

In-Person Faculty Orientation Agenda Outline

Orientation Day 1

Monday, August 10 Introduction to MBZUAI			
Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
9:30 – 10:00	Light Breakfast		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome to MBZUAI & Orientation Overview	Thamar Solorio , Vice Provost of Faculty Excellence and Advancement & Professor of Natural Language Processing	
10:30 – 10:40	Faculty Council	Cesare Stefanini , Professor of Robotics	
10:40 – 10:50	Break		
10:50 – 12:00	Insights for Success at MBZUAI	Elizabeth Churchill , Professor of Human-Computer Interaction; Imran Razzak , Associate Professor of Computational Biology; Nils Lukas , Assistant Professor of Machine Learning	Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
12:00 – 13:00	Light Bites		Visitor Center

Orientation Day 1

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
13:00 – 14:00	IT	Shashi Bentula , Associate Head of Applications Management	Visitor Center
	Finance	Kannan Gurunadhan , Financial Excellence and Support Manager	
	Procurement	Hamad AlMarzooqi , Head of Procurement and Supply Chain	
	Campus Services	Abdulla Al Jaberi , Head of Campus Services	
14:00 – 14:15	Break		
14:15 – 14:25	Overview of Academic Appointments	Claire Kelly , Associate Head of Academic Appointments	Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
14:25 – 14:35	Overview of HR and Immigration	Reham ElAdawy , Head of Employee Services; Mohammad Al Ramahi , Senior Immigration Specialist	
14:35 – 15:30	Career Progression at MBZUAI	Thamar Solorio , Vice Provost of Faculty Excellence and Advancement & Professor of Natural Language Processing Le Song , Professor of Machine Learning	

Orientation Day 2

Tuesday, August 11			
Research Excellence and the Research Ecosystem at MBZUAI			
Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
8:30 – 9:00	Light Breakfast		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
9:00 – 9:20	Research Overview	Ian Reid , Acting Vice Provost for Research and Director of Research Administration and Professor of Computer Vision	
9:20 – 10:10	Acting Directors Presentations Research Infrastructure and Research Administration	Xiaosong Ma , Senior Director of Research Infrastructure and Professor of Computer Science; Ian Reid , Acting Vice Provost for Research and Director of Research Administration and Professor of Computer Vision	
10:10-10:20	Break		
10:20 –10:40	Research Opportunities for Funding and Q&A	Sana Ahmad , Head of Grants Management	

Orientation Day 2

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
10:40-11:40	Driving an impactful research agenda at MBZUAI	Ian Reid , Acting Vice Provost for Research and Director of Research Administration and Professor of Computer Vision; Xiaosong Ma , Senior Director of Research Infrastructure and Professor of Computer Science; Mohammad Yaqub , Associate Professor of Computer Vision	Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
11:40 – 11:50	National Engagement & Outreach	Eman AlMughairy , Head of Outreach	
11:50 – 13:00	Lunch		

Orientation Day 2

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
13:00 – 14:10	Faculty Research Showcase	Research spotlights from our new joiners	Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
14:10 – 14:25	Coffee Break		
14:25 – 16:30	Research Infrastructure	Ernesto Blanco , Operations Business Partner	Visitor Center
	High-Performance Computing Resources	Jinlei Wang , Staff High-Performance Computing Engineer	
	Grants Management	Sana Ahmad , Head of Grants Management	
	Research Appointments	JR Ratliff , Associate Head of Research Appointments	
	IRB Training	Shailesh Perdalkar , Research Ethics & Compliance Specialist	

Orientation Day 2

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
14:25 – 16:30	CMS Division Overview	Valerie Hawley , Assistant Dean of CMS; Afiya Ashraf , Senior Academic Operations Manager	Visitor Center
	BLS Division Overview	Eve Johnston , Assistant Dean of BLS	
	Visiting Students	Chloe Zhang , Head of Student Access and Pathways	

Orientation Day 3

Wednesday, August 12 Students, Teaching & Academic Community			
Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
8:30 – 9:00	Light Breakfast		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
9:00 – 9:20	Graduate Student Expectations & Academic Culture	Dezhen Song , Vice Provost of Student and Postdoctoral Affairs and Professor of Robotics	
9:20 – 9:30	Break		
9:30 – 10:40	Admissions	Saba Ahmed , Head of Admissions; Djamal Kellouche , Associate Head of Admissions	Visitor Center
	Student Recruitment	Jingjing Huang , Head of Student Recruitment; Madeline Springate , Senior Student Recruitment Officer	
	Student Mentorship and Advising	Samiksha Raut , Director of Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs; Valentina Ravest , Student Advising Specialist; Matheeha Majeeth , Student Advising Specialist	

Orientation Day 3

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
9:30 – 10:40	Student Community	Dylan Maurer , Head of Community Wellbeing	Visitor Center
	Career Services & Internships	Emma Blakemore , Head of Career Services and Internships	
	Registrar’s Office	Hanan Adwan , Registrar	
	Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance	Leisa Hassock , Head of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance; Sarah Thompson , Senior Quality Assurance Specialist	
10:40 – 10:50	Break		

Orientation Day 3

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
10:50 – 12:20	Teaching at MBZUAI: Expectations and Experiences Across Academic Programs	Yova Kementchedjhieva , Assistant Professor of Natural Language Processing; Qirong Ho , Associate Professor of Machine Learning; Jorge Alejandro Amador Herrera , Visiting Assistant Professor of Computer Vision & Research Scientist	Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
12:20 – 13:00	Teaching Support & Learning Resources		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
	CTL Tour		
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre

Orientation Day 4

Thursday, August 13 Living and Working in the UAE ecosystem			
Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
8:30 – 9:00	Light Breakfast		Knowledge Center, Executive Theatre
9:00 – 9:20	Strategy Research Initiatives	Richard Morton , Vice President and Executive Director of Institute for Foundation Models	
9:20 – 9:40	The Academy	Spring Fu , Managing Director of The Academy	
9:40 – 10:00	Incubation and Entrepreneurship Center	Yahya Iqelan , IEC Program, Senior Manager	
10:00 – 10:10	UAE Customs & Culture	Sultan Alhajji , Senior Advisor	
10:10 – 10:30	UAE Law	Luisa Vallory , Associate Director for Faculty Excellence and Advancement	
10:30 – 10:40	Media, PR, and Professional Conduct on Socials	Vinita Bharadwaj , Director of Communications	
10:40 – 10:50	Break		

Orientation Day 4

Time	Sessions	Speaker (s)	Location
10:50 – 11:10	Library	Olga Ayoub , Head of Library; Chithra Chakra , Reference and Research Specialist	Library
11:10 – 11:50	Bank Vendors (ADCB, ENBD, HSBC)	<i>Running Parallel at 11:10 – 12:40</i>	Classroom 4,5,6
11:50 – 12:40	On-Campus Housing Tour <u>Batch 1:</u> 11:50 – 12:05 <u>Batch 2:</u> 12:10 – 12:25 <u>Batch 3:</u> 12:25 – 12:40	Faculty Portraits Photoshoot with MarComms (1B, 3rd Floor, Studio)	Link Residences
12:40 – 13:40	Self-Catered Lunch		
Visa Medical and/or Biometrics (if not completed prior to Orientation Day 1)			
August Check-In			
August 19, 14:00	Presidential Address	Eric Xing , MBZUAI President and University Professor	Lecture Hall 1 & 2