American University of Beirut  
Faculty Promotions 2014-15  

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Promoted to the rank of Professor

Dr. Nader El-Bizri, Professor and Director, Civilization Sequence Program
Dr. El-Bizri's research is in the areas of Arabic sciences and philosophy, in phenomenology and continental thought, and in architectural humanities. His books include *The Phenomenological Quest between Avicenna and Heidegger* (State University of New York at Binghamton, 2000), *The Ikhwan al-Safa’ and their Rasa’il* (Oxford University Press, 2008), *Epistles of the Brethren of Purity: On Arithmetic and Geometry* (Oxford University Press, 2012), and *Recto Verso: Redefining the Sketchbook* (Ashgate, 2014). He has published widely and internationally, and held teaching and research positions at leading institutions. El-Bizri earned a Bachelor of Architecture from AUB, a Master of Architecture from Harvard (1994), and a PhD in Philosophy from the New School (1999).

Dr. Hermann Genz, Professor, Department of History and Archaeology
Dr. Genz's research is focused on the emergence of complex societies in the Bronze Age in the Levant, and the archaeology of the Bronze and Iron Ages in Anatolia. He has directed fieldwork in Lebanon including most recently the excavation project of a Bronze Age coastal site south of Batroun. Author of three volumes in German based on his research in Anatolia between 1998 and 2004, he is also editor of two volumes, has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals and edited collections, and served as referee for a number articles in German and English-language publications. Currently writing a book, co-authored with colleague Helen Sader, entitled “An Introduction to the Archaeology of Lebanon from Prehistory to Hellenistic Times”, Genz earned a MA (1992) and PhD (1998), both in archaeology, from the University of Tübingen in Germany.

Dr. Vivian Khamis, Professor, Department of Education
Dr. Khamis is an educational psychologist interested in post-traumatic stress including its determinants, effects, and possible mitigations. Her research has primarily focused on trauma and stress for Palestinians, especially children, women, and families, living under an occupation punctuated by episodic violence. A new area of research for Khamis centers on the determinants and effects of bullying in Lebanese schools. Prior to joining AUB in 2008, she taught at Bethlehem University in the West Bank and later at UAE University in Al Ain. Author of *Political Violence and the Palestinian Family: Implications for mental health and well-being* (Haworth Press, 2000), Khamis has published ten articles since joining AUB in 2008. She earned a BA in Psychology and a MA in sociology/anthropology from the American University of Cairo (AUC), and a MA in Social Psychology (1987) and an EdD from Ball State University in Indiana (1988).
Dr. Imad Saoud, Professor, Department of Biology
Dr. Saoud’s research is multifaceted and currently focused on aquaculture, in particular on the rabbit fish, a salt-water herbivorous species with considerable potential to be farmed as a protein source in the Middle East and elsewhere. Saoud recently initiated research on a second potentially important aquaculture resource, the redclaw crayfish. He is the recipient of the Arab Fund’s Distinguished Scholar Award (2009) and the Shoman Foundation’s Award for Arab Researchers (2010). Saoud has published 27 scientific papers, and is corresponding author on 14 of these, since his promotion in 2008 to associate professor at AUB. Saoud holds a BS in Biology from AUB, a MS in Biological Marine Sciences from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a PhD from Auburn University.

Dr. David Wilmsen, Professor, Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages
Dr. Wilmsen’s research is focused on historical and comparative linguistics. He has published numerous articles for scholarly journals and edited volumes, and is author of Arabic Indefinites, Interrogatives, and Negators: A Linguistic History of Western Dialects (forthcoming Oxford University Press, 2014). Prior to joining AUB he served as associate dean for instructional affairs at the American University of Cairo (AUC), and was a visiting associate professor at Georgetown University. Wilmsen earned his BA in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico (1982) and his PhD in Arabic language and linguistics from the University of Michigan (1995).

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Rima Karami Akkary, Associate Professor, Department of Education
Dr. Akkary’s work has focused on applied research specific to the region based on comparative studies as a foundation for indigenous knowledge production and actions to improve educational practices. She is a co-principal investigator for TAMAM, a joint project initiated by AUB and the Arab Thought Foundation, to research and initiate school-based reform in the region that is driven by cultural and societal realities rather than informed by Western models and ideas. Akkary has also designed and conducted multiple professional development activities for school principals and supervisors, both independently and as part of large-scale reform initiatives. She served as consultant, program evaluator, and adjunct professor at Portland State University in Oregon prior to joining AUB in 2007. Akkary has published four journal articles since 2007, two as first author. She earned a BS in Chemistry (1987) and a MA in Education (1990) from AUB, and an EdD from Portland State University (1997).

Dr. Bana Bashour, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
Dr. Bashour’s research interest is self-defined as a “philosophy of action” that includes moral philosophy and philosophy of mind. Coeditor of a volume on philosophical naturalism that served as a basis for a successful conference at AUB centered on the perspectives of Daniel Dennett, a visiting professor at the time, Bashour contributed an article to the volume and co-
authored the introduction. In addition to several journal articles, Bashour has an article in an edited volume and another in a proceedings volume. Dr. Bashour earned a BA in Philosophy with distinction from AUB (2000), and a PhD from CUNY (2006).

**Dr. Hoda Baytiyeh, Associate Professor, Department of Education**

Dr. Baytiyeh’s research interests include both engineering education and educational technology, with a particular focus on the use of Internet in the classroom. She has published nine journal articles either as lead or sole author based on this research. Baytiyeh earned a BE in computer engineering from EPITA-Paris (1995), a MS in Computer Science from Balamand University (2004), and a PhD in Education from the University of Tennessee (2009). She joined AUB's Department of Education as an assistant professor in 2009.

**Dr. Martin Bright, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics**

Dr. Bright studies the arithmetic of surfaces, and in particular Diophantine equations, a central topic of number theory. He has published four journal articles since joining AUB as assistant professor in 2011. Currently Bright is working on a book, under contract with Cambridge University Press, directed at advanced undergraduate and graduate courses that will be the first in its specific area of number theory. Prior to joining AUB, he served as a lecturer at the University of Liverpool, a research fellow at the University of Bristol, and an assistant professor at the University of Warwick. Bright earned both a BA (1998) and PhD (2002) in Mathematics from Cambridge University.

**Dr. Wissam El-Hajj, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Computer Science**

Dr. El-Hajj focuses his research on wireless communication, network security, and data mining, and has worked on sentient mining that attempts to survey opinions from the web. He was assistant professor at UAE University prior to joining AUB, initially as visiting professor in 2009 and as assistant professor as of 2011. El-Hajj has received a number of grants to support his research including a major grant of $1 million from the Qatar Foundation in 2013. His research has culminated in more than 50 publications, many in leading technical journals, and he has been an invited speaker and reviewer at a number of international conferences. El-Hajj earned a BS in Computer Science from AUB (2000), and a MS (2002) and PhD (2006) from Western Michigan University.

**Dr. Hiba Khodr, Associate Professor, Department of Political Studies and Public Administration**

Dr. Khodr’s research is varied and focused on energy policy in Lebanon, policy innovation and diffusion, and policy-making in the GCC. Specifically her research addresses the hosting of major international events at Education City in Qatar from a government policy perspective. With her colleague Danyel Reiche, she has described the phenomena of specialized cities in GCC countries. Khodr has published a number of peer-reviewed articles, six of which are single-authored, and presented conference papers and research proposals at both national and local professional meetings in the US. She earned a BA in Mathematics from AUB (1987), a BS in

Dr. Patrick Lewtas, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
Dr. Lewtas’ current research is focused on the nature of matter, the nature of consciousness, and the relation between matter and consciousness. He joined AUB as assistant professor in 2007. Lewtas proposes and defends a formulation of panpsychism, that is, basic entities must have consciousness if more complex ones built of them do. He has published a number of articles including most recently "What Is It Like to Be a Quark?" (2013), and “What New Wave Materialists Can’t Say” (2014). He earned a BA at Harvard and a Bachelor's in Law at the University of Toronto. After more than a decade as a practicing attorney, Lewtas returned to university and received his PhD in philosophy from the University of Michigan (2007).

