Celebrating Old and New
The launch of AUB’s 150th anniversary, and the inauguration of Fadlo R. Khuri

Revitalizing Old Fes
Architecture students visit Morocco to help revitalize an ancient city

Searching for the Edge of the Universe
George Helou (BS ‘75) life as a pioneering astronomer
Aiducation.

Sevana Sarraf, physics major and Farouk K. Jabre scholar at AUB, found her passion on the television screen when she was 13 years old. “I saw a physicist on the Discovery Channel talking about time travel and was just captivated,” she says. She fixed her sights on AUB early, influenced partly by her father, an AUB alumnus, and applied to no other school. She has since completed a year’s worth of physics coursework and joined AUB’s track and field team. In a bid to boost her public speaking skills, she also joined Toastmasters. She hopes to host a “robotics exhibition” on campus and transform the Lee Observatory into a “light museum” for the 150th anniversary celebrations. She finds herself reaping the rewards of hard work and determination. “After all the financial battles and challenges I have faced in my life,” she says, “I am finally exactly where I always wanted to be.”
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Searching for the Edge of the Universe  
George Helou (BS ’75) Life as a pioneering astronomer
As we launched our 150th anniversary celebrations in January, I outlined a vision to help place AUB at the center of meaningful, service-oriented knowledge generation in the Arab world. The University’s role has always been to educate young women and men to lead, build, heal, teach, and become ambassadors for values that are the bedrock of an open and just society. This was as true of the first graduating class of 1870 as it is the Class of 2016.

The best way to widen our sphere of impact is by providing the most promising young scholars, many from the most underrepresented and under-resourced parts of the Arab world, with the means to study at AUB. Whether through scholarship programs, low-interest loans, or debt clearance, we must guard against becoming a university that is economically elite rather than intellectually elite. The more diverse our student body, the better we can truly and transformatively serve the needs of this region—through our curriculum, our research, and the important work our graduates go on to do.

In order to accomplish this, we must meaningfully grow our endowment. And it is not only financial aid programs that stand to benefit: Physical infrastructure will be updated to reflect the boldness of our research aims, the excellence of our educational programs, and the unparalleled quality of cutting-edge patient care at AUBMC. State-of-the-art facilities and funding for risk-taking research, along with the reinstatement of academic tenure, will provide critical support to our outstanding faculty and make us more competitive in the recruitment of the most accomplished scholars and professionals.

AUB owes its existence to a special confluence of cultures and events that could only exist in this part of the world. But today the region is in turmoil. Humanitarian crises in Syria and elsewhere require total commitment from everyone who has the capacity to help. AUB has that capacity, more, perhaps, than any other institution in the region. My goal for this University is to focus the abundance of knowledge, skills, and civic-mindedness, which we are famous for, to create solutions that make a difference in the lives of the larger community which is desperate for our help.

Finally, as a nonprofit educational provider, it is essential to remember the task which thousands of families have entrusted us with for 150 years: enriching the minds and horizons of their children. Everyone connected to AUB—administration, faculty, staff, students, alumni, friends, and supporters—has something to contribute to this mission. I know we can reach our ambitious goals when we all work together in a focused and impactful manner. I look forward with boundless enthusiasm, energy and commitment to striving along this challenging path with all of you.

Fadlo R. Khuri
President
Dear MainGate readers,

Welcome to the first of MainGate’s three special issues commemorating AUB’s 150th anniversary! We’ve added a new section featuring highlights from the Jafet Library archives. In this issue, discover the first 50 years of our history through an illustrated timeline, stories of some of our earliest AUB couples, excerpts from some of the first student publications, and a photo essay highlighting the newly renovated Main Gate. Particular thanks are due to the University Archives for their assistance in helping us to uncover and share so many treasures.

This first commemorative issue also marks a personal landmark: After 10 years, this issue is my last as editor, as I take on a new job as director of the Debs Center in New York, and assistant secretary of the University. I’m grateful to the professors, staff, alumni, and friends who have always been so generous with their time and extraordinary stories. I’d also like to thank our talented writers, the AUB design team, and Nour Kanafani (BGD ’97) and his team at Communication Design for their work on this magazine, the 150th logo, and the 150th visual campaign featured all over campus.

This year, we celebrate not only the past, but also the present. The inauguration of President Fadlo R. Khuri, AUB’s 16th president, and launch of the 150th anniversary, come to life in these pages. We follow Professor Salma Damluji and her students as they immerse themselves in the architecture of UNESCO world heritage site Fes el Bali in Morocco. And we visit Lebanon’s busiest emergency room at AUBMC as it continues to innovate and excel.

Expect great things from MainGate!

Ada H. Porter
The campus is in full blown 150th celebration mode!

This 150th statue on the College Hall plaza is the new favorite place to gather for photos at AUB.
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Published & Produced

ART

CURRENT POWER IN SYRIA

The 6th Marrakech Biennale, February 24 - May 8, 2016

A project by Sijil, a multi-disciplinary collective whose members include Khaled Malas (BAR '05), Salim AlKadi (BAR '04), Alfred Tarazi (BGD '04), and Jana Traboulsi (BGD '00).

Sijil has produced a book describing five distinct periods in the history of electricity production in Syria, along with an art installation showing the growth of the Syrian power grid over time. Through their research, they helped support the construction of windmills in the besieged Damascus suburb of Ghouta, where ongoing hostilities have adversely affected the power supply.

Celebrating AUB’s 150th!

March

1 Exhibition
“The Arab Nude: The Artist as Awakener,” Exhibition and International Conference
AUB Art Galleries

2 Book Launch
AUB One Hundred and Fifty

2 – 4 Conference
City Debates (Architecture and Graphic Design Department)

8 Concert
AUB Music Club Recital
Guy Manoukian and orchestra performing Zaki Nassif with young stars
Zaki Nassif Program for Music

April

18 – 19 Concert
AUB Choir and Choral Society
Spring Concert

22 – 23 Special Event
FAS 150—A two-day celebration to mark the 150th anniversary of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences with distinguished speakers, symposia, exhibitions, a concert by opera singer Rima Tawil, and a gala dinner

May

1 Community Event
Bliss Street Fair and Exhibition: Ras Beirut in 150 years

5 – 7 Conference
Books in Motion: Exploring Concepts of Mobility in Cross-cultural Studies of the Book

7 Concert
Winners of Zaki Nassif’s Centennial School Choir Competition

14 – 15 Cultural Event
Folk Dance Festival
Student Affairs

18 Exhibition
AUB Archaeological Excavations through History

21 – 22 Outdoors Festival

Cultural Events

March – May 2016
Events are subject to change. For the latest information and event details, visit: www.aub.edu.lb/150
**Written Word**

1. *Decoding*
   - *Decoding* by Lina Farra (BBA ’83) (AuthorHouse, 2015) is a photographic exploration of the world produced over 12 years and across 22 different countries, which focuses on our common humanity and the effect of digital technology on the human spirit. Farra, a marketing professional, concludes that increased reliance on digital technology has failed to dampen that spirit.

2. *Paris along the Nile: Architecture in Cairo from the Belle Epoque*
   - *Paris along the Nile: Architecture in Cairo from the Belle Epoque* (American University of Cairo Press, 1999, 2015) by Cynthia Myntti, PhD (MA ’74). Myntti examines Cairene architecture through old photographs, taking us through the building boom that began in Cairo in the 1870s.

3. *The Church Bell on Sunday*
   - *The Church Bell on Sunday* (2014, DarNelson) by Suhail Bulos (BA ’46, MD ’50) is a personal memoir that tells a poignant story of longing for a lost home. Bulos traces his family’s history in Palestine back to 1740, when his Christian ancestors migrated from Syria to Galilee. After retiring from a 47-year career as an orthopedic surgeon and professor at AUBMC, Bulos concentrated on his love for writing. He is the author of *Land of Dreams* (2013, Dar Nelson), and *Rue du Mexique and Other Stories* (2010, Rimal).

4. *Book of Noble Character, Excellent Conduct, Admirable Descriptions, and Curious Similes*
   - *Book of Noble Character, Excellent Conduct, Admirable Descriptions, and Curious Similes* (Brill, 2015) edited by Bilal Orfali, PhD (BS ’00, BA ’01, MA ’03) and Ramzi Baalbaki, PhD (BA ’73, MA ’75). This critical Arabic text edition of *K. Makārim al-akhlāq wa-mahāsin al-ādāb wa-badā‘i al-awsāf wa-gharā‘ib al-tashbīhāt* is a substantial work of adab (Islamic etiquette) attributed to the prominent literary figure Abū Manūr al-Tha‘ālibī (d. 429/1039). Filled with quotes and proverbs, this text is, in essence, an anthology of writing on good conduct, reflecting on adab’s three ingredients: behavior, literary culture, and learning. The book is dedicated to the late AUB professor Sami Makarem (1931-2012).
On January 25 and 26, AUB celebrated the launch of its 150th anniversary and inaugurated its 16th president, Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri, before an audience of distinguished guests, alumni and friends of the University coming from around the globe. The ceremony’s full program included rousing speeches, compelling exhibits and videos, thought-provoking symposia, and a gala dinner at Biel attended by nearly 800 guests. Together, the community looked back with tremendous pride and forward with great hope and renewed determination.

Inauguration

“The significance of AUB in its 150th year cannot be overstated. We are learning the lessons of the past, while setting our sights on the future. One thing has not changed since Daniel Bliss founded AUB in 1866: we are determined to make an impact—on knowledge, and on society [...]”

President Fadlo R. Khuri

“Education is the key to our success as a people, and our survival as a country, and the American University of Beirut is a historic cradle of education that has played a distinct role in Lebanon, the region, and the world [...]”

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Bermans J. Iskandar
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
**Presidential Symposia**

**DEFINING MOMENTS AT AUB: MEMORIES OF THE PAST, REFLECTIONS ON THE FUTURE**

“We’re supposed to be engaging students critically, culturally, morally, to give them a chance to become genuine good citizens of the world.”

Associate Professor Bana Bashour, Department of Philosophy

“AUB is a magnet for people with a sense of purpose.”

Associate Professor of Clinical Specialty, Emergency Medicine, Eveline Hitti, MD

**HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REGION: BETWEEN INTERNATIONALIZATION AND LOCAL RELEVANCE**

“In an ideal world governments, the enterprise sector, and universities would form a very solid, mutually reinforcing triangle.”

Former AUB President
John Waterbury

“[Our strategy has been] to consistently balance local and international communities, and at the same time to really respect existing culture, traditions, and values.”

Effat University President
Haifa Jamal Al Lail,
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

“In the Arab and African regions, universities are very young—hardly 50 years old—so they need [guidance]... AUB is now 150 years old and having been through many stages of development [is well positioned] to help...Unless we have [such] centers of excellence in the Arab World, we cannot expect much collaboration between universities.”

Ahfad University of Women President
Gasim Badri (BA ’68, MA ’71), Sudan
“I am pleased to announce that AUBMC has commenced planning on a genomic Center of Excellence... We aim to provide the best in class diagnostic information to our practicing oncologists.”

Mohamed H. Sayegh, AUB Executive Vice President for Medicine and Global Strategy

“I’m hesitant to apply American epidemiology in another country... [In reference to breast cancer] We do need a good screening for younger women. The problem is that mammography is not that test.”

Otis Brawley, Chief Medical Officer, American Cancer Society

“We have established a research data registry, a tumor and DNA biorepository, and the familial cancer registry which will hopefully allow us to have some genomic insights into our patient population in the very near future.”

Raya Saab (BS ’95, MD ’99), AUB Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Research, Children’s Cancer Institute

“Among Fadlo’s major scientific achievements when working with us at MD Anderson was developing a primary chemotherapy for laryngeal cancer, eliminating the need for radiation or surgery and, thereby, saving the voice box.”

Waun Ki Hong, Head, Division of Cancer Medicine University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
150th Launch and Inauguration Gala at Biel

1. Check-in at Biel
2. Chairman Khoury and President Khuri get ready to cut the 150th cake
3. Tango Apasionado
4. Biel
5. 150th Gala Dinner speakers: Ali Taher, AUB Professor of Medicine, Hematology and Oncology; Reem Acra representative Zeina Hachem Beik; Helen Sader, AUB Professor of History and Archaeology; Charlotte Karam, AUB Associate Professor of Organizational Behavior; Dr. Thomas Q. Morris, AUB Chairman Emeritus; Omar Talhouk representing AUB Chairman Emeritus Dr. Richard Debs; Mona Harb, AUB Professor of Urban Studies and Politics; Jihad Touma, AUB Professor of Astrophysics; Huda Zurayk, AUB Professor of Epidemiology and Population Health; and Habib Haddad, co-founder and CEO of Wamda.
6. Lina Jazi and Wael Chehab
7. Guests take selfies in front of the 150th timeline.
1. The Biet tables
2. Soumaya Khuri
3. Trustee Maher Mikati and his wife Dana
4. President Fadlo and Lamya Khuri with singer Majida El Roumi (DHL ‘09)
5. Fouad Bawarshi, Mona Bawarshi, Mufid Beydoun
6. Mariam Said and Nadim Cortas
7. President Fadlo Khuri with wife Lamya, and children Rayya, Raja and Layla

Watch the inauguration, symposia, and other 150th related events on AUB Youtube:

https://www.youtube.com/user/AUBatLebanon

Inauguration of AUB’s 16th president, Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri - January 25
Presidential Symposia, January 25 - 26:
- Defining Moments at AUB: Memories of the Past, Reflections on the Future
- Higher Education in the Region: Between Internationalization and Local Relevance
- Cancer in the Molecular Era: Promise and Prospects
By the Books

Course: Islamic Thought and Modernity

SYLLABUS

Engaging trends in European philosophy and Arabic critical thought, this seminar considers the work of moving between the “inside” and “outside” of “philosophy,” while interrogating Eurocentric conceptions of those limits. It thus opens a trans-schematic critical conversation in which the future of philosophy and a new ethical/political opening toward “the other” are at stake. The goal is to articulate a radical type of critical intervention that could arise from between critical topologies of thought and their mutual displacements. Key thinkers include Heidegger, Derrida, Malabou, Abū Zayd, and ‘Abd al-Rahmān.

Through a series of structured seminar discussions, students will begin to consider the schematic and figurative nature of abstract thought as it relates to conceptions of the universal, the particular, and the meaning of theory itself. We operate in a world in which there is no universal language of abstract thought. We act in response to demands among post-colonial studies scholars and other humanists who call for de-centering the relationship between one particular critical tradition (that of European philosophy) and its others (including, in this case, Arabic critical discourses).

CLASS TIME

Sarah Epstein joined AUB as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Arts and Humanities after completing her doctorate at SOAS, University of London. Her thesis was entitled, “From a ‘Philosophy of the Limit’ to a ‘Poetics of the Horizon’: A Comparative Critical Approach to Language, Subjectivity and Alterity in Poststructuralist Thought and Arabic Critical Discourse.” Her research is in what she has termed “Comparative Critical Thought,” which she is currently exploring through a series of trans-schematic, transformative engagements between European philosophy and Arabic critical thought (classical and modern).
Completed in 1891, Assembly Hall originally served as a chapel. Today this building is a favored venue for concerts, lectures, and meetings. The Hall was built with a $30,000 gift from Elbert B. Monroe, son-in-law of Frederick Marquand. Monroe also provided the original organ and put the chapel equipment in place in time for 1891 commencement.

01 Former AUB Trustee B.D. Eddie donated this organ in 1972. It weighs four tons, twice that of its predecessor. It was built by world-renowned Danish organ builder Marcussen and Son.

02 Electrical and computer major Nour Sayegh is looking out the window to his left.

03 Nadim Rouhana, son of musician and composer Charbel Rouhana, plays the accordion. He took up the instrument five years ago.

04 Industrial engineering major Wissam Housseiki plays the oud. His uncle played the instrument for him as a child and he would go on to study oud at a conservatory for nine years.

05 Rebecca Abou Jaoude plays the ney, an end-blown flute that figures prominently in Middle Eastern Music.

06 Maestro Mike Herro, who joined the Lebanese National Conservatory in 1979, leads the orchestra. He previously served as chief conductor of the Lebanese Army military band and has led the French and Royal Jordanian army bands.

07 These are Zaki Nassif compositions, which the orchestra will be playing.
When I first arrived at AUB, it was January and cold, the campus mostly empty of students. I wandered alone past the Banyan tree and the Ottoman-inspired buildings. I could sense the history but needed someone to tell me the story. Just in front of Assembly Hall, I found the perfect storyteller in the offices of the Visitors Bureau attached to the Main Gate.

Sana Murad, the Bureau’s official public relations officer, greeted me like an old friend. Then, with a twinkle in her eye and wave of her hand, she said, “These are my children.” The faces of her student guides lit up. They proceeded to walk me through campus, setting out the history of every tree and building, connecting me to the AUB community.

Sana has told AUB’s story to countless visitors in the last 20 years. She came to AUB as a student in 1976 but left in the wake of war, only to return and obtain a bachelor’s in public administration in 1989. She then began working for the University, winding her way through several departments before landing at the Visitors Bureau in 1992, where she began to weave AUB’s history on a tapestry she could share with others.

Facts and figures are not her focus, though she knows them. Rather she emphasizes connection, the one between her and her students and between students and their guests. “Shaping the students’ persona is more important than forcing them to memorize dates,” she says. The happier the students, the better the face of AUB, and the more who will want to return.”

The connection Sana creates is so strong that even the exiled come back, not wanting to leave on a bad note. “In all my years, I’ve had to kick out two or three student guides for misbehaving,” she remembers. “And guess what? They cried and begged to return.”

She makes herself available to students day and night and remains in contact with them long after they graduate. “Yesterday I received a call from a student in Saudi Arabia. He now has a three-year-old daughter. He was shocked because I recognized his voice right away!” For this reason, she keeps the same mobile number. In person or on the phone, she advises students on everything from work and study to love and relationships.

Having witnessed the University’s trials through years of strife, Sana exudes bravado and insists her only fear is retirement, which, she promises, won’t happen any time soon. “I’ve been coming here since 1986!” she says. “This is my life!”

Instead of slowing down, she is pushing to expand. She wants to partner with embassies to keep AUB on the radar of new arrivals in Lebanon, so they can experience the same joie de vivre she spreads all over campus.

-E.E.
Faculty and Staff News

A Science Role Model for Women

Dr. Hiba El Hajj, Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Departments of Internal Medicine/Experimental Pathology, Immunology, and Microbiology at AUB, has been awarded the L’Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Levant and Egypt Fellowship Program Award. El Hajj and her team at AUB’s Faculty of Medicine have figured out a way to significantly prolong the lives of patients with two types of leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and adult t-cell leukemia/lymphoma (ATLL). According to UNESCO, the award is given each year to five outstanding women scientists—one per continent—for their research contributions, commitment, and social impact.

Dr. El Hajj cited the award as “a great recognition to a woman’s contribution to the field of medical sciences.” She added, “it gives me great honor to win the prize as an AUB candidate representing Lebanon and to be a role model in the field of medical sciences to many young women.”

Making Capitalism Work for Everyone

Suliman S. Olayan School of Business Professor Dima Jamali was awarded the 2015 Aspen Faculty Pioneer Award this past fall for her work promoting business ethics and corporate social responsibility. The award celebrates educators who demonstrate leadership and risk-taking and develop novel curricula that examine relationships between capital markets, firms, and the public good. Jamali is the only non-US professor to win the award and joins three other recipients from MIT, Harvard, and Northwestern University.

“This is not only recognition of my work, but for my institution, AUB, which has created the space for faculty to leap forward in the domain of sustainability,” Jamali said. “It is great to have the opportunity to touch lives and inspire young minds and future generations towards the goal of creating sustainable patterns of economic and human development that place the needs of people front and center.”

Changing the Climate for the Better

Faculty Research Director at the Climate Change and Environment in the Arab World Program Dr. Nadim Farajalla and Senior Program Coordinator Rana El Hajj, both of AUB’s Issam Fares Institute (IFI) for Public Policy and International Affairs, attended the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris on December 12, 2015 where they advised Lebanese government officials and informed the wider community on the conference proceedings.

Dr. Nadim Farajalla described the tension as the clock wound down: “We started to scale down our expectations. There was a sense of déjà vu from previous inconclusive conferences,” said Farajalla. Then, at 3:00pm, a draft was completed. “It looked better than expected. It wasn’t airtight. Rich countries had wiggle room, but it was an agreement.”

According to Farajalla, the accord is good for Lebanon and other small countries as they will get more funding than expected for developing green infrastructure.

AUB, represented by IFI’s climate change and environment program, has observer status at the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change and has been participating in climate change negotiations as part of the official Lebanese delegation since 2009. As El Hajj notes, “It is part of IFI’s mandate as a policy institute to bridge the gap between research and policy.”

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT.

The winners of the annual Founders’ Day Student Essay Contest: First prize was awarded to senior Nizar Aouad, majoring in Biology in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, for his essay “Legacy of a Titan.” Second prize was awarded to senior Elena Grissom, majoring in English Literature and Political Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, for her essay “A Light, Bright and Steady.”

Last October, AUB’s Computer Science department, in collaboration with TechnoFuture Lebanon, hosted the launching event of the 3rd VEX Robotics Championship in Lebanon. The VEX Robotics Competition is the largest and fastest growing middle and high school robotics program globally with more than 10,000 teams from 33 countries.

The Organic Chemistry Club, the AUB Dabke Club, and the Biology Student Society organized “The Longest Dabke in the History of AUB,” on January 28, 2016, at 2:00 pm, from Bliss Hall to the Medical Gate, in celebration of AUB’s 150th anniversary. The pop star Melhem Zein participated in the event.

In early December, AUB President’s Club produced “Frames of Life / In Time,” a West Hall photography exhibition on AUB campus life from 1866 - 2015.
Discoveries
Research, the arts, and current events

AUB Spaces

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The wonders of Professor Zaher Dawy’s wireless communications lab

Pursuits

19
FEA Associate Professor Daniel Asmar offers a virtual tourism experience; FEA Professor Mutasem Fadel works to prevent saltwater intrusion in Lebanon’s water supply; FAFS Chairperson and Professor Shadi Hamadeh brings urban agriculture to those who need it most

Quiz

21
Truth and trivia; the first 50 years (1866-1916)

Under Discussion

22
Professor of Sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Media Studies Sari Hanafi discusses the challenges of social science research in the Arab world.
Zaher Dawy’s lab, in the basement of the Raymond Ghosn Building, Room 209, looks like a listening station in a well appointed army. It’s filled with cellular drive testing tools, electromagnetic radiation measurement meters, spectrum analyzers, network analyzers, antennae, and fancy mobile devices. Dawy, a professor in AUB’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, uses this equipment for telecommunications research that touches on fields like mobile entertainment and health.

“Right now, we’re working on supporting mobile TV transmission in dense environments using intelligent device-to-device cooperation among users,” Dawy explains. “For example, if a lot of fans in a soccer stadium want to stream real time match info.” With the support of the Qatar National Research Fund, he and his team of undergraduate and graduate students are building a test bed to evaluate ideas. “We are working on how to facilitate high quality video transmission where there is lots of demand,” he says.

Dawy is in the process of getting a channel wireless electroencephalogram (EEG) headset, via NeuroPro, a Swiss brain technology company, which has agreed to buy it for the lab. “We can use it for e-health projects that involve measuring and processing brain signals to provide ambulatory care to patients with neurological disorders,” he says.

Dawy works in the lab from time to time to coordinate ongoing project development and testing activities with his research group. “It’s mostly for students,” he says. “Working with students on real world implementation of new research ideas is an enlightening experience that leads to impactful outcomes.”
Pursuits

Virtual Tourism

Three years ago, we received a grant, co-funded by the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), under a program meant to promote sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean region. That grant allowed us to move forward with an augmented reality tourism project. Working with historians to ensure accuracy, we created an app that superimposes destroyed structures on existing ones when used with an iPhone, iPad, or Google Glass. Tourists standing in front of, for example, the Roman ruins at Byblos will be able to use the app to view those ruins as they existed long ago, before they were ruins. For those who can’t make it to Byblos, we will offer an Oculus Rift experience that transports users to ancient Lebanon via virtual reality headset, thus creating a virtual tourism experience of the kind seen in science fiction. We have done several workshops with the app and Oculus Rift and are waiting until the Directorate General of Antiquities reopens its museum in Byblos to introduce them to the public.

A Saltwater Invasion

With funding from International Development Research Centre of Canada, we are examining saltwater intrusion into fresh groundwater aquifers along the Lebanese coast. The project focuses on understanding the relative impacts of anthropogenic (meaning: caused by humans), geophysical, and climatic factors on the dynamics and intensity of saltwater intrusion, with an eye towards improving the management of aquifers. We are also looking at the socio-economic impact of saltwater intrusion on urban and agricultural environments.

