrolled in python courses. OCTOBER 16, 2020 | SPM-7PM OCTOBER 17, 2020 | 10AM-12AM Session Link to be sent upon registration



3. Title | Automation **Fundamentals**

l November 5, 2020 Date

Summary I Introduction to

Automation which allowed the audience to discover the aspects that make this field THE future of engineering and

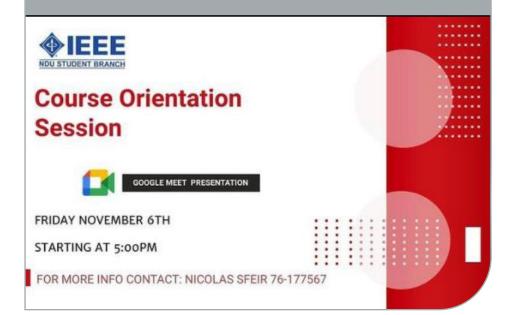
technology.

Speaker | Engineer Melissa Demien,

> founder of MD Team -Polytechnical Services



| Course Orientation **4.** Title 1 November 6, 2020 Date Summary | Course Orientation Session which offered the students an overview of the curriculum along with tips to be kept in mind while building their schedules.



IEEE Day 5. Title l November 7, 2020 Date Summary I A full-day celebration that started with a presentation about IEEE to end with fun social games and a trivia contest. Professor Bachar El Speakers Hassan, Dr. Ghassan Kraidy, Professor Abdallah Kassem IEEEBAY IEEE Day NDU- 7 November Nicolas Sfeir - IEEE NDU Student Branch Chairperso Join us in celebrating! IEEE Day commemorates the first time IEEE members gathered to share their technical ideas in 1884. Professor Bachar El Hassan-IEEE Lebanon Section Chair Dr. Ghassan Kraidy- NDU ECCE Department Chairperson
Professor Abdallah Kassem- IEEE NDU Student Branch Advisor Airmee Join Us !!



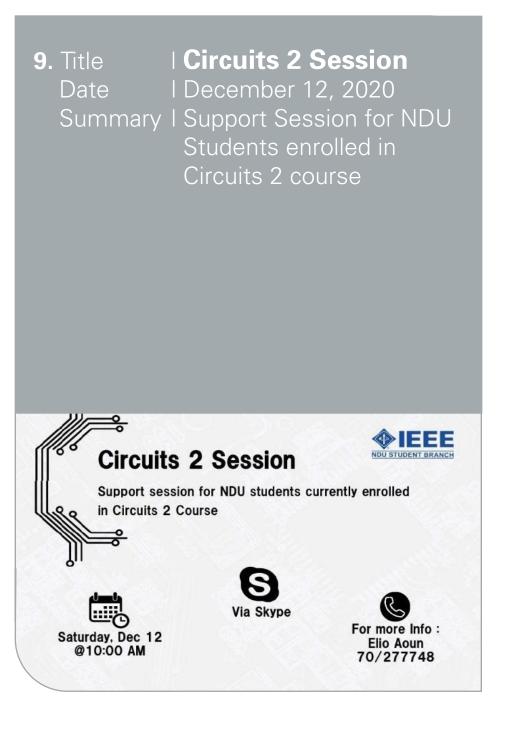


| Physically apart but **7.** Title socially close l December 11, 2020 Date Summary I A bond-strengthening and stress- relieving event for new students prior to the examination period.



| Meet, Greet and **8.** Title Breathe I December 12, 2020 Date Summary I Online Yoga Session with **Sammar Rammah**







The ASME events:

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers at NDU has always been an active SETTING THE STANDARD community of engineers participating in interesting and fun events. Despite the struggles the country has been going through this past year, the ASME committee has organized virtual events:

- | Meet and Greet **1.** Title I October 28, 2020 Date Summary I Annual event held to familiarize new members with ASME and to introduce them to the benefits of being part of the ASME community such as the annual scholarships granted to students who wish to apply and pursue their mechanical engineering studies.
- **3.** Title **Becoming an** Engineer: What's the **Next Step?** | Eng. Fares Nassif Speaker Summary I Webinar held to explain how to get ready for the job market and included an interesting talk on the topic of aircraft engineering.

