

Abdulahman (Abdul) Yarali, Faculty Regent (ayarali@murraystate.edu)

With a distinguished career spanning academia, industry, and research, I bring a wealth of expertise in wireless communications, cybersecurity, and next-generation technologies. I hold a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida, an M.S. from George Washington University, and a Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Before entering academia, I led engineering and research teams, contributing to major telecommunications firms such as AT&T, NORTEL, and Sprint PCS, where I played a pivotal role in designing, implementing, and optimizing wireless communications systems. Since 2003, I have been a faculty member at Murray State University (MSU), where I have been instrumental in developing the Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM) and Cybersecurity and Network Management (CNM) programs. My efforts led to the creation of a wireless specialization program, including multiple undergraduate and graduate courses that prepare students for careers in the ever-evolving field of telecommunications.

As the Coordinator of the CNM program (2018-2022) and the university's point of contact with the National Security Agency (NSA), I played a critical role in securing MSU's designation as a Center of Academic Excellence (CAE) in 2018. This milestone expanded opportunities for students and strengthened MSU's reputation in cybersecurity education. Additionally, as the President of the KY-Center of Academic Excellence (KY-CAE), I have worked to foster collaboration between academia and industry to promote cybersecurity awareness and innovation.

My academic contributions include authoring 10 books and over 50 conference and journal papers during my tenure at MSU, covering topics such as wireless communications, AI, ML, IoT, cybersecurity, and cyber-physical systems. I have delivered keynote speeches, chaired international conferences, and secured research grants, including funding from NASA-KY and the Department of Homeland Security. My work in the Coalition Cybersecurity Taskforce Project has supported innovative cybersecurity research and workforce development initiatives.

With a passion for education, research, and technological advancement, I am committed to shaping the future of technology-driven industries and ensuring that our workforce is equipped to tackle emerging challenges in cybersecurity and advanced technologies such as AI and ML. My leadership, experience, and dedication make me an ideal candidate for faculty regent, ready to drive progress and innovation in our community.

University Services:

- University tenure and promotion committee member, University Academic Council, and Faculty Senate member
- Member of the Judiciary Committee, Academic Policy, and Undergraduate Study Committees
- Mentor and advisor to students and faculty, including international students
- Member of the Tenure & Promotion Committee at the School of Engineering Department
- Member of the CNM Curriculum and Advisory Committees
- TSM/CNM Program Coordinator (2018-2022)
- Member of University Budget Planning (2012-2014), Retention Committee (2006-2012), and International Committee (2004-2012)