

Mariam Elgabry

Class of 2011



The OWL
FEB 2021 in review

Mariam Elgabry

Deep-Tech Bioengineer Extraordinaire



Bet you could not guess what multifaceted Mariam has been up to since graduating in 2011. Law enforcement? Cyber-security? Research? Healthcare technology? Here's her update - enjoy!



Hello, I'm Mariam! I am a founder and director at Enteromics, a MedTech startup that is changing the way we monitor gut health, through the power of IoT. We're building GutLab™ a proprietary platform for our smart gut-sensing pills that pair with our app to deliver AI-powered medical insights, moving healthcare from the hospital to the comfort of your home.

What led me here is my fascination in multidisciplinary systems integration, such as computational biology, Cyber-biosecurity, and programmable biology. My background is in deep-tech and bioengineering, and I hold a MSc in Bioinformatics & Theoretical Systems Biology from Imperial College London, as well as a MRes in Security & Crime Science from the University College London (UCL). At UCL, I am conducting research in Bio-crime, the Internet-of-Medical-Things (IoMT), and Cyber-biosecurity as part of my PhD at the Jill Dando Institute. My most recent work discusses the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on Cyber-biosecurity in the UK and abroad; published by the UK Parliament Joint Committee on National Security.

My experience lies at the intersection of industry and research, focusing on tech, health and security. At AstraZeneca, I led an award-winning technology for early detection systems in drug testing. Later, Microsoft Inc. offered me opportunities in translating technology, where we exported innovative tools, from hackathons into start-ups. Alongside studying, my work as a Sergeant at the London Metropolitan Police exposed me to operations on the field, including risk mitigation - from managing policing activity, to effective deployment of resources to incidents; I used these lessons in my work as a Security Design Consultant at Toren.

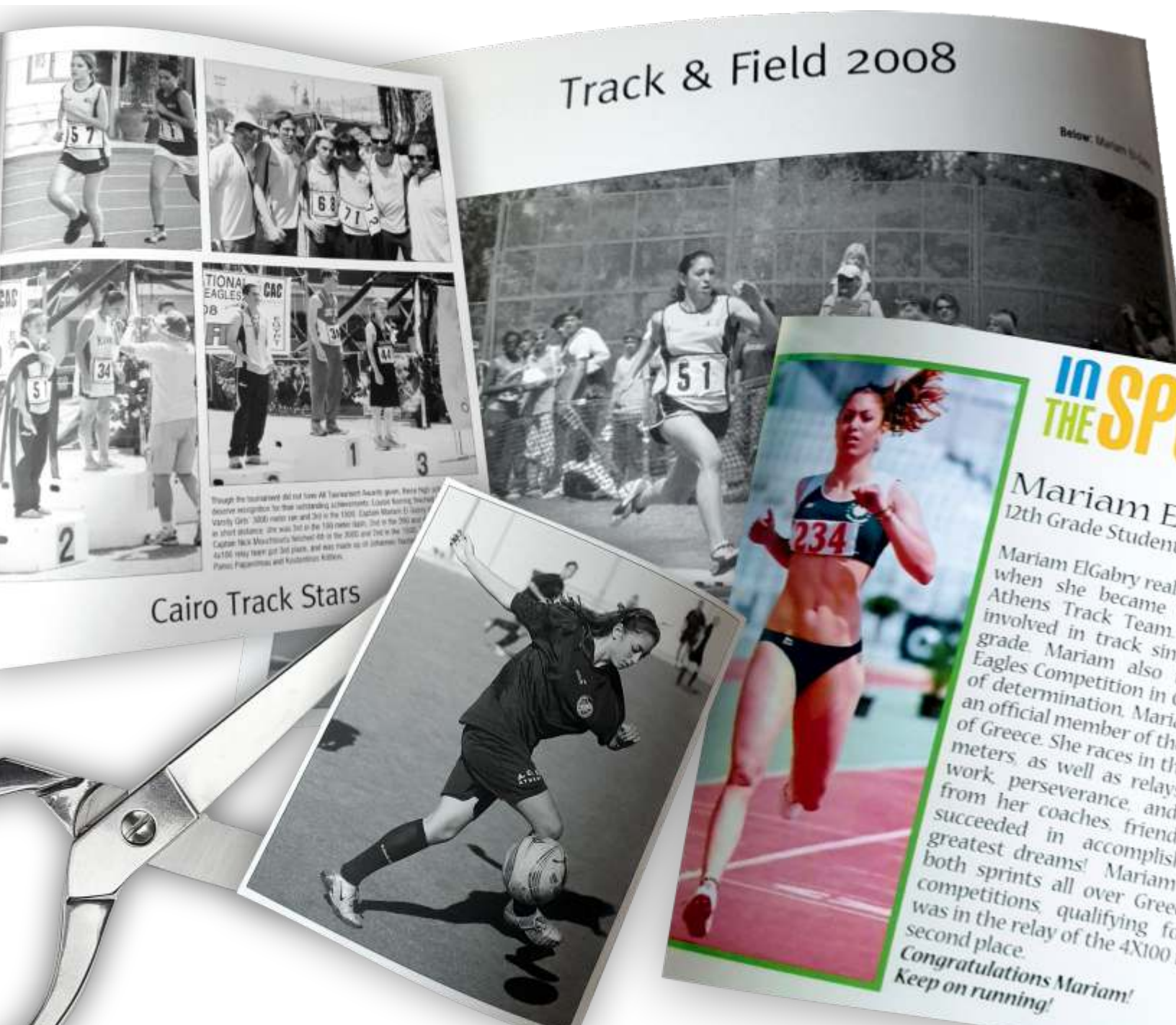
My research on Bio-crime, Internet-of-Medical Things (IoMT) and Cyber-biosecurity has been published across international academic journals such as the Frontiers of Biotechnology and Bioengineering reaching more than 2,000 biosecurity experts worldwide. I was invited to speak at the prestigious Oxford Microbiome AIMday, that brings together academic and clinical excellence from across the University of Oxford together with industry experts to help answer the most pressing challenges in Health.

