

Welcome to the June issue of the OFEA faculty newsletter. Each month we share faculty achievements, institutional updates, and resources designed to support faculty success across the academic lifecycle, from recruitment and onboarding to promotion, tenure, and professional development.

June marks an important point in the academic year as many faculty prepare for review milestones while also planning research and recruitment activities for the coming semester. This issue highlights several resources available through OFEA, celebrates MBZUAI's research impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and introduces initiatives that support both faculty success and our academic community.

Thank you for your continued contributions to MBZUAI's research, education, and academic excellence. We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful, and we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future issues.

Faculty achievements and highlights

MBZUAI Research Advances the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Between 2021 and 2024, MBZUAI researchers published 281 papers related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Collectively, these publications received more than 7,900 citations and achieved a Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) of 2.77, meaning they were cited nearly three times as often as similar publications.

MBZUAI's strongest contributions by publication volume were in:

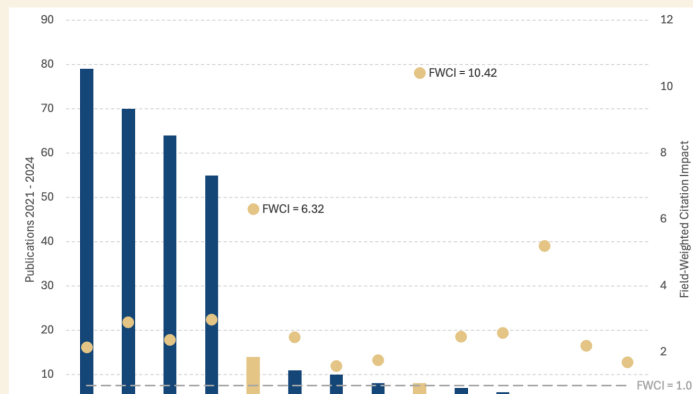
- SDG 3: Good Health (79 publications)
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (70 publications)
- SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy (64 publications)
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities (55 publications)

Several areas also demonstrated exceptional research influence. Publications related to SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production achieved an FWCI of 10.42, while SDG 4: Quality Education recorded an FWCI of 6.32, indicating citation rates more than six and ten times the global average, respectively.

These results highlight how advances in artificial intelligence can contribute to addressing some of society's most pressing challenges, from healthcare and sustainable infrastructure to clean energy and responsible innovation.

Figure 1: MBZUAI publications contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2021–2024)

281 publications | FWCI: 2.77 | 7,904 citations



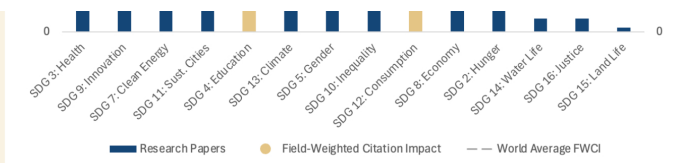


Figure 1 shows the number of MBZUI publications (blue bars) and their Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI; orange line) for each United Nations Sustainable Development Goal. FWCI measures citation impact relative to similar publications worldwide; a value of 1.0 represents the global average.

Publications may contribute to more than one SDG and are therefore counted in each relevant SDG. As a result, the totals across SDGs exceed the 281 unique publications.

Source: Elsevier SciVal. Analysis based on MBZUI publications published between 2021 and 2024 that were classified by SciVal as contributing to one or more United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Citations were retrieved from SciVal.

OFEA in Action

Faculty Career Progression Conversations

On 24 June, OFEA hosted its monthly Faculty Career Progression Conversations at the OFEA office.

The session provided faculty with an opportunity to discuss career planning, progression pathways, tenure and promotion expectations, and available support from OFEA. These monthly conversations are intended to create a regular space for faculty to raise questions, clarify processes, and engage with topics relevant to their long-term development at MBZUI.



Important dates and upcoming events

June

Faculty Information Session – MidTerm Review – Spring Starters
June 29 | 2:00 - 3:00 pm

MidTerm Review Notification and Interfolio Link – Spring Starters
30 June | via email

MBZUI initiatives

Office of Student and Postdoctoral Affairs (OSPA)
Announcement

Announcement

Incentive Program

This is a reminder about the Incentive Program which aims to support faculty in undertaking targeted student recruitment activities while traveling for conferences or academic commitments. Approved activities may receive up to AED 10,000 toward travel costs. The program prioritizes outreach in Tier 1 and Tier 2 markets, at top 100 ranked universities (CSRankings), target universities, and target high schools (detailed in the policy document) to recruit for both our Graduate and Undergraduate programs.

Please review the [policy](#).

If you have any enquiries, please feel free to write to Madeline.Springate@mbzuai.ac.ae.

Interested in applying for the incentives? Click here!

Unified Support for Graduate and Undergraduate Students

As of April, the graduate and undergraduate student support teams have merged under one unified Student Life team. As such, there is now one dedicated team where all MBZUAI students now have access to the same confidential support, regardless of their program.

What they offer:

- One-on-one counselling sessions using a solution-focused approach
- Academic accommodations for Students of Determination
- Crisis support and risk assessment

As faculty members, you are often the first to notice when a student is struggling. If you observe changes in mood, behaviour, or academic engagement, we recommend that you have a candid and supportive conversation with the student and recommend them to approach us at Student.Life@mbzuai.ac.ae or visit Level One, at The Link Co-Lab Building. All student interactions are strictly confidential.

Community

Faculty Spouse and Family Program

For information on the Faculty Spouse and Family Program contact Maria Takacova at maria.takacova@mbzuai.ac.ae and join the Whatsapp group:



Meet the OFEA team



Professor Thamar Solorio

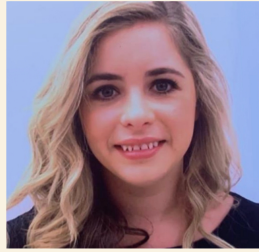
Vice Provost of Faculty Excellence and Advancement, Professor of Natural Language Processing

"OFEA serves as MBZUAI's central hub for faculty lifecycle support and institutional excellence. Our mission is to support faculty at every stage of their careers, promote high standards across academic practices, and foster a strong sense of community and belonging."



Luisa Vallory

Associate Director for
Faculty Excellence and
Advancement



Felicity Harding

Faculty Review Specialist



Sharon Cavlovich

Faculty Review Specialist



Ana Blatnik

Policy Development Officer



Iman Farah

Program Manager –
Strategic Pipelines &
Academic Development



Maria Takacova

Consultant for the Faculty
Spouse and Family
Program



Aashraya Dutt

Department Coordinator

Looking ahead and getting in touch

Faculty are always welcome to share ideas, suggestions or questions by reaching out to any member of the OFEA team or by contacting OFEA@mbzuai.ac.ae.

[Send to a friend](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Issue archive](#) | [Print friendly version](#) | [Website](#)



The information contained in this email is to be treated as confidential - please do not forward.

1008px x 512px