

CURRICULUM VITAE

Content

Brief Biography. Education. Academic Positions. Clinical Experience. Publications. Presentations. Projects. Students. Courses. Awards. Service.

MOHAMMED F. SAFI


PhD, CCC/SLP, MS, BS-SLP/Aud.
Associate Professor & Consultant
Speech Language Pathology

✉ msafi@fontbonne.edu / slpmfsafi@gmail.com

 https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=mkrERxgAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate

 https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mohammed_Safi7

 <https://fontbonne.academia.edu/MohammedSafi>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohammed-safi-00587445/>

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Safi completed his doctorate degree at Howard University – USA with pre-doctoral research training in swallowing physiology at the Laryngeal section in the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Maryland, USA and Swallowing Physiology Lab at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Maryland, USA.

Dr. Safi is a clinical speech language pathologist specializing in neurogenic communication disorders and dysphagia. Currently, holding an academic appointment as an associate professor in the department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education at Fontbonne University. Has more than 20 years of clinical experience and 10+ years of academic and research experience.

Dr. Safi is a well published researcher in the fields of SLP, rehabilitation and disabilities and an experienced practicing clinician in speech-language pathology. Gained national and international experience in the field of neurorehabilitation of neurogenic speech, language, and swallowing disorders. His main clinical and research interest is in clinical management of individuals with neurogenic speech/language disorders & dysphagia. Specializing in motor speech disorders, adult and geriatric dysphagia, and neuromuscular electrical stimulation applications in the field of speech language pathology. Has multiple published articles in highly ranked international peer reviewed journals. His current research focus is on studying cortical activation as a result of facial neuromuscular electrical stimulation using fNIRS technology. Established a basic neuroscience of education lab to investigate various cortical activations related to speech and language tasks in normal individuals as well as individuals who have special needs. Further, currently working with researchers and graduate students on establishing an early identification assessment for children with Autism in the Emirati Society.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

PH.D. COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDER (WITH DISTINCTION)

July/2014. Howard University. Washington, DC. USA

Specialization: Motor Speech Disorders. Swallowing Physiology/Dysphagia.

CERTIFICATE OF CLINICAL COMPETENCE IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

(CCC-SLP)

April/ 2004. American Speech Language Hearing Association. USA.

M.S. SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY (MS-SLP)

Dec/2001. Rockhurst University. Kansas City, MO. USA

B.SC. SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY (B.SC.SLP/A)

Aug/1998. Applied Science University. Amman, Jordan.

MEMBERSHIP, LICENSURE, & CERTIFICATIONS

- Eligible for MN licensure in Speech Language Pathology
 - Licensed Speech Language Pathologist. Maryland Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists. (2006 - Present).
 - Certified Member. American Speech-Language Hearing Association, ASHA. (2004 - Present). (American Board of Speech Language Pathology)
 - Member in the following ASHA special interest groups:
 - SIG 2 - Neurogenic Communication Disorders
 - SIG 13 - Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (Dysphagia)
 - Certified Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) provider (2014). School of Medicine. Boston University. Boston, MA. USA.
 - Certified member. Royal College of Speech & Language Therapy. (2003 – Present)
 - Certified VitalStim Therapy Provider (2005). Neuromuscular electrical stimulation for dysphagia treatment.
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023 - Current

Fontbonne University

2023 – Current. Associate Professor - Speech Language Pathology

College of Education & Allied Health Professions, Saint Louis, MO & Saint Paul, MN.

2018 – 2023

College of Medicine & Health Sciences. United Arab Emirates University.

2022 – 2023. Associate Professor - Speech Language Pathology

2018 – 2022. Assistant Professor - Speech Language Pathology Founding faculty in the SLP Department

Graduate Professor in the Special Education Program

Co-Coordinator – BSc. Speech Language Pathology Department/Program

Coordinator – Establishing MS. Program in Communication Sciences & Disorders.

PI. Neuroscience of Education Research Lab

Department of Speech Language Pathology

UAEU, Al Ain, UAE.

2015 – 2018

Collage of Applied Medical Science. King Saud University.

Assistant Professor – Speech Language Pathology

Speech Language Pathology/ Audiology Program.

Riyad, KSA.