Enteromics ranked in the Top 5 out of 518 applicants of this year's Mayor's Entrepreneur Health Award, hosted by Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London, and was recently awarded an Innovate UK Smart Grant to accelerate our work towards Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

My motivation has always been driven by current problems that have global long-lasting implications, as evidenced by my most recent paper on the COVID-19 pandemic for its widespread consequences on cyber-biosecurity. My work was recognized and published by the UK Parliament Joint Committee on National Security, and it has been featured in a series of special COVID-19-policing papers by the Jill Dando Institute for Security & Crime Science at UCL, where I

discuss the pandemic's effect on the growing problem of bio-crime both in the UK and abroad.

I also gave an interview as a specialist to contribute to the Standardization & Regulatory Challenges of Smart Medical Devices by British Standards Institution (BSI), which are now setting international standards for & cyber-biosecurity guidelines IoMT devices. My recent panel discussion at the MedTech Integrates Conference (UK) (<https://vimeo.com/470902115>) focused on Security by design, considering cybersecurity in system design. My latest publications examine the criminogenic potential of synthetic biology and routes to future crime prevention, which have led me to take part in meetings of experts at the United Nations Biological Weapons Convention



webinars in preparation for the Ninth Review in 2021. I am determined to disseminate my knowledge and offer opportunities to younger generations; particularly involving more girls in business and STEM; like Tour de Tech, a program I organized at Microsoft to promote women in Computer Science around the world (US, EU, UAE).

My brother and I grew up in an unconventional household, with an extremely international outlook; I was born in Egypt to an Egyptian father and Greek mother, and raised in Athens, and attended ACS Athens. It is this international outlook from my ACS roots that has propelled me to work on improving health innovations and has pushed me to seek solutions with global impact and applications. I joined the ACS family at Third Grade of Elementary School until I graduated from High School in 2011.

In Middle School I was selected to be a part of the National Honor Society and in High School, while taking International Baccalaureate (IB), I published a

novella. **Everlasting** is a short story about a young girl during the Elizabethan Era who at the tender age of 14, daringly examines the world around her. The Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Mariliza Xenogiannakopoulou, attended the reading at the American Community School of Athens, making me one of the youngest Greek writers (2011).

