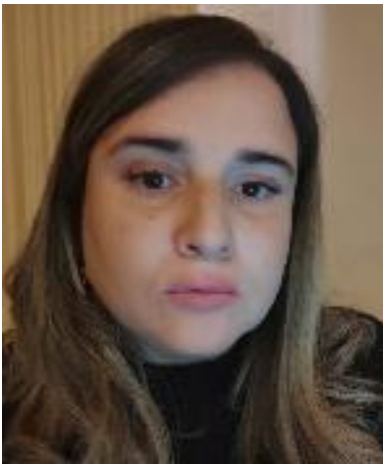


## Stevens Initiative Connected Classrooms

### Leadership Teams Biographies



#### **Nadia Achlouj | Ben Guerir, Morocco**

Head of Language Lab  
**Mohammed VI Polytechnic University**

**Nadia Achlouj** is the Head of the Language Lab at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. Nadia is an accomplished and goal-driven executive offering more than ten years of extensive experience with management and tactical business leadership in education and the English learning field. Nadia holds an M.A. in Strategic Marketing and Management and is finalizing a Ph.D. in Marketing for Renewable Energies. Nadia has led and coordinated various corporate trainings and large-scale projects to support businesses on skills development, collaborating with companies and organizations to formulate strategies, guaranteeing regulatory compliance, overseeing implementation, and management. In her constant quest towards learning new ways and methods, Nadia is ensuring multi-layer activity planning and is striving to maximize opportunities as a strategic thinker.



#### **Rachid Akhmassi | Ben Guerir, Morocco**

Language Instruction Project Manager, Language Lab  
**Mohammed VI Polytechnic University**

**Rachid Akhmassi** is Language Instruction Project Manager of the Language Lab at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. He has taught English as a foreign language for over 18 years. He has also taught engineering and business preparatory classes, and has taught in various public high schools, as well as at the university level. Rachid has delivered different language courses for the American Cultural Association in Marrakech. He holds a B.A. in linguistics from Cadi Ayad University, and a postgraduate certificate in applied linguistics and TESOL from Portsmouth University. He is a specialist in curriculum development and evaluation. Rachid has worked on various language instruction projects within Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, where his passion to thrive as a professional and help students flourish meets the right means and the right people.



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**Rozana Aladdin Alocosh | Ajman, UAE**

Administrative Assistant, Office of International Academic Affairs  
**Ajman University**

**Rozana Alocosh** is an administrative assistant in the Office of International Academic Affairs at Ajman University. With experience in the fields of internationalization, creativity, and management, she is among the passionate youth driven towards a better future. She earned her Master of Business Administration (Human Resources Management) with honors in 2018 and her bachelor's in interior design with excellence in 2014. Currently a member of Ajman University's Office of International Academic Affairs, Rozana offers guidance to international students, manages student

and faculty exchanges, and coordinates internationalization activities with partner universities around the world. Alongside her thriving academic career, she has experience in the design industry which makes her on the lookout for creative solutions and innovation.



**Latifa Belfakir | Fez, Morocco**

Professor, Linguistics and Leadership Studies  
**Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdellah University**

**Dr. Latifa Belfakir** is a linguistics and leadership studies professor at Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdellah University. She previously had a long and fruitful teaching experience in Meknes before she started her journey at the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences in Fez. Latifa is presently enjoying working as both a full professor in the Department of English Studies and as the coordinator and leader of the Language, Communication & Society master's program. She is keen on enhancing her students' soft skills and encourages extracurricular activities that are on par with core or content courses.



**Jalila Benhammou | Casablanca, Morocco**

Director, Innovation Center  
**Mohammed VI University for Health Sciences**

**Jalila Benhammou** is the Director of the Innovation Center at Mohammed VI University for Health Sciences. An engineer by training, Jalila has always been attracted to challenge and innovation. When she left school, she was offered a position in a subsidiary in start-up mode belonging to a large French group, which launched out in telecommunications. A few years later, after having implemented all of the processes and having invested heavily in HR and organizational issues related to the evolution of the structure, she became part of the management leadership team to oversee the large structure. She later joined another new and ambitious structure, the Fondation Cheikh Khalifa Maroc (FCKM), which asked her to be part of the team tasked to open a

hospital with more than 300 beds. She later became the hospital HR director, followed by the group's HR director. Jalila then led the establishment and development of the first large simulation center in Africa within the UM6SS. And for the past year, she has been in charge of the UM6SS Innovation Center with the aim of building the University of tomorrow while meeting today's ambitions and challenges on strategic, educational, and organizational aspects as well as academics and entrepreneurship.



