

Rajaa S. Shindi

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Curriculum Vitae | Updated April 2026

EDUCATION

- PhD, Interdisciplinary Doctorate in Human Computer Interaction, Department of Computer Science, New Mexico State University, 2014. Dissertation: "An Interactive Brain Training System for Children with Low Math Achievement and Attention Disorder." Patent pending.
- M.S., Computer Science, New Mexico State University, 2006. Master's Project: Evaluate the performance of processor simulator benchmarks when context switches are incorporated.
- B.S., Computer Science, University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq.

CERTIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- AACSB Business Analytics, 2025.
- Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education.
- Online Course Improvement Program (OCIP), Fall 2013–2014, 2019, and 2023.
- Power BI Business Analytics Application, Microsoft, Austin, 2019.
- Cascade CMS Web Development Training, Hannon Hill.
- Networking Technology, Heald College School of Technology, Sacramento, California.
- A+ Service Technician Certification Examination.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New Mexico State University, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, College of Business

- Associate Professor, Fall 2018–Present.
- Teach Management Information Systems and cybersecurity courses for undergraduate and graduate students, including BCIS 338 and BCIS 480/580.
- Use computer-based training and applied projects to help students develop skills in data analysis, decision-making, Excel, Power BI, information technology, and computer security.
- Course topics taught across appointments include Management Information Systems, Cybersecurity, Data Structures, Java, Power BI, C programming for microcomputers, networking, and information security.

Additional Higher Education Teaching Experience

- Adjunct Faculty, Payton: taught Data Structures, C++, and other programming languages; contributed to curriculum development and course organization aligned with learning objectives.
- Doña Ana Community College (DACC), New Mexico State University, Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2005–2018. Supported diverse students through instruction, curricular improvement, critical-thinking activities, and collaborative learning.
- ICT Project Lead, NMSU: led SharePoint and OneDrive training workshops to support institution-wide technology skill development.
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science, NMSU, 2003–December 2005. Assisted students with Word, Excel, Access, web design, C, Visual Basic .NET, and PowerPoint.
- Instructor, University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq, 1990–1992. Taught Pascal, FORTRAN, Assembly Language, and Math Algebra.

Online Teaching and Course Quality

- Active in online teaching and instructional innovation using Canvas and related learning technologies.
- Completed the One-Year-Plus Fellowship (1Yr+).
- Received Quality Matters training and national Quality Matters recognition for BCIS 338 (2019, 2023) and OECS 235 SQL.

GLOBAL TEACHING AND ADVISING EXPERIENCE

- Effat University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2017. Taught Data Warehousing and Database Management and contributed to ABET accreditation work.
- Graduate Student Advisor, New Mexico State University, December 2005–2008. Organized workshops with graduate faculty and traveled to six Middle Eastern countries to recruit graduate students and build collaborations with universities in Jordan, Kuwait, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Oman.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

- NMSU Institutional Review Board Member, 2019–Present.
- NM Collegiate Business Articulation Consortium, Business Information Systems/Computer Science Representative, Fall 2018–2023.
- Faculty Advisor, Association for Information Systems (AIS), NMSU Student Chapter.
- Faculty Advisor, Every Campus A Refuge (ECAR), New Mexico State University, 2026–Present.
- Faculty Advisor, Muslim Student Association at NMSU.
- Served on accreditation, assessment, retention, enrollment management, orientation, and assessment committees across NMSU and DACC.
- Public School Workforce Committee: contributed to policy and procedure manuals, faculty/student handbook development, operating MOU work, dual-credit accreditation, and curriculum pathway planning.
- Led cross-college work on transfer pathways involving engineering, arts and sciences, advising, and computer science.
- DACC Achieving the Dream Core Team member.

GRANTS AND FUNDED PROJECTS

- NMSU Educational Support Refugee Program, W.K. Kellogg Foundation Grant, three years (accepted; in progress through 12/2025).
- Fulton Research Mini-Grant, \$2,000, 2025, for "Beyond AI Bias: A Collaborative Research Initiative" (conference travel).
- NIH Mountain West CTR-IN, 2024. BrainSTEM: AI-Powered Cognitive Training for ADHD: Public Health Enhancement in Schools (in progress).
- STARTALK Technology as the Core of Standards-Based Arabic Language, 2022–2025 (not funded).
- Project STEM Lead, Spring 2019–Summer 2019. TRIO Upward Bound Programs at New Mexico State University received supplementary awards for \$120,000 to enhance STEM initiatives (accepted).
- Project Lead, Achieving the Dream (ATD)-STEM Grant, \$225,000, 2015–2018 (accepted). The Integrated Planning and Advising System for Students (iPASS) grant was sponsored by EDUCAUSE with funding from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.
- InSpark Science Network, Fall 2015 (accepted). Participated in next-generation online science courseware development using the Smart Sparrow platform.
- Served as PI/Chair in planning for an NSF S-STEM proposal seeking approximately \$1 million (proposal concept stage; not submitted).
- Invited participant, Discover STEM+C NSF Grant team, 2018 (pending at the time).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence, 2025.
- Association for Information Systems (AIS) Faculty Advisor Volunteer of the Year, 2024.
- Association for Information Systems (AIS) Outstanding Student Organization Award, 2020–2021 and 2024, Faculty Advisor.
- Association for Information Systems (AIS) Outstanding Community Service Award, 2024–2025 award cycle, presented at SCLC 2026, Faculty Advisor, New Mexico State University Student Chapter.

