Wednesday, January 2, 2013

Dear Colleagues

In June 2012, the BOT voted to establish the Division of Interdisciplinary Programs (DUIP). Several inaugural programs are now ready to start the approval process. The immediate task is to organize the DUIP so that it can follow through on the formal approval of these programs and reconfigure and/or develop other interdisciplinary programs as needed.

To begin structuring the Division in this initial phase, I am appointing Dr. Nesreen Ghaddar for one year as its first director. She will work closely with the chairs of the Interdisciplinary Program Coordinating Committees (IPCCs), the academic deans, and me to initiate program approvals and to coordinate division governance during the coming year. Nesreen was a member of the University Interdisciplinary Programs Committee that developed the DUIP proposal, and leads the team working on the development of the Master’s in Energy Studies.

In this initial phase, and until the Division’s individual programs receive final approval, the governance structure of the DUIP will be as follows:

1) The Administrative Committee of the Division chaired by Dr. Ghaddar will be composed of the chairs of the IPCCs: namely, IGESP; Energy Studies; and International Affairs and Public Policy. Directors of other faculty-based interdisciplinary programs may also be invited to join the committee.

2) In consultation with the relevant deans, the membership of the IPCCs will be expanded to ensure that each committee has sufficient members representing participating faculties and disciplines.

We are fortunate that Dr. Ghaddar has agreed to take the leadership in this important initiative for interdisciplinary studies at AUB.

Sincerely,

Ahmad Dallal
Provost