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|  | Professor in Special & Inclusive EducationOffice E503, 4th Floor, I10Psychological Sciences DepartmentCollege of Education – Qatar UniversityP.O Box 2713 Doha – Qatar00974 66270400q.al-meqdad@qu.edu.qa<http://qufaculty.qu.edu.qa/qalmeqdad/><https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7553-5531> |

**Summary**

I am Senior Expert in the field of special and inclusive education with over 25 years of experience. Throughout my academic and professional journey, I developed a robust knowledge and experience on how to work with service providers and policy makers; implementing best evidence-based practices and professional standards to meet the unique needs of children with/ without disabilities, their teachers and families. Additionally, I was appointed a member of the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017-2020. Since February 2023, I am serving as Chief External Examiners in the Arab Open University to review the assessment that is implemented by faculty and provide them with support in the light of best international assessment practices.

Prior taking the Professorship role at the University of Qatar, I worked at the Jordanian University of Yarmouk working as Professor in Special & Inclusive Education, Associate Professor in Special & Inclusive Education and the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at Zayed University- UAE, respectively; teaching both undergraduate and graduate students and providing consultations to several local and regional organizations. I also published several articles in local, regional and international journals. At Yarmouk University, I served as the Director of Speech and Hearing Center. Occasionally, I am invited to plan, deliver and review training programs for teachers, parents and other stuff on local and regional levels on a verity of topics relevant to assessment and evaluation, special education, gifted and talented, children’s rights and child protection.

Before completing my MPhil in Educational Research (2005) and PhD in Special Education from the University of Cambridge UK (2008), I worked for a 7-years period as the Head of Assessment and Evaluation Unit, at Nazik Al- Hariri Center for Special Education, Jordan; during which I was privileged to work with and lead a multi-disciplinary team in conducting a comprehensive approach of diagnosing individuals with disabilities, planning their Individualized Educational Programs accordingly, providing family consultations and efficient hands-on support for their teachers.

Having a highly responsive approach towards learners and a thriving force for learning about students with/ without disabilities have always been leading me to explore new venues in this profession and accept new challenges the aim of which is leading and making the change in attitudes and educational practices from a special to an inclusive education wherein Every Student Succeeds.

#### Education:

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| **Ph.D.** |  | **2008, University of Cambridge, UK** |
|  | **Dissertation Title** | Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties |
|  | **Emphasis** | Naturalistic Metacognitive Interventions for Teaching Children with Cognitive Disabilities Mathematical skills, and Teachers' Training and Perceptions |
| **MPhil.** |  | **2005, University of Cambridge, UK** |
|  | **Thesis Title** | Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties: Pilot Study |
|  | **Emphasis** | Metacognitive Interventions for Children with Cognitive Disabilities |
| **M.A.** |  | **2000, University of Jordan** |
|  | **Thesis Title** | The Effect of a Training Critical Thinking Program on Creativity Characteristics and Self-esteem Amongst Eleventh Grade Students |
|  | **Emphasis** | Training on Critical Thinking and Enhancing Creativity for Gifted |
|  | **Major** | Special Education |
| **B.A.** |  | **1997, University of Jordan** |
|  | **Major** | Special Education |

#### Professional Experience:

***University and Academic/Research Related;***

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Sep. 2023- Now | Professor in Special & Inclusive Education, Qatar University, Doha – Qatar | * Teaching graduate and undergraduate courses
* Programs and curriculum development
* Conducting research
* Serving in internal and external promotion committees
* Supervising & Examining Master's and Doctoral Degrees students
* Consultations to local community and international agencies
* Member of the Editorial Board of Dirast Educational Sciences Journal <http://research.ju.edu.jo/en/journals/Home.aspx>
* Member of the Editorial Board of The International Journal of Psychological and Educational Research