When I wasn't at school, I was on the track, sprinting the 100m, 200m and 4 x 100m dashes, competing internationally and proudly representing the Greek National Team (SEGAS, 2009-2011). As a junior playing soccer in the Varsity team, it was Coach Nick (ACS) who first saw me sprinting across the field - playing a midfielder role in our ISA tournaments, even though I was a left wing attacker - and introduced me to Track & Field. In my 2011 yearbook, I have been described as "Most likely to become the fastest Doctor", which is pretty accurate considering I am still sprinting and will be receiving my doctorate degree!



INTERVIEW

University
College London:
Seven Questions
with Mariam Elgabry
February 2021



Mariam, now a final-year PhD researcher, talks about having led an award winning technology for early detection systems in drug testing at AstraZeneca, and working as a Sergeant at the London Metropolitan Police.



MONTHLY MESSAGE



PEGGY PELONIS, Ed. D.
PRESIDENT

AMERICAN
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS
OF ATHENS



ACS Athens
American Community Schools

Greetings to everyone! We are back in school with elementary and Middle School students for a sort time, and it was good to have their presence on campus. It looks like we will continue to navigate amidst the unknown throughout the school year and according to developments with COVID-19. As the movement restrictions continue, it is natural to feel fatigue for both the challenges we have encountered, as well as the unpredictable nature of events which lie ahead.

We continue to be focused on our vision “empowering individuals to be architects of their own learning” with the goal to develop knowledgeable, skillful, ethical citizens of the world. Our very diverse and multi-cultural campus provides a unique platform where students can come together, from different backgrounds with different perspectives, to collaborate and work in harmony under one ‘roof’. Our students continue to make us proud even on the virtual platform and it is noteworthy to witness the resilience with which they many the many demands coning their way. Faculty and professionals have been unwaveringly supportive through this journey and parents continue to be the third important piece to the golden triangle: students - school - parents.

Despite the challenges, there is so much to share and celebrate. I particularly want to share with you student successes and faculty development, and invite you to join us in celebrating some of theses significant highlights.

Wishing you, our ACS Athens community, safety and well-being,

Sincerely,
Peggy Pelonis, Ed.D
President

Dianne Harper Boyer



Dianne brings her deep experience in fashion, beauty and style to her new blog. Together with her niece Jennifer, the Harper Girls beautifully frame and share insights and advice in the context of family and legacy.

Do you know what the Color of the Year is for 2021? How you might wear them? Dianne and Jennifer explore the possibilities:

How to Wear the 2021 Colors of the Year

The "2021 Color of the Year" was just announced this past December, but this year there was a twist. The Pantone Color Institute selected two colors: Ultimate Gray and Illuminating. Let's learn more about each one first before we decide how to wear the 2021 colors of the year.

2021 Pantone Colors of the Year

It's not surprising that with the events of 2020, that this year's selection would be carefully determined. Do you reflect on all the downside of 2020 or do you look forward to better times in 2021? It appears the answer is both, but looking at it in a positive way. Ultimate Gray, which could be thought of as more somber is really just the opposite. It stands for fortitude, strength and resilience. It's "rock solid". Picture a tough piece of granite – it may be gray in color but it can take on all the elements and still be standing. Just like us.

Illuminating is what we hope for. It expresses optimism, positivity and gratitude. It's the sign of better days to come. It's the sunshine that follows the rain.

So what does this mean for The Harper Girls? It means good news for both of us because one of us loves to wear color and the other is afraid of it. So how are we incorporating Ultimate Gray and Illuminating into our wardrobes? Read on - click here!

www.theharpergirls.com





CATEGORIES & JUDGES

What makes GIWA unique and reputable, together with the credible process, is the expertise taken from its leading figures that make up the Judging Committee.

The judges will be looking for pioneers with innovative thinking in the main sectors – will be looking for evidence of their efforts which should have brought transformation and significant growth to the business and/or their respective sector including examples of brave initiatives and calculated risk-taking with proven Return on Investment.



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Now that we have had the opportunity to meet Mariam Elgabry, it's no surprise she has been shortlisted for the Greek Woman of the Year, in the category of science and technology.

Mariam's peers in this contest are medical directors, bioengineers, artificial intelligence specialists and other technically-minded dynamos. We wish them all the best, while we may favor Mariam by a tiny bit.





