

Ali Keyvanfar, Ph.D.

Associate Professor (Effective 2024)

Marietta, GA 30066

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Curriculum Vitae

Analytical, visionary professional with nearly ten years of high-impact experience across higher education and international construction, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development consulting environments. Proven record of teaching, research, and development (R&D), and community services focusing on computer-aided decision-making for sustainable construction, green materials, green architecture, and sustainable urban and infrastructure development. Strong business acumen coupled with new product/service development, business model, traction planning, and fundraising. Articulate communicator continually focused on building teamwork, problem-solving, and strengthening relationships across educational groups, community stakeholders, international partners, and peers. A collaborative leader and dedicated scientist skilled in international research leadership.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Kennesaw State University (KSU), Georgia, USA

Tenured faculty member, Department of Construction Management, 2024- forward

(Role) To establish pedagogical innovation methodologies in all types of modalities, including online/E-learning (60% workload); To establish a recognized research lab/center with benefit to local, state, federal, and intentional stakeholders (20% workload); To work in leading service capacities helping academic stakeholders while generating revenue for university (20% workload).

(Achievement) Secured 2 PTC patents, released two products for public use, led a KSU partnership in a \$3 million project funded by the U.S. Department of State, and joined two key national and state-level committees in my field.

Tenure track faculty member, Department of Construction Management, 2019- 2023

(Role) To perform HIP teaching and learning methodologies (mainly developing undergraduate research courses) in all types of modalities, including online/E-learning (60% workload); To establish recognized research projects with benefit to local, state, federal, and intentional audiences (20% workload); To work in leading service capacities helping students, department, college, KSU, and construction professional and academic community (20% workload).

(Achievement) Secured \$175,000 in internal and \$420,000 in external funds, published 17 high-impact 1st author Q1 and Q2 articles; led two special issues in Q1 journals; led a major campus-wide IRB committee for two years; led and initiated DEI committee, initiatives, and policies in college, initiated Undergraduate Research courses DOP programs in the department. Secured tenure thresholds in the pre-tenure review.

Center for Energy Research, University of California, San Diego (US San Diego), California, USA

Collaborating Professor / Visiting Scholar, 2018- 2019

(Role) To explore technology transfer opportunities and secure research fund

(Achievement) Established a variety of validated partnership development service packages for international fundraising, generating significant income (\$400k) per program. **(Project(s) Focused:** Application of solar forecasting in the smart and sustainable built environment; Energy-efficient behavioral coaching system for building users)

Universidad Tecnológica Equinoccial, Quito, Ecuador

Visiting Professor, Faculty of Built Environment, 2017- 2019

(Role & Achievement) Forming faculty research groups (4 in construction and 4 in architectural and urban studies). Planning the unveiling of UCSD/MIT-UTE construction research center. Executing 60 hours of interactive professional workshops to perform entrepreneurship research resulted in 20 publications and the launching of three different university service packages for local industries. **(Project(s) Focused:** Zero Energy Cooling Wall, Construction Project Death Cycle destruction Framework, Construction Project CSR app development, UAV readiness in Ecuador, Problem of group construction decision making in Ecuador).

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Adjunct Associate Professor, Faculty of Built Environment, 2017-2018

(Role & Achievement) Supervise students in supporting their publication output (10 publications), financial aid issues (secured \$20k scholarship), and master thesis projects (3 projects). Solicit national and international research funds by conducting workshops to promote the university and faculty and initiate international collaboration (1 collaboration for 5 projects UTE-UTM).

Senior Lecturer (equivalent to Assistant Professor (Tenured) in UK educational system), 2014- 2017

Construction Research Centre, Faculty of Civil Engineering, UTM Kuala Lumpur & Johor Bahru, Malaysia

(Role) To perform research teaching and learning methodologies (mainly developing graduate research courses- Masters and Ph.D.) in all types of modalities, including online/E-learning (30% workload); To establish high-impact research projects with benefit to local and intentional audiences (60% workload); To work in research service capacities helping students and center (10% workload).

(Achievement) secured 100 (over 100 points) teachings, research, and service annual evaluation results every year.

Postdoctoral Researcher, 2013- 2014

Construction Research Centre, Faculty of Civil Engineering, UTM Kuala Lumpur & Johor Bahru, Malaysia

(Achievement) Obtained two research funds (\$150k). Published one special issue and three publications. Completed a patent filing. Received a university award, Gold Medal & Jury Award. Supervised and mentored three Research Assistants. Performed TA duties in MSc. Construction Management.

Ali Keyvanfar, Ph.D.

Page 2

FELLOWSHIPS

CIFAL Atlanta, a research center under the UN Institute of Training and Research, Georgia, USA

UN SDG faculty fellow, 2020- 2021

(Role) The Goal of the DGA-SDG Faculty Fellow (affiliated with CIFAL Atlanta, a research center under the UN Institute of Training and Research) was to highlight and benchmark KSU research around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

(Achievement) developed an international program for entrepreneurship around SDGs for internal leadership development, program management improved the campus commitment to the SDGs by monitoring all KSU-conducted projects (research, teaching, service, and operational), defined new campus-wide projects, and raising awareness within the broader campus community regarding the importance of sustainable policies, practices, and activities. A major achievement was indexing KSU in THE impact (SDG) ranking.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

International Doctoral Fellowship, 2010- 2013

(Role) To perform mentorship duties, support the main professors to secure funds, conduct research and publish the outcome.

