

13th Learning & Technology Conference

10 – 11 April 2016

Welcome Address: Dr. Haifa Jamal Al-Lail

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الخلق والمرسلين سيدنا محمد و على آله و صحبه

أجمعين

- Your Royal Highness, **Princess Lolowah Al Faisal** – Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees & General Supervisor of Effat University
- Your Highness Prince Turki Bin Mohammed ALSaud President of King Abdulaziz city of science and technology
- Honorable Shura member Dr. Hayat Sindi
- Your Excellency Madam Souad Jaffli
Our dearest member of Effat University Honorary Advisory Board
- Our valued guests, students and faculty.

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته ،،،

It is my privilege to welcome you all today to the 13th Learning & Technology Conference held under the exciting theme of “3, 4, 5 Dimensions and Beyond: Immerse into the Learning Environment.” This year’s conference will explore the major impact that multi-dimensional technology has on both teaching and learning.

Over a decade ago, Effat University envisioned a timely platform that brings together educators, researchers and tech enthusiasts under one roof and functions as a fount for creativity and innovation. It was a dream that such platform bridges the existing gap and becomes a leading hub for innovators across disciplines to share their knowledge and exchange novel ideas. It was in 2003 that this dream was realized and the first Learning & Technology

symposium was held. Up until today, the conference has covered a variety of cutting-edge themes such as Digital Literacy, Cyber Citizenship, Edutainment, Massive Open Online Courses, and many, many others. The conference has also attracted key, prominent figures in the fields of sciences and technology such as **Farouq El Baz** from NASA, **Queen Rania Al-Abdullah** of Jordan, and many others who addressed large, eager-to-learn audiences and inspired many with unique stories.

Now in its 13th version, the Learning & Technology conference has always posed the question of “what’s next?” While emerging innovations, such as multi-dimensional technologies, are seen today as promising instruments that could pave our way to the future, these were also the focal points around which fruitful discussions have always taken place here at the L&T. The question this year is what does the future of learning hold and

how can this modern-day technology be leveraged and integrated with other tech advances to ultimately have an impactful role in teaching and learning.

Effat University, driven by the infinite support of its Board of Founders and Board of Trustees, is proud to be a venue of connecting the renowned researchers, academic and industry leaders around the world to share their knowledge of up-to-date technologies. I am especially pleased of the diversity and expertise of the speakers participating from different fields and countries. Our Keynote Speaker, **His Highness Prince Dr. Turki bin Saud bin Mohammad Al Saud**, President of King Abdulaziz City for Science & Technology. KACST is considered by many to be the Saudi frontier for fostering sciences and technology in the Kingdom and paving our country's way to the bright future.

Lastly, I would like to conclude my speech by extending my sincere thanks and appreciation for all sponsors who supported the event and the organizing team under the leadership of the Chair of the Conference, **Dr. Akila Sarirete**, and Chair of the Program Committee, **Dr. Tayeb Brahimi**. Thank you all for making this year's conference a success.

Thank you, everyone, very much for your valuable contribution and wish you all an enjoyable day.