- 2010 – 2015** **Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders. Howard University.**
July/2014 – July/2015. Assistant Professor – Speech Language Pathology.
Aug/2012- June/2014. Teaching/Research Associate - Speech Language Pathology.
Aug/2010 – Aug/2012. Clinical Supervisor. - Speech Language Pathology.
- 2015** **Speech-Language Pathology Program. University of District of Columbia.**
Adjunct Assistant Professor– Speech Language Pathology
Master’s Program in Speech-Language Pathology.
Washington, DC. USA.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018** **Senior Speech Language Pathologist (part time)**
Holy Cross Hospital/ Rehabilitation & Disabilities Services
Germantown, MD, USA.
- 2015 – 2018** **Consultant Speech Language Pathologist**
King Khalid Medical City. King Saud University.
Riyad, KSA.
- 2013 – 2015** **Medical Speech Language Pathologist**
Private clinical consultations for families and clinicians.
Part time clinical speech pathology services in rehabilitation facilities. Silver Spring, MD, USA.
- 2008 – 2013** **Senior Speech Language Pathologist**
Manor Care, Inpatient Medical Rehabilitation Center
Silver Spring, MD, USA.
- 2006 – 2008** **Senior Speech Language Pathologist**
Washington Adventist Health System/ Sundance Rehab
Inpatient Medical Rehabilitation
Silver Spring, MD, USA.
- 2004 – 2006** **Senior Speech Language Pathologist**
Rehabilitation Center
Inpatient/Outpatient Rehabilitation Services
- 2003 – 2004** **Speech Language Pathologist**
ALJ Rehabilitation Hospital & Specialty Clinics.
Inpatient/Outpatient rehabilitation Services

SCHOLARSHIP

PUBLICATIONS

(TOP PEER REVIEWED INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS)

of Publications = 24. # of Citations = 52
h-index = 5

Safi, M., Alzyod, D. M., Opoku, M. P., & Agamy, Y. E. (2023). Tongue strength and endurance among typically developing children and children with idiopathic speech sound disorders in the United Arab Emirates. *PloS one*, 18(7), e0289400.

Safi, M. F., Alshamsi, M., Opoku, M.P., Abdat, R. Sartawi, A., & Agamy, Y. (accepted Jan 2023). Practitioners' Perspectives on the Impact of Picture Exchange Communication System on Communication, Learning and Social Interaction of Children with Autism in the UAE International Journal of Disability, Development and Education. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed Q2).

Opoku, E. K., Opoku, M. P., Frimpomaa, L., Nketsia, W., Wisdom, M. K., Akoto, Y., & **Safi, M.** (2023). Understanding adults with communication disorders in Ghana: Accessing rehabilitation and support systems. *Social Science & Medicine*, 336, 116231.

Mustafa, A., Opoku, M.P., Hamdan, A., **Safi, M.** & Mohamed, E. (2023) Perceived effectiveness of assistive devices and support services provided to students with visual impairment in mainstream classrooms in the United Arab Emirates. *British Journal of Special Education*, 00, 1–10. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8578.12488>.

Opoku MP, Belbase S, Nsowah FA, **Safi, M. F.** (2023) Coronavirus Disease Vaccination Among Persons With Disabilities: Understanding Vaccine Perceptions and Hesitancy in Ghana. *The Linacre Quarterly*. doi:10.1177/00243639231178626.

Abdat, R., Opoku, M. P., **Safi, M.**, Al Harballeh, S., & Garces-Bacsal, R. M. (2023). Virtual Training on Stress Management for the Mothers of Children with Disabilities in the United Arab Emirates. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(2), 1450.

Safi, M. F., Alshamsi, M. & Opoku, M.P. Parenting children with autism spectrum disorder in the United Arab Emirates: Exploring perceptions towards using the picture exchange communication system to enhance the development of children with autism spectrum disorder. *BMC Psychol* 10, 229 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40359-022-00932-3>. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed Q1) ranked among the top 15%.

Safi, M., Opoku, M., Abu-Shariha, A. (2022). Comparative Study of Perspectives on the Impact of a Culturally Responsive Picture Exchange Communication System for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the United Arab Emirates. *Frontiers in Pediatrics*. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed Q1) ranked among the top 14%.