**Vivette Beuster | Washington, USA**

Associate Dean, Intensive English and Extended Learning  
**Green River College**

**Dr. Vivette Beuster** (Ph.D., University of Surrey, UK) is the Associate Dean of Intensive English and Extended Learning at Green River College (GRC). She oversees the Intensive English Program, grant programs, study abroad programs, college preparation programs, Washington Certification Services, and various special contract short-term programs. She is also the Academic Director at Green River for the Study of the United States Institute on Women's Leadership sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. She has been working at GRC since January 2000, first as a teacher and then as director of Extended Learning. In 2011, she was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Award at GRC. In addition to traveling all over the world, Vivette has lived, studied, and worked in Africa, North America, Europe, and Asia. She gets excited when students break out of their comfort zones and excel at things that they never dreamed would be possible. It is her mission to provide opportunities and support for students to grow and enrich their lives.



**Mark Bladel | Maryland, USA**

Assistant Director, Office of Global Education  
**Goucher College**

**Mark Bladel** is the Assistant Director of the Office of Global Education at Goucher College. Within this role, he administers the institution's study abroad requirement. He has extensive professional experience in both inbound and outbound student mobility and has held multiple positions in international enrollment management and study abroad. Mark joined Goucher College in 2016 and received his M.S. in Higher Education Policy from the College in 2019. His academic and professional work focuses on the standardization of institutional policies to increase access to global education for students, faculty, and staff. Mark served as a founding board member of the Maryland International Education Consortium and has presented at EducationUSA, NAFSA, and

CIS events.



**Hanine Antouan Bou Antoun | Ajman, UAE**

Lecturer and Director of Office of International Academic Affairs  
**Ajman University**

**Hanine Bou Antoun** is the Director of the Office of International Academic Affairs at Ajman University. She has served as director since November 2019, and she is also a lecturer in the College of Humanities and Sciences, which she's held since joining Ajman University in September 2016. She serves as an active member of different committees with positive contributions to the college and university levels. Hanine is an expert in statistics, data analysis, and processing, with almost a decade of professional experience in the market research field. During her tenure in Ipsos, a global market research company, she held many managerial positions where she led several projects on both local and international levels. Prior to joining Ajman University, she was a lecturer at the Lebanese International University and CNAM University in Lebanon. In addition, Hanine worked as a business analytics lecturer with international training providers. Hanine holds a master's degree in statistics from the Lebanese University in Beirut.





**Youmna El Hissi | Beni Mellal, Morocco**

Assistant Professor, Management and Entrepreneurship and Head, International Cooperation Department  
**Sultan Moulay Slimane University**

**Dr. Youmna El-Hissi** is an assistant professor of Management and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business and Management (the Ecole Nationale de Commerce et de Gestion) at Sultan Moulay Slimane University (USMS). She holds a Ph.D. in Management and Information Systems as well as an Executive MBA from the School of Business and Management (the Ecole Nationale de Commerce et de Gestion) at Hassan I University. Moreover, she attained another M.A. degree in quality management. She is an alumna of the IVLP program for Women in STEM. Currently, she is the head of the International Cooperation Department at USMS, where she has extensive experience in

coordinating multiple international cooperation projects at USMS, including Erasmus, USAID, Intra-Africa, and AUF. Previously, she worked as a quality manager in the textile, agro-industry, and building sectors.



**Erin Fernández Mommer | Washington, USA**

Professor of Spanish  
**Green River College**

**Dr. Erin Fernández Mommer** is a professor of Spanish at Green River College in Auburn, Washington. In the last seven years, she has added a Humanities and Language and Culture class to the mix. She speaks Spanish and English and started teaching in 1999 at the University of Northern Iowa. She has led multiple trips abroad to Northern Spain and is interested in bringing students to study “abroad” without having to incur the expenses of changing countries. She lives in Washington with her husband and two kids and enjoys being active outdoors in the Pacific Northwest. She

has a dog named Lily and enjoys traveling and outdoor sports.



