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UNIVERSITY at QATAR

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM

THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM PRESENTS

# The Role of Materials Science and Engineering in the Human Development

*Dr. Hussein Zbib, Washington State University*

Monday, November 2, 2009  
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
(Sandwiches will be provided)  
TAMUQ – LH 143 / 1st Floor

An era in human history is often referred to with a *material* of choice; the Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, and Silicon Age, are examples of this. Materials Science is one of the oldest forms of engineering and applied science, since the manufacture of ceramics and innovations that led to transformational technologies since the start of the industrial revolution. Modern transportation, electronics, nontechnology, space exploration, the information age, and medical prosthetics were all enabled by today's' metallic, polymeric, ceramic, semiconductors, and multifunctional materials.

There is a consensus among leading experts that the human development is now at a very critical juncture in its history; population numbers are reaching extraordinary limits never seen before and standard of living is rising across the globe. This in turn is increasing pressure on the earth's limited natural resources and fueling conflicts. The hope is that human ingenuity yet again will find innovative solutions and develop new technologies for more efficient and clean utilization of current energy sources and at the same invent novel technologies for renewable energy and sustainability of resources. This can be enabled only by ground-breaking advances in materials science and engineering.

Dr. Hussein Zbib has over 25 years of experience in academia, as an educator, researcher and administrator. He is the Director of the School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering since Aug 2003. He received his doctor of philosophy in Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Mechanics from Michigan Technological University (MTU) in 1987 in the area of solid mechanics. He was appointed to his present post at the School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering at Washington State University (WSU) in 1988, and was promoted to the rank of Professor in August 1998.



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