Al-Nasser, S., Masuadi, E., Salaad, M., Aldayel, A., Alharbi, A., Alothman, A., Alkanhal, M., Alothman, F., **Safi, M.** (2022). Benefits and challenges of fostering research-focused communities of practice at a specialised health sciences university: An exploratory study. *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care*. 11, 8, p 4588-4594. doi: 10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc_2275_21.

Garces-Bacsal, R. M., Elhoweris, H., Hemdan, A. M., Almuhaury, O., **Safi, M.**, Moustafa, A., & Alzyoudi, M. (2022). "I Have Removed My Ceiling": Qualitative Experiences of Teachers on Their Professional Development. *Journal for the Education of the Gifted*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01623532221085954>. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed Q1).

Abdat, R., **Safi, M.** Sartawi, A. (2022). Family Outcomes in Early Intervention for Children with Special Educational Needs. *Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs*. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed).

Mustafa, A., **Safi, M.**, Opoku, M., Hamdan, A. (2022) The impact of health status on attitudes toward COVID-19 vaccination. *Health Sci Rep*. 5:e744. doi:10.1002/hsr2.744.

Safi, M., Martin, S., Gray, L., Ludlow, C., (2021). Healthy Volunteers Immediately Adapt to Submental Stimulation During Swallowing. *Neuromodulation*. (Q1 Scopus, PubMed and ISI Indexed). Ranked among the top 10% Scopus journals (top 8%).

Opoku1, M., Nketsia, W., Mprah W., Agyei-Okyere, E., **Safi, M.** (2021). The Interaction between Typically Developing Students and Peers with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Regular Schools in Ghana: An Exploration using the Theory of Planned Behaviour. *Front. Psychol.* | doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.752569. (Q2 Scopus, PubMed and ISI Indexed). Top 14% Scopus journals (Ranked 14%).

Safi, M., Al Sadrani, B., Mustafa, A. (2021). Using Voice-Assistant in Developing Speech and Social Skills in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology*. Submitted April 2021. (PubMed, ISI, Q3 Scopus Indexed)

Safi, M.F., Alnuaimi, M. and Sartawi, A. (2021), "Using digital social stories to improve social skills in children with autism: a pilot experimental single-subject study", *Advances in Autism*, Vol. ahead-of-print <https://doi.org/10.1108/AIA-02-2021-0013>. (Q3) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed).

Safi, M. , Mohamoud, M. (2021). Effect of Submental Surface Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation on Laryngeal Vestibule Opening in Healthy Volunteers at Rest and During Swallowing. *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation*. (Q3) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed).

Al-Nasser S, Masuadi E M, Salaad I M,..... **Safi, M.** (2021) Benefits and Challenges of Fostering Research-focused Communities of Practice in a Specialised Health Sciences University: An Exploratory Study. *Cureus* (): e. doi:10.7759/cureus. (PubMed and ISI Indexed).

Masuadi, E. M., Mohamud, M. S., Alhassan, A. M., Alharbi, K. G., Hilabi, A. S., Alharbi, F. A., ... & **Safi, M. F.** (2021). Factors and Determinants of Choosing Pathology as a Future Career: Results From a Multi-Institution Study. *Cureus*, 13(6). (PubMed and ISI Indexed).

Mustafa, A., **Safi, M.** (March, 2021). The effectiveness of a Training Program Based on Some Educational Strategies in Treating Reading Comprehension Difficulties Among Students of Learning Difficulties in the Fifth Grade. *Journal of Special Education and Rehabilitation*.

Safi, M. (2020) Facial Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation Comfort level. *INDIAN JOURNAL OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY AND HEAD AND NECK SURGERY*. (Q3) DOI: 10.1007/s12070-020-02173-5.

Safi, M., Wright-Harp, W, Lucker, J., Payne, J., Harris, O. (2018). *Effect of Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation on Labial and lingual weakness: A Single-Case Pre-experimental Study*. *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation*. (Q3) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed)

Safi, M., Wright-Harp, W, Lucker, J., Payne, J. (2017). *Effect of Surface Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation Treatment on Lingual and Labial Muscles in Healthy Volunteers*. *International Journal of Rehabilitation Research*. doi: 10.1097/MRR.0000000000000217. (Q2) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed). Top 30% Scopus journals.

