For Immediate Release

Second “Sharing nature and knowledge” Festival in Aarsal in collaboration with AUB
Beirut, Lebanon- 02/09/2011

The municipality of Aarsal (Bekaa) is organizing the second “Sharing nature and knowledge” festival in collaboration with AUB’s Ibsar (Nature Conservation Center for Sustainable Futures), the Civil Engineering Society (CES) and the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS), between September 5 and 14, 2011. The main aim of the festival is relaying findings of research conducted over the past year by AUB and the University of Ottawa, under sponsorship by the International Development Research Centre, Canada (IDRC).

During these 10 days, residents, AUB faculty, students and staff will work together in the following tasks:

1 - Computer literacy workshop for over 50 participants at the Centre for Technical Practice (5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 September).

2 - Public workshops to relay research findings on health and diabetes in Aarsal versus Beirut and disseminate nutritional advice in collaboration with the Aarsal Health Clinic affiliated with the Rafik Hariri Foundation - Directorate of Health and Social Services (September 5)

3 - Public workshop to relay results of the school feeding program that took place in two schools in Aarsal between January and May 2011 (September 7)

4 - Public discussions on the environment and techniques on greening one’s neighborhood, in the presence of guest speaker Mr. Ziad Abi Chaker, Director of Cedar Environmental (September 8).

The participants will share in a farewell evening on September 14, 2011 at 5.00 pm at Al Chafaq School.

For further information about the festival, please contact Aarsal Municipality at 08-240402/3 or AUB-Ibsar at ibsarprj@aub.edu.lb 01-350000 ext. 4505/9.

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Note to Editors

About AUB
Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor’s, master’s, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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