<https://www.ijoper.com/index.php/ijoper/index>  |
| Aug. 2021- Sep. 2023 | Professor in Special & Inclusive Education, Yarmouk University, Irbid – Jordan |
| Feb. 2019 – Jul. 2021 | Associate Professor in Special Education, Yarmouk University, Irbid – Jordan |
| Feb. 2023- Now | Chief External Examiners, the Arab Open University | Reviewing evidence that is implemented by faculty and providing support in accordance with best international assessment practices and quality standards.  |
| Feb. 2020- Jan 2023 | External Examiner, the Arab Open University |
| Jan. 2015 to Jan. 2019 | Associate Professorin Special and Inclusive Education,College of Education, Zayed University, AUH- UAE | * Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
* Graduate Program Coordinator of Special Education
* Teaching different courses at both B.A. and M.A. levels
* Conducting research
* Consultations to local community
* Member of inclusive practices group
* Research consultant for School for All evaluation program, Ministry of Education, UAE
* Committee Head of Ministry of Education team for reviewing Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, UAE
* Member of training and research team for improving inclusive practices at schools of Dubai, Al Jalila Foundation /ZU project
* Committee Member for Developing B.A program in SEN at ZU
* Committee Member for Developing Diploma Programs in SEN, Gifted & Talented, and Learning Disabilities at ZU
* Committee Head for Developing Diploma Program in Learning Disabilities at ZU
 |
| May 2013- Jan. 2015  | Associate Professor in Special Education, Yarmouk University, Irbid – Jordan | * Teaching different courses at both B.A. and M.A. levels
* Conducting research
* Supervising & Examining Master's and Doctoral Degrees students
* Consultations to local community
* Member of Degree Committee, Scientific Committee, and High Studies Committee
* Committee Head for establishing B.A program in SEN
* Committee Member for establishing M.A program in Speech and Language Disorders
* Rapporteur of preparatory conference committee: "Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World"
* Reviewer of Math National Curriculum (1-4 grades) in Jordan
 |
| Sept. 08- May 2013 | Assistant Professor in Special Education, Yarmouk University, Irbid - Jordan  |
| June 2012- June 2014 | Director, Speech & Hearing Center, Yarmouk University, Irbid – Jordan | * Planning the research and services policies for the SHC and ensuring they run properly in corporation with other parties in the university and local community.
* Budget Planning
* Evaluating and diagnosing children with special needs
* Coordinating services provided in the SHC.
* Committee Head for developing BSc. program in Speech and Hearing Sciences
 |
| Feb.-Sept. 2011  | Assistant Dean of student affairs, Yarmouk University, Irbid – Jordan | * Participating at different committees
* Leading a multidisciplinary team working towards achieving personal growth, wellness, intellectual development, academic achievement and career success of each individual student
 |
| Jan. – Mar. 08 | *Research Assistant,* (CindLe Project) University of Cambridge  | * Setting up research projects
* Coding and analyzing of policy document, video data, and writing up research reports
 |
| Oct. – Dec. 07 | *Research Assistant,* (Primary Review) University of Cambridge |

***Clinical/Practice Related;***

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| 2017-2020 | Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE | Providing technical opinion on legislations and government initiatives regarding people with disabilities in UAE. |
| 2015-2016 | Member of training and research team for improving inclusive practices at schools of Dubai, Al Jalila Foundation /ZU project | Providing evidenced based training on the implementation of inclusive practices to teachers working in a number of schools in Dubai |
| March-June 2015 | Committee Head of Ministry of Education team for reviewing Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, UAE | Reviewing and issuing an up-to-date Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, UAE |
| 27 Aug – 3 Sep 2014 | Visiting Training Expert,The Teachers and Parents Counsel, Ajaman, UAE  | Planning and providing training workshops on child protection, the rights of children with disabilities, behavior modification, evaluation of disabilities and evidenced based practice approach. |
| 24-26 Aug 2014 | Visiting Training Expert,The Rosary School- Abu Dhabi, UAE | Planning and providing training workshops on child protection |
| 11-12 Mar 2014 | Visiting Training Expert,Dubai Police- Dubai, UAE | Planning and providing training workshops on child protection and the rights of children with disabilities |
| Oct. 09-Feb. 11 | Community Consultant, The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD), Jordan | * External Audit: Investigating the needs and services of centers working in the field of SEN in relation to quality indicators and professional standards
* Providing consultations to local community
* Planning and providing training for professionals working in the field of SEN
* Participating at different committees forming the evaluation and diagnosis standards in the field of SEN
 |
| 2001 | Member of legislation committee (Legislation & Opinion Bureau- Prime Minister Office) | Developing professional standards for Special Education Teachers in Jordan |
| July 2001 | Instructor, The Arab Gifted and Talented Council | Providing training for teachers and program managers of the gifted children in the Arab gulf countries, on methods of identification of gifted and talented children |
| 1st-21st April 2002 | Visitor Consultant, Bahraini Institute for Special Education, Manama | * Evaluating and diagnosing children with special needs
* developing Individual Education Programs for these children
* Providing Bahraini teachers training on the use of academic tests and referral methods
 |
| Sept. 97 – Dec. 03  | Head of Assessment & Evaluation Unit, Nazik Al- Hariri Center of Special Education, Jordan | * Teaching children with SEN
* Diagnosing and evaluating children with SEN
* Planning the IEPs for children with SEN & assuring that they run properly
* Planning and providing teachers training
* Providing Families of children with SEN with appropriate consultations
* Leading and Participating at different committees
* Establishing Resalatona Magazine (i.e. the first periodical journal in Jordan which covers issues related to children with SEN)
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***Sample of the Community Service;***

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| October 2019- Now | Member of the Higher Technical Committee, Princess Taghreed Center for Evaluation,  | Providing technical support on the best practices of assessment of children in special and inclusive settings in Jordanian schools  |
| April 2017- 2020 | Member, the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017-2020 | Policy development to support UAE government, e.g. UAE Disability Guide 2018. |
| March- April 2017 | Academic Reviewer,Zayed Higher Organization,UAE  | Reviewing the Abu Dhabi Disability Classification Guide 2107, before it’s approved by Abu Dhabi Executive Council. |
| Feb 29, 2017 | Invited Speaker | Invited by the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Childhood to give a talk on persons with disabilities participation’s rights, in one of the Youth Circles organized by Ministry of Youth Affairs |
| October 17, 2016 | Session Chair  | Charing a session on Quality Assurance in Edcuation in the 2nd International Conference of Khalifa Award for Education |
| October 29, 2016 | Invited Speaker | Invited by the Family Development Organization to give a talk on Safe Childhood to parents of children with special needs enrolled in Zayed Higher Organization for Special Needs and Humanitarian Care  |
| April 2016 | Invited Speaker | Invited by the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Childhood to give a talk on dyslexia in AUH Book Fair |
| May - Dec. 2015-  | Team Member; research consultant  | Evaluating the School for All Program implemented by MOE (2009-2014) |
| May- June 2015 | Committee Head  | Reviewing Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, Ministry of Education, UAE |
| Feb- May 2015 | Mentor and Reviewer  | Mentoring and reviewing training materials for Al Jalilah & ZU Project aimed at providing teachers with experiences to enhance their inclusive education practices  |
| Sept. 2009 - 2015 | Community Consultant, Al- Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans, Jordan | Running workshops the aim of which is enabling the orphans of becoming more academically self-regulated university students at different Jordanian cities |
| May 2010 | Community Consultant, Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBRP), Mutah University | Providing the in-service teachers in north of Jordan with the latest developments in the field of teaching the children with Special Educational Needs  |

***Conferences:***

* The Teaching and Learning Conference in the Arab World, Yarmouk Uni - Irbid, Jordan, April 2019.
* The 11th Conference of Arab Council for Gifted and Talented; The Educational Reform and Gifted Education, Jordan, 8-9 Nov. 2015.
* Invited keynote speaker at Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World Conference organized by the Union of Arab Universities, Jordan, 22-23 Nov. 2013.
* Planning and participating in "Evaluation of Hearing and Speech Services at the Jordanian Northern Provinces" workshop, Feb. 2013.
* Developing Practice for Teachers of Autistic Children Conference, The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD) in corporation with National Autistic Society- UK, 23-26 May 2010.
* The 13th Biennial EARLI Conference: Fostering Communities of Learners, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 25-29 August 2009.