Safi, M., Wright-Harp, W, Lucker, J., Payne, J., & Harris, O. (2014). *Surface Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation Treatment for Orofacial weakness: A Review and Recommendations for Studies*. *International Journal of Orofacial Myology*. 40:12-29. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed)

Submitted Manuscripts (Peer reviewed International Journals)

Safi, M., Alshamsi, M., Opoku, M. (under review). Caregivers' Perception of the Effectiveness of Picture Exchange Communication System among children with autism spectrum disorder in the UAE. *Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology*. Submitted July 18,2021. (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed Q1)

Okwan, C., Opoku, M., Nketsia, W., **Safi, M.**, Kumi, E., Mprah, W. (Under Review). Mothering Children with Visual Impairment in Ghana: Exploration of Expectations, Mental Health and Challenges. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. (Q1) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed).

Hemdan, A., Mustafa, A., **Safi, M.**, (under review). Special Education Teachers' Perceptions of Assistive Technology in the Inclusion of Students with Visual Impairments in Abu Dhabi Government Schools. *Journal of Special Education Technology*. Submitted September 2020. (Q2) (PubMed, ISI, Scopus Indexed)

Under Preparation Manuscripts (Peer reviewed International Journals)

Safi, M. Alqahtani, O., A., Mustafa, A., Hemdan, A., (in preparation). Early ASD Symptoms in Children who are Diagnosed with ASD in the UAE Society as Reported by Parents.

Safi, M. (in preparation). *Comparing Electrode Tolerance following multiple usage in Facial Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation*. To be submitted to the International Journal of Rehabilitation Research.

Safi, M. (in preparation). *Survey of the needs of developing of a Master's Program in Speech Language and Pathology*. To be submitted to Saudi Medical Journal.

El Azab, E. **Safi, M.** (in preparation) Cortical Activation in Students with Dyslexia: An fNIRS Study.

Safi, M., (in preparation). Can fNIRS be used to evaluate language abilities in Individuals with Aphasia?

CONFERENCE/PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

(INTERNATIONAL REPUTABLE CONFERENCES)

Invited Speaker - Safi, M. March 10 - 11, 2023. NMES & Swallowing Beyond Intuition. 1st EHS Audio Vestibular & Communication Disorders Conference. Dubai, UAE.

Alazzani, K., Al Yammahi, S., Alshamsi, H., Alkaabi, F., **Safi, M.** 17 – 21 January 2023. Developing an Early Identification Severity Scale for UAE Children 12 – 36 Months of Age. The International Federation of Otorhinolaryngological Societies, IFOS Dubai International Conference. Dubai, UAE.

Safi, M. February 22nd, 2022. Neuroscience of Education: Brain imaging and FNIRS. Expo Dubai 2020. Dubai. UAE.

El Azab, E., **Safi, M.** June 28th, 2021. Cortical activation as a Result of Reading Stimuli for students with dyslexia and typically developing: New Insights from functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy Neuroimaging (fNIRS). UAE Graduate Students Research Conference 2021 (UAEGSRC'2021).

Alnuaimi, M., **Safi, M.** June 12, 2021. Digital Social Stories and ASD Children. 5th Canadian International Conference on Advances in Education, Teaching & Technology 2021.

Speaker/Moderator - Safi, M. (May 25, 2021). Voice Disorders & COVID-19. Emirate Society for Speech Language Pathology. Virtual Symposium.

Speaker/Moderator - Safi, M. (May 25, 2021). Developmental Aphasia. Emirate Society for Speech Language Pathology. Virtual Symposium.

Speaker - Safi, M. (April 10, 2021). The Effectiveness of Using Tele practice in Clinical Education: A Review from Dar Al Hekma University. 11th Emirates Otorhinolaryngology Audiology and Communication Disorders Congress. Virtual Symposium.

Speaker - Safi, M. (Oct/2019). My Voice is My Power. Sharjah Learning Disabilities Conference. Sharjah Humanitarian City. Sharjah, UAE.

Keynote Speaker - Safi, M. (Sept/2019). Effect of NMES Modality on Swallowing. UAE ENT & SLP Conference. UAE Medical Society. UAE.

Speaker - Safi, M. (July/2019). Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation effect on Facial Weakness. American Speech Language Hearing Association Conference. Chicago, USA.