**Bryan Gilroy | Dubai, UAE**

Advisor to the Provost  
**Zayed University**

**Bryan Gilroy** is Advisor to the Provost at Zayed University. In addition, he serves as Campus Director, and has been at Zayed University for 13 years. Bryan has worked in higher education for over 20 years. He spent many years as a director of university language foundation programs before moving into academic administration. He has an MBA (UK) in Education Management, an M.A. (USA) in linguistics, and a B.Ed. and RSA Dip from the UK. He has worked in Egypt, Colombia, Kuwait, USA, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.



### **Gundolf Graml | Georgia, USA**

Director of German Studies, Assistant Dean for Global Learning  
**Agnes Scott College**

**Dr. Graml Gundolf** is Director of German Studies, Assistant Dean for Global Learning, and an associate professor of German at the Agnes Scott College. Gundolf's interests include German and Austrian literature and culture, transnational studies, cultural studies, film/visual studies, cultural anthropology, and postcolonial studies. He has published extensively on German and Austrian culture, literature, and film, and won the 2013 Max Kade Award for best article in the Journal for Austrian Studies. Recently, he co-edited the volume "Deferred Dreams, Defiant Struggles: Critical Perspectives on Blackness, Belonging, and Civil Rights." He regularly shares his experience with curricular design, faculty-led student travel, and global learning in the liberal arts at national and international conferences and meetings of associations such as AAC&U and NAFSA. Gundolf obtained his Ph.D. degree and M.A. from the University of Minnesota as well as another M.A. degree from the University of Salzburg.



### **Salem Haggag| Dubai, UAE**

Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering  
**American University in Dubai**

**Dr. Salem Haggag** is Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and an associate professor of mechanical engineering at American University in Dubai (AUD). He joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering at AUD in fall 2013. He received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in 2003 from the University of Illinois, Chicago, USA. His dissertation investigated the analysis and development of a novel steering system (Steer-By-Wire System) for medium and large size earth moving equipment. After his Ph.D., Salem worked with the Performance and Control Group of Caterpillar Inc., where he was exposed to the industrial state-of-art development in the fields of mechatronics and control systems. Prior to joining AUD, Salem held faculty appointments at Ain Shams University and the Arab Academy for Science and Technology in Egypt. His research focuses mainly on advanced and modern mechatronics systems. At AUD, Salem teaches a broad range of courses in the areas of mechatronics, control systems, instrumentation, and computer-aided design.



### **Jennifer Hamlow | Oregon, USA**

Director of Education Abroad  
**Portland State University**

**Jennifer (Jen) Hamlow** is Director of Education Abroad at Portland State University (PSU). She works with PSU faculty looking to develop short-term international programming, as well as with the entire advising staff to ensure quality international education abroad opportunities for the PSU community. She joined the Education Abroad team in 2012 and has worked in the field of international education since 1999. Jen received a Fulbright Scholarship to study Intercultural Communications in Salzburg, Austria, then moved to Vienna the following year to teach English. Jen holds an M.A. in Multicultural Communication from DePaul University and launched her career in international education at the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES). While based in Chicago, she also had the opportunity to work at the IES London Center for a summer helping U.S. students acclimate to their internships and studies. Ms. Hamlow then returned home to Portland to work for AHA International in 2006 until joining PSU. Jen enjoys traveling and some of her favorite destinations include Havana, Cuba and cities in Ghana, New Zealand, and Austria.



**William Harder | Maryland, USA**

Director, Center for the Advancement of Scholarship & Teaching  
**Goucher College**

**Dr. William L. Harder** is the Director of Faculty Professional Development and Teaching Excellence at Goucher College where he directs the Center for the Advancement of Scholarship & Teaching. He also holds a faculty affiliation with the Goucher College's Center for People, Politics, and Markets and is an affiliated researcher with the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University. A multidisciplinary social scientist, his current research projects focus on inclusive pedagogies, global education, the documentary film industry, and political rhetoric on

social media. William holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from American University in Washington, D.C., and a B.A. in journalism and political science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



**Belkacem Harroud | Oujda, Morocco**

Associate Professor, English Language and Literature  
**Mohammed First University**

**Dr. Belkacem Harroud** is an associate professor of English language and literature at Mohammed First University. He obtained his undergraduate degree in English language and literature and pursued a master's degree in Humanities and Area Studies: Colonial and Postcolonial Discourses from Mohammed First University. Belkacem received his Ph.D. in English language and literature from Ibn Zohr University in Agadir. He worked as a high school English teacher for 11 years before joining preparatory classes for engineering school for two years. Belkacem's

research interests lie within visual discourse and its intrinsic affiliations with ideology.