- Faculty advisor to Arrow Analytics, finalist team in the CGI Business Analytics: Data-Driven Decision Making competition at the AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference (SCLC) 2026.
- Certificate of Appreciation and Excellence, NMSU TRIO Upward Bound GISD/LCPS Program, Crimson Summer Institute Aggie Academy, July 9, 2019.
- Aggie Shark Tank, Arrowhead Center and New Mexico State University, October 2015: won \$30,000 for a 25% stake and an additional \$3,500 in audience and sharks' favorite awards.
- 2015–2016 LAUNCH Award Winner, Arrowhead Center, New Mexico State University.
- One-Year-Plus Fellowship (1Yr+), 2014, \$2,000.
- Certificate of Recognition, New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge, Los Alamos National Laboratory, 2013–2014.
- Certificate of Recognition for completion of the Champion Program for faculty development in assessment of student learning and documentation of scholarly teaching, Office of the Associate Provost, NMSU, 2012.
- Distinguished Teaching Academy Member, 2011–2012.
- Letter of Recognition, Project Lead, DACC Intranet, 2012.
- Highest employee performance evaluation score, 2014–2015.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- In collaboration with Las Cruces Public Schools, Bilingual Programs, and Community Outreach, developed curriculum for ESL and technology education for community parents and Afghan refugees in Doña Ana County, Fall 2022–2024.
- Worked with school engagement leadership to propose dual-credit pathways in Computer Science and Information Technology through Project Lead the Way (PLTW).
- Served as Vice President of NM Networking for Women in Science and Engineering and supported outreach focused on workplace readiness, teamwork, critical thinking, and women in STEM.
- Served for several years as a mentor and judge for regional, state, and international Intel Science Fair activities, helping middle and high school students with STEM projects.

INDUSTRY AND TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Webmaster and SharePoint Administrator, College of Business, NMSU, 2020–2024

- Led website design and migration efforts for the College of Business.

Database and System Administrator, DACC and NMSU, April 2008–Fall 2018

- Planned and supported server-based application environments including SQL Server, SharePoint 2007/2010/2013, Office 365, and cloud technologies.
- Managed SharePoint farm administration, design, maintenance, workflows, and forms development using SharePoint Designer and InfoPath.
- Supported and enhanced database and software applications; monitored systems to maintain business continuity.
- Worked extensively with SQL scripts, PL/SQL, Oracle Database, Cognos reporting, ETL, and data warehousing.
- Developed applications using C, C++, C#, Visual Basic, and Visual Studio .NET.
- Designed a paperless database system for the NMSU Graduate School integrated with Banner Oracle data.

Programmer, Electronic Data Systems (EDS), El Paso, Texas, July 2005–April 2006

- Worked with SQL, C, and Oracle Database.

Entrepreneur and Owner, BrainSTEM Educational Services LLC, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 2016–Present

Owner and Manager, R&R Computers, Woodland, California, 1993–2002

- Founded and grew a computer business from an apartment-based startup into a retail store.
- Managed operations including purchasing, repair, upgrades, server and PC builds, staffing, and training.

Application Support Specialist, County of Yolo Health Department, Woodland, California, 1999–2000

- Maintained and upgraded computers and software and provided direct technical support to office staff.

SELECTED QUALIFICATIONS

- Design and implementation of engaging and effective instruction.
- Learning outcomes assessment and curriculum development.
- Collaboration with department faculty and interdisciplinary teams.
- Student academic advising and work with diverse student populations.
- Strong analytic, problem-solving, teamwork, organizational, and communication skills.
- Expert knowledge of MS SQL, Oracle Database, MS Access, SharePoint, Office 365, and PL/SQL.
- Experience in business intelligence, ETL, data warehousing, and relational and dimensional data models.
- Object-oriented programming experience in Visual Basic .NET and other languages.
- Bilingual: English and Arabic.

