Zewail City of Science and Technology is a non-profit, independent institution of learning, research and innovation. Zewail City’s goal is to build a modern science and technology base that impacts national productivity through working together with existing governmental, non-governmental, societal and civic bodies.

**History**

The vision of the National Project for Science and Technology originated in 1999. Nobel Laureate Professor Ahmed Zewail presented the idea and the road map for the project to former President Hosni Mubarak on the occasion of Egypt’s celebrations of the awarding of the Nobel Prize. Shortly after this meeting, 300 acres were assigned to the Zewail Foundation for Science and Technology.

The cornerstone was laid on January 1, 2000 in the presence of then-Prime Minister at Sheikh Zayed in 6th of October City, just outside Cairo.

After many delays in its establishment, the January 25, 2011 Revolution brought a revival to the project and Dr. Zewail was asked by the government to begin the project again in the original site. The Egyptian Cabinet of Ministers issued a decree on May 11, 2011. The initiative, National Project for Scientific Renaissance, was named by the Cabinet “Zewail City of Science and Technology”.

The City was officially inaugurated on November 1, 2011 and obtained its final legal status in law No.161 legislated on December 20, 2012. The Supreme Advisory Board (“Board of Trustees”) was officially decreed on July 3, 2013.
Vision

Zewail City is an all-encompassing umbrella for science and technology in Egypt. It brings together a number of dimensions: the human element, educational methodologies, research and market needs. The City houses five entities:

- **Zewail University**: to take outstanding talented Egyptian students through a journey to become first rate scientists and engineers. This will be achieved by bringing together distinguished faculty, novel teaching methodologies, state-of-the-art labs and equipment. Our education methodology is interdisciplinary allowing a fusion of science and engineering and exposure to frontiers of research.

- **Research Institutes**: to solve inherent long-standing problems in Egypt such as epidemic diseases, renewable energy, water desalination, etc. We cover cutting edge majors such as: Nanotechnology, Renewable Energy and Environmental Engineering and Space and Communication Technology. Fundamental sciences include Physics of the Earth and Universe, Nanoscience and Biomedical and Material Science.

- **Technology Pyramid**: to bridge the gap between research and market needs and introduce new industries in Egypt that will have global impact.

- **Academy**: to prepare talented students prior to joining Zewail University.

- **Center for Strategic Studies**: to produce credible feasibility studies for large scale national projects that will improve societal performance.

Impact

Zewail City will ensure, working in partnership and collaboration with scientific research and education players, that Egypt creates a well meshed landscape where all efforts are coordinated and complement each other, this will result in:

- Creating a national goal for Egypt that aims at scientific advancement.

- Introducing ground breaking research areas and new majors of science and engineering interdisciplinary education.

- Bridging the gap between academia and industries to ensure that Egypt possesses its own ‘know-how’ and satisfies its market needs and global productivity.

- Fostering a strong base of knowledge and a generation of world class thinkers, leaders, scientists and researchers.
Governance and Management

We operate in accordance to the Zewail City of Science and Technology Law number 161. This law outlines its aims, structure, financing structure, premises and land.

The City is governed by a Supreme Advisory Board (SAB) which is chaired by Nobel Laureate Professor Ahmed Zewail. The SAB is the guardian of the City’s purpose and its strategic direction. The Executive Board is responsible for the overall execution of the strategy and management of Zewail City.

The Supreme Advisory Board is formed from world-class figures including six Nobel Laureates in physics, chemistry, medicine and economics; the President of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology; the President of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering; the President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences; and renowned scientists, medical doctors, engineers, economists, corporate figures, entrepreneurs and government representatives from educational, research and industrial sectors.

The University is academically headed by Dr. Sherif Sedky, the Founding Provost and currently the Acting President of the City.
Achievements

Over the last 20 months we have:

- Put in place the academic and administrative structure of the City. The academic structure of the University is based on an interdisciplinary approach; separate departments no longer exist. We are replacing silos by academic programs that allow cross fertilization (fusion) between various science and engineering disciplines.

- Developed a novel undergraduate curriculum for sciences and engineering majors. These majors are being introduced into the Egyptian education system for the first time.

- Installed state-of-the-art equipment and built labs that introduce modern teaching and research to students.

- Established state-of-the-art classroom learning technology environment.

- Completed the Governance document of the City. We abide by an extensive range of policies and procedures. These ensure that we meet the highest standards in vital areas ranging from finance, procurement, communications, development as well as our academic framework and structures.

- Established 7 Research Institutes.

- Received a fund for 10 million Egyptian Pounds to establish a Center of Excellence in Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine from Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF).

- Received funds for half a million Egyptian Pounds from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) to support German-Egyptian students exchange and to invite distinguished visiting professors.

- Built a state-of-the-art Clean Room hosting the most advanced equipment essential for fabricating miniaturized devices for a broad range of applications: automotive industry, biomedical applications, energy harvesters, etc.

- This year 2013-2014 we will welcome our first cohort of 300 students, picked from the most outstanding academic achievers.

City in figures

- We employ 184 academic and non-academic staff.
- We operate 7 Research Institutes with 88 academic staff.
- We have attracted 23 distinguished international academics and researchers.
- We produced 23 conference papers.
- We published 32 refereed papers in high profile international journals.
Supreme Advisory Board

- Mr. Abdul Latif Al-Hamad, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Directors Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD).
- Dr. Lisa Anderson, President of the American University in Cairo.
- Dr. Chunli Bai, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.
- Dr. Gunter Blobel, Nobel Laureate in Physiology.
- Mr. Nicolas Berggruen, Chairman of Berggruen Holdings.
- Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, President of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST).
- Dr. Charles Elachi, Director of the Jet Propulsion and Professor at the California Institute of Technology.
- Dr. Mohamed El-Erian, Co-Chief Investment Officer at the Pacific Investment Management Company (PIMCO).
- Dr. Richard R. Ernst, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry.
- Mr. Wael Fakharany, Regional Manager Egypt and North Africa at Google.
- Dr. Ahmed Galal, Managing Director of the Economic Research Forum (ERF).
- Dr. Theodor W. Hänsch, Nobel Laureate in Physics.
- Mr. Medhat Khalil, Chairman and CEO at Raya Holding.
- Dr. William Phillips, Nobel Laureate in Physics.
- Mr. Hisham Ramez, Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt.
- Dr. Amr Ezzat Salama, former Minister of Higher Education and Counselor to the American University in Cairo.
- Dr. Amr Shaarawi, Provost of the American University in Cairo.
- Dr. Michael Spence, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences.
- Mr. Safwan Ahmed Thabet, CEO and Managing Director at Juwayna.
- Sir John Meurig Thomas, Professor at Cambridge University.
- Dr. Charles Vest, President of the National Academy of Engineering.
- Sir Magdy Yacoub, Professor at Imperial College London.
- Dr. Ahmed Zewail, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry and Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Zewail City of Science and Technology.

Research Centers at the City

- Aging and Associated Diseases
- Excellence for Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine
- Genomics
- Imaging and Microscopy
- Materials Science
- Nanotechnology
- Nanoelectronics and Devices
- Photonics and Smart Materials
- Talaat Harb Center for Economics
- Theoretical Physics
- X-Ray Determination of Structure of Matter

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