PROFESSIONAL NOTES



Alexander Sharpe

SO excited to be joining the casting team for #BB23 (Truly a childhood dream!!) Do you know someone that wants to move into #bigbrother house? Would you make a great housemate? We want to hear from you!! Feel free to shoot me a DM or send in your application on our website today!



Congratulations to Andreas Fiorentinos

who took over as Head of Tourism of the New Democracy, with a long term as president of the Mykonos Hoteliers Association and a member of the Board of POX.

In a statement, Mr. Fiorentinos emphasizes: "Undoubtedly, it is a great challenge but also an honor to serve tourism from the position of Head of Tourism of the New Democracy.

I would like to thank the Prime Minister and President of ND Kyriakos Mitsotakis, as well as the Secretary of the Political Committee of ND George Stergiou for the trust in me and I will fight for the continuation of the good cooperation of the Sector with all stakeholders in tourism."

(Greek language link.)





PROFESSIONAL NOTES



Taymoore Balbaa:

Revisiting the Young Architect Award

Balbaa was the inaugural winner when the prize—now known as the Emerging Architect Award—was first established. He is the first in our series on award recipients past and present.

[MORE HERE](#)



Congratulations Alex Papaspiridis!

On delivering promises: MyJobNow (and its courier service Sendx) gets acquired by Skrutz.

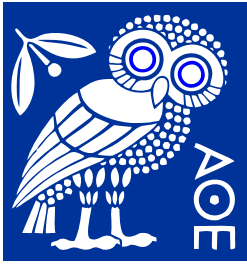
[MORE HERE](#)



Terry Dellaportas

LOOKING FOR WORK IN THESE HARD TIMES? Our family company J&A Cleaning Solutions Ltd. is looking for part-time & full-time commercial cleaners in Ontario and Atlantic Canada. Experience preferred but also willing to train suitable candidates. If you are interested please contact hr@jacleaning.ca. Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy out there.





ACS ATHENS GREECE
ALL-CLASS REUNION
TARPON SPRINGS, FL
September 17-19, 2021



Guess what time it is?

**IT'S TIME TO BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM IN
TARPON SPRINGS!**

Right now, we are holding a block of 50 rooms
(\$89/night + tax and fees), 10 suites
(\$109/night+tax and fees), and 2 accessible
rooms—one specifically for the Akiki Family.

The hotel only has 80 rooms, so **HURRY UP AND
MAKE YOUR RESERVATION! FIRST COME, FIRST
SERVED! On your mark, get set,
GOOOOOOOOO!**

Hotel:

39284 US HWY 19 N

Tarpon springs, FL 34689

Reservations: 727.945.7755

Group Name: ACS Athens Reunion

Group Code: ACS

We're holding the group rate for:

- Arrival Date: 13-Sep-2021
- Departure Date: 22-Sep-2021
- Standard: \$89
- Accessible: \$89
- Suite: \$109



HOTEL, SO WE SUGGEST YOU
PLEASE BOOK ASAP! (They will
hold your room with a credit
card. No penalty nor cc charge
if you have to cancel within 48
hours of check-in. Nice folk).

You may also book online
through Hilton.



Booking Link: <http://group.hamptoninn.com/f872j>

ACS Athens NEWS



Dr. Peggy Pelonis, President of the American Community Schools of Athens, is featured on the cover of the latest Business Partners magazine.

During this in-depth interview, Dr. Peggy Pelonis talked to Business Partners about her path to ACS Athens, the changing face of education, the importance of learning how to learn, and the crucial role schools have to play in preparing today's youth to shape a better tomorrow.

Business Partners magazine is the flagship publication of the of American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.

Click [here](#) to access the online copy of the publication - (p.22 for the interview)



ACS Athens PTO



As ACS Athens switched to Virtual, so has the PTO! In these challenging times, physical distancing may be mandatory, but socially, we are as closely connected as ever.

We moved our monthly Parent and Principal Coffee meetings online and received fantastic turnouts. Questions from our online parent form are continuously being sent to principals and answers are being updated on the PTO internal website.

As always, feel free to email us with any questions and to follow us on Facebook.

At ACS Athens, we stay together!