- **Autodesk Revit 2.** Title Introductory Workshop Eng. Elie Aoun Speaker Summary I Webinar held to introduce students to a new software and opened up chances for innovative technologies available through the software along with the introduction to BIM.
- | Arduino Workshop **4.** Title ∣ Mr. Hassan Jouma Speaker Summary I An introductory course on the basics of an Arduino and how it works. This course prepared students to create and manipulate more advanced circuits to be used in future university courses and later on in the work field.





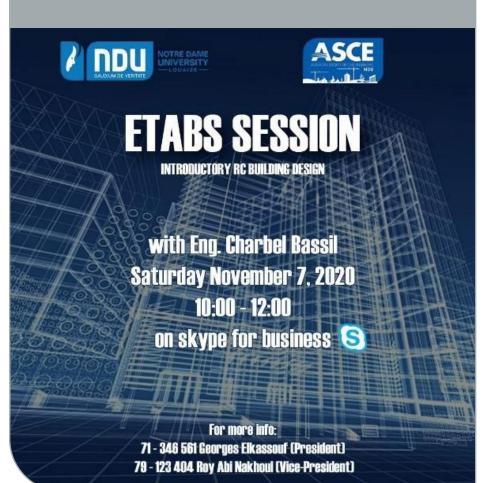
6. Title **Engineering and** Entrepreneurship Speaker | Mr. Khalil El Rai, cofounder of Spexal LLC Summary I As part of ASME E-Fests, which is organized by the regional and worldwide ASME sections, the online seminar discussed how engineers can become entrepreneurs in Lebanon and how to take chances in these challenging economic times.

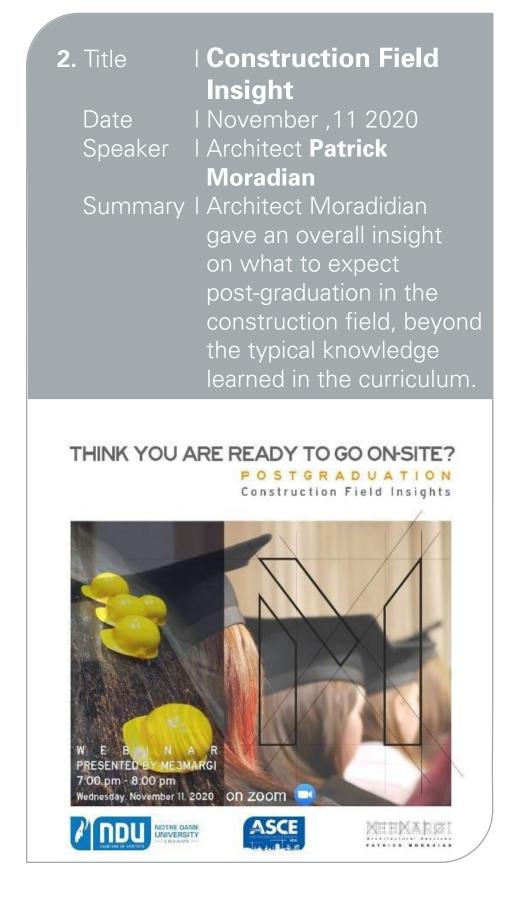
The ASCE events:

