

March 20, 2017

Dear Members of the AUB Community,

It is both my privilege and my pleasure to announce the appointment of Professor Mohamed Harajli as Provost of the American University of Beirut.

Professor Harajli earned his BE in Civil Engineering with distinction from AUB in 1979, his MS in Civil Engineering from University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign in 1981, and his PhD in Structural Engineering from University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in 1985. He then returned to his alma mater AUB, as an Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering in 1985 and started moving expeditiously up the academic ranks, becoming a full professor in 1996. He served faithfully as acting dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, as associate dean of that same faculty, and twice as chair of the Department of Civil Engineering. He has published extensively on subjects related to concrete structures, bridges, structural dynamics, earthquake engineering and seismic loading. Since July 1, 2015, he has served with great distinction as Interim Provost for a period of 21 months, and his performance has exceeded all of the Board and our own high expectations.

As noted in [my email](#) to you of January 18, 2017, we conducted extensive consultation sessions with various constituents in addition to hosting 2 well-attended town hall meetings at which Interim Provost Harajli outlined his vision, openly addressed colleagues and students and responded to the AUB community. The responses from faculty, staff, students and alumni has been and continues to be overwhelmingly positive. Accordingly, the permanent appointment of Provost Harajli was presented to the University's Board of Trustees, who fully and unanimously endorsed it.

I need not repeat the achievements of Interim Provost Harajli during the past months, but would instead rather look forward to what will be accomplished. Most importantly, Mohamed Harajli is a trusted servant leader of the university and a selfless scholar of unimpeachable integrity. He is a most trusted colleague, one whose gentle demeanor shields a steely determination to do great things for his beloved alma mater, his country, and the world at large.

I am confident that you will join me in congratulating Professor Harajli on his new appointment and thanking him for his continued faithful and vital service to the University.

Best regards,

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD
President