## The 3rd Biennial Conference of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Ioannina, Greece, 13-16 May 2008.

## The 12th Biennial EARLI Conference: Developing Potentials for Learning, Budapest, Hungary, 28 August– 1 September 2007.

* The 2nd Biennial Conference of EARLI Special Interest Group 16 Metacognition:. Cambridge, The United Kingdom, 19–21 July 2006.
* Educational and Learning Problems Conference, Al- Hariri Foundation, Lebanon, 2-6 May 2003.
* The 8th Conference for Specialists in the Field of 'Deaf Education', Al-Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services, United Arab Emirates, 26-29 November 1999.
* The National Conference for Evaluating the Needs of Pupils with Special Needs in Jordan, Nour Al- Hussein Foundation, Amman, 2-4 March 1998.

#### Research Interests:

* Meta-analysis and systematic review
* Persons with disabilities; assessment and interventions
* Families of children with disabilities
* Inclusive education practices and independent learning
* Pre and in-service training of people working with students with disabilities
* Community awareness regarding issues of persons with disabilities

***Ongoing Research projects;***

* Systematic review and metanalysis of universal design for learning.
* Grit and mindset of students with disabilities
* Rehabilitation services towards refugees with disabilities
* Social and living skills of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in inclusive settings

### Publications:

* + ***Refereed Journal Articles, Reearch Report & Book Chapters;***

**Almeqdad, Q.**, Alodat, A., Alquraan, M., Mohaidat, M. & Al-Makhzoomy, A. (2023).The Effectiveness of Universal Design for Learning: A Systematic Review of the Literature and Meta-Analysis, Cogent Education, 10:1, 2218191, DOI: 10.1080/2331186X.2023.2218191

**Almeqdad, Q.,** & Melhem, G. (TBP 2023). The Relationship between Grit, Mindset and Academic Achievement among Students with Disabilities in the Jordanian Universities. **Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences.**

Alrashdan, S., & **Almeqdad, Q.** (2022). The Challenges Facing Jordanian University Students with Disabilities in Distance Learning and their Strategies to Overcome them. **Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences,** 49(3). Retrieved from <https://dsr.ju.edu.jo/djournals/index.php/Hum/article/view/1371> ISSN 1026-3721.

**Almeqdad, Q.,** Zboun, A. Sloan, L., & Muhaidat, M. (2021) The Quality of Media Coverage on Issues Regarding People with Disabilities: Perspectives of Journalists and Teachers in Jordan. ***International Journal of Disability, Development and Education****,* 1-16*.* DOI: [10.1080/1034912X.2020.1870667](http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1034912X.2020.1870667)

Mohaidat, M., Al-Odat, A. & **Almeqdad, Q.** (2020). Inclusive Education Practices for Refugee Children with Disabilities in Jordanian Schools. ***The International Journal of Early Childhood Special Education***. 12(2), 147-153. DOI: [10.9756/INT-JECSE/V12I2.201066](http://dx.doi.org/10.9756/INT-JECSE/V12I2.201066)

Younis, N., Al-Masadeh, M., Homidi, M., **AlMeqdad, Q.** & Almakanin, H. (2020). The role of the Jordanian media in addressing the issues of persons with disabilities from the perspective of their families. ***Journal of Educational and Social Research.*** 10(6), x. DOI: [10.36941/jesr-2020-0108](http://dx.doi.org/10.36941/jesr-2020-0108)

**Almeqdad, Q.,** & Al-Bawaneh, E**.** (2019) *The Effectiveness of a Training Program Based on Drama on Developing Social Skills among Intellectually Disabled Children in Province of Irbid*. Paper presented at the International Conference of Teaching and Learning in the Arab World: Irbid, Jordan, (2) 915-938.

