

# DR. RANI SHAHWAN

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR-INNOVATION&ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## CONTACT

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## QUALIFICATIONS

PhD in Strategic Management and Innovation. 2010- 2015, Newcastle University Business School, Newcastle University, UK.

MBA E-business & Information Technology. 2002-2003, Maastricht School of Management, Maastricht, the Netherlands.

BA in Business Administration 1995-1999. Birzeit University, Birzeit/Ramallah Palestine.

## AFFILIATION & MEMBERSHIP

- The Chartered Association of Business Schools**
- British Academy of Management**
- Academy of Management**

## PROFILE

Associate Professor in Innovation and Entrepreneurship with a PhD in Strategic Management and a proven record of scholarly contributions in business model innovation, digital transformation, and entrepreneurship education. With extensive experience leading MBA programs and international accreditation processes, my research bridges theory and practice, focusing on how strategic management can drive innovation and organizational performance. Dedicated to fostering entrepreneurial ecosystems through education, mentorship, and industry collaboration

In addition to his academic roles, Dr. Shahwan serves as the Director of the MBA Program at An-Najah National University and has held key leadership positions, including Director of the Korean-Palestinian IT Institute of Excellence and Head of the Technology Incubator. His professional experience spans project management, strategy development, business development, and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Shahwan is also a certified trainer with extensive experience conducting training in areas such as project management, innovation, and entrepreneurship. His publications include journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers on digital transformation, business model innovation, and supply chain sustainability.

## APPOINTMENT (ACADEMIC & INDUSTRY)

**Associate Professor, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, An-Najah National University (2009–Present)**

- Led the design and accreditation of the MBA program, resulting in improved student engagement and the successful alignment of academic standards with global benchmarks (AACSB).
- Spearheaded the development of a new PhD program in Management and Digital Marketing, enhancing research opportunities in cutting-edge business fields.
- Directed strategic initiatives within the Technology Incubator, providing business counseling and securing funding for over 10 entrepreneurial ventures.
- Served as Director of the Korean Palestinian IT Institute of Excellence, fostering international collaborations and supporting technology-driven capacity-building projects."

### Visiting Assistant Professor, MIS Department

University of Tabuk, Tabuk, Saudi Arabia 2021-2022

### Teaching Assistant

Newcastle University Business School, UK 2010-2015

### Lecturer, MIS Department

Arab American University, Jenin, Palestine 2003-2009

### Senior Trading Officer

PalTrade, Ramallah, Palestine 2000-2002

## Teaching Experience

### Entrepreneurship and Innovation (MBA)

Developed and taught this core graduate-level course, focusing on entrepreneurial theory and practice, including business model development, innovation strategies, and market entry. Integrated real-world projects and case studies to foster hands-on learning.

### Strategic Management (Undergraduate)

Led this comprehensive course on strategic decision-making, organizational analysis, and competitive advantage, incorporating both traditional and digital business strategies.

### MBA Supervision

Supervised 10 MBA candidates in areas including business model innovation and the strategic implications of digital transformation in public and private organizations.

## AD-HOC REVIEWING

- AOM Annual Meeting (TIM, OMT & MOC)
- Innovation: Organization & Management
- Journal of Science and Technology Policy Management
- Frontiers
- Digital Health
- International Public Management Journal
- British Academy of Management

## GRANTS AND RESEARCH FUNDING

### Principal Investigator, University-Led Innovation and Entrepreneurship Project (2022–2024)

Funded by: UNDP (€220,000)

- Leading the development of entrepreneurship modules for higher education institutions to enhance innovation ecosystems in the region.

### Co-Investigator, The Safir Project (2020–2022)

Funded by: European Union (€80,000)

- Supported entrepreneurship and social inclusion initiatives for youth across the MENA region, focusing on training and mentorship.

### Principal Investigator, The E-Filfil Project (2018–2019)

Funded by: OXFAM

- Led efforts to improve market access and sustainability for Palestinian agricultural entrepreneurs.

### Researcher, Improving Governance Practices at Palestinian HEIs (UniGov) (2016–2020)

Funded by: Erasmus Plus CBHE (European Commission) (€1,000,000)

- Contributed to governance reform and policy development at Palestinian higher education institutions, collaborating with European universities.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

- Shahwan, R. and Zaman, T., 2022. "Questioning the novelty in a novel business model: how does strategic orientation temper firm performance?" *International Journal of Innovation Management*, 26(08), p.2250067.
- Zaman, T., Shahwan, R. and Oyedijo, A., 2023. "The digital transformation conundrum: negotiating complexity through interactive framing." *Innovation*, pp.1-26.
- Zaman, T., Shahwan, R. and O'Connor, R., 2021. "Unraveling the socio-cognitive perspective: adoption of innovation in a public funded hospital." *International Public Management Journal*, 24(4), pp.519-536.
- Nour, A.I., Najjar, M., Al Koni, S., Abudiak, A., Noor, M.I. and Shahwan, R., 2024. "The impact of corporate governance mechanisms on corporate failure: an empirical evidence from Palestine Exchange." *Journal of Accounting in Emerging Economies*, 14(4), pp.771-790.

### Book Chapters:

- Shahwan, R., An-Najjar, M., Nour, A. and Zaman, T., 2024. "Antecedents and Consequences of Business Model Innovation: A Theoretical Model." In *Artificial Intelligence-Augmented Digital Twins: Transforming Industrial Operations for Innovation and Sustainability* (pp. 25-35). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Shahwan, R. and Zaman, T., 2023. "Role of universities as knowledge creators in a national innovation system: an open innovation paradigm." In *Industry Clusters and Innovation in the Arab World: Challenges and Opportunities* (pp. 259-280). Emerald Publishing Limited.
- Zaman and Shahwan R., 2025 (Forthcoming). "Technological futures: human factors, tech, and healthcare." In *Worker Wellbeing, Human Factors, and the Gig Economy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*.

### Conference Proceedings:

- Shahwan, R., et al., 2024. "Everything is not fair in war & peace: Leveraging Entrepreneurial Mindset in a turbulent context!" Presented at the 28th McGill International Entrepreneurship Conference, Finland.
- Shahwan, R., et al., 2022. "Antecedents and Consequences of Business Model Innovation: A Theoretical Model." Presented at the International Conference on Global Economic Revolutions: The Era of the Digital Economy.
- Shahwan, R. et al., 2021. "Unburdening a forgotten healthcare system: How team cognition facilitates innovation adoption." Presented at the British Academy of Management 2021 Proceedings.

## ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

- Value Creation in Crisis: Entrepreneurial Responses and Strategic Framing for submission to *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development 3\**
- Leveraging big data in public sector hospitals for submission in *International Public Management Journal 3\**
- Big Data in Healthcare: Setting new Standards for submission in *Technological Forecasting and Social Change 3\** (Special Issue - Emerging Technologies, Sustainable Environments, and Public Governance)
- Leadership, Sustainability, and Innovation: The Charismatic Edge for submission in *Research Policy 4\**
- Entrepreneurship Education in Higher Education: Should pedagogy should trump policy, but does it? for submission in *Management Learning 3\**
- From Transition to Success: Integration Frameworks for International PGT Students for submission in *Studies in Higher Education 3\**

## REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST