



BIOGRAPHY

Haydar Al-Shukri, Ph.D

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Haydar Al-Shukri is a Professor of Geophysics and Seismology. Currently, he is Chair of the Applied Science Department and the Director of the Arkansas Earthquake Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is a member of the Arkansas Governor's Advisory Counsel for earthquakes and pre-disaster mitigation planning. Al-Shukri was born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1950. He received a BSc degree in Geology and a MS degree in Geophysics from the College of Science, Baghdad University in 1974 and 1976, respectively. He worked at the Seismology Unit, Scientific Research Council, Baghdad, and later served as Head of the Unit until 1982. He was instrumental in initiating the installation of the first seismic monitoring system in Iraq. In 1982, Al-Shukri traveled to the United States to pursue graduate education. He received his PhD in Geophysics from St Louis University, St Louis, Missouri, in 1990. He accepted a Research Associate and Visiting Assistant Professor position at Indiana University, Bloomington., Indiana. There he taught geophysics and became a member of a research team to study earth structure and develop systems for earthquake monitoring. In 1994 he accepted a faculty position at Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to develop the university's geophysical program and to direct the Center for Earthquake Studies. He headed a research team from many regional universities to study the seismicity of the central United States and the associated risk assessment and mitigation planning. In 1996 Al-Shukri became Staff Scientist of ENSCO, Inc, Melbourne, Florida, to develop new technology for monitoring seismic events. He received numerous awards for the innovative designs for automated signal detection and discrimination. Dr. Al-Shukri returned to the academic community in 1998, joining the Applied Science Department as a Professor and Graduate Coordinator. At the same time he was appointed Director of the Arkansas Earthquake Center, a Federal and State supported institution, to perform scientific research, seismic monitoring, and public education. In 2005 he was elected as the Chair of the department. Al-Shukri's research branched into a wide spectrum of fields that included theoretical and applied geophysics, earthquake seismology, environmental and geotechnical applications, natural resources, and risk assessment. He has more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, technical reports, and conference publications. His studies led his research team to many major discoveries of new earth structures and intra-plate seismicity migration.

Since 2003, Al-Shukri traveled repeatedly to Iraq to help promote and revitalize the Iraqi higher education institutions. He was the Principal Investigator of two proposals funded by NSF and DOE to install three seismic stations in Iraq. He also recruited many Iraqi students to pursue their higher education in the US. Currently he is mentoring more than 60 Iraqi students (about 55 graduate and 5 undergraduate students) to continue their education at UALR.