

IBSAR, Center for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Futures

Director: Salma N. Talhouk, Professor, Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management

AUB Faculty with Membership in IBSAR

Barbour, Elie, PhD	Professor; Animal and Veterinary Sciences (FAFS)
Batal, Malek, PhD	Assistant Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)
Bouhadir, Kamal, PhD	Associate Professor; Chemistry (FAS)
Chaaban, Jad, PhD	Assistant Professor, Economics (FAS)
Darwiche, Nadine, PhD	Associate Professor; Biology (FAS)
El-Sabban, Marwan, PhD	Professor; Human Morphology (FM)
Hamadeh, Shady, PhD	Professor; Animal and Veterinary Sciences (FAFS)
Houmaidan, Fadia, PhD	Associate Professor; Physiology (FM)
Hwalla, Nahla, PhD	Dean FAFS and Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)
Jamali, Dima, PhD	Assistant Professor; Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship (OSB)
Knio, Khouzama, PhD	Associate Professor; Biology (FAS)
Makdisi, Karim, PhD	Assistant Professor; Political Studies and Public Administration (FAS)
Makhzoumi, Jala, PhD	Associate Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)
Mohtaseb, Hala, PhD	Chairperson of Biology Department and Professor; Biology (FAS)
Obeid Omar, PhD	Associate Professor, Nutrition and Food Science
Olabi, Ammar, PhD	Assistant Professor, Nutrition and Food Science
Rubeiz, Nelly, MD	Clinical Associate Professor; Dermatology (FM)
Saab, Basim, MD	Associate Professor; Family Medicine (FM)
Saliba Aoun, Najat, PhD	Assistant Professor; Chemistry (FAS)
Talhouk, Rabih, PhD	Professor; Biology (FAS)
Talhouk, Salma, PhD	Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)
Zurayk, Rami, PhD	Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)

Advisory Board Members

Maunder, Mike, PhD, Chairperson of the Board	Director, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, USA
Chang Diaz, Franklin, PhD	Chairman and CEO of Ad Astra
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Haydar, Simon, PhD	Principal Investigator, Wyeth Pharmaceutical Neuroscience Division, Princeton USA
Kerr, Ann Z.	Fulbright Coordinator, UCLA International Institute and Member of Board of Trustees of AUB
Nasser, Walid Abdallah	Lawyer, Walid Nasser and Associates
Wink, Michael, PhD	Dean of Research, Faculty of Life Sciences Heidelberg University, Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology
Zaglul, José, PhD	President, EARTH University, Costa Rica

Introduction

Established in 2002, IBSAR is an interfaculty center with a mission to promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity in arid and Mediterranean regions by providing an open academic platform for innovative research and development.

IBSAR's objectives are to link biological, ecological, social, economic, and cultural disciplines to generate new knowledge and publish information that is useful to society and that provides it with direction and tools for effective nature conservation and use. It achieves these objectives by:

- Conducting basic and applied research.
- Fostering collaboration among different sectors.
- Guiding policy and legislation.
- Exploring and developing economic opportunities for the sustainable use of biodiversity.

Membership and Administration

IBSAR is an academic platform and membership is open to all AUB faculty members, undergraduate and graduate students, junior scientists, and student clubs and societies.

The center is managed by a director and three committees whose members are appointed by election. The mission and objectives of these committees have been designed to ensure diversity and synergism within the center:

- The executive committee is responsible for coordinating the work of the center and providing guidance to its committees. It is also in charge of fundraising.
- The research committee is responsible for the cultivation of research activities, and encourages those leading to patentable innovations.

- The outreach committee disseminates information to society at large and organizes activities that highlight the economic, social, and cultural value of biodiversity for communities.

In addition to coordinating with the appropriate University administrators and an International Advisory Board, IBSAR works with the business community, with governments and NGOs at the national, regional, and international levels.