

States Commission on Higher Education

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June 25, 2004

Dr. John Waterbury
Office of the President
American University of Beirut
3 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 8th Floor

New York, New York 10037-2303 Dear

President Waterbury:

At its sessions on June 23-24, 2004, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted to grant initial accreditation to the American University of Beirut and to commend the institution for the quality of the report and the quality of the self-study process. The Commission requested a monitoring report by April 1, 2006, documenting the development and implementation of (1) a comprehensive Institutional strategic plan which links long-range planning to decision-making and budgetary processes and assessment results, and (2) a written plan for the assessment of student learning at the institutional, program, and course levels. Furthermore, to advise the institution that the Commission reserves the right to delay or terminate accreditation processes if it determines that security considerations would affect the safety of its staff, team members, **or** other. The next evaluation visit is **scheduled for 2008-2009.**

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Statement of Accreditation Status for your institution. The Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) provides important basic information about the institution and its affiliation with the Commission, and it is made available to the public upon request. Accreditation applies to the institution as detailed in the SAS; institutional Information is derived from data provided by the institution through annual reporting and from Commission actions. If any of the institutional information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

Please check to ensure that published references to your institution's accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency. Further guidance is provided in the Commission's policy statement *Principles of Good Practice In Institutional Advertising, Student Recruitment, and Representation of Accredited Status*, a copy of which is enclosed.

The Commission on Higher Education expects evaluation team reports to be distributed to all constituencies named on the cover page of team reports: faculty, administration, trustees and students. Furthermore, the Commission expects any action taken by the Commission to be shared with appropriate campus constituencies.

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the Commission on Higher Education in the well-being of the American University of Beirut. If any further clarification is needed

regarding the SAS or other items in this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. George Santiago, Jr., Executive Associate Director.

Sincerely

Judith L. Gay
Chair

The Middle State Commission on Higher accredits institutions of higher education in Delaware the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and other locations abroad.