PUBLICATIONS

- Al Karoubi, K., Shindi, R., & Abdeljalil, A. (n.d.). Beyond the mirage: Integrating the Afghan refugees into the fabric of American life. In M. J. Sousa & S. Lekchiri (Eds.), UFRD2024 Conference Proceedings. ISEC Lisboa, Portugal.
- Kadavakollu, S., Shindi, R. S., Nummerdor, H. R., Singh, V. K., Pillai, S. B., Ontiveros, S. J., & Boyanovsky, B. (2020). Motivating high school students from rural areas to attend college and pursue careers as osteopathic physicians. *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*. <https://doi.org/10.7556/jaoa.2020-0033>
- Shindi, R., & Sanchez, Y. (2020, February 27–28). Active learning for teaching advanced data analytics and logical function in Excel: Remembering, understanding, and applying. Paper presented at Assessing High Impact Practices and Their Effect on Retention, Albuquerque, NM.
- Shindi, R. (2021). Engaging high school students in a meaningful way to build interest in our programs as well as others at NMSU. *The Information Systems Education Conference*. (In progress).
- Shindi, R. S., & Cooper, S. (2006, November). Evaluate the performance changes of processor simulator benchmarks when context switches are incorporated. In *Proceedings of the 2006 annual ACM SIGAda International Conference on Ada* (pp. 9–14).
- Shindi, R., & DePaul, K. (2018, February). iPASS in Action at Doña Ana Community College: Promoting STEM awareness and careers. *EDUCAUSE Review*.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND PRESENTATIONS

- AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference (SCLC), March 26–27, 2026, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Faculty advisor to Arrow Analytics, finalist in the CGI Business Analytics: Data-Driven Decision Making competition.
- AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference, March 30–April 1, 2023, FIU MMC Campus, Miami, Florida (conference, presentation, and judging).
- AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference, March 21–23, 2024, Utah State University, Logan, Utah (conference).
- AIS Online Student Chapter Leadership Conference and Competition, November 3, 2023.
- 2023 Information Technology Security Summit, June 8, 2023, Wellesley, Massachusetts.
- Assessing High Impact Practices and Their Effect on Retention, February 27–28, 2020, Albuquerque, New Mexico (conference presentation).
- SEED Workshop '20, June 25–August 20, 2020.
- Social & Behavioral Research - Basic/Refresher, February 25, 2024, CITI Program Course.
- IRB Members - Basic/Refresher, February 24, 2024, CITI Program Course.
- Faculty Hour: Cybersecurity for Accounting, April 21, 2023.
- Faculty Hour: Accounting is STEM, October 22, 2021.
- Faculty Hour: Data Analytics in Accounting, June 25, 2021.
- Minicamp Workshop – Cascade CMS 8.x, April 13, 2021.

- DL Presenter Hours 2020–2021, March 26, 2021.
- Technology and Engagement Demonstration, March 12, 2021.
- Data Science Small Talks with ASU, September 11, 2020.
- SEED Virtual Workshops, July 2–August 27, 2020.
- Dashboard in a Day - Slalom Consulting @ Microsoft, Austin, May 30, 2019.
- Teaching Business Ethics Workshop, October 27–28, 2023, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Accelerating Ethics in the New Workplace, November 2–3, 2021, Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.
- Business Ethics Workshop, November 11–12, 2022, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- STARTALK 2019 Technology as the Core of Standards-Based Arabic Language Instruction, Level II, July 25–29, 2019, Long Beach, California.
- ERPSim SAP Training, June 26–28, 2017, College of Business, NMSU.
- Achieving the Dream Conference, February 21–24, 2017, San Francisco, California.
- Weka Training, February 2017.
- Learning & Technology Conference, February 26–28, 2016, Effat University, Saudi Arabia.
- Intellectual Property Symposium, 2016, KAUST University, Saudi Arabia.
- The Albuquerque Tech-Security Conference, 2015.
- EDUCAUSE International Conference, October 2015, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Bridging the Gap: STEM Skills and the Workforce of Tomorrow, July 2015, Orlando, Florida.
- “S.T.E.M. – Time to Own It!” Annual Professional Development Day, September 25, 2015.
- “Pay Attention!” NMHEAR Conference, February 28–29, 2015, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Digital Poster Gallery: An Exhibition of DACC QM Certified Online Courses, Annual Professional Development Day, September 25, 2015.
- SharePoint and Reporting Workshop, November 2013, New Mexico Technology in Education Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Data Breaches: Paths and Prevention Workshop, November 16, 2012.
- Using Microsoft Office SharePoint Services 2007 Workflows with InfoPath and SharePoint Designer, November 2010, New Mexico Technology in Education, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- SharePoint: Working with Lists, Send List Members SMS and More, November 2011, New Mexico Technology in Education, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- What Could Faculty Do with the New DACC SharePoint Portal, April 17, 2010, Faculty Professional Development Day.
- Traditional and Online Peer Assessment, February 28–29, 2008, NMHEAR Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Information Systems (AIS), 2022–Present.
- National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT).
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).
- DACC Computer Information Technology Advisory Board member, 2013, 2019, and 2020.
- Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA).
- Active member, NMSU Teaching Academy, 2015–Present.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Refugee and newcomer integration, education, and community support; current work examines the integration of Afghan refugees into American society, culture, and the economy.
- Human-computer interaction (HCI), with emphasis on user-centered design, learning technologies, and technology adoption.
- BrainSTEM and interactive cognitive training systems designed to enhance attention and working memory among children with low math achievement and attention disorder; interests also include metacognition, instructional design, active learning, and evidence-based teaching strategies.