Dr. Mike Osta, Associate Professor, Department of Biology
Dr. Osta’s research examines how the malaria-bearing mosquito manages to carry the disease while blocking the pathogen's effect on its own organism, a process that if understood could offer the potential to block it in humans as well. He published a lead-author article in Science in 2004, and a second paper in the same journal after joining AUB in 2007 as assistant professor. He previously held post-doctoral positions at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Germany, and at Imperial College London. Osta has published ten articles since 2007, and is corresponding or first author on five of these. He earned a BS and MS in Biology from AUB, and completed his PhD at Université Montpellier 2 in France in 2002.

Dr. Danyel Reiche, Associate Professor, Department of Political Studies and Public Administration
Dr. Reiche’s research interests include the politics of sport, energy policy, and environmental policy, with a focus on the political systems of the United States, the European Union, and the BRICS. He is the author of a number of peer-reviewed articles, with recent papers focused on betting in sports, and attempts by sports franchises to use green corporate social responsibility campaigns to improve their public images. Reiche served as visiting assistant professor at the Georgetown School of Foreign Service prior to joining AUB in 2008. He has a book contract from Routledge for a volume on what makes countries successful at the Olympic Games. Reiche earned a PhD in political science from Leibniz University of Hanover (1999) and his PD/Habilitation (post-doctorate equivalent to associate professorship) from the Free University of Berlin (2005).
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Promoted to the rank of Professor

Dr. Mohammad Ahmad, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Ahmad’s research interests are focused on environmental applications of chemical engineering. Prior to joining AUB in 2012 as Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Chemical Engineering Program of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, he served as post-doctoral fellow, assistant professor, and associate professor at Queen’s University in Belfast. He also spent a sabbatical year at Sultan Qaboos University in Muscat. Ahmad received a BS and a MS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Jordan in Amman, and earned a PhD in Chemical Engineering from Queen’s University in Belfast.

Dr. Ali Chehab, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dr. Chehab’s research focuses on network security and very large scale integration (VLSI) systems. He received a BS in Theoretical and Applied Mathematics and Physics from Saint Joseph University (Beirut) in 1985, a BE in Electrical Engineering from AUB in 1987, and a MS in Electrical Engineering from Syracuse University in 1989. After practicing as an engineer for several years, Chehab earned a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of North Carolina in 2002. He joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) at AUB in 2002 as an assistant professor, and was promoted to associate professor in 2008.

Dr. Zaher Dawy, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dr. Dawy’s research areas encompass wireless communications and networking. He joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in 2004 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2010. He received a BE in Computer and Communications Engineering with high distinction from AUB in 1998, and a MS (2000) and a PhD (2004) in Communications Engineering from Munich University of Technology in Germany.

Dr. Rabih Jabr, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dr. Jabr’s research is focused on power systems’ stability. Prior to joining the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at AUB in 2009 as associate professor, he served as assistant and later associate professor at Notre Dame University-Louaize in Zouk Mosbeh, Lebanon. Jabr received a BE in Electrical Engineering with high distinction from AUB in 1997, and a PhD in Electrical Engineering in 2000 from Imperial College London.

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Daniel Asmar, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Asmar’s research interests are in the areas of mechatronics and computer vision. He joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering at AUB in 2006 as assistant professor. Asmar received a BS in Mechanical Engineering with First-Class Honors from the University of
Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, a ME in Mechanical Engineering from AUB in 2002, and a PhD from the University of Waterloo in 2006.

Dr. Shadi Najjar, Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Dr. Najjar’s research interests are in the areas of the reliability of civil engineering systems and geotechnical engineering. Prior to joining AUB in 2007, he worked briefly as a geotechnical engineer with Dar Al-Handasah Consultants. Najjar received a BE in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1999 and a ME in Structural Engineering in 2001, both from AUB. He then earned a PhD in Geotechnical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 2005.

Faculty of Health Sciences

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Rima Nakkash, Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health
Dr. Nakkash’s primary research interest is tobacco control, prevention, and policy of national, regional, and international relevance. Other research interests include community-based participation, intervention evaluation particularly with youth and disadvantaged populations, translation of evidence to policy, applied research ethics, and youth alcohol harm reduction policy. Dr. Nakkash coordinates the AUB Tobacco Control Research Group, a multidisciplinary entity involving researchers from every faculty at the University. Actively involved in advocating for evidence-based public health policies, she played a pivotal role in the passage of tobacco control legislation (Law 174) in Lebanon in 2011.

Dr. Mohamad Alameddine, Associate Professor, Department of Health Management and Policy
Dr. Alameddine’s main research interests are focused on studying human resources, labor force dynamics, recruitment and retention practices, and the quality of work environments. A particular research interest concerns studying the determinants of, and the means to decrease, health workers’ exposure to occupational violence. He is further interested in exploring the relationship between health human resources’ readiness for endorsement of quality initiatives, and the successful improvement in medical and service quality. Alameddine’s research is also centered on examining the relationship between health policy decisions and labor force dynamics.
Faculty of Medicine

Promoted to the rank of Professor

Dr. Robert Habib, Professor of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine
Dr. Habib has varied research interests that bridge clinical medicine, mathematical modeling, and biomedical engineering with the overall aim of improving medical care delivery. A primary focus of his research in medicine revolves around clinical outcomes pertaining to cardiovascular disease in general, and how to optimize short and long term outcomes of interventional cardiology and cardiovascular surgery. Dr. Habib’s other primary research focus brings together respiratory physiology and mechanics, biomedical engineering, and mathematical modeling to a) better understand the effects of respiratory diseases on the mechanics of breathing, and b) develop and improve methods of invasive and noninvasive mechanical ventilatory support to patients in respiratory failure, in particular premature infants with very low birth weight (VLBW).

Dr. Amin Kazzi, Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine, Department of Emergency Medicine
Dr. Kazzi’s research and scholarly activity focuses on formulation and execution of an interdisciplinary and interdepartmental project to address national and international concerns that are core to the development of the specialty including workforce and practice issues, graduate medical education, as well as a number of clinical topics where interdisciplinary consensus is required. This encompasses topics related to emergency medicine including the exposure of health care workers to violence and aggression, moonlighting, the use of non-invasive modalities, the role and impact of electronic dashboard development on flow, and mass casualty management. Dr. Kazzi’s research also addresses topics that are core to national emergency medical services such as preparedness and capacity, and the futility of resuscitation on out-of-hospital-cardiac arrests.

Dr. Umayya Musharrafieh, Professor of Clinical Family Medicine, Department of Family Medicine
Dr. Musharrafieh ‘s research centers on the prevalence of common communicable and non-communicable diseases in the community. She is also interested in studying the prevalence of risky behaviors among Lebanese adolescents in relation to tobacco smoking, physical activity, and weight reduction. Dr. Musharrafieh’s research also covers issues related to medical education and communication.

Dr. Rose Daher, Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Daher’s research interests include metabolic disorders, mainly amino acidopathies, as well as the correlation of various metabolic diseases with their molecular background in the Lebanese population. Other research lines are markers of inflammation in different conditions, in addition to monoclonal proteins in various plasma cell dyscrasias.
Dr. Mohamad Khalifeh, Professor of Clinical Surgery, Department of Surgery
Dr. Khalifeh’s research is focused on issues related to multidisciplinary aspects of hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery. He has a special interest in research related to different aspects of organ donation and liver transplantation, and in a clinical context research related to outcomes and health economy.

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Fouad Boulos, Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Boulos’s research focuses on the pathology of the female breast, from risk-associated lesions to pre-neoplastic and neoplastic conditions, to diagnostic pitfalls. He is also involved in the collaborative and multidisciplinary efforts pertaining to all aspects of breast cancer, from epidemiology, to biology, to management.

Dr. Chantal Farra, Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Farra’s research interest is focused on inherited genetic/neurogenetic disorders and congenital malformations. She established the Molecular Division of Medical Genetics in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine by introducing, for the first time, gene sequencing and whole genome analyses to clinical diagnostics at AUBMC, and by offering numerous DNA analyses for the diagnosis of inherited hematologic, neurological, and metabolic disorders. Dr. Farra is currently investigating the incidence and mutational spectrum for rare and inherited genetic diseases in the Lebanese population. Another line of interest is familial cancers. She founded the Familial Breast and Ovarian Cancer Screening and Counseling Program at AUBMC by developing the in-house capability to screen for breast and ovarian susceptibility genes. Dr. Farra also created the Pre-implantation Genetics Diagnosis Program by introducing new FISH (fluorescence in situ hybridization) techniques and DNA analyses on single embryonic blastomeres.