(Achievement) Secured five research funds (\$250K). Published 6 indexed manuscripts. Successfully mentored three master's degree students. Carried out supportive course assessment duties.

SERVICES

Kennesaw State University (KSU), Georgia, USA

Chair of Institutional Review Board (IRB), 2021- 2023

(Role) To establish university-level procedures and policies (in line with public policies) and support board members in reviewing KSU research protocols involving human subjects research design (Qualitative and Quantitative research, including data gathering, data analysis, and reporting to subjects); and to chair the board meetings to ensure a transparent decision.

(Achievement) Recruited a full supportive office (Staff Development), supported over 700 protocols, established more than ten university-level policies, and scheduled several staff development, professional development, and leadership development workshops.

Chair of the College Diversity, Equity, and inclusion (DEI) committee, 2022- 2023

(Role) To advocate for policies and strategic plans that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion by culture (not just numbers) in the college workplace. The mission fosters an inclusive learning and work environment (through program development and program management) that promotes understanding and appreciation for difference through initiatives, operating programs, research, services, and training.

(Achievement) Developed and approved a 5-year DEI strategic and action plan, Secured more than \$70k in funds (internal and external) to intensify the implementations and implement the curriculum development, conducted multiple training for professional development of staff and faculty on grant writing for governmental and or nonprofit organizations, integrated DEI in college Bylaws, formed the DEI committee and recruited members, and established award nomination workflow for leadership development.

Chair of College Curriculum Committee (CCC), 2022- 2023

(Role) To officially process college proposals that enhance university teaching and learning curriculum development; to overview curriculum shortcomings and optimize academic plans with CCC proposals; to chair the college and IAB committees; to validate CCC decisions to align with NAAB/ACCE/ABET accreditation criteria.

(Achievement) Organized college-level workshops for faculty to learn from best practices in online teaching, Developed a workflow of departmental approval for a college-level review, and administrated needed platform changes.

Chair of CMD curriculum committee (DCC), 2021- 2022

(Role) To officially process IAB-approved curriculum proposals; to overview curriculum shortcomings and optimize academic plans with DCC proposals; to chair the departmental and IAB committees; to validate DCC decisions to align with ACCE/ABET accreditation criteria.

(Achievement) Developed three double graduation pathways for undergraduate students to get master's in MBA, MPA, and CM in a shorter timeframe. Establish three generic courses for an internship, special topics, and directed study in the undergraduate curriculum.

Elected Member and secretary of College Faculty Council (CFC), 2021- 2024

(Role) To consult with the dean in policy and planning, to overview and support other college committees and college boards for policy or proposal approval or decision making, and to be the voice of faculty to the dean.

(Achievement) Led the effort to update college bylaws, collect comments, and edit and get approval. Supported college P&T updates.

Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET), Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Program Evaluator, 2017-present

(Role) Perform yearly assessments of undergraduate programs in construction engineering and technology (and management) across the USA (or international schools) on accreditation exercises; Coordinating with ASCE supporting teams under accreditation program chairs and ABET accreditation team chairs; Improve the self-performance based on annual peer reviews and self-reflection.

(Achievement) Honored with two recognition letters (2019 and 2022) from ABET CEO.

Ali Keyvanfar, Ph.D.

Page 3

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
MIT-UTM- Sustainable Cities Program

Managing Editor, 2015- 2016

(Role & Achievement) Constructing and arranging of peer-reviewing process, developing and following the editorial workflow (language proofreading arrangement, generating similarity reports, arrangements of copyright agreements), developing and following decision-making structure in publishing several manuscripts, special issue arrangements with the journal, and coordination with program stakeholders.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, 2013

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia (MIT collaborating campus for sustainable cities research in ASEAN)

- *Civil Engineering (Construction Management and Sustainable Design)*

MSc. in Construction Management, 2009

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia (MIT collaborating campus for sustainable cities research in ASEAN)

- *Construction Management (Construction Quality Management)*

BEng. in Civil Engineering, 2004

Islamic Azad University, Sanandaj Branch, Sanandaj, Kurdistan

GRADUATE STUDENTS

- *Supervised 6 Master's students at Kennesaw State University (6 in Information Technology and 3 in Construction Management).*
- *Mentored over 7 PhD candidates at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (2 in Material Science, 5 in Civil Engineering).*
- *Promoted independent research, innovative methodologies, and practical application of theoretical knowledge.*
- *Guided students through all stages of research, from proposal to defense.*
- *I co-authored over 30 publications, nine patent filings, five product developments, and ten innovation presentations with students.*
- *Provided career mentorship, contributing to successful industry and academic placements.*

TEACHING COURSES

Kennesaw State University (KSU), Georgia, USA

Undergraduate course- CM3400-Risk and Quality Management (2019- current): This course focuses on developing risk management steps before and after signing the construction contract. It includes the development of a risk log, risk assessment, risk response planning, and risk control strategies. The course also briefs on quality assurance, quality control, costs of quality, and quality management tools and methods (3 credit hours).

