1. Faculty/Student Overview

Forty-seven new fulltime faculty members joined AUB in the Fall, 2012-13, distributed across faculties and schools as follows: FAS (16), FAFS (4), FEA (5), OSB (6), FM (11), HSON (1), and FHS (3). The total number of students in the fall semester is 8199: 6584 undergraduate students, 1177 graduate students, 79 PhD students, and 359 medical students. 51% of the total student body is female, while international students represent 26% of the total enrollment. The student-faculty ratio for the Fall 2012-13 is 11-1. The total number of fulltime faculty members is 752, distributed across the ranks as: 163 professors, 98 associate professors, 189 assistant professors, 42 lecturers, 97 instructors, 26 clinical professors, 39 clinical associate professors, 73 clinical assistant professors, and 25 clinical instructors. The total number of part-time faculty is 302, in the various ranks. 60% of the faculty is Lebanese, 25% are Lebanese with dual nationality, and 15% are international faculty.

2. Throughout the year, much energy has been given to the development of the Academic Strategic Plan. The Academic Review Team, convened by the Provost in January, 2012, and composed of the academic deans, and the chairs of the three strategic planning units (enrollment management and student services, Institutes, centers, and museums, and academic support) completed their work in June. The review was the culmination of a process begun in January, 2011, which resulted in a deeper understanding among the academic administrators of AUB’s academic vision and priorities. It brought about a new recognition of shared investment in the academic plan, and of the opportunities for inter-Faculty cooperation in achieving their separate strategic goals. It also brought the separate goals and initiatives of the Faculties and academic units into greater alignment with the University’s mission and academic goals, thereby giving new energy to the enterprise of moving forward together.

The common goals of AUB’s academic community are 1) to inspire students to be thinkers and leaders, able to engage the new challenges of a changing world, and to solve real life problems in their societies; 2) to challenge our academic community to produce knowledge of importance to their fields, and to identify and develop new venues of research of relevance to regional and global problems; 3) to transform our capacity for dynamic engagement with the region’s peoples and institutions, pursuing fruitful collaborations with local and global partners, and becoming a force for real-world change in the region; and 4) to enrich population health and medical research and scholarship and lead the advancement of health care delivery for better health in the region. The Academic Strategic Plan will be finalized after discussions with and feedback from the various University administrative and support units.

3. AUB Scholarly Standing

- AUB has moved up in the 2012 QS World Rankings from 300 to 250: “This year’s QS World University Rankings draw on a record survey of responses from over 46,000
academics and 25,000 graduate employers, the largest ever snapshot of expert global opinion on comparative university performance.”

- In June 2012, seven members of the AUB faculty were recognized for their outstanding contributions to research by the National Council for Scientific Research (CNSR), out of a total of fifteen scientists from Lebanese academic institutions.

- External research funding from new grants increased to from $11,399,285 compared to last year’s funding of $9,788,142.

- Members of AUB’s faculty have published more than 50 books in 2011-12 which is more than double the number of books published in 2010-11.

4. **OSB Dean Search**: After a lengthy and exhaustive search process led by the provost, including campus visits by five shortlisted candidates, the search for the OSB Dean came to conclusion. Dr. Wilfried R. Vanhonacker, a globally-recognized scholar in marketing sciences and emerging markets, especially China, has been appointed the new dean of the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB). Originally from Belgium, and most recently founding dean of the Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, Dr. Vanhonacker has vast international experience, acquired through academic appointments in Russia, China, the United States, France, and the MENA region.

5. The **Graduate Council** was formally established in October, 2012, with Dr. Rabih Talhouk, Professor of Biology, as Chair. It has made sizeable progress in implementing several initiatives, including: improving the visibility of graduate studies at AUB, enhancing recruitment and application processes, increasing available financial support, aligning rules and regulations pertaining to graduate programs across Faculties and assessing graduate students’ satisfaction with their experience at AUB.

6. The degree-granting **Division of University Interdisciplinary Programs** (DUIP) was approved by the BOT in June 2012. The DUIP will promote an environment that fosters interdisciplinary approaches to graduate education and research, improve administrative and financial support for interdisciplinary programs, strengthen and support interdisciplinary programs and curricular offerings, and support the involvement of University centers, institutes, and museums in research and outreach activities.