Speaker - Safi, M. (April/2016). *The Role of Different Medical Rehabilitation Specialties in the Management of Dysphagia*. College of Applied Medical Sciences Conference.

Safi, M., Wright-Harp, W., Lucker, J. & Payne, J. (April/2014). *Effect of neuromuscular electrical stimulation on lingual, labial & buccal muscles*. ASHA Health Care Conference. Las Vegas, NV.

Safi, M., Wright-Harp, W., & Lucker, J. (March/2014). *A Review of the Effect of neuromuscular electrical stimulation on facial and lingual muscles.* DCSHA Annual Conference. Rockville, MD.

Safi, M., Martin, S., Wright-Harp, W. & Ludlow, C. (June/ 2010). *Evaluation of submental stimulation in healthy volunteers.* Oral technical session presentation. Integrative Neural Systems Underlying Vital, Aerodigestive Tract Functions Conference, Madison, WI.

Safi, M., Martin, S., Wright-Harp, W. & Ludlow, C. (April/ 2010). *Effect of Submental Electrical Stimulation on Hyolaryngeal Elevation.* Graduate Research Symposium. Howard University. Washington, DC.

Safi, M. (October/2004). *Neurogenic Language & Communication Disorders.* 1st Regional Rehabilitation Symposium.

Safi, M. (Dec/2001). CAPSTONE Project – *The Test of Aphasia for Arabic Speakers.* Rockhurst University. Kansas City, MO.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & PROJECTS

Co-Principle Investigator. 2023 - Ongoing. Project title: Fathering children with disabilities in the United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority. Awarded AED 450,000.00 = \$122,280.00.

Principle Investigator. 2021 – 2023. Development of a Standardized Comprehensive Special Education Identification Test for Students 3 – 18 years of age. External Funding: MOE UAE. Awarded 800,000.00 AED = \$217,000.00.

Consultant and Team of Experts Coordinator. 2021. Proposal preparation for a cutting-edge program to provide early detection, identification and intervention services for young children who have disabilities. External Funding: MOE UAE. Awarded 100,000 AED = \$27,000.00.

Consultant. 2021. Review and Examine Professional Special Education Services Standards (Ministry of Education, UAE). (Team member).

- Setting professional standards for special education services in the Ministry of Education (UAE) in accordance with international best practices aims to raise the quality of the performance of special education teachers, improve their capabilities and skills, and ensure that they possess the competence required to practice the teaching profession in the field of special education, and to perform this trust in the required manner.

External Reviewer. 2021. Scope of Practice Guidelines for Speech Therapist – Department of Health Abu Dhabi.

- Reviewing SLP Scope of Practice in Seha/Abu Dhabi Health Authority based on international USA and Canadian benchmarking.

Consultant. 2020. Developing and reviewing a license exam for Special Education Teachers (Sharjah Education Office, UAE). (Team member).

- Developed, reviewed, and piloted a test of Special Education in Arabic and English to be used a licensing requirement for Special Education Teachers who are and will be working in Sharjah.

Principle Investigator. 2018 – Current. Ongoing research projects at United Arab Emirates University

- Education Neuroscience Research Lab. Using fNIRS technology to study various cortical activities in relation to educational task in healthy individuals and individuals with special needs. Awarded Funding (400,000 AED = \$108,000.00)
- Research Project. Developing an Early Identification Scale for children 18 -36 months of age in the UAE Society. Awarded Funding (50,000 AED = \$13,000.00)
- PhD Student Project. Comparing cortical activation during reading tasks between 2nd grade students who have are normal and those who have dyslexia.

Investigator. 2015 – 2018. King Saud University

- Neuromuscular electrical stimulation & orofacial muscles.
- Investigating the Need for a Master's Program in Speech Pathology & Audiology at King Saud University.
- Establishing Research Projects in the Department in collaboration with other faculty members.

Pre-Doctoral Research Experience:

2012 – 2014. Howard University

- Dissertation Clinical Research Project
The Effect of Surface Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation on Lingual/Labial Strength. Mentor:
Wilhelmina Wright-Harp, Ph.D.
Donated research devices and materials from manufacture (Funding ~ \$ 3000)

2009 – 2010. National Institute of Health (NIH-NINDS) Laryngeal and Speech Lab.

