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Dr. Alaa K. Ashmawy is Professor and Dean of the School of Engineering at the American University in Dubai (AUD). Prior to joining AUD in 2006, he had held teaching and research appointments at the University of South Florida in Tampa and the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. Dr. Ashmawy's research in numerical modeling and geoenvironmental engineering has been funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of State, and the Florida Department of Transportation. His professional experience also includes consulting on several engineering projects in the USA and the USE, and a visiting professorship at the Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico. He is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) in the State of Florida.

Dr. Ashmawy earned his M.S. and Ph.D. from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, and his B.S. in civil engineering with honors from Alexandria University in Egypt. He has been a member of the Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) Executive Committee since 2009 and was elected in 2011 as GEDC Secretary/Treasurer. He is a Program Evaluator (PEV) for ABET's Engineering Accreditation Commission and an active member on numerous regional and international committees on engineering accreditation, curriculum, and professional licensure. He is also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society for Engineering Education, the Deep Foundations Institute, and Sigma Xi — the Scientific Research Society. He was the recipient of the 2004 Jerome Krivanek Distinguished Teacher Award at the University of South Florida and the ASCE Zone II Faculty Advisor Certificate of Commendation. He has authored three book chapters and more than 50 technical papers in refereed journals and conferences.