Dear colleagues,

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Rabih Shibli as Director of AUB’s Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) effective September 1, 2015.

Established in 2008, CCECS aims to develop a culture of service and civic leadership within the AUB community. A primary goal of the CCECS is to provide opportunities for AUB students and faculty of diverse backgrounds to study and respond to civic issues of critical importance to the people of Lebanon and the Middle East.

Rabih Shibli has served as Acting Director of CCECS since 2014 and is an affiliated faculty member in the Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management, which he joined in 2006.

In September 2006 he founded and directed Beit Bil Jnoub, a non-profit civil organization heavily involved in the reconstruction process in the aftermath of the ‘July War’. He has published chapters in Lessons in Post War Reconstruction: Case Studies from Lebanon in the Aftermath of the 2006 War (Routledge 2010), The Right to Landscape: Contesting Landscape and Human Rights (Ashgate 2011), Re-Conceptualizing Boundaries: Urban Design in the Arab World (Routledge 2015), and Social Ecologies in Border Landscapes (Chicago Press, forthcoming).

Rabih Shibli joined CCECS as a consultant following its establishment in 2008 and was appointed Associate Director for Development and Projects in 2013. In this role he designed and implemented projects linking University expertise with community development needs, including: Upgrading Suq Sabra, Karem El-Zaitoun Pedestrian Trial, Reclaiming Traditional Rainwater Harvesting in Marwaheen, Urban Agriculture in Ein El-Hilwi Camp, and Ghata - Bringing Education to Syrian Refugees in The Informal Tented Settlements.

Mr. Shibli holds a Bachelor’s degree in Architecture from Beirut Arab University (2002), a Master’s degree in Urban Design from the American University of Beirut (2006), and a Program Certificate in Refugee Trauma and Mental Health from Harvard University (2015).

Please join me in wishing Rabih continued success in his leadership of the CCECS.

M. Harajli
Interim Provost