AUB Nature Conservation Center (NCC)

Director: Saliba Aoun, Najat, Professor, Chemistry Department

AUB Faculty with Membership in IBSAR

Abiad, Mohammad, PhD Assistant Professor; Agribusiness, (FAFS)
Al Sayed, Amani Instructor, English (FAS)
Al Zein, Mohammad Instructor, Biology (FAS)
Alameddine, Mohammad Assistant Professor, (FHS)
Arakji, Reina Assistant Professor, (OSB)
Barbour, Elie, PhD Chairperson and Professor; Animal and Veterinary Sciences (FAFS)
Bibi, Karma, Instructor, Sociology and Anthropology, (FAS)
Bouhadir, Kamal, PhD Associate Professor; Chemistry (FAS)
Chaaban, Jad, PhD Assistant Professor; Economics (FAS)
Chalak, Ali, PhD Assistant Professor; Agribusiness, (FAFS)
Choueiri, Lina, PhD Associate Professor, English (FAS)
Dajani, Nabil, PhD Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, (FAS)
Darwiche, Nadine, PhD Professor; Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (FM)
Dib, Nelly Instructor; Philosophy (FAS)
Dimechkie, Riad Director of EMBA(OSB)
El-Sabban, Marwan, PhD Professor; Human Morphology (FM)
Feghali, Antoine, PhD Assistant Professor and Co-Director, Business Information and Decision Systems Track (OSB)
Ghaddar, Tarek, PhD Associate Professor, Chemistry Department
Ghaibeh, Lina, Assistant Professor; Architecture and Design (FEA)
Ghattas, Hala, PhD Assistant Professor; Nutrition (FAFS)
Habib, Rima, PhD Associate Professor, Environmental Health (FHS)
Harb, Charles, PhD Chairperson and Associate Professor, Psychology, (FAS)
Homaidan, Fadia, PhD Director of Grants and Contracts, Associate Professor; Physiology (FM)
Hwalla, Nahla, PhD Dean and Professor; Nutrition and Food Sciences (FAFS)
Jaaloul, Diana, PhD Assistant Professor, Biology, (FAS)
Kaisi, Samira, PhD Managing Director, Molecular and Cellular Medicine, (FM)
Kassaify, Zeina, PhD Assistant Professor; Nutrition and Food Sciences (FAFS)
Khayat, Munira, PhD Visiting Assistant Professor; Social and Behavioral Sciences (FAS)
Mabsout, Mounir, PhD Professor, Civil Engineering (FEA)
Makdisi, Karim, PhD Associate Professor; Political Studies and Public Administration (FAS)
Makhzoumi, Jala, PhD  Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)

Massoud, May, PhD  Associate Professor, Environmental Health, (FHS)

Melki, Jad, PhD  Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, (FAS)

Mohtaseb, Hala, PhD  Professor; Biology (FAS)

Mouneimne, Youssef, PhD  Director of K.A.S. Central Research Science Laboratory (FAS)

Naja, Farah, PhD  Assistant Professor, Nutrition and Food Sciences (FAFS)

Obeid Omar, PhD  Associate Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)

Olabi, Ammar, PhD  Assistant Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)

Osta, Mike, PhD  Assistant Professor, Biology (FAS)

Rubeiz, Nelly, MD  Clinical Associate Professor; Dermatology (FM)

Salha, Neville  Assistant Professor; Fine Arts and History (FAS)

Saliba Aoun, Najat, PhD  Associate Professor; Chemistry (FAS)

Sinno, Nada, PhD  Lecturer, Biology (FAS)

Talhouk, Rabih, PhD  Professor; Biology (FAS)

Talhouk, Salma, PhD  Chairperson and Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management Department (FAFS)

Turkiyyah, George  Professor; Computer Science, (FAS)

Yazbeck, Mariana, PhD  Lecturer, 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

Hallab, Abdel Hamid, PhD  Special Adviser to AUB President, Regional External Programs

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

Urtti, Arto, PhD  Professor, Bio-pharmaceutics, University of Helsinki, Finland

Vuorela, Heikki, Phd  Professor, Pharmaceutical Biology, University of Helsinki, Finland

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, Member of Board of Trustees of AUB
Introduction

Established in 2002, The Nature Conservation Center 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.

The Center’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 Governance

The AUB Nature Conservation Center consists of volunteers committed to collaborative learning and discovery. Membership includes AUB faculty and staff members and other scholars whose interests focus on Biodiversity and Nature related issues. The Center is a platform for scholars at all stages in their careers and from all parts of the world to exchange ideas and information. The Center’s members take part in seminars and activities as well as provide assistance to researchers and students. These individuals are categorized as Members, Associates, Assistants, Affiliates, Volunteers, Interns or Friends of the Center.

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 Advisory Board is responsible for giving advice on the Center’s vision, projects, programs, and future directions. It is also responsible for promoting the Nature Conservation Center to the general community, and to public and private Institutions, as well as helping and facilitating fundraising.

• 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.

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