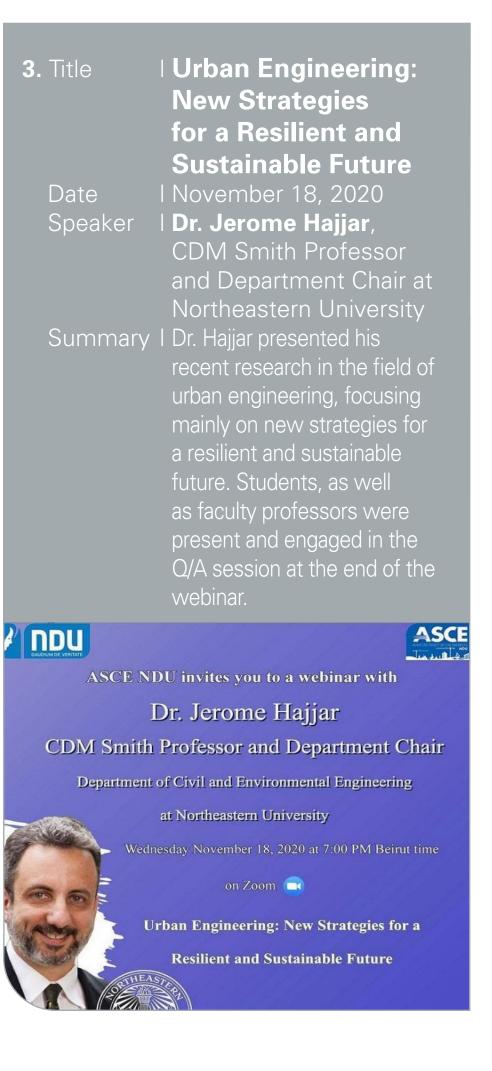
Despite all the challenges, the American society of Civil Engineers students at NDU organized several events:

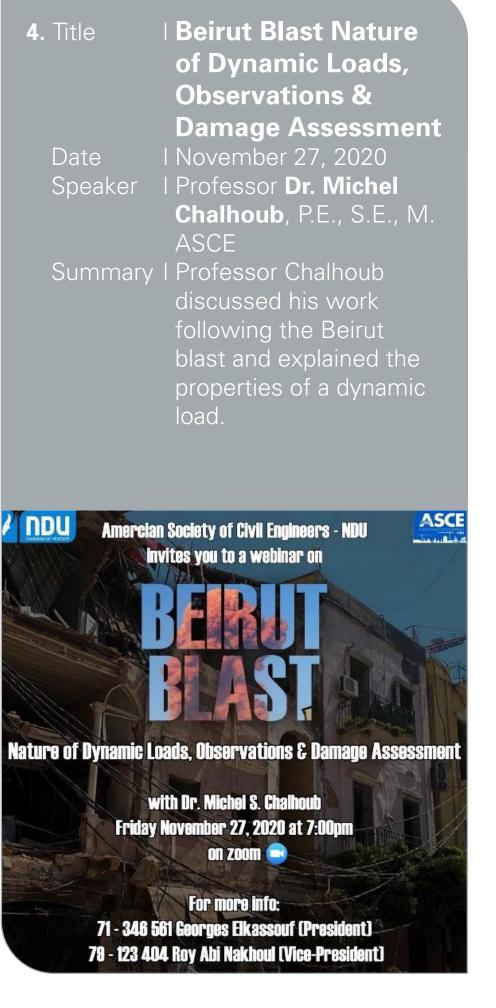


Software Session **1.** Title **ETABS and SAFE** I November 7, 2020 Date Summary I In this session, Eng. Charbel Bassil, a previous member at ASCE NDU, introduced the basic necessary steps required for the design of a reinforced concrete building using ETABS and SAFE.









The World of **5.** Title Hyperloop

I November 27, 2020 Date Speaker | Engineer Lara Tabet, Infrastructure London Group, Senior Engineer,

> Hyperloop Global Coordinator at Arup

Summary I Eng. Tabet introduced

the new concept of transportation, the Hyperloop, explained its key concepts and answered all questions on this innovative technology.