- Pre-Doctoral Graduate Researcher
Principle Investigator/Mentor: Christy Ludlow, Ph.D. & Wilhelmina Wright-Harp, Ph.D.
Project: Evaluation of submental electrical stimulation in healthy volunteers

Fall/2001. Rockhurst University

- Thesis Project. The Test of Aphasia for Arabic Speakers. Mentor: Prof. Shelly Chabon, Ph.D.

SUPERVISED GRADUATE STUDENTS

Current Supervisees

A. PhD Level

- 2020 –2023. Elazab., E Shazly. Cortical activation during reading tasks in typically developing children as well as children with Dyslexia using fNIRS. Expected to defend in early Spring/2023.

Graduated Supervisees

Maser’s Level

A. Completed Graduate Research by Supervisees

- Mariam al Shamsi. Dec/2021. Teachers, Specialists, and Parents Perspectives Regarding the effectiveness of PECS for Children with Autism in the classroom in the UAE.
- Alia Albedwawi. Dec/2021. The perceptions of special education teachers about the effectiveness of educational games on the performance of children with Down syndrome in teaching the concepts or principles of mathematics.
- Dalia M Alzyod. April/2021. The influence of age and gender on tongue strength and tongue endurance in both healthy children and children with idiopathic speech sound disorders in the UAE using the (IOPI®). MA Level.
- Aysha Al Kaabi. April/2021. Language Stimulation Activities for Children 0 - 36 Months. MA Level.
- Maitha Saeed Alnuaimi. December/2020. Digital Social Stories Improve Social Skills in Two Children with Autism: An Experimental Single- Subject Study. MA Level.

Served as internal examiner for the following research defenses:

PhD Level

- Hanan Shaher Al Marashdi. September 2019. The impact of an enrichment program based on problem solving and reasoning to improve mathematical literacy of 10th grade students in the UAE in light of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Master’s Level

- Amna Salem Ali Abdulla Saeed Al Yahyaei. April/2021. The impact of parent’s involvement on their children with disabilities academic achievement and Social COMPETENCE IN the UAE. MA Level.
- Sanaa Hamid Rushwan. December/2020. Examining Abu Dhabi Private School Administrators’ Attitudes toward Inclusive Education. MA Level.
- Fatima Alkaabi. April 16th, 2020. Challenges facing programs for discovering and nurturing gifted students from the point of view of teachers of special education in the United Arab Emirates.

My Students Presentations

Alazzani, K., Al Yammahi, S., Alshamsi, H., Alkaabi, F., **Safi, M.** 17 – 21 January 2023. Developing an Early Identification Severity Scale for UAE Children 12 – 36 Months of Age. The International Federation of Otorhinolaryngological Societies, IFOS Dubai International Conference. Dubai, UAE.

Alnuaimi, M., **Safi, M.** June 12, 2021. Digital Social Stories and ASD Children. 5th Canadian International Conference on Advances in Education, Teaching & Technology 2021.

El Azab, E., **Safi, M.** June 28th, 2021. Cortical activation as a Result of Reading Stimuli for students with dyslexia and typically developing: New Insights from functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy Neuroimaging (fNIRS). UAE Graduate Students Research Conference 2021 (UAEGSRC'2021).

Mohamed, A., Al Neyadi, W., Alblooshi, H., Alhebsi, K., **Safi, M.** (2020). Early Identification Autism Scale – UAE. Undergraduate Research Conference – UAEU. Al Ain, UAE.

TAUGHT COURSES/SEMINARS

Graduate level courses

- Neuroscience of Language (PhD level course. SPED)
- Language & Literacy Difficulties (PhD level course. SPED)
- Neuro and Cognitive Foundations of Communication Impairments (PhD level course. SLP)
- Topical Seminar in Neurological Disorders (Master's Level. SLP)
- Speech Science (Master's Level. SLP)
- Dysphagia training course (Post graduate continuing education)
- Neuroscience for Speech Pathology & Audiology (Master's Level. SLP)

Undergraduate level courses

- Dysphagia
- Voice Disorders (SLP)
- Neurological Bases for Speech Language Pathology (SLP)
- Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanisms (SLP)
- Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders (SLP & SPED)
- Introduction to Exceptional Children (SPED)
- Augmentative Alternative Communication (SLP)
- Speech Science (SLP)
- Neurology for Speech Language Pathology (SLP)
- Assistive Technology Applications in Special Needs (SLP)

AWARDS

Excellence in Service Award (2022/2023). College of Medicine and Health Sciences, UAEU.