We monitored saltwater intrusion in groundwater over the past four years. We performed a 3D simulation of intrusion processes and studied the relative impacts of various stress factors on the semi-karst Beirut Aquifer. Analysis showed advanced salinization of groundwater aquifers, primarily driven by anthropogenic stresses, along all studied areas. Economic burdens were found to increase as a function of salinity levels; median household expenditure on water rose significantly higher than the worldwide average. As the project concludes, we hope to inform policymakers of appropriate countermeasures.

Urban Gardening

My colleagues and I are working with the Near East Foundation to increase access to food via urban agriculture activities. We are providing 150 families in the neighborhood of Burj Hammoud with urban agriculture kits. These kits come in vertical and horizontal forms. The vertical kit consists of a net stretched over a wooden frame. Plastic bottles are affixed to the net and filled with soil for planting. The horizontal kit consists of plastic crates that can be placed on a balcony or rooftop. Depending on the season and sunlight, they can grow herbs for the kitchen, like mint and sage, or small shrubs, and on the rooftop, they can grow any kind of vegetable.

We are still in the sample-selection phase and, in early 2016, we will distribute kits to 30 households and start monitoring their effect on household fruit and vegetable expenditures. Every couple of months we will distribute more kits until we reach the sample size of 150.
Research focus: The focus of my research is the involvement of two hormones, adiponectin and leptin, in hypertension-induced vascular remodeling. The Lebanese Health Ministry has estimated that one in four Lebanese suffer from hypertension, which can lead to heart attack and stroke. The study relies in vitro and in vivo studies of rats. I induce hypertension in rats by mechanically stretching their blood vessels or with hormones, like angiotensin ii. I then study the expression of proteins in the blood vessels, the contractility of these blood vessels, and the expression of reactive oxygen species. For the in vivo model, we fill osmotic mini-pumps with angiotensin and implant them subcutaneously in rats to induce hypertension. We normally run in vitro tests first, then in vivo ones, which are more robust.

Biggest discovery to date: I found out that inducing hypertension for one hour significantly increases the expression of leptin in vascular smooth muscle cells. Such an increase, after just an hour, is significant. Previous studies showed an increase in leptin in the blood but not in vascular smooth muscle cells. We published these results in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. We showed that leptin was produced by vascular smooth muscle cells.

Implications for research: Right now, I’m doing basic biomedical research. We are trying to see if adiponectin protects against hypertension and associated vascular remodelling.

If effective, we will look for a way to increase adiponectin production or use a compound related to adiponectin that mimics its actions.

How I got here: I entered AUB to study biology, hoping to go into medicine. Towards the end of my sophomore year, I realized I like doing research more than clinical work. I applied to the physiology master’s program immediately after graduation and worked with Professor Asad Zeidan on my master’s thesis. Then they relaunched the PhD program in biomedical engineering, which I entered as one of three students.

What I’ll remember most about AUB: I’ll remember the friendships I’ve made here, the relationships, the hard work I’ve put in. By the time I graduate, I’ll have spent 10 years at AUB.

Best moment of day: Personally, hanging out with my friends. Academically, when I get good research results.
SPC/AUB (1866-1916)
Truth and Trivia from the Timeline of the first 50 years

Match dates to events!

1867  A Year of the first performance of a Shakespearian play in Syria.

1876  B Year of the first organized student protests.

1882  C Year that SPC/AUB's first student center opened.

1890  D Year that Daniel Bliss sailed with his bride Abby Wood Bliss from Boston to Beirut on the 60-foot schooner Sultana.

1909  E Year that SPC/AUB student enrollment reached 875.

1912  F Year of the first medical conference hosted by SPC/AUB.

1913  G Year SPC/AUB awarded its first honorary degrees.

1914  H Year of the first SPC/AUB Staffite.

Legend:
1867 D–The trip took 57 days and was so debilitating for Mrs. Bliss that few people thought she could withstand the hardships of her new life. She thrived, predeceasing her husband by just one year. They are buried side-by-side in the Anglo-American cemetery in Beirut.

1876 H–Joshua B. Crane, then a recent graduate of Brown University, was SPC/AUB's first Staffite. Staffites were recent US college graduates appointed as assistants or tutors on a three-year contract.

1882 B–When SPC/AUB chemistry and geology professor Edwin Lewis acknowledged Charles Darwin as one of the great scientists of his time, he angered the missionary community. Lewis resigned, leading to the first student protest movements, demanding free speech on campus.

1890 G–SPC/AUB awarded its first honorary doctorates to Ya’qub Sarruf (BA 1870) and Faris Nimr (BA 1874), recognizing their pioneering work in journalism, as well as other disciplines.

1912 E–Of the 875: 584 came from Syria, 192 from Egypt, 53 from Asia Minor, 21 from Mesopotamia, 20 from Russia, 17 from Cyprus, and 4 from Abyssinia. Other places represented by one or more students: Siberia, Poland, Persia, Rumania, Macedonia, Greece, Peru, Haiti, and Singapore.

1913 F–In 1913, SPC/AUB held its first medical conference encouraging professionals in the field to network. (AUB hosted the first Middle East Medical Assembly in 1951.)

1914 C–West Hall opened as a facility dedicated to enriching campus life. At the time, it held a billiards table, a roller skating rink, and bowling alleys.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT.

President Khuri was awarded the Scientific and Technological Achievement Award at TAKREEM’s 6th Award Ceremony on November 14, 2015. The award recognizes Dr. Khuri’s efforts to advance research and his impact on care in lung, head, and neck cancers.

In a statement, the National Council for The Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) has honored three academics from AUB with the Kuwait Prize for the years 2014 and 2015: Dr. Gabriel Rebeiz in the field of Engineering Sciences; Dr. Nader El Bizri, in the field of Arabic Sciences and Philosophy; and Dr. Sari Hanafi, in the field of Economics and Social Sciences. The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, presented the internationally peer-refereed prize on behalf of the Foundation.

A new biomarker believed to hold great promise in targeting causes of vascular complications associated with type 1 diabetes has been discovered by researchers from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), the American University of Beirut (AUB), and Case Western Reserve University. Study leader Ayad A. Jaffa, PhD, holds a dual appointment at MUSC and AUB.
The political environment in many Arab countries is not conducive to social science research. Political repression, censorship, and suspicion among religious clerics make the practice of social science difficult. In some cases, social science may recommend policy that directly contradicts fatwas or clerical decrees. Research that might challenge a regime’s basis for legitimacy, such as census-taking, which would reveal the true size of different ethnic and religious groups, is outlawed.

Social scientists rely almost exclusively on public funds, which come in dribs and drabs. Getting funding for projects, especially those tackling sensitive social issues, can be a challenge. The Arab Council for Social Sciences is one of the sole backers of risky, innovative research in the region. In 2012, as the Syrian conflict morphed into total war, the Council backed a study of emergent governance in areas of the country no longer under the Syrian regime’s control.

These are the types of studies we need more of, studies that speak to the region’s particular dynamics as they exist. What we don’t need are more sociological frameworks that support the study of metrics relevant only to outside observers. The social sciences can’t simply be imported like the physical sciences. Rather, there must be organic growth from inside the Arab world.
Giving Old Pills a Second Chance
Repurposing expired pharmaceuticals

The Tranquility of Emergency Medicine
AUBMC leads the way in emergency medicine and care in Lebanon and the region

Check Up
Lara Nasreddine, PhD (BS ’95, ’00) on how the modern diet affects obesity and chronic disease

News
Tackling two challenging health issues in Lebanon: the growing TB crisis among migrants and breast cancer

Sahtein
Oriental beef and grilled halloumi salad
Q. Can you describe food consumption patterns in the Arab world today?
A. Our diets are becoming increasingly energy dense, relying more on fast food, refined grains, and sugar, and departing from traditional patterns based on legumes, whole grains, vegetables, fruits, and olive oil.

When we look at the evidence coming from nutritional studies of the Arab world done by universities and governmental bodies, we can see that fat intake, especially saturated fat from animal products, has risen. At the same time, we are seeing a decrease in total carbohydrate consumption. The source of carbs has also changed: we’re getting less from fruits, vegetables, and legumes, and more from refined grains and sugar.

Q. How have patterns changed? Why? Causes?
A. The department of Nutrition and Food Sciences at AUB has been conducting food consumption surveys in Lebanon since the 1960s, so there is a lot of evidence out there. Surveys from the 1960s describe the diet in Lebanon as plant-based, with a macronutrient breakdown of 60% carbs and 25% fat. This was a Mediterranean type of diet.

Dietary changes picked up speed in the 1970s and 1980s. Take Bliss Street for example. In the 1960s, there were probably no fast food chains or restaurants there. But if you walk there now, it is what you call a typical obesogenic environment. It’s a driving force for weight gain. Fast, low cost, high-calorie foods are everywhere.
We are witnessing a nutrition transition across the entire region. The shift in diet parallels the shift in lifestyle, from traditional to modern. The food market is globalized. Low cost, processed foods are more readily available, and the consequences of their consumption are not well understood by large swaths of the population.

From 2002 to 2003, I conducted a representative food consumption survey of people living in Beirut; 450 people were included in the sample. The survey showed fat intake increasing to 35%. Young people are most vulnerable to this nutrition transition. They embrace the modern lifestyle, from traditional to modern. The shift in diet parallels the shift in lifestyle choices. Interventions at the level of diet should be a priority.

Q. How have food consumption patterns affected health?
Obesity rates have risen in Lebanon and the whole region. The link is very clear. When obesity increases, other chronic diseases increase. As to what causes obesity? It’s a complex question. To simplify: you become obese when you have a chronic energy imbalance. If you constantly choose high fat, high energy foods, you will gain weight. It’s just math. We are eating more in terms of calories and in terms of fat and sugar while we are moving much less; 70% of the population in Lebanon and in the region is considered inactive, meaning they do less than 30 minutes of physical activity a day. Less physical activity on the job and at home and excess body fat adversely affects one’s health, specifically by raising the incidence of cardiovascular diseases, Type 2 Diabetes and some types of cancer. More than 50% of annual deaths in our region come from non-communicable diseases, which can be mitigated through diet and lifestyle choices. Interventions at the level of diet should be a priority.

Q. Any specific challenges to eating healthy in Lebanon/Beirut?
A. I would say the opposite (less challenges). In our culture, we have an embedded structure for a healthy diet that we can and should build upon. We must revive it and not let it erode. The problem is that traditional ways of eating, which are healthy, are eroding.

Q. What measures are currently being taken to address this public health issue? What measures do you recommend on a societal/policy level?
A. Unfortunately, there isn’t much direct action at the national level. We, as a department, the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, have pioneered in providing data on food consumption patterns. We have laid the groundwork for policies. A team of us, including Nahla Hwala, the dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, have developed dietary guidelines for Lebanon and have collaborated with the Ministry of Public Health to disseminate these guidelines. They are divided into 13 different chapters or messages, concerning subjects such as maintaining healthy body weight, consuming a varied and well-balanced diet, and decreasing the intake of salt, sugar and processed meat.

The development of these guidelines is both scientific and culture-specific. We carefully looked at food consumption patterns and diet-related diseases specific to Lebanon prior to the development of these guidelines.

Nutrition has been incorporated into the school curriculum. But I think we are still far from having strong measures to keep healthy food in the cafeteria. We are still timid when it comes to healthy eating policy.

Q. What is the Department doing in terms of advocacy?
A. As nutritionists, it’s our job to raise awareness to help children eat better. We are developing several nutrition education manuals that target different age groups of the population and that provide the proper advice to individuals who seek it. Sometimes we have unqualified people advising people on nutrition, and the department tries to reach the community in order to provide sound, evidence-based dietary recommendations. We advise balance between food groups, variety, moderation, and physical activity. This is the key to achieve, in the simplest terms, a healthy way of living. Don’t rely on restaurants and diners to raise a family or for daily nutrition.

The Department is actually very active in raising awareness via different channels. We organize symposia and conferences, and participate in media-related events. We recently held a conference on early life nutrition because there is increasing evidence showing that eating habits early in life, as early as the pregnancy, play a huge role in determining disease risk later in life. I recently conducted a national nutritional survey of children under five in Lebanon. We saw high obesity in this population, poor rates of exclusive breastfeeding, and high fat intake. These findings highlight important areas for intervention in Lebanon.
Wellness

Dr. Nagi El Saghir, professor of clinical medicine and hematology-oncology at the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), has been awarded the 2015 CNRS Research Excellence Award for “his outstanding contribution to the understanding of breast cancer in young women, genetic mutations, downstaging and improving outcomes of breast cancer patients in Lebanon.” The annual award, granted by the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, recognizes scientists who have excelled in conducting research in different scientific disciplines in Lebanon. The award aims to reinforce research and innovation that responds to the country’s needs.

