

Empowering the Youth to Increase their Chemistry Education Interest Through Student Chapters in Non-Science-Dominant Environments

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INTRODUCTION

- In the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, cultural attitudes often prioritize certain fields of study over others. Hence, here is a general stigma towards pursuing a career in pure sciences in the region.
- The ACS Student Chapter at the American University of Sharjah (AUS) has focused on empowering chemistry and science students through a variety of initiatives.

AIM OF THE STUDENT CHAPTER

The aim of the ACS Student Chapter at AUS is to:

- Empower chemistry and science students by providing opportunities for them and promoting their academic and career growth.
- Raise awareness on how chemistry education can be both engaging and enjoyable through a variety of creative approaches.

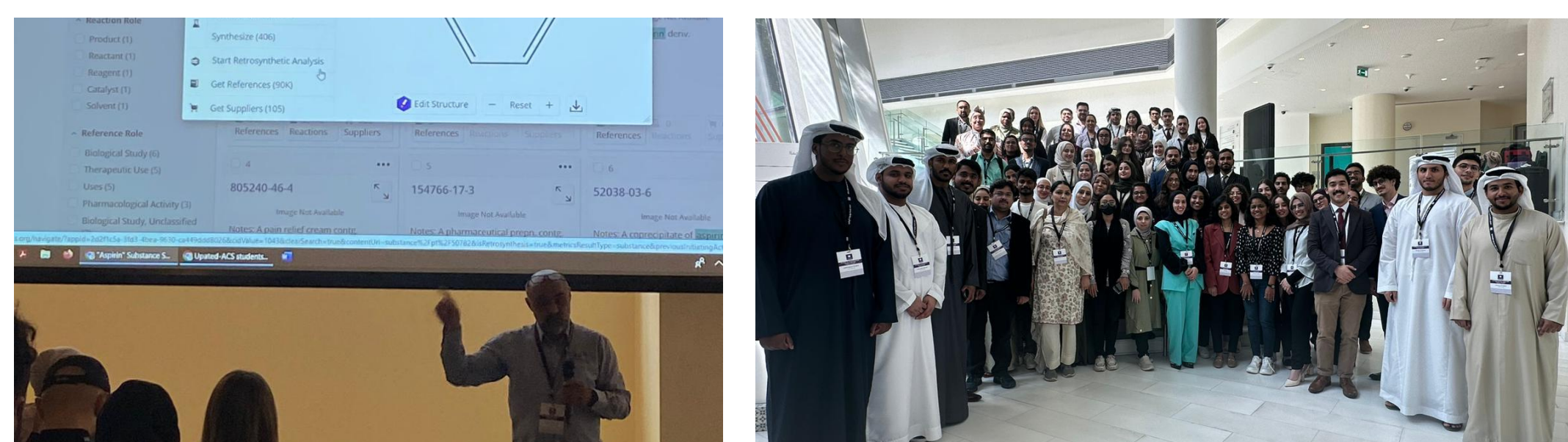
INITIATIVES ORGANIZED BY THE STUDENT CHAPTER

"MEET THE ALUMNI" SERIES



In this series, students got the opportunity to connect with alumni who are/were later employed in industry, medical school, or graduate studies. Panel discussions were held, offering students advice on their career paths.

STUDENT SYMPOSIUM



The Student Symposium aimed to allow students to gain experience in conference presentations through a series of poster and oral presentations given by undergraduate and graduate students across the MENA region.