7. **Academic Policies** approved during the year include:
   - The **Unified Faculty Bylaws**, (November 2012)
   - **Recruitment, reappointment, and promotion folders’ templates** which ensure clarity and adherence to the process. (November 2012)
   - The **Faculty of Medicine’s** revision of policies on **academic tracks, appointments, and promotions** (June 2012)
   - The University’s **Research Integrity Policy and Procedures for Research Misconduct**.
   - The **mission, goals, and policies/procedures for the University Art Collections and Galleries**: established to steward and manage AUB’s art collections, including the gift of
the Salibi collection, and to inspire and educate, and to enhance the presence, visibility, and impact of the visual arts on campus and at national and regional levels.

- A new **Freshman admission process** (effective the 2012-2013 recruitment year): to use qualitative evaluation in order to give closer consideration to mid-range Freshman applicants so as to improve the quality and diversity of the student body.
- A more student-centered **admissions process for visiting graduate international students**, with on-line application.
- The updated **promotion policy and procedure guideline (BOD, July 2012)**

8. **The first departments to undertake the Periodic Review Process** (Physics, Chemistry, Philosophy, and Political Sciences and Public Administration) have nearly completed their extensive review. Two external reviewers evaluated each department in Dec-Jan, 2011-2012. The Internal Review Committees of each department will meet in November, 2012, to study all submitted reports/evaluations from the reviewers, the departments, and the dean, and send final recommendations to the Provost.

Six departments began the review process in October, 2012: Nutrition and Food Sciences, Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, Environmental Health, History and Archaeology, Mathematics, Engineering Management. The self-study reports are due by the beginning of November, and onsite visits of the external reviewers are scheduled for December 2012 and January 2013.

9. **New Academic Programs**

Approved by the Lebanese Ministry and the New York State Education Department:
- PhD Biomedical Sciences (FM with FAFS)
- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture BLA (FAFS)
- MA Clinical Psychology (FAS)
- MA Media Studies (FAS)
- MS Nursing (SoN)
- MS Finance Management (OSB)
- MA Human Resource Management (OSB)

Approved internally; preparing for submission to NYSED:
- ME and MS in Chemical Engineering (FEA)
- MS Construction Engineering (FEA)
- MA Transnational American Studies (FAS)

10. **Arts and Humanities Initiative**

- In March 2012, the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation granted AUB $735,000** over approximately three years to integrate faculty development with curricular innovation in humanistic disciplines. The provost appointed an Arts and Humanities Initiative Committee, chaired by Prof. Maher Jarrar, to oversee the Mellon grant implementation. It was announced in June that three Mellon Faculty fellows and two Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Arts and Humanities had been awarded for the first year.
• A pledge to establish the **Farouk K. Jabre Center for Arabic and Islamic Science and Philosophy** (JCAISP) was announced in June, 2012. JCAISP’s mission is to support research on Arabic and Islamic science and raise awareness about these fields through outreach and education.

• The opening of the new art gallery in the Mayfair building, featuring the generous donation by Dr. Samir Saleeby of the **Rose and Shaheen Saleeby Collection**, represents an important step in AUB’s new initiative to play an active role in promoting fine and contemporary art in the region.

11. **High-Impact International Events** in the Spring 2012:

• **Arab Uprising Research Initiative**, initiated and supported by the Provost’s office and managed by the Isam Fares Institute, was launched this year with lectures, workshops, research initiatives and the hosting of the Arab Uprising Symposium at AUB. The symposium complimented the year-long lecture series with the collaboration of AUB departments and faculty, analyzing the regional transformations with an interdisciplinary perspective. It brought together over 20 international researchers and AUB scholars discussing the most critical issues related to the Arab uprisings. This project continues in 2012-2013 with more workshops, lectures, research projects with a more focused agenda of analyzing the changing power dynamics and new political and social actors in the region. Complementing this project is a new IFI discussion forum and research initiative, “**Arab Public Policy Roundtable**”, to look at new formations of governance post-uprisings. The first roundtable session brought together Arab scholars and academics to identify some key elements of a “civil state”.

• The Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR) held its fourth international conference in February, entitled **Shifting Borders: America and the Middle East/North Africa**.

• The Department of History and Archaeology and AUB’s Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies organized a memorial ceremony and two-day conference honoring the late historian, **Professor Emeritus Kamal Salibi**.

• **An International Conference on Human Rights and the Humanities**, was organized by Dr. Alexander Hartwiger of the Department of English.

• AUB and the Global Development Network (GDN) cooperated to hold a panel discussion on **The Road to Democracy: The Arab Region, Latin America and Eastern Europe**.