American Society of Civil Engineers - NDU invites you to a webinar on / ndu with Eng. Lara Tabet

> iesday December 15, 2020 at 7:00pm on skype for business (S)

71 - 346 561 Georges Elkassouf (President

78 - 123 404 Roy Abi Nakhoul (Vice-Preside

6. Title Sama Beirut, **Surviving the Blast** l December 4, 2020 Date Speaker | Architect Nassib Ayoub from Erga Group Summary I Architect Ayoub gave an overview about the blast proof design of the Sama Beirut tower which allowed it to withstand the Beirut blast. **American Society of Civil Engineers - NDU** ndu invites you to a webinar on SAMA BEIRUT **Surviving The Blas** with Architect Nassib Ayoub Friday December 4, 2020 at 6,00p

| Field Trip with CCL **7.** Title **Derviche Haddad** I December 11, 2020 Date Summary I The ASCE organized a field trip with CCL Derviche Haddad under the supervision of Dr. Michel Chalhoub, P.E., S.E., M. ASCE to acquire the required knowledge about prestressed concrete. Eng. Nayef Azar, operation and marketing manager at the company introduced the need, the competition, and the pursuit of development of this type of concrete used in construction. American Society of Civil Engineers - NDU



| Introduction to 8. Title Primavera P6 l December 11, 2020 Date Speaker | **Engineer Mohamad** Haidar from CivilEnGuide Summary I Eng. Haidar gave an overview on Primavera P6 used in the field of project management. An explanation of the various tools used was conducted followed by a real-life project managed on this software. American Society of Civil Engineers - NDU invites you to a session on ASCE ndu INTRODUCTION TO PRIMAVERA P6 Tuesday December 22, 2020 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Skype for Business 🔇 For more info: 71 - 346 561 Georges Elkassouf (President) 79 - 123 404 Roy Abi Nakhoul (Vice-President)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FAAL Action 2021:

During January 2021, Dr. Chady Ghnatios volunteered in the FAAL Action 2021 that was organized by the US embassy in Beirut. The main objective of the FAAL Action was to achieve orientation of school students regarding their future career path, especially students in underserved regions of Lebanon.



ASCE-NDU > Community service with "Haddak Men B3id":

Given the economic crisis in Lebanon and the huge rise in the prices of necessity goods, ASCE students volunteered with "Haddak Men B3id", a Lebanese based NGO and helped them distribute food boxes to less fortunate families.

Date: December 27, 2020

ENGINEERING ALUMNI

Group News:

No current news.

SENIOR PROJECTS

MEN599 Engineering Design II:

Under the supervision of Dr. Chady Ghnatios, ME students Maria El Hindi, Ramy Ayoub and Hicham Nasr have worked on a senior project entitled "Creation of a solar tracking panel to optimize energy production during the day". The online presentation was held on Wednesday January 13, 2021.



During Fall 2020, and as part of her CHE 598: Engineering Design I course requirement, student Samar Yammine prepared a proposal entitled "Development of a sensor or a portable spectrophotometer to quantify one type of pollutant present in Litani's river" under the supervision on Dr. Elias Feghali.



AROUND THE FACULTY



Dr. Jacques Harb, Dean of the Faulty of Engineering has successfully completed the online learning course entitled "Global Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Pathway" on May 25, 2020, at the Humanitarian Leadership Academy.

Also, on November 16, 2020, Dr. Harb has renewed his involvement with Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Universita e della Ricerca as part of the Register of Scientific Experts, REPRISE set up at the MIUR for the following sections Fundamental research, Applied research and Scientific popularization.

Furthermore, Dr. Harb has been active as a member in the scientific committee at the Ibrahim AbdEl Al Foundation for Sustainable Development, IAAF in developing a data base for GeoHydrological system of the Akkar area.