**Almeqdad, Q.,** Al-Hamouri, F., A. Zghoul, R., Al-Rousan, A., & Whitebread, D. (2016). Cross Cultural Indicators of Independent Learning in Young Children: A Jordanian Case. ***The Spanish Journal of Psychology.*** 19, (eX), 1–11. DOI: [10.1017/sjp.2016.35](https://doi.org/10.1017/sjp.2016.35)

Alshqran, H., **Almeqdad, Q.,** Alshraifeen, A., & Mehidat, M. (2015). Counseling Students Perceptions of School Counselor's Duties towards Students with Special Needs. ***An-Najah University Journal for Research – Humanities.*** 29 (3), 482-512.

**Almeqdad, Q.,** & Kana'aneh, M.(2014). The Effectiveness of Pictured Letters Mnemonics Strategy on Learning Similar Arabic Language Letters among Learning Disabled Students in Jordan. ***Jordan Journal of Educational Sciences***. **10 (2), 145-159.**

Muhaidat, M., & **AlMeqdad, Q.** (Accepted: 2020). The degree to which Parental Stress contribute to predicting the perceived need for social support among mothers of children with autism spectrum disorder in Jordan. ***Mu'tah Lil-Buhuth wald-Dirasat Journal****.*

Mehidat, M., **Almeqdad, Q.,** & Tashtoush, R., (2014).The Possession degree of Knowledge Competencies and Required Skills for Teachers of Autistic Children in Jordan. ***The Sharjah Journal for Humanities and Social Sciences.*** 11 (2), 67-104.

Tashtoush, R., Momani, F., Alshqran, H., & **Almeqdad, Q.** (2014). Counselor’s Image among Students in the Faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Yarmouk. ***The King Khalid University Journal***. **Vol (21).319-352.**

**Almeqdad, Q.,** & Al-Jarah, A. (2013). The Level of Self-Regulated Learning among Gifted and none Gifted Students in Jordan. ***Mu'tah Lil-Buhuth wald-Dirasat Journal****.*

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). Learners with Learning Disabilities: Translated Chapter: **In Hallahan, D. L., Kuffman, J. M., & Pullen, P. C. (12th Edition) Exceptional Learners: An Introduction to Special Education.** Dar Alfiker Publishing & Distributing: Amman.(83-124).

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). The Degree of CEC Standards Available in the University Special Education Programs According to Jordan Universities Faculty Members. ***The Educational Journal. Ain-Shams University,* 37 (3), 790-823.**

**Almeqdad, Q.,** Alzaraa, N., Yunis, N., & Abu-Foudeh, B. (2012). The Effectiveness of a Training Program Based on Multi-media Social Stories Methods on the Development of Social Behaviors among a Sample of Students with Mild Mental Retardation in Jordan. ***The Association of Arab Universities Journal for Education & Psychology***.

**Almeqdad, Q.,** Bataineh, O., & Al-Jarah, A. (2011).The Level of Social Skills amongst Students with andwithout Learning Disabilities in Jordan According to their Teachers. ***Jordan Journal of Educational Sciences***, 7 (3): 253-273.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2010). Evaluation the Needs and Services of Special Education Centers in Jordan. Research Report: ***The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD), Amman- Jordan.***

Whitebread, D., **Almeqdad, Q.,** Bryce, D., Demetriou, D., Grau, V., & Sangster, C**. (2010).** Metacognition in young children: current methodological and theoretical developments. **In: *Efklides, A. & Misailidi, P. (eds.) Trends and Prospects in Metacognition Research, Chapter 11, pp 233-258,*** Springer, New York, USA.