Dr. Walid Faraj, Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery
Dr. Faraj’s main research is focused on pancreatic and liver cancer, with a particular interest in the role of Secreted Protein Acid and Rich in Cysteine (SPARC) in pancreatic cancer. He is Principal Investigator for a joint tissue-banking project of AUBMC and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York. Organized to provide a mechanism for patients to consent to storage of tissue for research, the initiative is enabling high quality collaborative translational research between the two institutions. Dr. Faraj also has a great interest in surgical education.

Dr. Ibrahim Khalifeh, Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Khalifeh’s main research interests include, but are not limited to, melanoma, dysplastic nevi, BRAF, and cutaneous leishmania.
Dr. Mazen Kurban, Associate Professor of Dermatology, Department of Dermatology
Dr. Kurban’s main research is focused on genetic skin diseases, as well as clinical and basic science, in an attempt to identify a genetic basis if any for several known and unknown conditions and to better understand the normal development of the skin and its structures. His work extends beyond the skin to involve most of the body organs as several genes that are implicated in skin development also play critical roles in cardiac, kidney, liver, brain and other organ development. Dr. Kurban and his team are currently in the process of building a registry for all the genodermatoses cases in the hope that the ongoing advances in the genetic field will provide better treatment of these individuals.

Dr. Fadi Maalouf, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry
Dr. Maalouf’s line of research focuses on neurocognitive functioning in pediatric mood disorders. He has published several original studies and reviews on the topic and has received grants and awards for his work, including the Young Investigator Grant Award from the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention, and the Pilot Research Award from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. Maalouf is also interested in the prevalence of psychiatric disorders and the determinants of treatment-seeking behavior in children and adolescents in Lebanon and the Arab world. He has launched complementary studies on the patterns of psychiatric disorders in communities and clinics to better understand the mental health needs of adolescents, and also currently works on studies regarding the efficacy of non-pharmaceutical medical treatments in pediatric mood and anxiety disorders.

Dr. Rihab Nasr, Associate Professor of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiological Sciences, Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiological Sciences
Dr. Nasr’s main research interest is focused on the development of targeted therapies for human leukemias and the specific targeting of cancer stem cells. The role of microRNA in cancer is the second axis of research in her lab. Dr. Nasr is interested in understanding the role of microRNA in cancer, and specifically in breast cancer, and their role as biomarkers to predict early onset breast cancer.

Dr. Durriyah Sinno, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescents Medicine
Dr. Sinno’s research focuses on the primary care pediatric setting. Her main research interest is in the field of child development including assessment of early childhood development in the general practice and implementation of models in Arabic-speaking populations, developmental outcomes of preterm children, and quality of life studies on children with intellectual disabilities.
Rafic Hariri School of Nursing

Promoted to the rank of Professor

Dr. Samar Noureddine, Professor
Dr. Noureddine’s research interest is in the area of cardiovascular health promotion and risk reduction. She previously examined knowledge of and attitudes about heart disease, and situational predictors of emergency care-seeking behavior when facing acute cardiac events in patients with acute coronary syndrome and in community samples. Noureddine’s current research examines smoking patterns in patients following hospitalization for acute myocardial infarction and related factors, in order to identify barriers to and facilitators of smoking cessation in the population that can be targeted with tailored interventions.

Suliman S. Olayan School of Business

Promoted to the rank of Professor

Dr. Yusuf Sidani, Professor and Chair, MME (Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship)
Dr. Sidani’s research focuses on business and employee ethics, gender and diversity in organizations, and employee values and behaviors, with a special focus on the Middle East. His research has appeared in leading international peer-reviewed journals, he is associate editor of the Journal of Business Ethics: A European Review, and a reviewer for leading financial publications. Sidani has actively served professional organizations including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Lebanese Corporate Governance Taskforce, and the Lebanese Association of Certified Public Accountants. An AUB alumnus, he earned a MBA (1987) from Indiana University and a PhD (1993) in organizational behavior from the University of Mississippi.

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Wassim Dbouk, Associate Professor, FAME (Finance, Accounting and Managerial Economics)
Dr. Dbouk’s research focuses on the fields of equity and fixed income investments. He has published papers in leading journals on the optimal size of bond portfolios, bond index revisions, the January effect in the corporate bond markets, and technical analysis in the equity markets. His teaching interests span undergraduate, graduate, and executive levels, and encompass corporate finance, valuation, and financial modeling. Active in external education for executives from Lebanon and the Arab world, he is also involved in valuation case competitions organized by the CFA Institute. Dbouk joined AUB in 2007 after obtaining his PhD degree from Concordia University the same year.
New Faculty Appointments
September 2014

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Dr. Gumataw Kifle Abebe, Visiting Assistant Professor of Agribusiness Marketing and Management, Department of Agricultural Sciences
Dr. Abebe’s research interests are primarily in the area of agribusiness management, technology adoption in agriculture, institutions and market analysis, and innovation and entrepreneurship. His research has been published in leading peer-reviewed journals such as Agricultural Systems and Food Policy. Previously Abebe worked at Hawassa University in Ethiopia as Dean of the College of Agriculture, and as Assistant Professor of Value Chain Analysis and Management. Abebe holds a BA in Accounting from Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, an MBA in International Management from Leipzig Graduate School of Management (HHL) in Germany, and a PhD in Management (Agribusiness) from Wageningen University in The Netherlands.

Dr. Ewen C. D. Todd, Visiting Professor in Food Microbiology, Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences
Dr. Todd is President of Ewen Todd Consulting LLC, and is Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Food Science and Human Nutrition, and Large Animal Clinical Sciences at Michigan State University (MSU). Former director of the Food Safety Policy Center and of the National Food Safety and Toxicology Center at MSU, Todd coordinated research in microbiology, toxicology, epidemiology, risk assessment, social science, and policy in the areas of food safety, distance education programs, and outreach in the community. Prior to that he served in the Bureau of Microbial Hazards, Health Products and Food Branch of Health Canada in Ottawa where he was a research scientist for 33 years working on methods development for pathogens in foods, foodborne disease investigation and reporting, costs and surveillance of disease, illnesses caused by seafood toxins, and risk assessment of foodborne pathogens. Todd is associate editor of the Journal of Food Science, a reviewer for several journals, and the coeditor of a four-volume Elsevier Encyclopedia on Food Safety published in 2014. He is also active in the International Association for Food Protection.

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Ira Allen, Assistant Professor, Department of English
Dr. Allen’s research explores the meanings and history of rhetorical theory, and continues from there to composition studies, epistemology, and social/political theory in a pragmatist vein. Recent articles and translations have appeared in journals including Pedagogy and Modern Language Notes, and his translation of Nietzsche’s The Dionysian Vision of the World is available from Univocal Publishing (distributed by University of Minnesota Press). He is currently
working on book projects that treat “The Ethical Fantasy of Rhetorical Theory” and “Rhetorical Constitutions: The Possibility of Democracy”. Allen earned his PhD (2014) in Rhetoric, Composition, and Culture at Indiana University Bloomington, where he founded a community writing center, the Bloomington Writing Project.

Dr. Sabah N. Alwachi, Visiting Professor, Department of Biology
Dr. Alwachi joins AUB with a fellowship from the Institute of International Education-Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF). His research interests are endocrinology, physiology of reproduction, and cell biology. Professor and Head of the Biology Department at the University of Edinburgh, he previously served as a Director of International Cultural Relations at the University of Baghdad. He has published 15 academic books, authored numerous scientific articles, and supervised 22 PhD and 38 MSc postgraduate students. His name appears in 46 scientific research papers in major international referred journals, and he has presented academic papers in a number of countries including the US, UK, Germany, Sweden, Italy, France, Japan, Russia, Tunisia, Egypt, and Jordan. A member of the editorial board of the Journal of Environmental Studies (JES) of Sohag University in Sohag, Egypt, and the Journal for Science and Technology (IJST) in Amman, Jordan, Alwachi received a PhD from the University of Edinburgh.