The College includes 18 academic departments and 120 full time faculty.

A prestigious college award for excellence in service that uses the following criteria: (i) Consistent excellent performance in professional service as evidenced by a high level of professional service activity; commitment to the quality of the service provided and breadth and depth of the service record. (ii) Evidence of outstanding leadership in a major service activity. (iii) Impact and significance of professional service as evidenced by perceived importance of work by others. (iv) Contribution to organizational improvement and advancement, and public recognition, etc.

Best Mentor in Health Sciences Award (2022/2023). College of Medicine and Health Sciences, UAEU.

Awarded PhD with Distinction based on quality of research, defense, & written document.

Dept. of Communication Sciences & Disorders. Howard University. July/2014.

Teaching Associateship Award. Dept. of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Howard University.

Fall/2013 – Spring/2014.

Research Fellowship Award. Dept. of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Howard University. Fall/2009 – Spring/2010.

Scientific Paper Award - Third Place. Integrative Neural Systems Underlying Vital Aerodigestive Tract Functions. Madison, Wisconsin. June/2010.

Travel Award. Integrative Neural Systems Underlying Vital Aerodigestive Tract Functions. Madison, Wisconsin. June/2010.

Best Presentation Award - First place. Annual Graduate Research Day. Graduate School, Howard University. April/2010.

ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Department Service:

2019 – Current

- Chair of Curriculum Committee (Speech Language Pathology Program). Duties include:
 - Restructuring and improving the SLP program
 - Proposal for changing SLP to a lab-based program
 - Clinical Training
 - Prerequisites
 - Electives
 - Course Assignment to Faculty
 - Faculty Hire
- Member – Students Advising Committee
- Textbook Committee - Chair

2018/2019

- Chair – Events and Continuing education committee
- Member – Faculty recruitment committee
- Member – Department assessment committee
- Coordinator – Special Education Lab.

2015 – 2017

- Postgraduate Education & Research Committee (member)
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. Collage of Applied Medical Sciences. KSU.
- Undergraduate curriculum revision committee (member).

College Service:

2018 – Current

- Member – advancing technology in education.

2015 – 2017

- Committee for the development of a master's program in Speech Language Pathology & Audiology at King Saud University (Committee Chair).

University Service:

2018 – Current

- Member – advancing technology in education.
- Arabization of Science Committee

2016 – 2017

- Development & Quality Committee (member). Preparing for International accreditation for the College of Applied Medical Sciences.

Professional Service:

2018 – present

- Reviewer: Plural Publishing, Inc.
- Reviewer: Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology. (Q1)
- Editorial Board: International Journal for Research in Education. CEDU, UAEU.

2004 – 2006

- Development of an AAC program in the rehabilitation center for children with severe – profound communication impairment. Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Humanitarian City.
- Dysphagia Training Workshop for new graduates in speech therapy. KSU. SA

CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

- Passport as your Innovative pedagogical database. Dec/2016. SDL. KSU.
- Creating Courses that Meets Student Needs. Nov./2016. Barrick, Kirby. KSU.
- Motivating and Engaging Students. Nov./2016. Barrick, Kirby. KSU.
- Utilizing Problem Solving Approach in Teaching. Nov./2016. Barrick, Kirby. KSU.
- Mentoring Faculty. Nov./2016. Barrick, Kirby. King Saud University. KSU.
- Longmore Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing Training Course. Boston University. School of Medicine. Boston, M.A. (June 6-7, 2014).
- ASHA-Health Care Convention. (2013) Las Vegas, NV.
- ASHA annual convention. (2013) Chicago, IL.
- The 16th Annual Conference on Head and Neck Rehabilitation. (Oct/2013) Johns Hopkins Head & Neck Surgery in Baltimore, MD.
- Integrative Neural Systems Underlying Vital Aerodigestive Tract Functions. Madison, Wisconsin. June/2010.
- Certification course for VitalStim Therapy for Dysphagia. New York, NY. Sep/2005.
- 1st Regional Rehabilitation Symposium. AL-HADA, KSA. Oct/2004.
- Allen's Cognitive Levels: Stage One Conference, Akron, OH. 2002.