Whitebread, D., Coltman, P., Pasternak, D., Sangster, C., Grau, V., Bingham, S., ***Almeqdad, Q.*** & Demetriou, D. **(**2009). The development of two observational tools for assessing metacognition and self-regulated learning in young children. ***Metacognition and Learning***. 4: 63-85.

* + ***Selected Conference Articles;***

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). Challenges and aspirations of special educational needs in Arab countries. Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World Conference organized by the Union of Arab Universities, Jordan, Nov. 22-23.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2009). *Exploratory Metacognitive Intervention for Children with Difficulties in Learning.* Paper presented at The EARLI Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 25-29.

**Almeqdad,** **Q.** (2008). *Self-explanation in children with learning difficulties: differences in age, ability and academic achievement*. Paper presented at 3rd biennial meeting of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Ioannina, Greece.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2007). *Exploration of Self-explanation Amongst Children with Learning Difficulties.* Paper presented at The EARLI Conference, Budapest, Hungary, August 27-28.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2006). *Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties: Primary Findings.* Paper presented at 2nd Biennial meeting of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Cambridge, The United Kingdom, July 19–21.

## **Grants and Awards:**

## Research fund from Deanship of Research- Yarmouk university, Principal Investigator. The systematic review and metanalysis of universal design for learning.

## Startup grant from Zayed University; Principal Investigator. The School for All evaluation program, Ministry of Education, UAE

## PhD. Scholarship from Yarmouk University 2004-2008 to work on PhD in Special Education at the University of Cambridge.

## Board of Graduate Studies Award at the University of Cambridge 2005-2007

## Bill Gates Trust Award for Overseas Students at the University of Cambridge 2006-2007

## **Membership of Committees, Boards and Councils:**

### Member of the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017- 2020

### The Jordanian Organization of the Psychological Sciences

* BERA British Educational Research Association
* European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction EARLI [(Metacognition and Special Education Special Interest Groups)](http://www.earli.org/special_interest_groups/metacognition).
* Life Member of Homerton College, University of Cambridge.
* Oxbridge Graduate Arab Students Society.
* Psychology & Neurosciences in Education Academic Group, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
* Self- regulated Learning Academic Group, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge.

## **Editorship and Refereeing Activities:**

* Member of the Editorial Board of The International Journal of Psychological and Educational Research
* Member of the Editorial Board of Dirast Educational Sciences Journal
* Member of the Advisory Editorial Board of Journal of Education
* Referee in the field of SEN for a number of academic journals
* External and Internal member of promotion committees

## **Teaching Experience**

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| **Undergraduate Courses**  | **Graduate Courses** |
| Special Education | The Psychology of Children with Special Educational Needs  |
| Learning Disabilities | Seminar in Disabilities |
| Counseling of the Creative & Slow Learners | Evaluation and Assessment of Children with Special Educational Needs |
| Counseling the Gifted & Talented  | Internship in Special Educational Needs |
| Counseling Children with SEN and their Families | Seminar in Learning Disabilities |
| Psychological Testing | Trends and issues in Special Educational Needs |
| Introduction to Counseling | Identification and Assessment in People with Behavioral and Learning Difficulties  |
| Communication in Counseling | Exploring Diversity  |
| Life Skills | Historical, Conceptual, and Legal Foundations of Inclusive Education |
| Adulthood and Aging  | Teachers as Researchers in Inclusive Settings (Action Research) |
| People with Special Educational Needs | Practicum in Inclusive Education: From Classroom to Community |
| Early Childhood Development  | Inclusive Education for Students with Disabilities  |
| Research and Measurement in Education  |  |
| Internship: Student Teaching  |  |
| Partnership with Families and Communities  |  |
| Inclusive Education  |  |
| Special Education Support for General Education |  |
| Inclusive Classrooms  |  |

### Graduate supervision & Samples of Masters' Thesis:

### I Supervised on 15 Maters’ students while working on their theses; some of which were published in academically indexed journals.

### I acted as internal and external examiner of more than 50 Masters’ theses and PhD dissertations.

### References available upon request.