

## **THE GRADUATE MANAGEMENT ADMISSION COUNCIL ADMITS OLAYAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS TO ITS MEMBERSHIP OF GLOBAL LEADING BUSINESS SCHOOLS**

*Institution being recognized for upholding high standards of excellence and integrity*

Beirut, Lebanon (January, 2017) – Suliman S. Olayan School of Business has been admitted to the membership of the Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC), a nonprofit organization of 220 leading business schools from around the world that are actively committed to advancing the art and science of admissions. GMAC membership is by invitation only and at the discretion of the Council’s Board of Directors. Members of the Council form a network of schools that are committed to maintaining and enhancing the quality of management education and are open to the exchange of ideas and best practices to serve the collective interests of management education worldwide. Invited schools are required to complete a rigorous application process that addresses the school’s sustained commitments to supporting the GMAC mission: providing quality graduate management education, fair and ethical treatment of candidates and students, and serving the graduate management education community.

“Olayan School of Business’ membership in the Council is important for many reasons, principally for the significant contributions their programs make to graduate management education,” said Sangeet Chowfla, president and CEO of GMAC. “We are pleased to welcome this institution into our membership and look forward to exchanging ideas and best practices to help ensure that talent never goes undiscovered.”

“It is a distinct honor to be among the world’s best business schools who continue to push the boundaries of delivering top quality, ever-evolving, graduate management education and to be only the second from the Middle East to be admitted to GMAC,” said Dr. Steve Harvey, dean of Olayan School of Business. “We look forward to increasing our involvement with the Council and strengthening the graduate management education community and enhancing the candidate pipeline for years to come.”

“Our school and GMAC share the same mission that reflects our commitment to excellence in graduate management education,” Harvey noted. “Building on over a century of prominence in business education, the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB) is committed to providing quality undergraduate and graduate programs aimed at developing business leaders in, for or from the Middle East region and beyond. We can help GMAC in promoting the development of quality management education globally by connecting the talented candidates with the opportunity to gain the education and experience they need to fly high in the world.”

The Graduate Management Admission Council was created in 1953 to address the issue of admissions standardization. Nine leading business schools joined together for purposes of creating an admissions assessment, which is known today as the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT). Over the years and with collaboration from its expanding membership base, the Council has established itself as a provider of world-class industry research and insights and a successful and respected global professional event organizer for the graduate management education community.

Membership in the Council is school-based and is open to institutions that maintain a selective admissions process and offer a master’s program in business administration or management subjects or equivalent. In order to support the mission of the Council, member schools are expected to use, and ideally prefer, the GMAT exam or other GMAC assessment as a part of their admissions and enrollment processes for their graduate management programs. As a member of GMAC, Olayan School of Business will participate in Council governance including voting on Board elections and other matters that may come before the Council.

-more-

### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

- Maya El Helou; Director of Graduate Programs, OSB (961) 1352700 or [helou@aub.edu.lb](mailto:helou@aub.edu.lb)
- Jennifer Garfinkel; Director of Media Relations, GMAC, +1 (703) 668-9805 or [jgarfinkel@gmac.com](mailto:jgarfinkel@gmac.com)

**About Olayan School of Business:** The Suliman S. Olayan School of Business has been recognized as a leader in business education in Lebanon and the region for more than 115 years. We take great pride in graduating well-prepared corporate citizens ready to assume their roles and responsibilities in our society. Our alumni have had a wide impact in the region throughout the years, and many graduates have become leaders in their communities. We continue to work hard towards achieving our vision, which is to transform business education in the MENA region.

**About GMAC:** The Graduate Management Admission Council® (GMAC®) is a nonprofit organization of 220 leading graduate business schools from around the world actively committed to advancing the art and science of admissions. The Council provides the solutions necessary for business schools and candidates to discover and evaluate one another to ensure that talent never goes undiscovered. GMAC owns and administers the Graduate Management Admission Test® (GMAT®), used by more than 6,100 graduate programs worldwide, as well as the NMAT by GMAC™ exam, used for entrance into graduate management programs in India. The Council is based in Reston, Va., with offices in London, New Delhi and Hong Kong. Additional information about the GMAT exam is posted on [mba.com](http://mba.com). For more information about GMAC, visit [gmac.com](http://gmac.com).

###