



## International Baccalaureate Schools in Egypt ConnectED Teacher Networking Event

This term, the International Baccalaureate Schools in Egypt Association (IBSEA) ConnectED event brought together teachers from over 50 schools across Egypt. We are proud that the event was hosted at MES Cairo by our Managing Director Ghada Dajani, who is the elected President of IBSEA. Dr Kawther Saa'd Eddin, (IB Development and Recognition Manager), presented an engaging Keynote, followed by a presentation given by inspirational MESConian Shaheer Bardissi, (MES IBDP Class of 2010). Participants then attended IB workshops and made many fruitful connections. This was our second IBSEA ConnectED networking meeting and we were honoured to have Dr Kawther with us again as lead Keynote this year.

In addition to her Development and

Recognition work with the IB, Dr Kawther is a member of the Jordanian Ministry of Education (MoE) Education Board, an IB Lead Educator, a Senior Examiner and a Workshop Developer. Speaking to the large group of participants, she shared with us important details about the IB's vision for the future of its Programmes.



MS Ghada Dajani, MES Cairo's Managing Director and President of IBSEA said: "I would like to thank Dr Kawther Saa'd Eddin for inspiring us with her engaging presentation. We are incredibly grateful for the outstanding work that she does in support of the IB here in Egypt. On behalf of the IBSEA Executive Committee, I would also like to thank each and every one of our visitors for joining us here at MES Cairo, and especially to those who made the journey from as far away as Alexandria! We were very pleased to be able to welcome those of you that are already with us as part of the International Baccalaureate Schools in Egypt Association since its inception in 2020, along with those who are new to the Association. It is your commitment to the IB Mission that is enabling the Association to thrive, develop and continue its good work."

An IB Education may be for a better world, but we are all aware of the need for caring leaders to work locally as well as globally. If our goal is to grow the youth of Egypt into tomorrow's world leaders then who better than a stellar example of the product of an IB Education, to demonstrate the impact of that goal. MES Cairo's very own MESConian, Shaheer Bardissi, graduated with an IB Diploma in 2010. He acquitted himself in an impressive manner throughout his time with us and he continues to do marvellous things; for himself, for his country and indeed for the world as a whole. We were delighted that Shaheer was able to join us and to tell us his story.



Shaheer told us all about his university qualifications and his ultimate journey into the realm of scientific research. He articulated to us clearly how his own IB education inspired and motivated him to go on to develop a genetic therapy research and development centre for the treatment of diseases such as cancer, the very first in the whole of Africa and the Middle East. MES Cairo's IB teachers and leaders were exceptionally proud to hear Shaheer express his belief that teaching is a truly noble profession, to hear him express his gratitude to his school teachers and to encourage all present educators to keep learning as well as teaching, and to keep raising IB graduates in pursuit of a better world.

The Keynotes were followed by Programme Specific, Core and subject workshops. IB Educators across Egypt had volunteered to present and lead workshops.

The IB ConnectED gathering was, in the spirit of the IB Mission, an opportunity for us to share and to collaborate. Our participants were all invited to be a part of the event due to our mutual passion for IB Education.

Participants shared feedback after the event.

"It was an honour for me to lead two workshops today in the IB Networking event held at MES Cairo. I have learned a lot from all the IB Educators who participated and shared their knowledge and expertise to make this event insightful and inspirational! (Sherwet Adel, MYP Programme Head, Manaret Heliopolis International School)

"Much honoured to participate in the amazing IB ConnectED event for the second year." (Ms Dalia El Shorbagy, New Vision International School)







It was wonderful to witness the passion and enthusiasm that our IB colleagues have for sharing their talents, expertise and knowledge. The energy we created together enabled us to make the event highly beneficial for all participants. We couldn't have done it without the wonderful enthusiasm and support of outstanding IB teachers from all over Egypt! Many thanks also to our exemplary DP11 and DP12 students who were extremely welcoming, polite, confident, enthusiastic and very helpful to our visitors throughout the event.

**Ms S Sheehan - Deputy Headteacher**

## International Baccalaureate Schools in Egypt Association (IBSEA) Meeting November 2022

Ms Ghada Dajani, MES Cairo's Managing Director and elected President of IBSEA, hosted a meeting for Egypt's IB schools on 23rd November 2022 where 30 of Egypt's IB World schools were represented. The meeting was supported by Dr Kawther Saa'd Eddin, (IB Development and Recognition Manager). The group continued the productive dialogue that was started at the regional

Association meetings

in The Hague earlier in October of this year. Ms Ghada Dajani led the group by outlining her vision for the continued growth and development of the Association in its mission to support IB schools, students and teachers throughout Egypt. Amongst several other important topics, the group discussed further networking opportunities, IB Programme recognition and certification developments, along with a variety of current priorities for IB World Schools in Egypt. The IBSEA Executive Committee will be meeting soon to discuss further developments and would like to welcome IBSEA's newly elected Secretary, Ms. Robyn Larsen of Schutz American School.

**Ms Sheehan - Deputy Headteacher**







# IB Global Conference

## The Hague – October 2022

After two virtual conferences in 2020 and 2021, the IB Global Conference has returned as a face-to-face event. This year it took place in The Hague on 6–8 October 2022, under the theme of “Embracing innovation, inspiring action”.

Ms Ghada Dajani, (Managing Director and President of the IB Schools in Egypt Association IBSEA), along with Ms Suzanne Sheehan (Deputy Head) and Mr Brendan Rainford (IBDP Coordinator), attended the Conference, which focused on preparing students with the skills necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex world.

We were reassured to learn that MES Cairo is already meeting this challenge. We were proud to represent MES Cairo as we participated and connected with IB educators and leaders from all over the world.



Presentations and workshops were based on one of several themes including *Educational Technology and Innovation*, *Inclusive Education and Well-being*, and *21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning and Teaching*.

We engaged in sessions on hybrid learning environments, emerging software and hardware for educational purposes, and cutting-edge research in education, as well as revisiting the latest skills and competencies needed to thrive in an interconnected world. Other sessions included topics that promoted inclusion, wellness, emotional intelligence, and resilience. We also reviewed the latest research in the competencies and strategies needed to facilitate lifelong learning.

As our teachers constantly update their skills, they continue to set an important example of what it means to be a lifelong learner to our students. We were reassured that our practices in teaching and learning here at MES Cairo are in line with the best practices in the world. We continue to deliver a world-class learning experience and our students continue to achieve top results, enabling them to access the top universities all over the world and to thrive in their future careers.

**Ms S Sheehan – Deputy Headteacher**