“It is a great honor for me to be recognized by the CNRS for the cancer research I am doing in Lebanon,” Dr. El Saghir says. “Such recognition is a great stimulus for me and our group to continue our research and to advance it further. Without research, we could not have documented, nor known, that half of breast cancer cases in Lebanon occur in women below the age of 50 and that most women in Lebanon and Arab countries with breast cancer were diagnosed at an advanced stage. And we would not have known what to do to lower these rates. It is because of such research data that we have embarked on studies to learn of the causes of cancer in young women, and we have launched large-scale awareness campaigns that helped reduce the number of cases of advanced breast cancer by detecting the disease at early stages.”

These efforts have been effective. “Our 2014 study showed that there is a recent decrease in advanced breast cancer, with more than 60% of patients now diagnosed as early stage I and stage II,” Dr. El Saghir added. “We showed that we are performing less total mastectomies and more partial mastectomies that conserve women’s breasts; and more than 90% of women with stage I and more than 80% of women with stage II are alive and free of disease after 10 years. Those are excellent results and show that we have changed the face and outcome of breast cancer in Lebanon.”

Confronting Breast Cancer in Lebanon

Drug Araj, professor and director of clinical microbiology, Lina Itani, Supervisor of CML, and Aline Avedissian, specialist in charge of Bacteriology and Mycobacteriology Laboratories, directed the workshop, which was attended by staff from the NTB, the International Organization for Migration, and 15 technicians from all over Lebanon.

“Though Lebanon as a country is ranked low in TB incidence compared with other nations, the fluctuating trends in incidence and increase in drug resistance may be worrisome given the increasing numbers of non-nationals and the influx of Syrian refugees,” Dr. Araj says. “The close and ongoing collaboration among the NTP, HIV program, NGOs, private sector and the Clinical Microbiology Lab at AUBMC has strengthened program activities and constituted the leading dynamic driving force for the control and elimination of TB infection in Lebanon.”

Handling the Growing TB Crisis among Migrants

In the wake of an increase in the number of tuberculosis (TB) cases among the country’s large migrant population, physicians at AUBMC’s Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine conducted a workshop on managing TB specimens, proper diagnosis, and safety measures. The one day workshop was requested by the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health.

Held this past October at the Faculty of Health Sciences, the workshop, titled “Mycobacterial Characteristics and Acid Fast Bacilli Staining,” aimed to assist laboratory technicians at the National Tuberculosis Program (NTB) affiliated laboratories in performing smear microscopy to accurately test for new TB cases. Technicians also learned to monitor the effect of chemotherapy on patients.

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Ziad Abichaker, director of recycling firm Cedar Environmental, believes he has found a solution for the disposal of expired pharmaceuticals in Lebanon. For this, he has enlisted his longtime associate, AUB Professor of Chemical Engineering Walid Saad. Inspired by a US researcher who embedded radioactive substances in polyethylene, Abichaker seeks to embed old pills wrapped in plastic and aluminum foil in walls of polyethylene/polypropylene (reclaimed from municipal waste), which can be used for fencing, emergency shelters, and as “green walls.”

Protocol for the disposal of expired pharma varies by country. In the United States, pharmaceuticals are not designated as hazardous waste. However, the United States Environmental Protection Agency encourages local law enforcement, pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics to run take-back collection programs and make use of hazardous waste combustors. Lebanon classifies expired pharma as hazardous waste but the country lacks treatment facilities. Old medicine either gets dumped in landfills and uncontrolled incinerators or sent back to country of origin at great cost to drug importers.

Experts disagree as to which disposal method will have the highest environmental impact. Some fear trace levels of chemicals could make their way into water systems. Others argue that these concerns are unfounded.

In this environment of regulatory and scientific ambiguity, Abichaker sees an opportunity to make use of expired drugs, minimize environmental impact, and make a profit. If his plan proves safe and cost-effective, he will collect drug importers’ waste, for a fee, and could perhaps capture a share of hazardous municipal waste as well.

Before this project, codenamed GEP (Green Expired Pills), gets off the ground, Abichaker must convince the Ministry of Health of its safety. At his lab in AUB’s newly established Irani Oxy Engineering Complex (IOEC), Saad evaluates the efficacy in stopping chemical seepage. Tests by Saad have confirmed the suitability of this approach and the efficacy of the product design. “Wrapping the pills in ecoboard made it very hard for us to detect any drug, even under accelerated temperature conditions,” says Saad. “We had to crush the pills into powder, disperse it in the Ecoboard, and expose them to harsh conditions to be able to detect any leaching.”

Once the Ministry issues Cedar Environmental a preliminary license, Abichaker and Saad can begin a test run. “We can do a manufacturing run for around one ton of pills. If, after that run, the materials hold up and there’s no leaching, we will get a license,” says Abichaker.
The Tranquility of Emergency Medicine

AUB’s Department of Emergency Medicine creates a calm, collaborative atmosphere by compiling data and giving nurses a voice

You’ve seen the TV shows. You know what hospital emergency rooms look like, sound like, feel like. Anxious family members plead with emotionally distant receptionists in waiting rooms packed with the sick, the wounded, and the terminally ill, while doctors and nurses scurry about, everyone in a panic. In one corner you see the bloodied victim of a gunshot wound; in another a doctor frantically tries to reach a specialist on the phone.

Think again. Walk into the nearly empty waiting room of AUB’s Department of Emergency Medicine (EM) and you’re greeted by a welcoming receptionist. She listens patiently then directs you into the triage room. From there, you’ll be sent to either the High Acuity or Low Acuity Section. Unless you’re a child, in which case you’ll go to the pediatric section.

“We’ve got a ‘door-to-doc’ time of 25 minutes,” AUB EM Chairperson Eveline Hitti says. She goes on to explain that this is only one among many changes that have accompanied the shift from emergency room to Department of Emergency Medicine, a transformation which took place under the auspices of Dr. Amin Kazzi. Dr. Kazzi, past president of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine and EM deputy chief of staff, was brought to AUB specifically to create such a department. Subsequently, Mohamed Sayegh, the Executive Vice President for Medicine and Global Strategy and the Raja N. Khuri Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, has supported ongoing changes in EM infrastructure and organization. “He is a visionary who supported these changes, insisting that we ourselves take ownership of the process,” Dr. Hitti says.

Emergency medicine came into being as an American medical specialty in the 1970s. The difference between EM and traditional emergency care, Dr. Hitti says, goes far beyond a simple name change.

Previously, emergency room staff included a surgeon and a group of residents. If the resident felt knowledgeable enough about the patient’s condition, he or she might prescribe treatment. If not, the resident would try to get in touch with a specialist. The quality of the care one received, Hitti explains, depended to some extent on who was on duty. Working under the newer emergency medicine rubric, patients are treated by attending physicians supported by residents.

“In addition to the change in staffing, we’ve put in place multiple interventions to ensure quality care,” Hitti says. “We want to provide unity of care, any time of day or night, no matter who’s on board when you come in.”

Some of the most significant changes can be seen at the nurses’ station in the high acuity section. Surrounded by curtained-off cubicles, doctors and nurses confer amid the beeps that register patients’ vital signs. Medical staff calmly check the computerized diagnostic tools that provide them with detailed guidance about what they may be dealing with and how to treat it. There’s high energy here, but no panic.

“These are systematized procedures,” Hitti says, “so that, for example, if there’s a heart attack, the physician can go through the checklist of evidence-based responses to conditions, based on best practices.”

In addition to the use of standardized protocols, streamlined EM approaches have transformed the way the institution operates. EM Nursing Manager Rima Jabbour, employed here for 21 years, speaks positively about how her work has changed since the department was created.

“Before, we had many departments and sometimes they competed with each other,” Jabbour says. “Now the competition has disappeared and the doctors and nurses share a common viewpoint about how to work together.”

Nurse Hiba Al Mousawi, who came to AUB a year ago, agrees. “Here you have a team of doctors and nurses,” Al Mousawi says. “At other places it was not so much. Communication here is good. The doctors know they need our help and they get our help.”

“How do you introduce performance evaluations by nurses of doctors?” she asks. “In traditional hierarchies, people are reluctant to give feedback about people in positions of authority. People said, ‘You can’t do that in the Middle East.’ But we insisted that we needed the nurses’ evaluations of the doctors for the safety of the patients. We showed them we could do it.”

As far as the nurses’ performance goes, Nurse Quality Manager Ramzi Mouawad explains that there are a series of Key Performance Indicators that can be used to judge efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness. The premise, he says, is that staff satisfaction leads to patient satisfaction, which in turn reinforces staff satisfaction.

But the department is transforming other areas as well. To ensure that EM is ready for all eventualities, the department has been
developing an Emergency Preparedness Plan. Most of the victims of the 2013 Starco bombing, Hitti says, came to the AUBMC, as did the 70 casualties from the “You Stink” riots this past August.

“We’ve got to be ready for this kind of thing so it doesn’t overwhelm us,” she says. “We already have the busiest department in Lebanon, going from 45,000 patients in 2009 to 53,000 this year. But we’ve got to be ready for all situations. What do you do when phones don’t go through during an emergency? We found that WhatsApp wasn’t being stopped, so we communicated with that. But we need to build in redundant systems.”

In addition, the department is adding new services, such as the first Clinical Medical Toxicology Fellowship in the region. With no poison hot line in the country, AUB is collaborating with Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, to set up a Poison Center.

“The problem is that we can’t always tell what we’re dealing with,” Hitti says. “A girl came in who had ingested something, but we couldn’t figure out what it was, so we consulted with Emory and were able to take care of the problem. And I saw my first organophosphate here. It’s a pesticide that’s illegal in the US but is a household item in Lebanon.”

The department also emphasizes education. In 2012, it opened a four-year EM residency training program, the first in Lebanon. Its first class will graduate in 2016.

With 18 residents currently enrolled, Hitti says, “We’re attracting very competitive students. And we’re excited about the residencies, about the education, how these pioneers are not just at AUB but will stay in the region. There is a tremendous potential for great impact.”

The greatest impact, Hitti says, has to do with the research that can be conducted through the program.

“The importance of having our own department with our own knowledge, compiling our own data, feeding it all back into our clinical work cannot be overstated,” she says. “The clinical work, the teaching and the research feed off each other, but it has to be based on the local community. This is part of our mission as part of an academic institution.”

Hitti emphasizes significant differences between some of what goes on in the US and Lebanon. Returning to Lebanon, she encountered her first cases of measles and mumps, diseases that have been essentially eradicated in North America.

“Emergency medicine is a knowledge generator for the region,” she says. “For example, what allergic reactions do we have here? We haven’t been finding cases of peanut allergies here, confirming what is coming to be understood about the cause of these allergies in the US. And there are different diseases here than in the US. Each region has its own superbugs, and we have to find different antibiotics to treat them. Emergency medicine is a window on the diseases of the community.”

Hitti earned her undergraduate and medical degrees at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. While working for a hospital conglomerate from 2005-09, she also earned an MBA from Johns Hopkins University, which provided her, she says, with her insights into the need for and means of establishing systems that ensure high-quality, equitable treatment for all who walk through the department’s doors.

No matter what systems you put in place and how efficiently you organize access to knowledge and procedures, Chief Resident Tharwat El Zahran says, emergency medicine is unlike any other medical specialty. El Zahran rotates 18 interns and residents through anesthesia, coronary care, pediatrics and neurology.

“How do we really live in the Emergency Medicine Department?” she asks. “It’s a tough life. The schedules are unusual, and it’s very exhausting physically. Then there’s the trust issue—the patients don’t know you, but you’ve got to gain their trust and make quick decisions. But we have the great pleasure of saving lives. It’s different from other specialties. It’s always on fire.”

This suits El Zahran just fine. After working as a research fellow in radiology at Emory she returned to AUB, her alma mater. Next, she plans to study medical toxicology in the US, an area the department has already decided to pursue, before returning to AUB.