Associate Professor at the DME Dr. Najib Metni has received an Erasmus+ grant for the SWaTH project (Sustainable Water Treatment for Hospitals). This project has a total budget of EUR 999,765 for three years. The project will quantify current methods of wastewater treatment in Lebanese hospitals, classify their level of compliance with International standards, statistically and scientifically assess social and environmental damage through Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) studies, and enhance the wastewater laboratories and faculty skills through relevant equipment acquisition. The sustainable water treatment for hospitals is a very hot topic especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DME and more specifically the Chemical Engineering program will benefit from this grant by a large number of workshops and



trainings for faculty and students about the newest technologies used for sustainable water treatment. The trainings will be held and conducted by different European partners (KTH- Sweden, University of Oulu-Finland, University of Lleida-Spain, University of Granada-Spain, Université de la Rochelle-France). It will be also an opportunity to acquire equipment related to testing, analysis and treatment of contaminated water. These equipment will be additional tools to be used by undergraduate and graduate NDU students.







Dr. Talal Salem, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, DCEE Chairperson has been selected to join the IP Valorization Grants Program and received a \$25,000 innovation voucher from Berytech who has partnered with The Euro-Lebanese Centre for Industrial Modernisation (ELCIM) of the Industrial Research Institute (IRI) to mobilize Academia and Research institutions to work on commercializing Lebanese intellectual property for the benefit of different sectors and to advance the Knowledge Economy. Dr. Salem's project addresses the development of a thermal energy storage systems based on sensible and latent energy storage.



Associate Professors at the DCEE Dr. Talal Salem & Dr. Dima Jawad got an Erasmus+ grant for the UPGRADE project that has a total budget of EUR 875,150. UPGRADE is an ERASMUS+ EU funded project that aims at directing the development of higher education and research in transportation and involving innovative transportation solutions to serve the needs of unprivileged minorities of society. UPGRADE will employ multidisciplinary higher education and research to help transportation businesses address the pressing transportation challenges in participating Partner Countries using innovative solutions such as ride-sharing, ride-hailing, and advanced urban transit.



From NDU share which is EUR115,432, The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering will be able to equip the Labs with high tech transportation equipment and a powerful computational center. These equipment and tools will be used by graduate and undergraduate students, and for research activities by faculty members. Also new courses on urban transportation will be developed at NDU within the

project. Also, the project includes several extensive trainings to civil engineering students and faculty members at the partner institutions in the Programme Countries. Faculty members will also collaborate with researchers from Programme and Partner Countries and publish scientific articles on the project main findings.





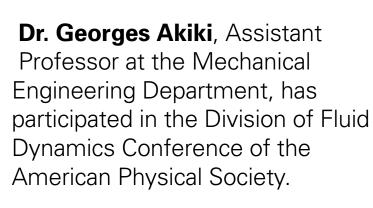




Dr. Maurice Khabbaz, Associate Professor at the Electrical and Computer and Communication Engineering Department, has been nominated as the Editor-In-Chief for the Blockchain-Enabled Industrial Internet of Things Special Issue of the IEEE Internet of Things Magazine.

Also, Dr. Khabbaz has been awarded the Associate Editor (AE) Service Excellence Certificate from the IEEE Transactions on Network and Service Management with an AE service term renewal for an exceptional third time in a row. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Khabbaz for the certificate he has been awarded along with his nomination as Editor-In- Chief and wishing him a successful term in leading this magazine.

Dr. Chady Ghnatios, Associate Professor at the Mechanical Engineering Department, has been selected at the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program that is funded by the US department of State as a Fulbright visiting Assistant Professor to Stanford University starting January 2021. Dr. Ghnatios will be working on a hybrid modeling of the automated tape placement; Hybrid modeling combines classical models, enhanced by artificial intelligence algorithm to correct the ignorance always involved in the models.





The Faculty of Engineering at NDU mourns the passing of a beloved soul and exceptional professor, Dr. Francis Francis, Associate Professor at the Mechanical Engineering Department. Dr. Francis died on Monday, November 23, 2020. May his soul Rest in Peace.

