Osman M. Bakr, Chairman of Quantum Solutions & Professor of Materials Science & Engineering - KAUST

He earned a B.Sc. in Materials Science and Engineering from MIT (2003) as well as an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Harvard University (2009). As Vice Provost, he developed frameworks and implementation plans for strategic university initiatives at the Provost's Office; and launched talent development, fellowships, and recruitment programs for students and young faculty. Bakr overseas the Ibn Rushd Fellowship and Ibn Rushd Professorship Programs (the university's main pipelines for developing and recruiting outstanding Saudi faculty); KAUST Academy, which includes the university's arm for professional and extended education, as well as fellowships and training for gifted Saudi undergraduate and high school students.

Bakr's research lab, The Function Nanomaterials Lab, is at the forefront of design and synthesis of hybrid and inorganic materials, generating breakthrough applications in solar energy harvesting, photonics, and optoelectronics. He published over 353 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and over 15 patents and invention disclosures. His group's research appeared in leading interdisciplinary publications such as Science, Nature Energy, Nature Photonics, Nature Nanotechnology, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Joule, and others.

Bakr is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC); a Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (FIMMM); and Associate Editor at ACS Materials Letters (American Chemical Society). He was selected as a Young Scientist by the World Economic Forum (2016); and as a member of the Editorial Advisory Boards of ACS Energy Letters (2016) and Chemistry of Materials (2017).

He was awarded the SABIC Endowed Presidential Career Development Chair (2013); the Innovator Under 35 Award in the Arab World by the MIT Technology Review-Arab Edition (2016); The King's Award for Inventors and the Gifted (2018); the Asian Rising Stars Lectureship (2019); the Abdul Hameed Shoman Arab Researchers Award in Basic Sciences and the Almarai Distinguished Scientist Prize (2020); the Kroll Medal & Prize by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (2021); the Kuwait Prize by Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (2022). The Times Higher Education named Bakr one of the ten leading university researchers world-wide in the field of "perovskite solar cells" (2018) and Clarivate designated Bakr as a Highly Cited Researcher in both Materials Science and Chemistry.

Bakr is the founder of Quantum Solutions, a company that develops wide-range imaging systems for robotics and machine vision applications.

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