“This is what my country needs,” she explains. “We’ll be able to train people to work in this area all across Lebanon.” -N.B.
Sahtein
Oriental Beef and Grilled Halloumi Salad
Maya El Hajjar (BBA ’09) MBA, grants manager at Qatar University

INGREDIENTS:

RICE
- 1 bowl chopped, mixed lettuce
- ¼ cup chopped red cabbage
- ¼ cup shredded carrots
- ½ cup sweet corn
- ½ cup red kidney beans
- ¼ cup chopped olives
- 130g thinly sliced Halloumi cheese
- 350g beef strips
- ¼ cup pine nuts
- ½ cup pomegranate molasses
- ¼ cup pomegranate seeds
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 3 ½ tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp cooking oil
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 ½ tsp black pepper

PREPARATION:
Combine lettuce mix, red cabbage, carrots, corn, red kidney beans, and olives in a bowl. Spread mixed vegetables and beans onto a serving platter. Prepare the dressing by mixing lemon juice and olive oil with a pinch of salt. Refrigerate the dressing for five minutes to thicken it. Meanwhile, stir-fry the beef strips with cooking oil until tender, and then add salt, black pepper, and pomegranate molasses. Add halloumi slices to a pan and cook over moderate heat until grilled. Layer the beef strips and halloumi slices onto the platter and dress the salad. Garnish with pine nuts and pomegranate seeds.

GOOD FOR YOU? An expert weighs in...

Marie Claire Chamieh, PhD, LD – Lecturer and Practicum Coordinator, FAFS

Oriental Beef and Grilled Halloumi Salad is a complete meal as it consists of a variety of food groups. It is a source of complex carbohydrates and fiber (corn and beans), as well as essential proteins (beef, halloumi, and beans). Although this salad contains a decent amount of fat, a good percentage of it is heart-healthy. This meal is particularly rich in antioxidants, such as vitamins A and C, found in lettuce, cabbage, pomegranate, lemon juice, and carrots. Antioxidants are crucial for a strong immune system, good vision, and the healthy structure of tissues and organs. A serving of 200 grams, a medium plate of this salad, provides 385 calories of which 23% comes from proteins, 35% from carbohydrates, and 42% from fats.
AUB’s 150th Anniversary
(1866-1916)

Syrian Protestant College (SPC) Timeline
1866 - 1916
Events that made a difference, including: 1870, the first graduating class of SPC; 1891, Assembly Hall; 1899, the inaugural year of student publication Al Kulliyah.

Scenes from the SPC campus, the Bliss years
Scenes of life on campus from the first 50 years

SPC Student Archives
A selection of early student publications

Restoring AUB’s Main Gate: A brief history of this symbolic gateway
Reinvigorating AUB’s historic entrance

SPC Couples: Great minds met at SPC
Romance blossoms amid pines and palms in the early days of SPC/AUB
Scenes of AUB

Campus life during the first 50 years
1. SPC Students Union, 1913
2. College Hall, 1900s
3. AUB Nurses from the Class of 1911
4. Chemical Laboratory, 1900
5. Jurji Zaydan, Lebanese novelist, historian, journalist and teacher, 1880s
6. Campus gathering, 1900s
7. SPC Faculty, 1898
8. James Somerville and Edward Nickoley are faculty overseeing a student play at SPC in 1915
9. Prof. Robert West with graduating class of 1901
10. Dr. George Post, Dr. John Wortabet, Dr. Cornelius Van Dyck, Harvey Porter and Edwin R. Lewis, with the undergraduates of the Medical School, 1880
11. Medical Faculty, 1897
12. Faculty and staff in front of Bliss Hall circa 1901
13. A young Daniel Bliss circa 1913
14. Early faculty and staff with some wives, 1900
15. Campus Panorama, 1924
16. A view of campus and Mt. Sannine circa 1913
17. SPC gymnasts
1871

The first 50 years
1866 - 1916

1866

Syrian Protestant
at SPC. embraced Protestantism creeds and colors to welcomed people of all ordained in 1855, Bliss Seminary, where he was founding president of Daniel Bliss becomes on December 3, 1866. first class of 18 students College opened with its first class College welcomes its first class of 18 students.

1868

SPC establishes Medical School In the city Syrian Protestant College opened its doors to its first class of students.

1869

SPC graduates its first class The first group of students, numbering five to six, graduated in 1869. They were: Yehia Farah from Hadath Beirut, George El-Deeb from the Prussian Hospital, George Shamsun, Qasim Beja from Alqosh, and Abdul Salam from Kasbah.

1871

SPC settles in Ras Beirut In this portion of Ras Beirut campus was purchased in 1871 for about 8,000 pounds sterling for the construction of a science building, Post Hall, to house SPC’s science facilities. The building was named for Henry Lee of Manchester, England, who gave 150 pounds sterling for the building.

1873

Lee Observatory built The Lee Observatory was among the first buildings erected on the campus of the Syrian Protestant College. Cornelius Van Dyck supervised the construction of the observatory during the short period that College Hall was being built. Lee Observatory, the first and oldest astronomical observatory in the Middle East, was named for Henry Lee, a fellow Massachusetts, England, who gave 100 pounds sterling for the building.

1879

College Hall built The first and most notable building on campus, College Hall, more than two stories in height, with a central sahn and apses of arcades. Parceled Daniel Bliss consulted with Robert Cohan President of Greeks in Constantinople on the hall’s design, as Bliss had just overseen the construction of that college’s first building.

1883

English becomes main language in Medical Department In 1883 English became the main language of instruction in the Medical Department. Prior to that, classes were taught in Arabic.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

The Syrian Protestant College was opened in the Autumn of 1866, a preparatory class having been formed the year previous. The Medical Department was opened in 1867. The first College class graduated in 1870, and the first Medical class in 1871. In 1973 the present permanent buildings of AUB were completed.

The College has three departments, Preparatory, College, and Medical.

The earlier classes of the College were instructed through the medium of the Arabic, but soon thereafter English has become the language of the instruction in all departments, the first taught through the medium of this language in the College Department, having graduated in 1889, and the first in the Medical Department in 1917. While the language of the Institution is English, all Arabic speaking students of the Preparatory and College Departments are given a through course of instruction in their own language.

ADMISSION

Candidates for admission into any department must prove, before examination, satisfactory proficiency of good moral character. The objects for examinations, and other special examinations, will be given under the several departments. Candidates, for advanced standing must pass satisfactory examinations in all the others.

Students desiring to transfer are entitled to the Medical Department so, for the present, if sufficiently advanced in their studies, permitted to take in one or more branches (History, Physics, Algebra, Geometry, and English) of the Foundation and Sophomore years in the College Department, if other special or partial students are received.
SPC Chapel (a.k.a. Assembly Hall) built
The SPC Chapel was completed in 1891. Students attended mandatory religious services daily for the first 66 years of the University’s life. The building’s name was later changed to Assembly Hall. Today its excellent acoustics make this building a favored venue for concerts, lectures, and meetings. The chapel was built with a $30,000 gift from Elbert B. Monroe, son-in-law of Frederick Marquand. Monroe also provided the original organ and put the chapel equipment in place in time for commencement exercises in 1891.

1897
First Football Field
A makeshift football field bordering the SPC Chapel, College Hall, and the street was laid down in 1897. A year later, Lieutenant Volner Krohn was appointed as instructor of physical education.

SPC provides a liberal education
SPC’s General Statement of 1897-98 articulates for the first time that “the Collegiate Department gives a liberal education.” Liberal, in the dialect of the time, meant a wider range of electives would be offered to students.

1898
First Bachelor of Commerce
Michel F.J. Abcarius was awarded SPC’s first Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1898.

1900
School of Commerce opens
The Library Department of SPC became the Collegiate Department in 1900. It would later become the School of Arts and Sciences.

1902
First of Commerce graduates
Brian V. Smith was awarded SPC’s first Bachelor of Commerce degree.

School of Nursing founded
Mary Bliss Israels (BA 1913, Vassar College), daughter of Daniel Bliss and sister of SPC President Howard Bliss, founded the School of Nursing in 1902 with Jane Van Zandt (1902, Margaret Fahnestock Training School for Nurses, New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital) as director. In 1918, she became the first graduate of SPC’s School of Nursing and in 1919, superintendent of the School of Nursing. Van Zandt served as director of the School of Nursing until 1929 and then continued as an advisor until 1941.

AUB awards the first master’s degree
In 1902, SPC awarded its first master’s degree to Philemon Jurjius Khuri.

WWI Medics, 1914
During World War I, SPC doctors, nurses, and students played pivotal roles assisting relief efforts of the American Committee for Armenian and Syriac Relief.

Pictured with the nursing class of 1918, Mary Bliss (second from left) and Jane Van Zandt (far left).
Student Publications (1866–1916)

AUB’s students have always been a highly literate bunch, producing magazines and newsletters since the University’s earliest days. These publications, covering university life, sports, world affairs, and offering the occasional joke, give us insight into the views of SPC students on various subjects at the turn of the 19th century.
1. Happy Days of SPC
1904 Mar no. 5 p.61
2. Al-Kuliah, May 11, 1899 No.16
3. Syria No.1 Vol.2 p.3
4. Sadda Al-Iststadijah
1902-1908 p.60
5. Light Field Day 1906 p.16
6. Pioneers of SPC 1905 May No.1 p.11
Main Gate, AUB’s historic entrance and this magazine’s namesake, was renovated this past fall. Its stone façade was polished and a new plaque was installed in honor of the project’s benefactor, Karam G. Tannous Doumet (BBA ’78, MBA ’80), an AUB alumnus and the Honorary Consul for Ecuador to Lebanon. Over a century after its construction, Main Gate remains the symbolic entry point from Beirut into AUB’s campus where tolerance and progressivism carry the day.

Edward Pearce Casey, architect for the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., designed the structure, reminiscent of Roman city gates and triumphal arches, like the Arc De Triomphe, with an Ottoman flavor. Since its completion in 1901, it has functioned as an administrative building, gate man’s office, reception space, and headquarters for the dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. It has also been the site of student demonstration, tango festivals, graduation parties, and the passing of the Olympic torch in 1964.

It stands today as both a monument to the past and a promise of the future, welcoming outsiders and members of the AUB community to enter and experience the University’s traditions of academic excellence and achievement.
1. AUB President Fadlo Khuri
2. The MainGate exhibition at West Hall
3. Audience members at Main Gate's re-inauguration
4. The Main Gate grill
5. An early photo of Main Gate
6. President Khuri with Consul Karam G. Tannous Doumet
7. The dedication plaque
AUB Couples

From AUB’s first 50 years

Charles Webster with his wife Annie and daughter Marjorie (1913)

Eliphalet and Mary Williams Blatchford, parents of Amy Blatchford, wife of Howard Bliss pictured with Abby Wood Bliss and Daniel Bliss (circa 1900)

Howard Sweetser Bliss and Amy Blatchford (early 1900s)

Three generations of Jessups. Samuel Jessup and Stuart Jessup with wife and son (circa 1900)

Early faculty pictured with their wives (late 1800s, early 1900s)

Dr. George Edward Post (mid-1800s) and Sarah Riad Post (mid-1800s)
Impact

Regional impact, advocacy, and policy initiatives

Revitalizing Old Fes

Architect and AUB Professor Salma Samar Damluji and her students help restore old Fes

Coming Together for Lebanon’s Public Schools

USAID, AUB, Lebanon’s Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and several NGOs make a difference in Lebanon’s public schools

An Insider’s Perspective on a New Outsider

AUB alumni in Germany discuss the immigrant experience as they witness Syrian refugees facing familiar and unfamiliar challenges

Guiding Lebanon Out of its Trash Crisis

AUB’s Solid Waste Management Task Force guides municipalities toward sustainable waste management solutions
Revitalizing Old Fes

In the plane tree-shaded courtyard of Souk el Henna, in the Fes medina in Morocco, a small group of students huddles over a set of plans and sketches. The designs they are shaping may significantly influence the medina’s future development.

A dynamic woman wearing a green hat crouches among the students, asking probing questions. She is Salma Samar Damluji, Professor of Architecture of the Islamic World at AU B. Considered the leading expert on mud brick architecture, Damluji has studied and worked with it in Morocco’s High Atlas region, Yemen, and across the Middle East.

Since she joined AUB in 2013, Damluji has been bringing groups of architecture students to work on design and rehabilitation projects in the Fes medina as part of a course on architecture and culture. As Damluji points out, these days the heavy student workload makes international fieldwork a rarity for most undergraduate architecture students.

Fes is known as the cultural and spiritual heart of Morocco. More than a millennium old, the walled city is the site of what is sometimes called the world’s first degree-granting university, Al Qarawiyyin, founded in 859 by a wealthy merchant’s daughter, Fatima Al-Fihri.

