Commencement 2016: AUB graduates take off to make history

The American University of Beirut held its 147th undergraduate commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 28, 2016, marking another festive high point of its 150th anniversary celebrations. Degrees were awarded to 1,566 undergraduate members of the class of 2016 in a ceremony of light, music, powerful speeches, and heightened emotions.

Upon the opening of the ceremony by Chairman of the Board of Trustees Dr. Philip Khoury, President Fadlo Khuri delivered his welcoming address where he congratulated the students and said that while the circumstances are more challenging than before, the graduates are more equipped to face, defeat, and better.
FEA's Chemical and Petroleum Engineering named in honor of Bassatne family

AUB's Faculty of Engineering and Architecture has become the first at the University to name one of its academic departments in honor of its donors, inaugurating "the Baha and Walid Bassatne Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering" at a gala dinner during Commencement week.

Although a first for AUB, the naming of departments in return for endowment gifts is a common practice at universities worldwide, enabling access to a significant source of funding for the development of those departments and to support their academic and research agendas. Read more

FEA celebrates pioneering students, alumni, and faculty

The Faculty of Engineering and Architecture held its 15th annual Student and Alumni Conference, which is always an important AUB event but is particularly resonant this year for two reasons, the University's 150th anniversary celebrations and the last conference presided over by outgoing Dean Dr. Makram Suidan.

The two-day conference included working sessions addressing all areas of engineering and architecture. In the spirit of sesquicentennial ambition, FEA turned the conference into a national event, inviting papers from all Lebanese universities and their graduates and honoring faculty outside AUB. Read more

Highlights

ASCE and FLE sign cooperation agreement

Broomfield, Colo. – With the goal of promoting mutual cooperation and shared activities, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Federation of Lebanese Engineers (FLE) signed an Agreement of Cooperation (AOC), officially establishing communication and joint activities between the two preeminent engineering organizations.
Big Games. Big Celebration.
The awaited annual Big Games lit up the university campus with parades, celebrations, entertainment, an honoring of players, and a series of heated games. The AUB traditional annual sports games came this year under the umbrella of AUB’s 150th anniversary celebrations.

Alumni of AUB will remember the long tradition of annual games that were held between primarily varsity and junior varsity athletes from the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Over the years, the latter came to also include athletes from the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB), Faculty of Medicine (FM), Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences (FAFS), and Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) – and since 2015 was named the United Faculties team. Read more

Dr. Hamzeh honored for inspiring his students
Dr. Hamzeh joined AUB in 2011 after two years of teaching at Colorado State University. Described by his colleagues as an excellent teacher who is highly committed to his students’ learning, Dr. Hamzeh is known for his motivating, clear, and capturing delivery style in his lectures. He uses the latest technologies to enhance student engagement and interaction and puts a lot of effort preparing for his lectures and paying attention to all detail.

Nominations described Dr. Hamzeh as always available to help students in and outside of the classroom; professional, strict, yet friendly and approachable, and possessing the technical and

Upcoming Events
September 22-23, 2016
2nd International Conference and Exhibition on Efficient Building Design—Materials and HVAC Equipment Technologies
American University of Beirut.
More events
interpersonal skills required to be an effective life-long educator. "Dr. Hamzeh is a true inspiration," wrote one student, "He not only delivers his course innovatively but also passionately stimulates his student to innovate." Read more

City Debates 2016: Creative strategies addressing daunting urban and regional planning challenges

In its 15th consecutive year, City Debates explored the relationship between international aid, inclusive urban planning, and the reality of refugees in the region. Through three keynote speeches, five panels, and two roundtables over two days, the annual event examined this year how international aid promotes the mobility of urban policy ideas, and mobilizes a range of stakeholders, and technologies.

Looking at two sets of urban policies, regional planning and refugee policies, it highlighted the social and political opportunities that international aid may produce when conceived in relation to inclusive urban and local governance dynamics and when embedded in flexible institutional configurations that prioritize inhabitable environments suitable for a good life for all. Read more

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