

Dr Ali Hadawi CBE FCMI CMgr FRSA

Contact details:

Work:

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Profile:

Ali is an organisational leadership and change management expert. Ali's extensive leadership and change management expertise in education institutions spans over 20 years. Ali's leadership interests are focussed on organisational culture and the impact of institutions on local communities.

Ali is the Principal and Chief Executive of Central Bedfordshire College. He was appointed Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in January 2011 for his services to the Further Education sector in the UK and the Technical Education Sector in Iraq.

Previously, Ali was the Principal of Southend Adult Community College (SACC) from January 2006 to December 2010. Ali is an agent for change. He is experienced in the leadership and management of education organisations, where he successfully led his first institution, SACC, through a process of profound cultural development which he initiated and implemented in response to two key agendas; the skills agenda and the community cohesion agenda. This was recognised when SACC was recognised by OFSTED as having outstanding leadership and management and when it was then made the first Beacon College of its type in July 2009.

At Central Bedfordshire College, Ali's work has also been recognised when OFSTED judged the College to be good with exemplary leadership, this was the best ever outcome for this College since its creation in the 1950s. The College has also been successful in managing over £26m in capital investments over the years 2015-2018. During this same period, Ali managed an exponential financial growth programme, at a time of considerable funding cuts to the FE sector, which saw the College growing by 51%.

Ali is a Board member of the Association for Research in Post Compulsory Education (ARPCE), one of the most prestigious peer reviewed international journals concerned with post compulsory education. Ali believes in the importance of authentic evidence-based research in informing professional practice as well as policy making.

Ali is also a founding member and the Vice Chairman of “Rawabit Steering Group”. Rawabit is a UK-Iraq strategic partnership that has been engaging with the Iraqi Vocational and the Higher Education sector since early 2004. The focus of the work is capacity building within the sector in Iraq to help it meet the challenges of the new Iraq. Ali led the successful bidding and subsequent implementation for the vocational strand of a three year EU funded project, which was managed by the British Council. Over 600 Iraqi leaders and senior managers have participated in this programme. The programme was dubbed the most successful British led education initiative in the last decade.

Ali is a founding trustee of the Iraqi Institute for Economic Reform (IIER) which is an independent research institute based in the UK and Baghdad/Iraq. Its mission is to assist Iraq in its transition to a modern market economy by promoting reform based on sound research and case studies. Ali is a Chartered Manager, a fellow of the Chartered Management Institute and a fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

Employment History (FT):

January 2011 – present	Principal and Chief Executive: Central Bedfordshire College
January 2006 – Dec 2010	Principal: Southend Adult Community College
April 2003 – Dec 2006	Vice Principal: Greenwich Community College
July 2002 – April 2003	Learning Area Manager: Maths Science & Technology Greenwich Community College
Sept 2000 – July 2002	e-Learning Director: The Banking Institute (Oman)
Sept 1997 – Aug 2000	Technical Director: Diginets Systems Ltd
Sept 1995 – Sept 1997	Head of Dept. Computing & IT Barton Peveril College, Hampshire
Sept 1993 – Sept 1995	Lecturer: Computing & IT Peter Symond’s College, Winchester
Sept 1989 – Sept 1993	Researcher: Sheffield Hallam University

Employment History (PT) and non executive roles:

2015 – Present	Board member, Association for Research in Post Compulsory Education (ARPCE)
2018 – 2019	Commissioner: Luton Inclusive Growth Commission.
2013 – Present	Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce Business Ambassador
2013 – Present	Chair: Central Bedfordshire Employability and Skills Board
Dec 2014 – Jan 2018	South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) Board director and Chair Skills Board
Nov 2005 – Aug 2016	Associate Inspector: OFSTED [Further Education - Learning & Skills]
June 2004 – present	Vice Chair ‘RAWABIT’ Strategic UK-Iraq Steering Group
2004 – present	Founding Trustee IIER ‘Iraqi Institute for Economic Reform’ (www.iier.com)

Education (Academic):

2020	Doctorate in Organisational Management and Leadership (DBA) (Doctorate in Business Administration), Northampton Business School, University of Northampton, UK
1994	PGCE FE The University of Huddersfield, UK
1989	BEng Electronic & Computer Engineering: The University of Birmingham, UK
1986	A levels [Maths, Further Maths, Physics & Statistics]

Professional:

Mar 2011: Fellowship of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (FRSA)

Oct 2010: Chartered Manager Status and Fellowship of the Chartered Management Institute

July 2010: Principal's Qualifying Programme (PQP)

Oct 1986 Member: Institute of Electrical Engineers