It is here that luminaries of the ancient Islamic world, such as 12th-century cartographer Muhammad al-Idrisi, 14th-century historian and economist Ibn Khaldun, and 16th-century writer and traveler Leo Africanus, developed and shared theories of law, religion, geography, philosophy, mathematics, and medicine.

“This year we are working on the Maristan,” Damluji says. Dating from 1286, it’s reputed to be one of the world’s first hospitals for mental patients.

For Leyla El Sayed-Hussein (BArch, expected ’16), the city’s ancient history conveys a joyful, dream-like quality: “In Fes, there is no place for grief; you should get yourself ready for any sudden joy.”

On beginning work, this year’s group of students initially focused on lack of storage, says Betina Abi Habib (BArch, expected ’16). “We had the impression that the main problem was the current adapted reuse of the building,” she says.

After talking to shop owners, however, the students realized that drainage and lighting were far more significant issues. “Having mapped these, we were able to address the well-being of the people inside,” she says. “Thinking of the history of the place, we knew there were water features in the design, we knew that there was music every Friday...we would like to propose re-introducing these.”
The students’ holistic approach epitomizes Damluji’s teaching ethos: understanding a building’s or space’s history and context is an essential part of adapting it for future use.

“The students’ holistic approach epitomizes Damluji’s teaching ethos: understanding a building’s or space’s history and context is an essential part of adapting it for future use.”

The local restoration authority, ADER (Agence pour la Dédensification et la Réhabilitation de La Médina de Fès), co-ordinates the workshop, offers perspectives, and provides the projects and documentation, Damluji says. “We look at sites that are on their list to develop and work with them,” she says. “Then the students work in situ [on site], sketch, survey, and do as much research as possible for the next two or three weeks. They develop and finalise their proposals and ideas for rehabilitation, renovation, or new construction, and then present their theses. At the end of the semester, we send the project proposals and design research to ADER as a package [for them] to consult and make use of.”

For Walid Haddad, the project allowed students “to do hands-on restoration and rehabilitation work and interact with a nearly virgin culture, increasing architectural, professional, and cultural exposure.”

In previous years, AUB students have worked on other key public buildings, including Madrasat al Musbahiyah and Suq al Hayik near the University; Suq al Sabbaghin; Funduq al Qattanin; the Astronomy Museum at the Dar al Muwaqqit; Hammam bin ‘Abbad, a pious Sufi, and two city gateways. This year, their second focus, after the Maristan, is the Suq Qa’at al Sann wal ‘Asl (the ‘ghee and honey’ suq), where various types of honey and a kind of clarified butter, samm, are sold in large blue plastic tubs.

Returning to Fes has enabled Damluji to revisit old haunts and continue her longtime work in the Maghreb. In 1992, she published (with photographer John Hedgecoe) a book on Moroccan Zillij (fired tiles), the subject of an exhibition held one year later at the Royal College of Art in London. She also set up the Royal College of Art Studios in Asilah near Tangiers.

Damluji considers herself a contemporary architect more than an historian. “This architecture is important for the future,” she says. “It’s a sustainable and ecological form of building: inspiring, functional, and aesthetic.” She’s speaking both in terms of physical structures and social networks: buildings are an integral part of the community in which they reside and ancient traditions can and should have a place in the modern world. For Damluji, traditional also means continuing to work with local craftsmen and builders, who have been hurt by capitalism.

Most architectural courses, Damluji says, exclude the teaching of Arab and Islamic architecture as an historic and living form of architecture, to students’ detriment, because it is “terribly relevant to their education and knowledge as designers working in the region.”

She brings students to Fes, she says, because “it is a living example of the Arab medina, a complete mechanism.” She paraphrases Ibn Khaldun: “As soon as a city loses its crafts, it is the sign of decay of its culture... Crafts are the million axes that go into the making of a city. From the fabric, calligraphy, painting, carving, and stucco paneling, to weaving, to the zillij (cut fired tiles), to the pots, food, dress, [and] the builders.”

In the course Damluji teaches at AUB, sub-titled “Geometry and Design,” she invites students to explore another traditional element of architectural practice: “Students now use Auto-CAD and rarely use their hands,” she says. “We have sessions where they draw up, using pencil, pen and compass in the same way we were taught. The discipline of geometric construction is a mental and physical process, which makes them understand the relationship of form and proportion, the science, philosophy and the intrinsic meaning inherent.” It is, she says, “a system that governed other art forms in the Islamic world, including calligraphy, music and poetry,” in other words, so much more than just “beautiful design or ornamentation.”

“These were structures that were set down in ancient Mesopotamian (Sumer and Babylon) culture; documented by Plato and Euclid; ... expanded by Arab philosophers and scientists; and consolidated in art, architecture and city building,” Damluji says. “So we are talking here about a very different part of Islamic history and philosophy that you get to teach them in a different way, in a creative way, and [with] an empirical method of research and field surveys. And this is what is lacking in our society now, for artists and architects alike. It’s not just about architecture, it’s about culture...Culture goes much deeper than what we label or brand.”

“So we are talking here about a very different part of Islamic history and philosophy that you get to teach them in a different way, in a creative way, and [with] an empirical method of research and field surveys.”
Ayla Hourani (BArch, expected ‘16) agrees, “For a culture to be so intact, yet sympathetic to and intimate with its surroundings—it’s amazing.”

**About Professor Salma Damluji...**

Salma Samar Damluji has been Professor Binladin Chair for Architecture of the Islamic World at the American University of Beirut for the past three years.

In the mid-1970s, and in the mid-1980s, she worked with renowned Egyptian Architect Hasan Fathy in Cairo.

She first visited Yemen in 1981 as a Human Settlement Officer with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, then worked in Bahrain and Yemen (the cities of Shibam and Tarim in Hadramut Governate).

From 1987 until 1994, she was a Research Fellow and then tutor at London’s Royal College of Art. She co-ordinated the RCA’s Moroccan Studios in Asliah from 1994-1997. During this period, she also served as senior tutor at the Graduate School of the Architectural Association School of Architecture.

From 2002-2004, she acted as Director of the Technical Office of the Chairman of the Works Department in Abu Dhabi, during which time she invited international architects and artists (such as Renzo Piano, Jean Nouvel, Herzog & de Meuron, and Dale Chihuly) to work on key projects, including the Abu Dhabi Grand Mosque.

In 2005, she returned to her first love, working on the architectural rehabilitation of key sites in Yemen, most notably Masna’at ‘Urah and Qarn Majid in Daw’an, Faqih Mosque in ‘Aynat and Ghayl BaWazir Mosque in Sah in Wadi Hadramut. She is founding member of The Daw’an Mud Brick Architecture Foundation.


-S.C.
For Amal Bou Zeineddine and Rima Karami, education reform is about “changing habits of mind.” Bou Zeineddine, Associate Director of Elementary Education at AUB’s Center for Teaching and Learning, and Karami, AUB Associate Professor of Education at the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), have put this premise into action with thousands of public school teachers throughout Lebanon. This spring, D-RASATI — formally known as the Developing Rehabilitation Assistance to Schools and Teacher Improvement Program — wraps up five years of focused efforts to improve Lebanese public schools. This nearly $80-million collaboration is one of the largest projects funded by USAID in the Middle East, bringing together American NGOs Education Development Center (D-RASATI I, 2010-2012), World Learning (D-RASATI II, 2012-2016) and CTL, in addition to AMIDEAST, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), and the Center for Educational Research and Development (CERD).

Hassan Diab has been involved in this round of education reform from two perspectives. As Minister of Education from 2011-2013, he oversaw some of the collaborations between D-RASATI and the ministry. As Vice President for Regional and External Programs at AUB, he has also overseen the University’s participation in D-RASATI, as well as connecting AUB with a variety of individuals, organizations, and governments that are interested in new education initiatives throughout the region: a total of 68 projects were undertaken in 2015, including close work with 11 universities in 30 countries and professional development opportunities for regional businesses.

“I wasn’t minister when D-RASATI started,” he says. “[Prime Minister] Mikati wanted me to be minister of the largest and most complex ministry in Lebanon. I’m not a politician. I’m a technocrat.” In other words, as Diab explains, he tried to stay out of political squabbles and remain focused on the welfare of Lebanon’s schools. “AUB played a significant role in improving the quality of the public schools,” he emphasizes. “The good thing is that this was a partnership.”

AUB Professor of Education Saouma Boujaoude coordinated the University’s D-RASATI work, including: training and supervising teacher-trainers; developing and distributing subject-specific teaching manuals; recommending science lab materials and equipment; promoting collaborations among teachers and schools; and supporting information and communication technologies (ICT).

Professor of Physics and Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences Malek Tabbal was involved in both D-RASATI I and II. For D-RASATI I, he trained teachers and compiled lists of lab materials and equipment that schools should have. For D-RASATI II, he wrote manuals and trained science teachers in online resources available for physics teachers.
He developed “the Biology, Physics and Chemistry...lab manuals for students and teachers, both in French and English,” he says. “The experiments in the lab manuals covered the most important aspects of... the high school science curriculum.” These manuals were subsequently used to train science teachers in workshops held throughout the country.

“The people who came to the trainings were very good,” he says. “Most of them were already knowledgeable. The problem came when they reached out to their colleagues. We expected 15 teachers for a workshop, and maybe five came.”

Such problems are not unique to the sciences. Karami described difficulties accessing information about existing policies and projects, which complicated her efforts to build school leaders’ capacity to support use of ICT in schools. Ultimately, she believes the project had positive impacts. The design stage “included everyone: CERD, the Inspectorate General, MEHE, Lebanese University’s School of Education pre-service trainers of principals,” she says. “I think this way of doing things got people’s attention and gave them a different way to think about... making things happen, even if we weren't able to accomplish everything we had hoped for.”

She also points to the upshot of her work developing and implementing School Improvement Plans. Positive outcomes, she says, were the result of school-based self-studies that emphasized planning, inquiry, and reflection skills and empowered teachers and administrators.

Rabih El Mouhayar, AUB Assistant Professor in Math Education, found a similar situation as he and Bou Zeineddine worked on the Subject-Matter Hubs Project, which brought together various stakeholders to develop subject-specific materials kits, lesson plans, and tips on how to incorporate everyday materials. These kits were posted on Moodle, a cloud drive that makes documents and links available online to all teachers.

“The teachers we trained were very responsive,” he says. “From my subsequent field visits, I believe there was a real growth in their professional development.”

Not all of the planned activities were carried out, such as the work on the Standards for Effective Schools. To Karami, this sort of lapse often had to do with the gap between the project goals and the groundwork already in place at the ministry, as well as some officials’ reluctance to draw D-RASATI into their work. Other complications occurred when teachers couldn't attend trainings, sometimes because they weren't permitted by their principals to do so. She also notes that it remains unclear as to what the next steps will be, such as who will oversee the Moodle AUB faculty that has been set up to help teachers throughout the country share lessons and materials.

Overall, Boujaoude sees the work as productive: 800 teachers from schools throughout the country have been directly trained in how to make the most of science labs.

“Now the schools and the MEHE are implementing what we set in motion,” he says. “The MEHE has decided that each high school science class should have at least one lab period per week. It’s up to them to implement it.”

El Mouhayar is optimistic about D-RASATI’s impact: “We modeled high standards and reflective teaching, using inquiry-based, student-centered teaching.”

Bou Zeineddine agrees: “I’ve heard from participants that this was the first time they had been through a training that was hands-on: not lectures and just listening, but doing and reflecting and thinking. If you believe in bottom-up policy-making, we had a big impact on Lebanon’s teachers.”

**D-RASATI at a Glance**

American NGO Education Development Center, which organized D-RASATI I, explains that in addition to renovating several hundred schools, the project supported the Ministry of Education and Higher Education’s work toward: enhancing the skills of Lebanon’s public school teachers strengthening the Ministry’s capacity to provide high-quality professional development for teachers and extracurricular learning opportunities for students and cultivating leadership for school improvement and community engagement by training over 400 school principals in planning activities, including conducting outreach to parents and communities to involve them in initiatives.

**N.B.**
An Insider’s Perspective on a New Outsider

Lebanese AUB graduates discuss their experiences living and working in Germany amidst a new influx of Syrian refugees.

Lebanese AUB graduates living in Germany have a unique vantage point on the ongoing refugee crisis. Their sympathies naturally lie with Syrians who have put their faith in the economic, social, and political promises that immigrants to “Deutschland” find so attractive.

In Germany, says Elie Touma (BE ’82), “one is respected as an individual and human being. Human life counts and has value here, unlike in Lebanon, when I left.” Touma moved to Germany in 1989 when he married a German woman.

