iiS
Institute of
Intelligent Systems

Dr. M. Ali Akber Dewan

Dr. M. Ali Akber Dewan is an Associate Professor at the School of Computing and Information Systems, Faculty of Science and Technology, Athabasca University, Canada. He served as Chair for the School of Computing and Information Systems from 2019 to 2022. Before joining the Athabasca University, He held postdoctoral fellowships at Concordia University and École de Technologie Supérieure, Montreal, from 2009–2014. From 2003 to 2008, he was a Lecturer at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh, where he was an Assistant Professor, in 2009. He earned his PhD in Image Processing and Computer Vision from Kyung Hee University, South Korea, in 2009. He received the Dean's Award and the Excellent Research Achievement Award for his academic performance and research achievements during his PhD studies in South Korea. Dr. Dewan specializes in affective computing, image processing, computer vision, machine learning, pattern recognition, and AI applications in education. He has led multiple funded research projects, including those supported by NSERC and Alberta Innovates. Currently, his research focuses on student engagement in online learning to support personalized education—investigating behavioral, cognitive, and emotional engagement, and developing intelligent learning dashboards to enhance self-regulation and online performance. Dr. Dewan has (co-)authored over 130 refereed works with 3800+ citations, delivered keynote and invited talks globally, and collaborated across disciplines such as psychology and education to tackle AI in education challenges. He has (co-)supervised 50+ students at doctoral, master's, and undergraduate levels. He served as chair/co-chair, program committee member, and reviewer in many prestigious conferences and journals. He is an Associate Editor for Circuit Systems and Signal Processing and Computers Journals. He is a member of IEEE.