SCHOOL VISITS



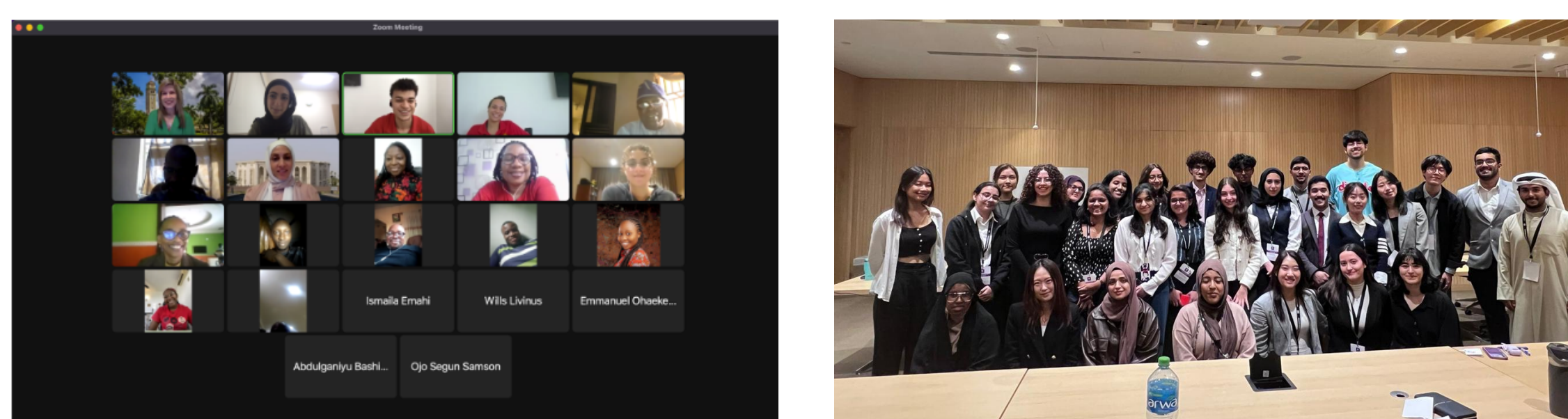
The Student Chapter has hosted and visited several schools across the country, conducting demonstrations and promoting science education, driving high school students to consider pursuing a degree in pure science.

GUEST LECTURES



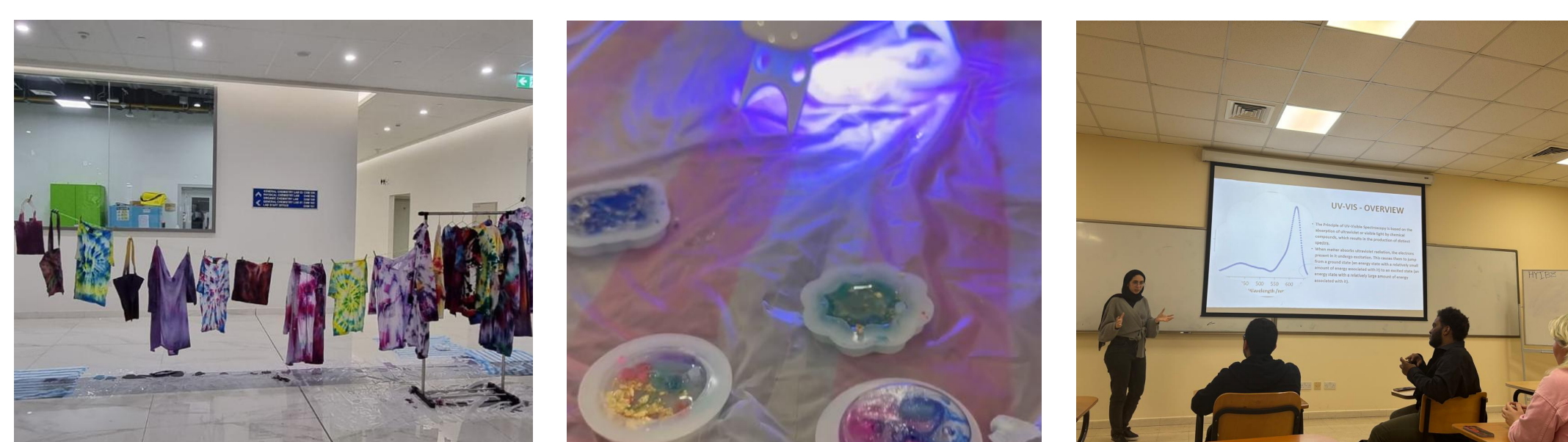
Throughout the various academic years, various guests have been invited to delivered talks/lectures, join in panel discussions, discuss research opportunities, etc., allowing students to learn about various career paths.

STUDENT CHAPTER'S GATHERING



Gatherings of International Student Chapters have assisted in increasing communication and collaboration across various universities. They have also allowed us to bridge the distance between them, and connect with peers.

CHEMFEST



ChemFest celebrations hosted by the Chapter have focused on displaying the chemistry concepts seen in everyday life through various interactive activities, targeting students of different backgrounds and interests.

CONCLUSION

- The Student Chapter has made significant strides in addressing the stigma surrounding pure sciences by providing platforms for chemistry students to engage with professors.
- Through these initiatives, the Student Chapter continues to empower students, bridging the gap between academic study and career development, while promoting a strong Chemistry community across the region.

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