

Recent Events

International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems

Under the auspices, and honored by the attendance of, H.E. Dr. Tarek Kamel Minister of Communications and Information Technology and H.E. Eng. Mohamed Mansour Minister of Transportation, Nile University hosted an International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) entitled: "Applications of ITS to Meet Egypt's Transportation Needs in the 21st Century" on Monday, March 16th 2009 at the Cairo Marriott Hotel.

Over two hundred participants from private and public organizations, attended to explore the latest ITS applications and discuss their potential in meeting the local transportation needs. During the conference, six international guest speakers from the United States, China and France as well as several renown Egyptian experts, presented advancements and case studies in ITS applications and suggestions for successful local implementation.

In his opening remarks, H.E. Eng. Mohamed Mansour stressed the importance of preparing well educated professionals capable of developing solutions for the growing and demanding transportation sector. He referred also to the availability of employment opportunities for the qualified specialized scholars.

H.E. Dr. Tarek Kamel stated that Egypt has recently witnessed a steady growth in several fields, which in turn requires developing the transportation network and systems to conform to such progress. The Ministry of CIT and the Ministry of Transportation will continue cooperating to identify smart solutions for the challenges facing this vital sector. Dr. Kamel noted that the ICT sector has all the solutions capable of facilitating an integrated strategy for managing and controlling the work cycle inside the transport sector.

Dr. Mohamed Abdel-Aty, Chair of the Conference, and Program Director of the ITS Masters Program at NU, explained the new "intelligent" techniques by saying: "the ITS links information and communications technology (ICT), management mechanisms and transport planning and engineering. The inputs of this equation eventually lead to advanced management systems relying on the findings of modern technologies in this domain."

He added that transportation professionals usually aim at achieving two main objectives: safety and efficiency of the system. This can be achieved with better design, planning, and management of the transportation system. Dr. Abdel-Aty says "with the increase in the size and demands on the system, these objectives are becoming more difficult and challenging, but advancement in new sensor and communication technologies and electronics can provide solutions to many of the transportation problems and challenges." He noted that already many advanced systems have been implemented in many developed countries around the world, and more recently to some developing countries.

Dr. Tarek Khalil, Acting President & Provost of NU, stated that last year for the first time in Egypt, NU launched an educational program on ITS cooperatively with University of Central Florida. The program offers Egyptian scholars the latest scientific findings at American and Canadian universities.

WINC Researchers Awarded Intel "Certificate of Excellence"

Two of the Wireless Intelligent Networks Center (WINC) Research Assistants (RAs) have been awarded a Certificate of Excellence from Intel Corporation Egypt for a WiMAX graduation project competition sponsored technically and financially by Intel Egypt. Their project, titled "frequency offset estimation, timing acquisition and cell search for mobile WiMAX 802.16e," was ranked first over all the submitted projects. The WiMAX 802.16e standard improves upon previous wireless standards by adding support for high mobility and incorporating cutting edge technologies to enhance system's performance, and increase capacity and coverage. It would allow affordable and ubiquitous broadband access, which is central to a knowledge-based economy and society.

On another occasion, WINC RAs participated on Saturday 7th March, 2009 in Communications Department Day of the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University. The RAs gave presentations on their research area of wireless technologies that they have conducted through WINC's labs.

Special Thanks

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What's new @ NU



Monthly Newsletter

March 2009

NU – NTRA Agreement



NU signed a major collaboration agreement with National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA) in the area of wireless systems. It was signed by Dr. Tarek Khalil, Acting President & Provost of NU, and Dr. Amr Badawi, Executive President of NTRA, and witnessed by H.E. Dr. Tarek Kamel Minister of Communications and Information Technology and H.E. Eng. Mohamed Mansour Minister of Transportation.



This agreement will allow researchers from the two institutions to collaborate in developing innovative technologies for next generation wireless networks. In addition, NTRA will sponsor six fellowships for NU graduate students. The total funding provided by NTRA amounts to L.E. 2.5 million per year, over a period of three years.

NU Hosts STP Workshops

NU welcomed 370 engineering students from Cairo University on its premises in the Smart Village while hosting seven workshops organized by "Steps Towards Progress" (STP), on Friday, 20th of March, 2009. STP is a student-run organization at Cairo University with a mission of developing youth in various fields.

As part of its Academic Sponsorship, NU extended to STP pro bono the utilization of its classrooms, equipments and facilities required for holding the sessions. NU also actively participated in these workshop sessions with presentations by its professors. Dr. Tarek Khalil, Acting President & Provost, gave two presentations; "Competitiveness & Wealth Creation" and "Entrepreneurship." Dr. Amr Mortagy, V.P for Finance & Administration and Dean of Business School, discussed "Strategic Planning" while Dr. Hazem Ezzat, V.P. for R&D, discussed "Values & Beliefs" and "Systematic Innovation." Dr. Tarek Shalaan, Program Director for the Industrial and Service Engineering and Management, spoke about "Engineering /Management Career Development." Sponsoring such activities is part of NU's social responsibility towards the community and supports its vision of "creating a learning culture," a vision that encourages students to learn and improve their knowledge and skills, hence enhancing their future prospects.



New Faculty

Tarek M. Shaalan is the Program Director for the Industrial and Service Engineering and Management (ISEM) Program at Nile University in Egypt. He is a full-time tenure-track Assistant Professor, teaching in both the School of Engineering and the School of Business at Nile University. He received a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering in 2006, a Master Degree in Engineering Management in 2005, and a Graduate Certificate in Systems Simulation and Modeling for Engineers in 2006 from the University of Central Florida, USA. He has over thirteen years of Industry experience while working in multinational companies worldwide.

Mohammed Nafie is an Associate Professor and co-director in the Wireless Intelligent Networks Center (WINC) of NU. He received his B.Sc. degree with honors from Cairo University in 1991. He received his M.Sc. degree with Distinction from King's College, University of London in 1993. He received his Ph.D. degree from University of Minnesota in 1999 where his research interests were in the area of low complexity detection algorithms. In 2002, Dr. Nafie co-founded SySDSsoft, a company specializing in the design of wireless digital communication systems. He was the Chief Technology Officer of SySDSsoft till December 2006.

Dr. Khalil's Presentations on the Financial Crisis

Dr. Tarek Khalil, NU Acting President & Provost, was the speaker of a Rotary event entitled "The Financial Crisis: A Management of Technology Point of View," held on February 24th, 2009, at the Conrad Hotel. Dr. Tarek also gave a similar presentation in March as an invited speaker of the Raya Summit 2009 held in Hurghada.