**Lisa Jones | Georgia, USA**

Assistant Director, Center for Digital and Visual Literacy  
**Agnes Scott College**

Lisa Jones is Assistant Director of the Center for Digital and Visual Literacy (CSVL) at Agnes Scott College. With a background in educating and empowering students in the area of technology and leadership, Lisa continues to help students in this position. She and the CSVL CDVL tutors look forward to facilitating learning opportunities in a variety of digital/visual media as well as assisting with the curation and maintenance of digital portfolios.



**Sirajuddin Kanoli Mohiudheen | Dubai, UAE**

Systems Engineer  
**American University in Dubai**

**Sirajuddin Mohiudheen** is a Systems Engineer at the American University of Dubai (AUD). He has 17 years of experience in the IT field which includes software, infrastructure, and networking. He has a thorough knowledge of various software and tools used in the education field. Sirajuddin holds a master's in computer applications and is also a Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist. Sirajuddin received the President's Award for Distinguished Service in 2014, which awarded to the staff member who has made significant ongoing contributions to AUD above and beyond the call of duty.





**Annette Mares-Duran | New Mexico, USA**

Faculty-Led International Program Coordinator and Senior Advisor, Global Education Office

**University of New Mexico**

**Annette Mares-Duran** is the Faculty-Led International Program Coordinator and Senior Advisor in the Global Education Office at the University of New Mexico. She brings over ten years of experience in education abroad. In her current role, she collaborates with faculty, staff, and administrators to develop group study abroad programs across multiple academic disciplines to 40+ destinations. Annette specializes in promoting health and safety abroad and serves on a campus-wide committee to review policies pertaining to international travel for students. Annette is an elected

member of the Council for The Forum on Education Abroad Executive Team.



**Said Mentak | Oujda, Morocco**

Professor of English

**Mohammed First University**

**Dr. Said Mentak** is a professor of English at Mohammed First University, where he has been teaching since 1988. He obtained his doctoral degree in postmodernism and the American novel in 2000 and was awarded a Fulbright Visiting Lecturer Scholarship to three American Universities in Alabama in 2006. Said published a book on postmodernism in USA in 2010 and translated four books from English into Arabic. He has also published many articles and chapters in both English and Arabic. He started a Master Program in 2015 on Green Cultural Studies.



**Mohammed Moubtassime | Fez, Morocco**

Professor of English

**Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University**

**Dr. Mohammed Moubtassime** is a professor of English at Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Comparative Linguistics from the Faculty of Humanities at Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University and currently teaches grammar, theoretical linguistics, Morpho-syntax of Natural Languages, Business English, public speaking and debating, gender development and ICT, leadership and entrepreneurship, and critical thinking and analytical skills at the Faculty of humanities. Mohammed was Head of the Department of English Studies, and the Coordinator of three cohorts of English Modular degree programs. Mohammed acted as an expert for accreditation of the B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. programs at the Moroccan

Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Professional Training. He is an alumnus of the State Department Professional Fellowship Program on "Young Entrepreneurs" at the University of Michigan. His research interests are linguistics, curriculum development, didactics, teaching and learning issues, ICT and foreign language learning, educational management, digital media, social entrepreneurship, project development, and corporate communication. Mohammed has coordinated a State Department program to challenge extremism and is Project Leader of the English Teaching Internship Initiative. His most recent publications are The Grammar of Moroccan Arabic, Anthology of Moroccan Poetry, The Novice's Guide to Research, and English Grammar Made Simpler.



**Sally Mudiamu | Oregon, USA**

Director of International Partnerships and Initiatives, International Affairs  
**Portland State University**

**Sally Mudiamu** is the Director of International Partnerships and Initiatives at Portland State University. Her research and practitioner interests are in COIL and virtual exchange in higher education. She also served as a Fulbright Specialist in Modern Engineering Education at Tashkent State Technical University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan in 2017.



**Lawrence Peskin | Maryland, USA**

History Professor  
**Morgan State University**

**Dr. Lawrence Peskin** is a history professor at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. He has written extensively on early US engagement with both sides of the Mediterranean, including *Captives and Countrymen: Barbary Slavery and the American Public* (2009) and is currently completing a book focusing on three American consuls in the Mediterranean region. He recently completed a fellowship at the American Legation in Morocco.



