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Speech Title: **Smart Libraries – the UAE Perspective**

Abstract: The main purpose of this research is to survey the UAE landscape in the context of Smart Libraries and its applications. UAE has been at the forefront of developing and implementing sustainable smart cities strategies and initiatives. As part of this development, smart libraries, within the concept of smart cities defined as “efficiently organized, secure, resource-friendly, flexible, green, sustainable, and socially inclusive” (Simeone, 2020) are booming. Using literature review and primary sources from survey and personal interviews, the research aims to address three topics: 1) What are smart libraries and why? 2): The UAE perspective of Smart Libraries, 3) Smart strategies going forward.

Biography: Lilian currently serves as the Director of Library and Learning Commons at Zayed University in the UAE with the rank of Professor in Practice. With over 20 years of academic library leadership experience in Canada and overseas in the Middle East combined with her education background in information system, educational leadership, and educational technology, Lilian is well versed and experienced with the digital transformation in higher education, particularly in the areas of digital and smart libraries, technology integration of curriculum development, and international higher education leadership.