Dr. Hala Auji, Assistant Professor, Department of Fine Arts and Art History
Dr. Auji will be teaching courses in Islamic art, architecture, and material culture at AUB. Her research interests include the history of Islamic manuscript practices, nineteenth-century decorative arts in Europe and the Middle East, and the arts of the book in Asia. She is currently working on a book entitled “Typesetting Modernity: The American Missionary Press and The Rise of Print Culture in the Arab World, 1820-1870,” which explores the changing visual conventions, uses, and meanings of Arabic print culture in Ottoman Beirut on the eve of the Arab region's widespread modernization, secularization, and nationalist movements. Prior to joining AUB, she taught art history courses at UCLA and State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton. She holds a BA in Graphic Design from AUB, a MA in Criticism and Theory from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, and a PhD in Art History from SUNY at Binghamton.

Mr. Doyle Avant, Assistant Professor, Department of English
Mr. Avant received his MFA in dramatic writing from New York University. He has written and produced a number of plays and solo pieces in both the US and Lebanon. Much of his writing revolves around the topics of war, social and political upheaval, and being away from home. Avant’s most recent productions include Blood Under the Bridge (2008) and The Last Thing You’ll Ever See (2011). He has been teaching at AUB since 2011 in the Department of English.
Dr. Florian Bertrand, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics
Dr. Bertrand’s research is focused on the field of several complex variables, a theme at the intersection between analysis, partial differential equations, and geometry. Granted a Fields Fellowship for a thematic semester devoted to arithmetic and hyperbolic geometry at the Fields Institute in Toronto, Canada in the fall of 2008, he joined the Department of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in January 2009 as visiting assistant professor where he worked with prominent researchers including his mentor Xianghong Gong and Jean-Pierre Rosay. In 2011, he moved to Vienna, Austria, for a postdoctoral position in the research group of Bernhard Lamel at the University of Vienna, and served as principal investigator for the project “Local Analysis on Almost Complex Manifolds” – funded by the Austrian Science Fund – since it began in September 2012. Bertrand has also published several articles in high impact international journals. He holds a PhD in Mathematics from the Aix-Marseille University in France.

Dr. Tylor Brand, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History and Archaeology
Dr. Brand returns to AUB after being the first PhD graduate from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences since programs were reinitiated in 2007-08. He specializes in the history of Syria and Lebanon in the late Ottoman period with a focus on crisis and society during World War I. His dissertation, “Lives Darkened by Calamity: Enduring the Famine of World War I in Lebanon and Western Syria,” explores suffering, survival, and the varied experience of famine in Ottoman Syria during WWI. A contributor to the WWI Online Encyclopedia and a number of conference proceedings, Brand is slated to discuss the legacy of crisis in the history of WWI at the next annual conference of the American Historical Association.

Chihua Chen, Instructor, Civilization Sequence Program
Mr. Chen received a BA degree from Hubei Normal University, a MA degree in applied linguistics from Wuhan University, and is a PhD candidate at Central China University in the field of comparative linguistics. A language teacher at Hubei University for Nationalities since 2003 and a participating principal investigator for four projects, his academic interest is in the protection of endangered languages.

Dr. Ahmad R. Dhaini, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science
Dr. Dhaini is an expert in optical access FTTx networks (expected to be deployed soon in Lebanon), and his research interests include fiber-wireless (FiWi) broadband access networks, mission-critical networks, green communications, and software-defined networking. An inventor and holder of three US patents, he authored/co-authored one book, one book chapter, and more than 30 highly cited research articles in top IEEE journals and conferences. He is a reviewer for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada, and for internal grants at several US universities. Editor of Springer’s Photonics Networks Communications journal, he is also a reviewer and technical program committee (TPC) member for several major IEEE journals and conferences. Dhaini worked as a software analyst and consultant at TEKSystems and as a software designer at
Ericsson in Montreal while completing his doctoral degree, as a consultant at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia, and was a postdoctoral scholar (2012-14) at Stanford University in the Photonics and Networking Research Laboratory (PNRL) led by Prof. Leonid Kazovsky. He was awarded the prestigious NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowship, and completed the Stanford Ignite program for entrepreneurship and innovation in Stanford’s Graduate School of Business. Dhaini received his BSc in Computer Science from AUB, his MSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Concordia University, and his PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Waterloo in Canada.

**Dr. Carmen Geha, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Studies and Public Administration**

Dr. Geha’s research is centered on public administration reform and state building in contemporary transitions across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), with a particular focus on the comparative challenges for public sector reform in Lebanon and Libya. She has researched and written on the role of civil society and state institutions in the constitutional process in Libya and the electoral administration in Lebanon. Since 2010 she served as part-time lecturer in the Department of Political Studies and Public Administration at AUB, teaching courses on public management, citizenship, and civic engagement. A partner at Beyond Reform & Development – where she consults with and advises ministries, parliaments, UN agencies, and civil society groups across the MENA region on policy and public management reform – she is a member of the American Society for Public Administration and a founding member of the National Network for Access to Information. Geha holds a BA and a MA in Public Administration from AUB, and a PhD in International Relations from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

**Dr. Dahlia Gubara, Postdoctoral Fellow, The Arts and Humanities Initiative**

Dr. Gubara studied law at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, and history at Columbia University in New York where her PhD dissertation focused on the mosque-seminary al-Azhar and orders of knowledge in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Her work bridges the fields of Islam and the Middle East and Africa, and is principally concerned with the production and transmission of knowledge in, and about, the “Islamic discursive tradition”. Gubara’s current research project, “Virtuous Narratives and the Many Lives of Luqmān al-Ḥakīm”, explores connections between wisdom, virtue, narrative and myth.

**Dr. Lisa Hajjar, Edward Said Chair, Visiting Associate Professor, Center for American Studies and Research**

Dr. Hajjar is professor of sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research and writing focus on law and legality, war and conflict, human rights, and torture. Her publications include *Courting Conflict: The Israeli Military Court System in the West Bank and Gaza* (University of California Press, 2005) and *Torture: A Sociology of Violence and Human Rights* (Routledge, 2013). A member of the editorial committees of *Middle East Report, Jadaliyya*, and
Journal of Palestine Studies, Hajjar is currently working on a book about US torture and the role of lawyers. She is also principal investigator for a research project on human rights in the Arab world implemented by AUB’s Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI) and Lund University in Sweden.

**Dr. Hatim El-Hibri, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Media Studies**

Dr. Hatim’s current research is focused on the history of media technologies and urban space in the Middle East, and examines the cultural politics of Arab satellite broadcasting in light of the history of the visualization of Beirut. His work has appeared in *Arab World Geographer* and the *International Journal of Communication*. His general research and teaching interests synthesize global media studies, visual culture studies, urban studies of the Middle East, media history, and critical theory. El-Hibri earned his master’s and PhD from New York University's Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.

**Dr. Tayeb El-Hibri, Alfred H. Howell Chair, Visiting Professor, Department of History and Archeology**

Dr. El-Hibri’s research interests include medieval Islamic history, and theories of literary criticism and historiography. He obtained his PhD from Columbia University and has taught at Yale, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and at AUB as the Alfred H. Howell Chair. El-Hibri has published two books and numerous articles in international publications including the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

**Dr. James Hodapp, Assistant Professor, Department of English**

Dr. Hodapp received his PhD from University of Maryland in 2014. While his primary research fields are postcolonial studies, African literature, and world literature, he has written academic articles on graphic novels, world cinema, global pedagogy, and gender. He is particularly interested in challenging the accepted wisdom of African and postcolonial studies that African literature primarily engages in “writing back” to significant European canonical texts. His work explores alternative genealogies for reading seminal African novels by turning to early African literature both written and oral, local African narrative structures, and unexpected connections to the non-western world to generate more complex intertextualities.

**David A. "Tony" Hoffman, Visiting Lecturer, Department of Psychology**

Dr. Hoffman is faculty lecturer at the University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) and an associate for the UN’s Child Protection Working Group. He will teach a course on child psychopathology and a course on children and war, the latter with a focus on children in the Syrian crisis. He has worked as a clinical child psychologist for over 20 years, specializing in school and pediatric psychology. Hoffman has devoted much of his time and research to the study of children in extremely difficult circumstances, particularly war-affected children. He has trained NGOs on psychosocial services for children in high-risk contexts in many countries including Afghanistan, Liberia, Uganda, Zambia, Haiti, and Costa Rica. Hoffman holds a PhD
from the University of Oregon in developmental psychology, and was trained in applied and clinical psychology at the Washington University School of Medicine.

