May 16, 2016

Dear AUB Community,

I am writing to update you on our progress towards further enhancing security on Campus in light of the incident which occurred on April 25, 2016 at the Bliss Gate leading to Kerr Hall. Working closely with AUB’s senior Administration, Student Affairs and Protection leadership, we have held several meetings with top officials of the Government of Lebanon’s Internal Security Apparatus in order to discuss the incident and their subsequent investigations, and even more importantly, to work together to mitigate the risks of any repetition.

As an immediate measure, we have agreed with those officials to strictly reinforce AUB’s needs, and to limit and coordinate bodyguards accompanying public figures on Campus, in order to minimize risk of escalation of tension and confrontation. Any enhanced security contingent will only be allowed subject to the prior approval of the AUB Administration and in coordination with the Lebanese Government.

It is the utmost priority of the AUB Administration to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests, as they go about their work, studies, and recreational and other peaceful activities. AUB has long been an island of civilized tranquility and breaches of the peace are thankfully extremely rare. Our team will continue doing everything in our power to ensure and enhance the security of the AUB community.

Best regards,

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD
President