

# **Saudi Universities Education System: A Combination of Practical and Theoretical Knowledge**

**Samar S. Khan, and Abdulaziz T. Almaktoom**  
Effat College of Business, Effat University  
PO Box 34689, Jeddah 21478, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
[skkhan@effatuniversity.edu.sa](mailto:skkhan@effatuniversity.edu.sa), [abalmaktoom@effatuniversity.edu.sa](mailto:abalmaktoom@effatuniversity.edu.sa)

## **Abstract**

Based on the latest announcement of the Ministry of Education, the job market needs require different methods compared to those, which currently are being adapted by universities. The current education system in Saudi universities still needs more improvement; it is mainly a theoretical knowledge based rather than a practical one. Although it is important to enhance academic-industry partnerships and engagement through students' involvement in professional work, there are limitations concerning the engagement among tutors, students and professional experts. It is been proven that combining between practical and theoretical Knowledge is extremely important to ensure a decent adaptation of both theories and practical skills. This research aims to examine the limited practical knowledge in Saudi universities. It will also investigate the feasibility and utility of combining both practical and theoretical Knowledge.

## **Biographies**

**Dr Samar S. Khan** is an aspiring Saudi woman who lives by the creed that one should strive to serve a higher purpose by going above and beyond the call of duty. Born in 1983, Dr. Samar received all of her schooling in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and earned her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from King Abdul-Aziz University. After graduating, she decided to pursue her Master's degree in Economics and Administration from Nottingham Business School at Nottingham Trent University. As she continued living in the UK, she discovered her passion for economics and administration, so she decided to pursue her PhD degree in Energy Security and Renewable Energy from business perspective at the same university. Currently, Dr Samar is an assistant professor in entrepreneurship department and Dean of College of Business at Effat University. She is a member in AACSB Middle East advisory committee.

**Dr. Abdulaziz T. Almaktoom** is an assistant professor in the Department of Operations and Information Management at Effat University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He earned his PhD in Industrial Engineering from Wichita State University. Dr. Almaktoom is a certified supply chain analyst. He has published many journal and conference papers and his research interests include supply chain management and logistics, optimization under uncertainty, reliability-based robust design optimization, resilience-based design optimization, and lean supply chain management. He is a member of IIE, IEOM, INFORMS, CSCMP, ASQ, ISCEA, and SME.