Ms. Nagham Jaber, Instructor, Department of English
Ms. Jaber has taught composition and rhetoric at AUB on a part-time basis for the past five years. She earned a BA (2003) and MA in English Literature (2009) from AUB. She also received a Teaching Diploma in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) for secondary education from AUB (2003). She is interested in modern and postmodern theater as well as in creative writing. Jaber’s previous research on a postmodern rewriting of Shakespeare's plays appeared in VDM Verlag (2009).

Dr. Tima El-Jamil, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology
Dr. El-Jamil earned her undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Virginia and her doctoral degree in clinical psychology at St. John’s University in New York. Since 2005, she has been assistant professor in the psychology department at AUB, and recently developed and launched the master’s program in clinical psychology. In addition to her teaching and research, Dr. El-Jamil manages a clinical practice and conducts clinical supervision.

Dr. Maya Issam Kesrouany, Postdoctoral Fellow, The Arts and Humanities Initiative
Dr. Kesrouany’s research focuses on nineteenth and twentieth-century Arabic translations of European literature and philosophy in relation to the development of political agency and revolutionary ideals in the Arab world. She has published in peer-reviewed journals such as Comparative Literary Studies and in MLA book publications. She is currently writing a book on the emergence of secular prophecy as a by-product of free translation in Egypt in the first half of the twentieth century, and the impact thereof on secular political agency until the Nasser Revolution in 1952. Kesrouany also writes on the contemporary Arabic novel in translation, British modernist literature and art, and the French realist novel. She has taught in the US, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and holds a PhD in Comparative Literature from Emory University (2011).

Amin John Kurani, Instructor, Department of English
Mr. Kurani joins the communication skills program as an instructor of composition and rhetoric, and will be teaching the program's core and specialized writing courses. He earned his BA and MA in English Literature from AUB, and has extensive professional experience in diverse fields including advertising, technical writing, and journalism. Kurani maintains an active interest in the theater.

Dr. Charbel Madi, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Physics
Dr. Madi’s research interests cover several themes including nanoscale morphology evolution under ion irradiation and synthesis, and properties of novel semiconductors using energetic beams. Madi holds a PhD in Applied Physics from the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (2011). He received the prestigious Materials Research Society graduate
student award for his innovative research on understanding the fundamental mechanisms involved in nanoscale self-organized surface structures. After graduation, he joined Intel Corporation as a process research engineer working on developing efficient and novel methods for high throughput semiconductor device processing.

Dr. Rania Masri, Associate Director, Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship
Dr. Masri brings a wealth of experience to AUB both as an academic professor and researcher, and as a long-time civil society organizer and activist. Previously she was a professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Balamand (2005-14), and Director of the Southern Peace Research and Education Center at the Institute for Southern Studies in North Carolina (2002-05). Masri’s research and publications center on issues of ecological sustainability, environmental politics, and social movements, and she has written extensively on the sanctions on Iraq and on the occupation of Palestine.

Ms. Marwa Mehio, Instructor, Department of English
Ms. Mehio received BA and MA degrees in English Literature from AUB. Her studies focused on Arab American and twentieth-century American literature and culminated in a thesis entitled “Randall Jarrell’s Jungian Lost World: Materialism and the Collective Unconscious.” Following her graduation, she began teaching academic and creative writing courses in higher education. Mehio has worked for a number of years at the AUB Writing Center both as a tutor and senior tutor, aiding students in developing their writing skills, and promoting a writing culture at the University.

Dr. Stefano Monni, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics
Dr. Monni’s research area is statistics with a primary focus on multivariate analysis and Bayesian statistics. Prior to joining AUB, he held a postdoctoral position at the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology of the University of Pennsylvania, was an assistant professor at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, and worked as a senior scientist at the German Cancer Research Center. Monni received his PhD from the University of Cambridge.

Dr. Anjali Nath, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Media Studies
Dr. Nath’s research brings together studies of war and visuality within the contemporary era. Her writing has appeared in American Quarterly, Cultural Studies <= Critical Methodology, and other interdisciplinary humanities-based research journals. Prior to joining AUB, she was awarded a University of California Davis Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship. Nath completed her PhD in American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California with a designated emphasis on visual culture studies.

Dr. Jennifer Nish, Assistant Professor, Department of English
Dr. Nish earned her PhD in Rhetoric and Composition (2014) at the University of Kansas. Her primary areas of academic interest are public rhetoric, transnational feminisms, and digital
media studies. Her research examines the rhetorical strategies that women's activist groups use to foster transnational public dialogue in digital contexts.

**Mr. Paolo Orlandi, Whittlesey Chair, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Fine Arts and Art History**
Paolo Orlandi studied jazz performance at the City College of New York (CUNY) and has held teaching positions in the US where he taught classes such as *Listening to Jazz* and *Introduction to Music*. He has also had a number of notable performance experiences in the US, Italy, Switzerland, and Canada. He has occupied the Whittlesey Chair at AUB since 2012.

**Dr. John Pill, Assistant Professor, Department of English**
Dr. Pill’s research interests include specific-purpose language teaching and testing, teaching second languages to adults, and learner autonomy. He has extensive professional experience in the UK, Ireland, Italy, Hong Kong, and Australia both in training educators and in teaching English as a second language. He completed his doctoral studies at the University of Melbourne and his thesis, “What doctors value in consultations and the implications for specific-purpose language testing”, linked the fields of language testing and medical communication. As a research fellow in the Language Testing Research Centre at Melbourne, he developed and researched tests for academic and professional contexts. Pill has tertiary-level qualifications in librarianship and music, as well as in applied linguistics.

**Dr. Antonio-Martin Porras-Gómez, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Studies, and Public Administration**
Dr. Porras-Gómez is a lawyer and an economist by training, who has been working as a researcher on issues of public policy and public administration for more than five years. His current research lines focus on the institutional dimension of governance networks dealing with complex problems such as the control of public expenditure and the management of water provision. He holds bachelor’s and master's degrees in law and in business administration, a master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Spanish Diplomatic School, and an LL.M in Constitutional Law and a PhD in Law from the University of Seville (2013). He recently earned the Spanish national prize for the best doctoral dissertation in constitutional law. Porras-Gómez has worked with the London School of Economics and Political Science, providing research assistance on transnational regulatory competition at the Department of Law and on the politics of public management reform at the Department of Management.

**Mr. Walid Sadek, Associate Professor, Department of Fine Arts and Art History**
Mr. Sadek obtained his MFA in sculpture at Claremont Graduate School of Art. He has participated in numerous local and international art exhibitions, and his artwork has been cited and reviewed in international art magazines, newspapers, and academic journals. Mr. Sadek is joining the Department of Fine Arts and Art History after being an associate professor at the Department of Architecture and Design in the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture since 2009. He has been a faculty member at AUB since 2000.
Dr. Mohamed K. Salah, Associate Professor, Department of Geology

Dr. Salah has wide teaching experience in geophysics and geology for undergraduate and postgraduate students at Tanta University in Egypt, King Saud University in Saudi Arabia, and Sultan Qaboos University in Oman. He served as assistant lecturer in the geology department of Tanta University, and received a fellowship (2005-07) from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) for research at the Earthquake Research Institute at the University of Tokyo. Salah also completed one-year of training at the Instituto Superior Tecnico (IST) at the University of Lisboa in Portugal in the field of seismic hazard assessment and seismotectonic studies of southwestern Iberia. He received a bachelor’s degree in geology and a master’s degree in petrophysics from Tanta University in Egypt, and a PhD (2004) in seismology from the Geodynamics Research Center of Ehime University in Japan.

Dr. Nazanin Shahrokni, Whittlesey Chair, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Media Studies

Dr. Shahrokni earned her PhD in sociology from University of California, Berkeley in 2013, and was a postdoctoral fellow at The Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies (2013-14), where she developed her book manuscript entitled “The State and the Paradox of Gender Segregation in Iran”. Her work has been supported by scholarships from the American Association for University Women and the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Women’s Studies Program. She has published articles in the Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, Current Sociology, Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies, and the Middle East Report. Since 2007, Shahrokni has served as a Middle East Representative on the Board of the Research Committee for Women in Society at the International Sociological Association. Prior to pursuing an academic career, Shahrokni worked as a journalist for Zanan, a prominent feminist monthly in Iran, and for Women Living Under Muslim Laws, an international solidarity network.