Leaving your home country is never an easy decision, Touma says. “I talked with my mother about the move. Beirut was not secure then, with bombs and car bombs, checkpoints, people being killed for their religion. My mother said that at least she would know I was safe.”

More recent Lebanese expatriates may no longer be fleeing war, but they have their own reasons to appreciate the famed efficiency of German bureaucracy. “Life in Germany is easier,” Jinan Abi Jumaa (MS ’15) says. “Everything is organized. Many services are provided. There are flexible work schedules, and you earn a decent salary. In Lebanon, if you don’t know a politician, you can’t get anywhere.” Abi Jumaa graduated from AUB with a degree in Public Health and now studies and works in mental health at Charité Hospital, through an affiliation with Humboldt University.

She came to Berlin because she wanted to expand on the training she received in healthcare management at AUB. She’s also found an opportunity to contribute to easing the crisis at home by volunteering at facilities for Syrian youth.

Touma and Abi Jumaa are aware that their transition to life in Germany has been quite different than it will be for many of those now entering the country. Before his move, Touma had visited Germany for work reasons, and he had studied some German at the Goethe Institute in Beirut. He quickly found a job with Philips Healthcare in Dusseldorf.

“When I came to Germany, teaching Arabic, people asked why I didn’t wear a hijab. I explained that I’m from Lebanon, which is different.”

Ghida Haidar-Adis (BS ’88) met her own German spouse at AUB, where he also studied, and they moved to Germany together in 1990. Haidar-Adis started out working as a part-time Arabic teacher and even wrote a book about teaching Arabic to Germans. She now puts her AUB degree in environmental health to good use as a consultant, responsible for clarifying environmental compliance regulations in various MENA countries for products manufactured by the companies she represents. She also freelances for “the center for political education in the state of Baden-Württemberg,” she says. “I give lectures and hold seminars on different themes, such as Islam, Muslims in Germany, Salafism, and the attractiveness of ISIS for young people.”

She sees clear value in this work. “When I came to Germany, teaching Arabic, people asked why I didn’t wear a hijab,” she says. “I explained that I’m from Lebanon, which is different.”

Born to a Lebanese father and a German mother, another AUB graduate Aida Sayegh grew up frequently visiting Germany and went to school there in 1976-77. “My family went back to Lebanon in 1977,” she says. “It looked peaceful, but then the war broke out again. Because of everything I went through, I know what the migrants are talking about. I passed through the bombadments and the shooting.” Sayegh moved to Germany with her Lebanese spouse, at his urging, in 1996. She came to her work with Syrian refugees at Haus St. Michael, under the
umbrella of the NGO Caritas, in part because she could personally relate to their experience. Her current work involves supporting young refugees, including Syrians, Afghans, and Eritreans. Her organization aims to act as a guardian for 14- to 18-year-old refugees who came to Germany on their own. “Our job is to guide these youngsters through school—with homework, with teachers, learning punctuality,” she says. Sayegh works with two groups of 12. “In school, the roadblock is language. We deal with three kinds of people: some who can’t read or write in any language; some who can read and write Arabic; and some who can read Latin script.”

If they are optimistic about the future, these AUB graduates say, it is because of their faith in German idealism and pragmatism. “Germans seem cool about the situation,” Abi Jumaa says. “I think Germany is accepting these refugees not just from a humanitarian point of view, but also they are being realistic because they need workers.” In the 1950s and 1960s, Germany welcomed another controversial influx of foreign guest workers; public sentiment shifted when the economy slumped.

For Sayegh, optimism is more than a sentiment: “I’m hopeful for the refugees and for Germany’s future,” she says. “After World War II, Turks, Spaniards and others came—they were integrated. But the next generation was not well integrated. Germany is learning from those mistakes. It doesn’t want subcultures. It wants the next generation to feel more assimilated, to teach them how to get along.... We need the manpower, and the earlier we get them to integrate and feel part of the system, the better.”

Touma, however, worries, both about a right-wing backlash among Germans—though he doesn’t think it will become violent or gain a majority in next year’s elections—and also about Syrians who fail to adapt to the new culture. Touma’s German wife volunteers in a nearby shelter for Syrian refugees, organizing and managing the school that has been provided for children and youth. “The younger, educated Syrian who is willing to work hard to adapt to the culture will succeed,” he says. “But those without education will be frustrated and may turn to groups that might have a negative attitude...I know how they feel. My family was hit badly at one point, and we had to leave our house in the Metn because of the bombardment.”

Sayegh sees elements of German and Lebanese culture in her own behavior. “When I have an appointment,” she says, “I make it on time, I’m punctual. But socially, I’m more flexible, more like Lebanon.”

For the time being, Abi Jumaa is in Berlin for her studies. “Now I’m learning German, so it’s easier,” she says. “I’m having culture shock, but in a positive way.”

-N.B.
This winter, roughly six months after Beirut’s trash management system first ground to a halt, AUB’s Solid Waste Management Task Force released its “Guide to Municipal Solid Waste Management.” A 34-page manual, filled with flow charts, graphs, and tables, it offers a waste management roadmap for the country’s municipalities.

AUB Professor of Chemistry, Director of the Nature Conservation Center, and a contributing author, Najat Saliba notes, “The Task Force has delivered research outcomes that have already influenced policy. The manual as designed could be adopted by municipalities, group of municipalities and ministries to implement different size solid waste management plans.”

The manual begins with the consumer, calling for residents to sort their household waste into one of three categories: recyclables (e.g. bottles, cans, paper), organics (e.g. fruit, meat, garden waste), and other (e.g. clothes, batteries, hazardous materials).

As the manual recommends, recyclables should then be taken to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), a factory-like building, replete with sorting machines and conveyor belts that sorts waste by category then prepare it for reuse. Just think “recycled paper.”

As for organic waste, the manual suggests that the MRF first screen for sharp objects, which go to landfills, then sort what can be shredded, and make use of a composting system to speed up biodegradation. The resulting compost can then be sold on to the agricultural industry.

Finally, waste from the “other” category should be collected by specialized companies, like Ziad Abichaker’s Cedar Environmental (mentioned on page 27), that innovate to produce new products from recycled materials, like green walls from old pills.

Landfills shouldn’t sit idle, the manual advises: gas can be piped out of garbage piles and used for energy production.

The manual’s recommendations, drawn from extensive research and public surveys in cities like Beirut, are ambitious and prize efficiency. And yet the Task Force understands that its roadmap may not be ideal, or even feasible, for certain municipalities, specifically for dense urban areas like Beirut and Tripoli.

AUB Professor of Environmental Health May Massoud, who is one of the manual’s primary authors, hopes that the document will guide municipalities toward sustainable waste management solutions: “I believe that among the root causes of the solid waste crisis in Lebanon is the lack of an integrated system.”
AUB Everywhere

Alumni lives in action, WAAAUB and chapter news, every day and extraordinary class notes, and unexpected revelations

**Searching for the Edge of the Universe**

Trace George Helou’s (BS ’75) life path from stargazer to pioneering astronomer

**The Reveal**

Mira Kaddoura (BGD ’00) connects, creates, and innovates

**WAAAUB Events and Announcements**

With lively, thought-provoking programs and a spectacular gala dinner, the WAAAUB 7th Annual Convention generates buzz

**WAAAUB Around the Globe**

Alumni mix and mingle: dinners, talks, outdoor outings, and more . . .

**Class Notes**

An update from two class correspondents from the FEA Class of 1966
Notes from ten-year anniversary grads
Searching for the Edge of the Universe

Over the course of his career, George Helou (BS ’75) has helped advance our understanding of the most distant galaxies, quasars, and the nature of the universe.

George Helou, a research professor and director of the Infrared Processing and Analysis Center (IPAC) at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), has used infrared astronomy to make small dents in large questions: Why are we here? Are we alone in the universe? What binds us, on an elemental level, with all that exists?

From his office in Pasadena, Helou directs data collection and dissemination for two space telescopes, Spitzer and NEOWISE. These instruments, or “observatories,” as IPAC’s staff calls them, wear the equivalent of infrared goggles as they move through space, in search of eye-popping phenomena. By combining data from Spitzer and the Hubble telescope, astronomers at Caltech and elsewhere have been able to pinpoint the most distant galaxies, those literally at the edge of the universe. Spitzer also detected the first rays of light from exoplanets, planets orbiting stars other than our Sun, which are among the most plausible locations for extraterrestrial life.

As director of IPAC, Helou is both a scientist and an administrator. He oversees a team that schedules observations for the telescopes, maintains the 15 (and growing) petabytes of data from them, and circulates these data among astronomers around the globe. The data also feeds his own scientific work. Analyzing data from the Infrared Space Observatory, a space telescope launched by the European Space Agency in 1995, and from Spitzer, Helou was able to prove the ubiquity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, organic compounds containing only carbon and hydrogen, throughout the universe. “These are a set of molecules probably involved in the chemistry of life,” he says. Once you have gas enriched with carbon and oxygen and nitrogen, complex compounds quickly follow, leading to the formation of stars and planets, he explains.

The origins of Helou’s journey to the edge of the universe and its birth lie in Beirut’s suburbs in the 1960s. “When I
went up to the village in the mountains, the air was so clean, the sky was so dark and filled with stars—I was mesmerized,” he recalls. He was already reading voraciously, mostly about science. “I realized little by little how far away things were.” Yet, until he arrived at AUB, Helou remained unsure of how practical his passion might be in a country that, according to him, valued education only so long as it translated into a lucrative career. Inspiration, he says, was “tempered by reality.”

Fortunately, his mentors at AUB supported his desire to pursue science for its own sake. Physics professor Khalil Bitar, who taught Helou at AUB, remembers his former student’s unique spirit: “He wasn’t your typical undergrad. He wasn’t chasing women and parties. He came in with a purpose.”

Bitar and others recognized that purpose and helped Helou reach his next destination, Cornell University. There he worked with legendary astronomers Carl Sagan and Frank Drake on the Voyager Golden Record, phonographs designed to showcase the dazzling diversity of human civilization, that went out with the Voyager spacecraft in 1977. “It was engaging for me because I had to think outside of cultural norms, and I had already seen how different cultures color the human experience,” he says. “That summer was as much fun as I’ve ever had.”

After earning his doctorate at Cornell, Helou intended to return home but the Civil War changed his mind. Sensing the scientific potential of the newly launched Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS), he took a position at Caltech’s mission control. From that point on, his life fell into lockstep with the march of deep space exploration into the farthest reaches of the universe.

By comparing infrared data from IRAS with data from radio observatories concerning magnetic fields, Helou was able to show that the ratio of large stars to small ones was similar across galaxies. “I found that every galaxy has a magnetic field and that the strength of that magnetic field is related to the density of gas in it,” he says.

After IRAS, Helou lobbied for NASA participation in ISO, another infrared telescope launched by the European Space Agency (ESA): “I said, this is going to do great science, let’s have Americans be a part of it,” he remembers.

“Helou has since helped oversee the launches of Spitzer and NEOWISE, which looks for near-earth asteroids, and built out IPAC as a science center on Caltech’s Pasadena campus. He manages IPAC’s annual budget of $40 million dollars.”

Helou also mentors Caltech’s students on their own journeys into space exploration. “He is a natural leader who puts people first, and he helped me advocate for my own research,” says Daniel Dale, professor of physics at the University of Wyoming. Another former student, Eric Murphy, now research scientist at Caltech, remembers the hundreds of hours he spent surveying nearby galaxies under Helou’s supervision.

Helou says he views the support of his wife, Andrée, and his children, Ariane and Marc, as critical to his own success, acknowledging the sacrifices a scientist’s family must make. “It’s not a 9-to-5 job,” he says.

Beyond Caltech, Helou keeps his finger on astronomy’s pulse nationally. “I look at the astronomy budgets across the US, particularly the budgets of NASA and [the National Science Foundation], because that trickles down,” he says. “This year is better. But I worry about the long-term trend. Spending on physical science has not kept up with GDP.”

His chosen field has unique budgetary challenges. “Astronomy requires large investments,” he says. “You cannot have the breakthroughs from Spitzer or Hubble if you never build a billion-dollar facility and launch it into space.”

Helou suggests that astronomy satisfies a fundamental human curiosity, curiosity he aims to ignite and keep burning in Lebanon. As the president of the Lebanese Academy of Sciences, he encourages both scientific literacy among the broader population and university-level research through exchange programs between Lebanese and US faculty.