**Nicole Tami | New Mexico, USA**

Executive Director for Global Education Initiatives  
**University of New Mexico**

**Dr. Nicole Tami** is the Executive Director for Global Education Initiatives at the University of New Mexico, one of the oldest Hispanic Serving Institutions in the country. She holds a doctorate in cultural anthropology from the University of Illinois, with regional expertise in East Africa. Nicole not only directs the operations of the Global Education Office, but is responsible for the strategic internationalization of campus, which extends into matters of policy, business practices, and pedagogy. She brings a collaborative, holistic approach to her role as senior international officer, working with a wide-range of campus constituents to promote student and faculty

mobility, global partnerships, and international education programs at home and abroad. In March 2019, she was selected to participate in the Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Program to India. Nicole is an active member of the AIEA and EAIE, and speaks four languages, including Swiss-German, her mother tongue.





**Samia Rab Kirchner | Maryland, USA**

Professor, Architecture and Planning and Chair, Internationalization of Education Task Force

**Morgan State University**

**Dr. Samia Rab Kirchner** is the Chair of Internationalization of Education Task Force at Morgan State University. She makes, studies, and teaches architecture that contributes to urban civic identity. She has taught at four universities across the world for over two decades and is currently tenured Associate Professor of Architecture and Planning at Morgan State University, where she chairs the Internationalization of Education Task Force. Samia's research and practice are both focused on Community-Engaged Urban Design and Redevelopment Planning that make watersheds and waterfronts accessible for public use. From 2019-2020, she received the G. Penczek Service-Learning Faculty Award and chaired the Leadership Committee of the

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. She now serves as Middle East Area Editor for the forthcoming Bloomsbury Global Encyclopedia of Women in Architecture, as Editorial Member of the Journal of Arabian Studies, as Desk Reviewer for ICOMOS on the UNESCO World Heritage List.



**Aziz Sair | Dakhla, Morocco**

Director

**National School of Business and Management in Dakhla, University of Ibn Zohr**

**Dr. Aziz Sair** is the Director of the National School of Business and Management in Dakhla at University of Ibn Zohr. He holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in communication and a second master's in planning and tourism management. Aziz is a post-doctorate Fulbrighter at Minnesota University where he conducted research on destination branding. He is an Erasmus lecturer at University Las Palmas and University of Balearic Islands on destination management. Aziz is also the coordinator of a Lab of Research in Tourism Studies.



**Houssine Soussi | Dakhla, Morocco**

Associate Professor, Language and Communication

**National School of Business and Management in Dakhla, University of Ibn Zohr**

**Dr. Houssine Soussi** is an associate professor of language and communication at the National School of Business and Management in Dakhla at University of Ibn Zohr. Houssine obtained a master's degree in media studies from Qadi Ayyad University of Marrakech and a Ph.D. in applied linguistics from Moulay Ismail University of Meknes, where he analyzed the impact of students' online language use in social networking sites on the development

of Intercultural Communicative Competence. Houssine's research interests are focused on intercultural learning in online environments, as well as in the

sociolinguistics situation of Morocco, particularly the study of the Amazigh language and culture. He is also interested in media-art and the intersection of art, science, and technology. He is the moderator and correspondent of YASMIN, a network of artists, scientists, engineers, theoreticians, and institutions promoting communication and collaboration in art, science and technology around the Mediterranean Rim.



**Ibtissam Zbadi | Beni Mellal, Morocco**

Administration Officer, International Cooperation  
**Sultan Moulay Slimane University (USMS)**

**Ibtissam Zbadi** is Administration Officer at Sultan Moulay Slimane University in Beni Mellal. Ibtissam is responsible for monitoring cooperation agreements, setting up international projects, and monitoring student mobility, and is a member of the organizing committee for events within the university.



**Sara Zitouni | Casablanca, Morocco**

Morocco Innovation Project Manager  
**Mohammed VI University for Health Sciences**

**Sara Zitouni** is the Morocco Innovation Project Manager at Mohammed VI University for Health Sciences (UM6SS). Prior to this position, she worked as a pedagogical Program Coordinator at UM6SS in Casablanca, Morocco since November 2016. Sara holds a master's degree in Innovation and Intellectual Property Management and has digital and virtual experience in running virtual projects and meetings. Sara is keen to work collaboratively in adopting and integrating innovative tools into behaviors and methodologies. Sara has extensive experience at solving business challenges by design

and organizational skills.