Dr. Mohammad El Smaily, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics

Dr. El Smaily completed three postdoctoral fellowships in North America: at the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver (2008-10), at Carnegie Mellon University (2010-11), and at the University of Toronto (2011-14). He is the author of ten academic articles published in highly ranked peer-reviewed international math journals including the Archive for Rational Mechanics and Analysis, Nonlinear Analysis, and the Proceedings of the American Math Society, and has served as a referee for many international journals for mathematics. El Smaily received his BS (2003) and MS in Mathematics (2005) from the Lebanese University in Beirut, and his PhD in Mathematics (2008) from Aix-Marseille Université in France.

Samhita Sunya, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Dr. Sunya’s research and teaching interests include world film history, Asian cinemas, intersections of old and new audio-visual media and literature, sound studies, and postcolonial literature. She brings additional expertise to AUB in the collaborative administration and
programming of film series and festivals, and is a champion of curatorial projects as being invaluable to both pedagogy and scholarship. Current and planned publications include essays that build on her dissertation research, exploring the transnational circuits and histories of romantic Hindi film/songs. She received a PhD from Rice University in Houston (2014).

**Dr. Tareq Tell, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Studies and Public Administration**
Dr. Tell studied politics at Oxford University and has taught in England, Jordan, Egypt, and in Lebanon where he has been visiting assistant professor at the Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES) at AUB since 2012. He has taught and introduced new courses such as State Formation and Social Change in the Modern Middle East, and Imperialism and Colonialism in the Modern Middle East.

**Abir Ward, Instructor, Department of English**
Dr. Ward’s research interest is centered on the poetry, dance, and caricature of the oppressed. Her work on Lebanese women during the civil war appeared in Elsevier’s *Science Direct*. Prior to joining AUB, she taught at San Jose State University (SJSU) in California, and at the Lebanese American University (LAU) where she taught courses in language, world literature, public speaking, and rhetoric. Ward actively participates in the poetry scene in Beirut by periodically offering creative writing workshops and organizing poetry competitions, and through her work as speaker trainer at TEDxLAU. She has a BA in English (Language and Literature) from SJSU and an MA in Comparative Literature.

**Faculty of Engineering and Architecture**

**Dr. Georges Y. Ayoub, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering**
Dr. Ayoub’s research is focused on computational modeling of polymers by linking the macroscopic behavior to microscopic deformation mechanisms. Prior to joining AUB he served as assistant research scientist at Texas A&M University in Qatar where his work was focused mainly on computational modeling of metals, more precisely aluminum and magnesium, by linking microstructural mechanisms to the macroscopic behavior. He previously taught mechanical engineering for undergraduate and graduate students at Polytech’Lille and at Lille 1 University in France, and has been invited to lecture in different courses at Texas A&M University in Qatar. Ayoub received a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in mechanical engineering from Polytech’Lille, and a PhD in mechanical and materials engineering from Lille 1 University.

**Dr. Cassia Boyadjian, Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering, Chemical Engineering Program**
Dr. Boyadjian’s research interests include catalytic synthesis routes of light olefins, methane activation and catalytic waste conversion into valuable chemicals. Her PhD thesis investigated the catalytic n-hexane cracking to light olefins. Prior to joining AUB, she completed a one-year postdoctoral assignment at the University of Groningen (Netherlands) during which she
performed research work on the development of solid-acid catalysts for the neutralization of bio-oil. She also worked with BASF–The Chemical Company, at its headquarters in Ludwigshafen, Germany, where she joined the heterogeneous catalysis department in 2011 as a research scientist for petrochemical catalysts. Boyadjian obtained her PhD in heterogeneous catalysis in 2010 from the University of Twente in the Netherlands.

Dr. Naseem Daher, Assistant Professor, Joint appointment in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Daher’s research interests include modeling and control of dynamic systems, advanced control theory and application, virtual sensing, and efficient actuation technologies. His professional experience includes six years at TRW Automotive, where he was involved with the design and development of electronic braking control systems. He also served as a Graduate Research Assistant (2011-14) at the Maha Fluid Power Research Center, where his research culminated in the development of an energy saving displacement controlled steer-by-wire technology. He is the recipient of several awards and scholarships, has published his research findings in high-impact journals, and presented his work at internationally recognized conferences. His research has received vast attention from academia and industry, and has been featured in several magazines and blogs. Daher holds a BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering from Lawrence Technological University in Michigan, and received his PhD from Purdue University’s School of Mechanical Engineering in 2014.

Omar Abdulaziz Hallaj, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Design
Mr. Omar Abdulaziz Hallaj is an independent architect, planner and development consultant. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, where he received both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in architecture. His professional work concentrates on linking institutional, legal, and socio-economic concerns to the production of the built environment. He served in the past as CEO of the Syria Trust for Development, Team Leader for the German Technical Cooperation Project for the Development of Historic Cities in Yemen (GIZ), and partner in SURADEC, an urban planning and heritage management consortium in Aleppo, Syria. His experience includes serving on a variety of public, private, and civil society boards dealing with local development, urban governance, housing, heritage management, microfinance, and peace building. He has researched, published, and lectured on the history, economics, and development policies in the MENA region. Recipient of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, Hallaj served as chairperson of the Master Jury in 2010, and is currently serving on the Award’s Steering Committee.

Dr. Rami Mhanna, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering Program
Dr. Mhanna’s research is focused on the fields of tissue engineering and drug delivery, where he utilizes biomimetic microenvironments for tissue engineering applications. His tissue engineering research is focused on the skeletal and neural tissues. Prior to joining AUB he completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the 3B’s Research Group (Biomaterials, Biodegradables
and Biomimetics) at the University of Minho in Portugal. He received his BE in Computer and Communications Engineering from Notre Dame University, Zouk Mosbeh, Lebanon in 2006, and his MSc in Biomedical Engineering from The University of Melbourne in 2008. Mhanna received his PhD from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ) in 2013 where his studies and research were focused on biosensors and bioelectronics, and in the cartilage engineering and regeneration labs.

**Dr. Samir Mustapha, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering**

Dr. Mustapha’s research interests include structural health monitoring, finite element analysis, composite materials, dynamic vibration and infrastructure. Prior to joining AUB he served as research associate at the School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering of the University of Sydney, and as research leader in the field of structural health monitoring for the Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics team at National ICT Australia. He has taught several courses at undergraduate and graduate levels including statics and dynamics, fracture mechanics, engineering materials, smart materials, and advanced composite materials. Mustapha received a BE degree in Aeronautical Engineering (2007) and a PhD degree in Mechanical Engineering (2012) from the University of Sydney.

**Dr. Magdi M. Nasrallah, Visiting Professor**

Dr. Nasrallah is Professor and Founding Chair of the Department of Petroleum and Energy Engineering (PENG 2007-14) at the American University in Cairo (AUC) where he holds the prestigious Schlumberger Endowed Chair Professorship, and served as Chair of the academic senate for 2012-2013. Prior to this, he was tenured professor and Chair of the Department of Petroleum, Mining, and Metallurgical Engineering at Cairo University. Under his leadership, the PENG department of AUC is fully established as one of the most popular and recognized departments at the University, and at the same time has gained in terms of its regional and international reputation. Nasrallah guided the department’s successful effort to achieve accreditation by the Egyptian Universities Supreme Council, and secured generous student scholarship funding from international oil companies. He also established state-of-the-art labs for teaching and training and developed excellent relations with the oil and gas industry. Nasrallah is the recipient of several international awards including the National Merit Award, the Presidential Gold Medal, and the Ribbon of Excellence. He generated significant research funds from international organizations such as DOE, GRE and BP, has more than 85 published papers and patents, and has actively participated in numerous international conferences and workshops.