Undergraduate course- CM4512- Emerging trends in residential construction (2019- current): This course reviews emerging trends in the residential building industry. Students will learn about trends and how to manage these trends as modern risk factors in residential construction (3 credit hours).

Undergraduate course- CM3910- Sustainable Residential Practices (2020): This course emphasizes the techniques and methods of sustainable construction for the residential building industry. Also, students will explore sustainable residential construction assessment indexing systems and factors, then apply the indexing in a few case studies of sustainable assessment (assessment of construction material and method) (3 credit hours).

Graduate course- CM6600- Construction Risk Analysis and Control (2020 -current): This course focuses on classic and modern risk management, including risk identification, risk assessment, risk management, risk mitigation, acceptance, and transfer. Risk of quality, Quality assurance, and Quality control is also introduced (4 credit hours).

Graduate course- CM6901- Modern risk management in construction (2020 -current): Students in this directed study will learn the principles of modern risk management in a case study. Students should apply critical thinking to research in the construction of social sustainability, social tolerance, and social carrying capacity associated. The core material consists of learning research skills inclusive of literature review, data collection and analysis, and reporting (4 credit hours).

UC San Diego (US San Diego), California, USA

Graduate / professional course- Entrepreneurship research (2018-2019): The course introduces steps to transfer an idea to an award-winning product, designing postgraduate research to develop a successful spin-off.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Graduate course- Construction Project Management (2013-2017): The course reviews the History of PM, PM drivers and skills, PM monitoring and control, and PM problem-solving. Also, there are some highlights about PMBOK, PMI certificates, Decision-making methods (AHP, ANP, GGDM, Delphi, and Brainstorming), Project Complexity, Innovation Management, and Dynamic Modeling.

Graduate course- Research Methodology (2016-2017): This course teaches about Research Design, Construct Development, Data Collection & Analysis, and Report Writing. Course Highlights are on Scopus citation analysis, topic selection, and research for the Development of New Products & Services in Construction.

Graduate course- Construction Scheduling (2016-2017): The course introduces WBS, CPM, and MSP/P6. Course Highlights are Dynamic scheduling, n-D scheduling, and UAV in construction.

Ali Keyvanfar, Ph.D.

Page 4

Undergraduate course- Structure Lab (2016-2017) The course introduces basic and standard lab tests in commercial structure and also, and the course touches on the theoretical analysis of experimental error calculation for each test.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

1. Georgia Academy of Science (2023- current)
2. AGC of America's Highway Work Zone Safety Committee (2023- current)
3. PhD panel at a diverse list of international universities (2016-current)
4. Program evaluator, Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology-ABET (2017-current)
5. Grant proposal review panelist, MOHE/MOSTI grants, Malaysian Government (2015- current)
6. Grant proposal review panelist, Czech Science Foundation (2022- current)
7. Faculty Member, Construction Management Association of America- CMAA (2017-18)
8. Associate Member, American Society of Civil Engineering-Construction Institute-ASCE-CI (2014-18)
9. Associate member, Association of Researchers in Construction Management -ARCOM/ (2013-18)
10. Journal editor, Buildings (Academic Journal) (2023- current)
11. Journal guest editor, Sustainability (Academic Journal) (2020- current)
12. Journal associate editor, Frontier in Built Environment (construction management) (Academic Journal) (2022- current)
13. Journal guest editor, ASCE Journal of Urban Planning and Development (2020- current)
14. Managing Editor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Malaysia Sustainable Cities Program, 2015(Aug.)-2016(Aug.).
15. Conference co-editor, ICONBUILD 2015 and 2017 Indonesia
16. Conference co-editor, Flood Disaster Conference 2016 & SEPKA-ISEED 2016, Malaysia
17. Conference co-editor, 2018 5th International Conference on Civil and Urban Engineering (ICCU 2018), Spain
18. Journal reviewer, SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND SOCIETY (Q2, Index in ISI & Scopus, IF: 7.587).
19. Journal reviewer, ASCE JOURNAL OF ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING (Q1, Index in ISI & Scopus)
20. Journal reviewer, ENERGY POLICY (Q1, Index in ISI & Scopus, IF: 6.142)
21. Journal reviewer, CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (Q2, Index in ISI & Scopus, IF: 3.636)
22. Journal reviewer, MATERIAL AND DESIGN (Q1, Index in Thomson Reuters & Scopus, IF: 7.991)
23. Conference reviewer, Associated Schools of Construction- ASC (2014- current)

SAMPLE OF PODCASTS, COURSES, OTHER MATERIAL

1. <https://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/akeyvanf/Fun%20Yet%20Relevant.php>

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS (+60 high-impact manuscripts)

2. <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=nPsziWkAAAAJ&hl=en>

RESEARCH GRANTS and CONTRACTS (+\$2 million)

3. <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0059-274X>