EVENTS

Due to the spreading of the Covid-19 pandemic, no events were organized by the Faculty of Engineering.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The department of Mechanical Engineering and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) NDU student chapter – Faculty of Engineering at Notre Dame University-Louaize are organizing a webinar entitled "Li-ion batteries changed our daily life, why?, how do they work?, and what next?" by Dr. Sébastien Sallard on Wednesday February 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. (UTC+2-Beirut Time).

Microsoft Teams link: https://teams.microsoft.com/_#/pre-join- calling/19:meeting_ NWZmMTRIZDUtODM0NS00Y mQwLWEzZTUtMjRjZGU4ZmMwODgx@thread.v2

Abstract: Can you imagine a life where as soon as you are leaving your home or your office you are not connected? No possibility to phone? No possibility to be called? No possibility to find any needed information in several seconds? Since ca. 15 years, smartphones make it possible thank to their high performance electronic hardware, software and dedicated phone/wi-fi networks. Yet, all electronic devices need electrical energy to be functional. High energy, light weight and cheap batteries are needed. Today such batteries are called Li-ion batteries. They are also massively used in the electrical and hybrid cars, the storage of the grid energy... Nowadays, the production of the Li-ion batterie became a strategic matter for many countries.

The presentation will start with an introduction on the Li-ion batteries market and its recent evolution to elucidate the actual situation and why such basic things as "batteries" have turned to be of strategic interest for the nations.

Fundamentals of batteries will be shortly presented to explain why the Li-ion batteries possess today the highest energy storage capacity compared with any other type of batteries (lead & nickel

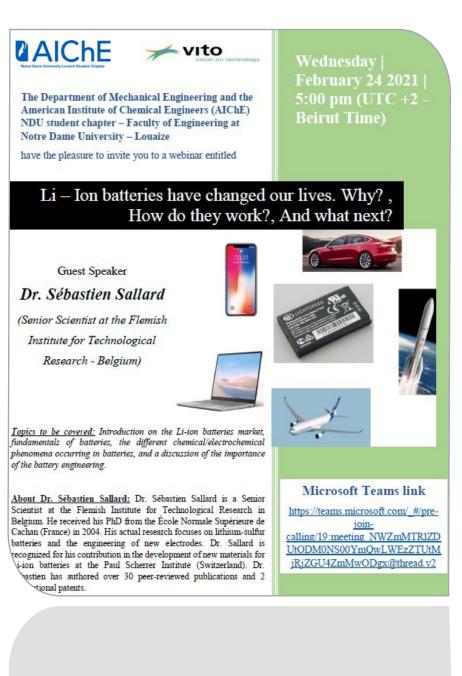
metal-hydride). The different chemical/electrochemical phenomena occurring in batteries will be introduced taking into consideration different materials present inside the battery, used to store reversibly the electrochemical energy. Furthermore, the importance of the battery engineering will be discussed.

Despite all their advantages, Li-ion batteries possess also draw-backs that limit their performances (energy density, charge rate, lifespan). The different challenges of the existing technologies will also be presented e.g. solid-state batteries, silicon-based batteries, lithium-sulfur batteries or lithium-air batteries, to present the prospective developments.

Biography

Dr. Sébastien Sallard is a Senior Scientist at the Flemish Institute for Technological Research (Belgium). He is in charge of the development of new materials for batteries since 2017. Dr. Sallard received his PhD from the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France) in 2004 for his work in electrochemistry and sol-gel materials. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces (Germany) and the Liebig-Universität Giessen (Germany) from 2005-2010 working on the development of electrochemical nano-materials. Furthermore, Dr. Sallard contributed to the development of new materials for Li-ion batteries at the Paul Scherrer Institute (Switzerland) from 2011-2016, as a Senior Scientist.

His actual research focuses on lithium-sulfur batteries and the engineering of new electrodes. Dr. Sébastien has authored over 30 peer-reviewed publications and 2 international patents.



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