**Dr. Hussein Tarhini, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering (Engineering Management Program)**

Dr. Tarhini’s research interests include humanitarian logistics, supply chain management, mathematical modeling, and optimization. He earned his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering (2008) and his master’s in engineering management (2010) from AUB, and his PhD in operations research from Virginia Tech (2014).
Dr. Ali Tehrani, Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering Program, Department of Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Tehrani’s research interests encompass wet surface chemistry, nanomaterials, and wastewater treatment. He has worked extensively on novel surfactants, with a particular interest in so-called ‘gemini’ surfactants and their applications. He has a background in textile chemical engineering (BSc, MSc, and PhD) from Tehran Polytechnic University of Technology, and earned his second PhD in Applied Surface Chemistry from the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Chalmers University of Technology (Goteborg-Sweden) in 2012, completing 19 months of postdoctoral work at the same university. He was a faculty member and head of the environmental research department at the Institute for Colorants, Paint and Coatings in Iran between 2007 and 2011, and prior to that a university lecturer for nearly three years at Azad University in Iran. He has published over 30 refereed scientific papers receiving 475 citations (h-index 12), and holds 13 patents. Tehrani was awarded the prestigious Nordic Prize for Surface and Colloid Chemistry by AkzoNobel in Sweden in 2013.

Ms. Jana Traboulsi, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Design

Jana Traboulsi is a graphic designer and illustrator who for the past ten years has been teaching on a part-time basis while maintaining an active practice, designing and art directing for institutions in the social and cultural fields, with a specialization in publication design. In commissioned or self-initiated projects, she explores image making and illustration as tools of authorship within design, and as creative methods of research, critical thinking, and social and political commentary. She art directs the socio-political quarterly Bidayat, the publications of the cultural center Dawawine for the performing arts, the comics journal Samandal, and also works with three publishing houses as a designer, illustrator, author, and sometimes editor. She regularly contributes illustrations to Lebanese dailies such as As-Safir. Traboulsi has authored and illustrated a number of graphic novels and artists’ books, and collaborated as an illustrator on three children’s books, amongst them Qoul Ya Tayr (Institute for Palestinian Studies, 2010). Her work has been presented in Paris, London, Berlin, Brussels, and most recently, in Venice, as part of a project on Syria at the 14th International Architecture Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia. Traboulsi received a BFA in Graphic Design from AUB, and a master’s in Media and Communication Studies from Goldsmiths College, London.

Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Souha Allam, Clinical Instructor of Ophthalmology, Department of Ophthalmology

Dr. Allam graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Saint Joseph University in 2000. She completed four years (2000-04) of residency training in ophthalmology at AUBMC, and a one-year fellowship in Vitreoretinal Surgery at the University of Virginia (between 2006 and 2008). Dr. Allam has been in private practice at several hospitals and medical centers in Lebanon, and her name appears in seven peer-reviewed journal articles. Dr. Allam will add
valuable expertise to the clinical services of AUBMC and its affiliate Keserwan Medical Center (KMC), and will be participating in the teaching and research activities of the department.

**Dr. Hazem Assi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine**

Dr. Assi graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Lebanese University (1991-99), completed five years of residency and fellowship training in Medical Oncology at Paris XIII University (1999-2004), and a one-year research fellowship at Gustav Roussy Institute and Paris XI University (2003-04). He served as Medical Oncology Consultant, Chief Division of Hematology-Oncology, and Medical Director of Hematology-Oncology at The Moncton Hospital in Canada beginning in 2004, and as Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University in Canada as of July 2010. He has solid experience in medical oncology, as well as in conducting clinical trials, adding value to the clinical and patient care services at the Naef K. Basile Cancer Institute at AUBMC, and to the teaching, research and clinical activities of the Department of Internal Medicine.

**Dr. George Bikhazi, Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and Chair, Department of Anesthesiology**

Dr. Bikhazi has been appointed Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology effective July 1, 2014. He graduated with a MD degree from AUB in 1971, completed two years of residency training in Anesthesiology (1971-73) at AUBMC, one year of residency training in Anesthesiology (1973-74) at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, and one year of fellowship in Pediatric Anesthesiology and Intensive Care (1974-75) at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Bikhazi has been certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology since 1977, and a fellow of the American College of Anesthesiologists since 1975. Appointed a member of the Department of Anesthesiology at St. Jude Children’s Cancer Center in 2002, he served as Acting Chief (2005-06) and continued to serve as Chief of the Division of Anesthesiology until joining AUBMC.

**Dr. Dina Chamsy, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**

Dr. Chamsy graduated with the Doctor of Medicine from AUB (2007), completed a one-year internship in Obstetrics and Gynecology at AUBMC (2007-08), four years of residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Parkland Hospital (2008-12), two years of fellowship in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery at the University of Pittsburg Medical Center (2012-14), and one year of training in Clinical Research at the University of Pittsburg (2013-14). She is eligible for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Chamsy will be involved in teaching medical students and residents, and will contribute to the research and clinical activities of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at AUBMC and affiliated institutions.
Dr. Ralphe Bou Chebel, Assistant Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine, Department of Emergency Medicine
Dr. Chebel received a Doctor of Medicine from AUB in 2011 and completed three years (2011-14) of residency training in Emergency Medicine, including one year as chief resident, at the Henry Ford Hospital of Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Michigan. He will provide support to address the growing clinical service workload in the Emergency Room at AUBMC, and will contribute to the undergraduate and post-graduate training programs, and to the research activities of the department.

Dr. Amir Ibrahim, Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery), Department of Surgery
Dr. Ibrahim received a MD degree from the University of Pisa, Italy in 2004. He completed a one-year rotating internship in Lebanon at Youssef Medical Center, St. Georges Medical Center, and Centre Hopitalier de Nord (2005-06), six years of residency training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at AUBMC (2006-12), one year of fellowship in Burn Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital and Shriners Burn Hospital for Children (2012-13), and one year of fellowship in Reconstructive Microsurgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center (2013-14) in Houston. Dr. Ibrahim’s appointment adds value to the clinical services at AUBMC, and he will be participating in the teaching, research, and clinical services of the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Ghina Ismail, Instructor of Clinical Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry
Dr. Ismail graduated with the degree of Doctor of Psychology from James Madison University in Canada in 2008. She served as Clinical Psychologist at the Ministry of Children and Youth in Ontario (2008-10), at the Regional Treatment Centre in Ontario (2010-12), and at Lakeridge Health Eating Disorders Program (2012-present). She also served as Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department of Queen's University (2011-12), and undertook part-time assignments with community and private practice clinics including Family Service Thames Valley (2008-09) and Rosanne Field & Associates (2008-09). Dr. Ismail has a rich experience in clinical psychology and psychotherapy, will be adding value to the clinical and patient care services for inpatient and outpatient psychiatry, and will be involved in the teaching, research and clinical activities of the Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Nada B. Lawand, Assistant Professor of Neurology, Department of Neurology
Dr. Lawand, an alumna of AUB, holds a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston (2000). She completed a four-year postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. William D. Willis; her research focused on the cortical mechanisms of inflammatory pain. She then joined the Department of Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences as an adjunct instructor where she taught neuroscience to graduate and medical students. In 2010, she joined the Department of Arts and Sciences in Strayer University, and in 2011 she became Associate Campus Dean of Strayer University in Little Rock. Dr. Lawand will contribute to teaching basic neuroscience to students in their preclinical and clinical years, and to research activities at the Abu Haidar Neuroscience
Institute (AHNI), the Department of Neurology, and the Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiology.

**Dr. Achraf Makki, Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology, Department of Neurology**
Dr. Makki received a MS in Neuroscience in (1997), and a MD (2001) from AUB. Subsequently, he completed at Emory University in Atlanta a one-year internship in Internal Medicine (2002-03), three years of residency in Neurology (2003-06), a one-year fellowship in Neuromuscular Medicine/Electrophysiology (2006-07), and a one-year fellowship in Pediatric Neurology (2007-08). He is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Clinical Neurophysiology, Vascular Neurology, and Pain Medicine. Dr. Makki has been a practicing neurologist and managing partner of the Brain and Spine Center in Panama City, Florida since 2008, and has served as the Director of Stroke Center for Excellence at the Gulf Coast Medical Center in Panama City since 2011. His name appears in five journal publications, three as first author, and in eight book chapters. Given his experience and certification in multiple neurology disciplines, Dr. Makki brings valuable expertise to AUB and broadens the spectrum of the clinical services at both AUBMC and its affiliate Keserwan Medical Center (KMC). In addition, he will be involved in curricular teaching of medical students, as well as in training neurology residents and fellows.

**Dr. Eman Sbaity, Instructor of Clinical Surgery, Department of Surgery**
Dr. Sbaity graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Beirut Arab University in 2005. Subsequently, she completed five years of residency in general surgery at AUBMC (2005-10), one year of fellowship in Surgery, Surgical Oncology of the Breast at Johns Hopkins University (2010-11), and one year of training as an International Surgical Oncology Fellow at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (2012-13) in New York. She has authored/coauthored eight publications in peer-reviewed journals. In private practice since 2013, Dr. Sbaity has solid training in surgical oncology, and will be an added value to AUBMC in the teaching, research, and clinical activities of the Department of Surgery.

**Dr. Nicolas Zouain, Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiation Oncology, Department of Radiation Oncology**
Dr. Zouain graduated with a Doctor of Medicine from Saint Joseph University in 1998. He completed three years of residency training in Internal Medicine (1998-2001) and one year as Chief Resident in Internal Medicine (2001-02) at Staten Island University Hospital in New York, and three years of residency training in Radiation Oncology (2002-05) at Université de Montréal. He was then appointed: Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Roger Maris Cancer Center, Sanford Health Systems (2005-09) in Fargo, North Dakota; Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of North Dakota (2008-present); and Radiation Oncology Consultant at Premiere Oncology and at Physicians Regional Healthcare System (2009-present), both in Naples, Florida. Dr. Zouain is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and by the American Board of Radiology-Radiation Oncology. His name appears in seven peer-reviewed journals. Dr.
Zouain brings additional expertise to the clinical services of AUBMC, and will actively contribute to the teaching and training of residents, and to research activities.

**Rafic Hariri School of Nursing**

**Tamar Avedissian, Clinical Instructor**
Ms. Avedissian holds a BS in Nursing, and has worked at AUBMC as a registered nurse on the Adult Medical-Surgical and Pediatric Units for six years. During those years, she finished her master’s degree from AUB in Nursing Administration and completed her residency training in the Human Resources Department of AUBMC. She gained professional experience working as a Research Assistant and as a Community School Health Nurse. Throughout her work experience, she has attended and presented several workshops, and has been actively involved on different committees in service to the institutions at which she worked. In addition to being involved in teaching theory and clinical practice, Avedissian is interested in issues and actions related to national health policy change. Her research topics of interest are post-operative pain management, community health education, and quality of nursing care improvement.

**Talin Gulgulian, Clinical Instructor**
Ms. Gulgulian’s research interests are focused on needs assessment of different populations mainly neonates and pediatrics to affect outcomes in healthcare management and to nationally validate the role of the community health nurse. She received both her BS in Nursing and MS in Community Health Nursing from AUB. Gulgulian completed residency training for her graduate studies focused on both pediatric populations and adult chronic disease management at the Community Case Management Program of Poudre Valley Health System in Fort Collins, Colorado. She has served AUBMC for 12 years as a RN in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and since 2012 as a clinical educator for pediatric critical care and outpatient services. A member of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN), she has in depth experience in resuscitative training as an American Heart Association (AHA) Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor and Neonatal Resuscitation Program Instructor. A strong advocate for quality health care, Gulgulian was recognized for her commitment to fostering a culture that promotes health education and excellence with a President’s Service Excellence Award in 2005.

**Silva Dakessian Sailian, Clinical Instructor**
Ms. Sailian holds a BS in Nursing and Master of Public Health from AUB, both awarded with distinction. She gained work experience as a registered nurse in the Coronary Care Unit at AUBMC, and has occupied professional posts in multinational pharmaceutical companies as well as in non-governmental organizations in Beirut. In the past five years, she taught medical-surgical and critical care nursing courses at the University of Balamand in Beirut, and has supervised students in their rotations facilitating their acquisition of clinical skills. She has presented in a number of workshops targeting community or staff nurses in North Lebanon and in Beirut on issues related to triage, critical thinking in nursing, and special considerations of
the older adult with cancer. Sailian is a member of the Order of Nurses in Lebanon, and a participant in the Lebanese Colloquium examination committee.

Suliman S. Olayan School of Business

Dr. Said Elfakhani, Professor of Finance, FAME (Finance, Accounting, and Managerial Economics)
Dr. Elfakhani’s current research interests include emerging markets’ performance, market anomalies and disturbances, portfolio performance, mutual funds performance, dividend policy, listing of derivatives, and Islamic finance. He is the former Associate Dean (2000-07) and Finance Track Convener (2000-05) at the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB). Prior to re-joining AUB, Elfakhani was a professor and dean at LAU (2011-14), and held the Harvey R. Wickes Chair in International Business at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan (2007-11). He previously taught at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada, and held visiting appointments at ISU-Indiana, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Saudi Arabia, and University of Texas (UT) Dallas. He has published numerous papers in major international refereed journals, presented academic papers in various countries, and written for leading business magazines. Elfakhani holds a BBA from the Lebanese University, an MBA from UT Arlington, and an MSc and PhD in finance from UT Dallas.

Dr. Rida Elias, Assistant Professor, MME (Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship)
Dr. Elias’s research interests are in the areas of CEO succession, sensemaking, and learning, with current work focused on executives’ learning and how it is affected by a designation of “heir apparent”. The overarching goal of her work is to help organizations and their boards improve their CEO succession practices. At AUB, Elias will be teaching Advanced Topic in Organizational Behavior. She was recognized as Outstanding Reviewer in 2010 and 2012 by the Academy of Management, and her thesis was awarded the 2013 Robert Bertram Doctoral Research Award ($15,000) in Canada. Elias has presented her work and chaired sessions at a number of conferences in the management field. She received a BBA with honors from the University of Balamand, an MBA from AUB, and a PhD in general management and strategy from Ivey Business School of Western University in Canada.

Dr. Bassam Farah, Assistant Professor, MME (Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship)
Dr. Farah’s research and teaching interests include international strategy, governance, and leadership as well as research methods and statistics. He has previously taught management, marketing, and accounting courses and has been hosted on various Lebanese TV channels and radio stations. He earned a BA in Psychology and an MBA from AUB, a master’s and a PhD in Psychology from the Lebanese University, and a PhD in International Business and Strategy from the Ivey Business School of Western University in Canada. He is the co-author of “Chabros International Group,” an Ivey business case that won the 2013 European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) Best Case Award for “MENA Business Cases”. Farah
also co-authored a Wiley *Encyclopedia of Management* section on “International Management Control.”

**Dr. Ahmad Ismail, Associate Professor, FAME (Finance, Accounting, and Managerial Economics)**

Dr. Ismail’s main research interests center on both corporate and behavioral finance, and his work has been cited by leading business schools and by prominent consultancy firms such as Boston Consulting Group. A former executive at HSBC Group with a primary expertise in corporate banking, he has provided professional development and training for senior analysts and executives in leading financial institutions. He developed and offered many finance courses for academic and training purposes at institutions including AUB, Warwick Business School, United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), and the Institute for International Research (IIR) in Dubai and Jeddah. He also held visiting faculty positions at the Loughborough University Business School in the UK since 2002. Ismail has won various research awards such as the Faculty of Business and Economics Best Performance Award for Scholarship in 2011, and the Outstanding Research Award in 2012 and 2013, both from UAEU. He holds an MBA from the University of Hull and a PhD in Finance from the University of Warwick, both in the UK.

**Dr. Jihad Al Okaily, Lecturer, FAME (Finance, Accounting, and Managerial Economics)**

Dr. Al Okaily’s main research interests lie within the fields of corporate governance, financial reporting and auditing. During his doctoral studies, he researched the impact of internal governance mechanisms on earnings management and auditor remuneration following the global financial crisis. He taught a variety of accounting courses and seminars during his graduate and postgraduate studies, and at Durham University delivered Webinars and provided online tutoring for the Executive MA and Global MBA programs in the Centre for Global Learning and Executive Education. In addition to his academic work, Al Okaily worked at Ernst & Young as an auditor, and is a holder of the Internal Audit Education Partnership Certificate from the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). Al Okaily received an MBA degree from the Lebanese American University (LAU), and is a PhD candidate (anticipated 2014) at Durham University Business School in the UK.