In a nod to the power of astronomy, he cites Carl Sagan’s description of earth as “a pale blue dot,” remarking that “all the empires ever built, all the love stories ever told, all happened on this tiny speck in space. Maybe, when people recognize our insignificance, they will stop fighting.”
Mira Kaddoura (BGD ’00) creates beautiful, innovative, and meaningful work through advertising, design, technology, and provocative art installations. Having landed her dream job right out of grad school at the acclaimed advertising agency Wieden+Kennedy, Mira left after 10 years of creating groundbreaking ad campaigns to free up some time for pure invention. It could be that growing up in the polarized world of Lebanon’s civil war infused her with a burning passion to resolve conflict and connect people to their better selves.

Mira attributes her laser-focused, free-floating drive to a family environment that encouraged freedom of expression, compassion, and caring. Her parents raised her and her brothers to be citizens of the world; to explore religions and cultures, and to find and live by, not accepted realities, but universal truths. Be transparent, honest, respectful, and caring. That may sound like a slogan, but Mira knows that these values have unplumbed meaning, and that mining that meaning can transform the world.

“Super early in my career I had the opportunity to inspire and move people working on Nike at the best agency in the world. After a while, I felt that it was time for me to scare and challenge myself, and see what I could do outside the walls of a big advertising agency. I decided to do a conceptual interactive project that would create a meaningful conversation about a subject I am very passionate about. The Wonder Clock, a wearable biological clock, launched at Art Basel, and got picked up by every press agency in the world. That led me to start digging deeper into the power of technology. After a series of freelance projects with brands like GE and Twitter, I decided that it was time to start an agency where I could combine three things I’m passionate about: Power of Advertising + Technology + Solving problems that matter. Whether working on advertising projects or art installations, I feel the more personal the work, the more universal it is.”

Bringing Girls up to Code
Kaddoura established Red & Co., a creative and innovation agency, in 2013. In short order Google approached her for help in rectifying a troubling gender imbalance that exists in technology. Could Red & Co. get girls interested in coding?

Kaddoura was galvanized by the scope of the problem. “Less than 1% of high school girls are interested in computer science. If less than 1% of girls are creating all the technology we’re using, then that means that girls/women have no voice whatsoever in creating the world we live in.”

She created one of Google’s most significant and ambitious marketing initiatives to date, MadewithCode, an online community and learning platform that inspires girls through mentoring and engages them with creative coding projects in fashion, music, and design. Learn more at: http://www.redandco.com/

- Born in Alexandria, Egypt, grew up in Beirut and Toronto.
- (MS ’02) Virginia Commonwealth (mass communication and advertising, four honors)
- AUB Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award (2010).
- Created Nike’s I feel Pretty, The Girl Effect, Nike Body Parts, and many others.
- Over 45 international awards including several Gold Lions at Cannes, Ted Ad Worth Spreading, Communications Arts, Webbys, Clios, One Shows, British Television Award, and Andy Awards.
- Lectures at universities and conferences around the world.
WAAUAB Events and Announcements

7th Annual WAAUAB Convention
January 22-23

1. WAAUAB’s 7th Annual Convention Opening Ceremony took place on Friday evening January 22, at the Olayan School of Business Maamari Auditorium. President Fadlo R. Khuri, WAAUAB President Wafa Saab, and keynote speaker Neemat G. Frem (BEN ’91) are pictured with other distinguished guests.

2. “Being Global: Insights from Prominent Alumni Associations” a panel discussion with moderator Mark Daou (BBA ’00) and participants Nicolas Chammas (BEN ’85) representing MIT, WAAUAB President Wafa Saab (EMBA ’07), Nagy Rizk (BEN ’86) representing INSEAD, and Lamia Rustom Shehadeh (BA ’61) representing Harvard University.

3. WAAUAB President Wafa Saab presents President Fadlo R. Khuri with a commemorative tray on the occasion of the Convention gala dinner, held in the Grand Ballroom of the Phoenicia Hotel on Saturday, January 23, in conjunction with the inauguration of Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri as AUB’s 16th president, and the launch of celebrations for the University’s 150th anniversary.

WAAUAB
New Year’s Eve

Le Maillon
Beirut
31 Dec 2015
Visit the WAAUOB website at www.aub.edu.lb/alumni to find a chapter near you and to learn about upcoming events. WAAUOB’s newsletter Al jame’a features coverage of WAAUOB chapter holiday parties across the globe. Visit: www.aub.edu.lb/alumni/newsandstories/

**United States**

**Baltimore**

**TALK AND DINNER**

US history lecture by Dr. Edward Papenfuse
MedSTAR Union Memorial Hospital Auditorium
Ambassador Indian Restaurant
14 January, 2016

**Michigan**

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

On October 10, 2015, the Michigan Chapter held a fundraising dinner at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, Michigan to raise money for their newly established Needy Patient Fund. Mobilized by the extreme hardships in Lebanon brought about by regional instability, their goal is “to assist in providing medical care and to ensure that young lives receive the quality care they are entitled to, regardless of their financial means. No patient should die or suffer due to lack of funds.” To assist in this effort, chapter members Fawwaz Ulaby, PhD (BS ’64) and Ghassan Saab (BEN ’66) started a challenge fund, matching every gift, dollar for dollar. The Chapter hopes to raise $25,000 annually but they need your support. Your US tax deductible gift can be made online to the “WAAUOB Michigan Chapter Needy Patient Fund” at: https://give.aub.edu.lb/

“We have a number of community-led initiatives in place to help cover the cost of diagnosis and treatment of patients with limited means; however, the demand exceeds our funding. We thank the Michigan Chapter for sharing our vision to treat as many children and young adults as possible, irrespective of their ability to pay.”

Dr. Hassan El Solh, AUBMC Chief of Staff

**New England**

**NETWORKING EVENT**

Healthcare Harvard@Trilogy
Boston, MA
22 November, 2015

**Ohio Valley**

**LUNCHEON**

Mazah Mediterranean Eatery
Columbus, OH
6 December, 2015

**New York**

**AUB/LAU TOUR WITH ARTIST WALID RAAD**

Museum of Modern Art
New York, NY
13 January, 2016

**Houston**

**MIX & MINGLE**

Mary’s Lebanese Cuisine
Houston, TX
6 January, 2016

**New York**

**AUB/LAU TOUR WITH ARTIST WALID RAAD**

Museum of Modern Art
New York, NY
13 January, 2016
AnnUAL gALA dINNER
Afrah Ballroom, Grand Hyatt Muscat
6 November, 2015
Oman

Canada
Montreal
RECEPTION
for new OSB Dean Steve Harvey
27 November, 2015

Middle East

Oman

Professional Chapters

Qatar

Medical Alumni

SILV ER JUBILEE REUNION
Event honored: Deans Adnan Mroueh, MD; Samir Atweh, MD; Camille Nassar, MD and former Dean’s Office Secretary Zeina Jureidini.
Attendees: 19 physicians, (10 practicing in Lebanon).
Sent short videos: 21 classmates not able to attend.
Sent written updates: 20 classmates notable to attend.
Personalized memorabilia given to attendees: framed graduation tam with silver tassel.
Movenpick Resort Beirut
14 August, 2015

www.flickr.com/photos/abalumni/
Happy Anniversary AUB grads!

60 Year Anniversary

Ghazi Q. Hassoun (BS ’56) After earning his bachelor’s degree in physics, Ghazi went on to earn a master’s degree (’59) and doctorate (’63) in theoretical physics from the University of Minnesota. He published a memoir, Walking Out Into the Sunshine: Recollections and Reflections, a Palestinian Personal Experience, including two chapters in which he recalls his years at AUB with nostalgia and affection. A professor emeritus at North Dakota University in Fargo, North Dakota, Ghazi winters in Naples, Florida. [lghassoun@msn.com]

Riad N. Kallas (BBA ’56) retired from NCR Corporation after 34 years of service that began in Damascus, Syria and ended in Dayton, Ohio with interim assignments in Bogota, Colombia; Beirut; and Panama City, Panama. Riad currently lives in Dayton with his wife of 48 years, Aida Z. Kallas. Their son Hani is a partner in a law firm in Cincinnati, Ohio, and their daughter Rula is vice president of a small IT company in San Francisco, California. [riadkallas@ameritech.net]

Nadeem N. Naimy, PhD (BA ’53, MA ’56) joined what is now called the Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages as an instructor in Islamic Philosophy in 1963, after having earned a PhD in Arabic literature from the University of Cambridge in the UK. A professor at AUB for many years, Nadeem now teaches there part-time. From 2002-09, he was Dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Balamand, Lebanon. Nadeem has participated in several academic conferences throughout the world. He has contributed to scholarly magazines, and is the author of several works, including (in English) The Lebanese Prophets of New York and Mikhail Naimy: An Introduction, and (in Arabic) Art and Life, The Way to the Greater Self, and Modernity and Culture. In addition, he translated into Arabic and edited The Complete English Works of Khalil Gibran. [nnaimy@aub.edu.lb]

Macy Akel Wyatt, PhD (BA ’56) is a professor emeritus of psychology from Georgetown College and a licensed counseling psychologist in the state of Kentucky. The proud recipient of an honorary degree from Georgetown College and the Kentucky Psychological Association’s Distinguished Career in Psychology Award, Macy writes, “I thank AUB for instilling in me a thirst for learning that has continued to motivate me, even in retirement.” She has co-authored two books and served on the boards of two local non-profits. Macy is also the proud mother of a wonderful son, who is employed by Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. [macywyatt@aol.com]

Ken Touryan, PhD (former engineering student, 1953-56) writes, “I had to emigrate to the United States with my family (as former Palestinian refugees). I received my doctorate from Princeton University. I have many fond memories of my time at AUB, and to this day I get nostalgic as I listen to the AUB alma mater song. My saddest memory, though, is the assassination of President Malcolm Kerr in 1984, shortly after I had dinner with him, during one of my many visits to my country of birth, Lebanon. On the other hand, an unplanned, happy reunion happened in Armenia this year with four of my AUB classmates (Class of 1958) when they were visiting the American University of Armenia, where I am a visiting professor.” [kenell@comcast.net]
Classmate News
A group of 22 classmates donated jointly towards the lobby in the new Irani Oxy Engineering Complex.

Hisham Jaroudi: Hisham has served as treasurer and board member of the Makassed Association for the past 30 years. Since 1989, he has been president of Al-Riyadi Basketball Club, which has famously produced trophy-winning teams throughout Lebanon, the Arab World, and Asia. A very active supporter of AUB, Hisham has made major donations to several significant AUB renovations, including the Bechtel Building lobby, the AUBMC Main Building lobby, its Medical Administration building, and the auditorium of the Hariri School of Nursing. He is now on the AUB Board of Trustees.

Dr. Fadlo Touma: Fadlo’s career is dedicated to geotechnical engineering in the United States, Lebanon, and the Gulf. Together with his son John, he is supporting and conducting joint research with FEA. He recently donated a state-of-the-art geotechnical laboratory in the Irani Oxy Engineering Complex, named after him and his wife Justine.

Ghassan Saab: After graduation, Ghassan left for Flint, Michigan in the United States to work with the construction company Sorenson Gross where he had trained the summer before. He soon owned the company. Over many years he has partnered with local foundations to revitalize his community. Ghassan and his wife Manal have been widely recognized for their philanthropy and service and are the recipients of several merit awards.

Nabil Nahas: Since 2009, Nabil has served as president of the Society of the Friends of the Museum at AUB. He encourages all of his classmates to visit this newly renovated, world-class museum and become members of the Society.

Malek Mahmassani: This year, Malek was elected to the WAAAUB Council. In addition, he serves on WAAAUB’s Governance Committee.

Beirut News
A new FEA tradition has been established for the past few years among classmates present in Lebanon and those coming from abroad. Every three or four weeks Riad Mourtada organizes and Malek Mahmassani photographs get-together luncheons held at Lina’s Downtown or at Fresh, the bio-restaurant owned by Fadlo Touma’s daughter Danielle. The resulting ‘media coverage’ is edited and posted via email by Malek Mahmassani. Memories are highlighted, news is exchanged, and new activities are planned.

Other ‘happy’ events with spouses include various dinner invitations at homes or restaurants and lunches on weekends, the latest being at Fadlo Touma’s ‘Domaine Chouchan,’ where Georges Feghali presented us with this wonderful poem.

In Memoriam
With deep sorrow and for the record, we list our dear classmates who have passed away. Our heartfelt condolences to their families. God bless their souls. Elias Makari, Atef Nakhoul, Majed Musallam, and Shahroukh Mokhtari.

Announcement
In conjunction with AUB’s Special 150th Anniversary Reunion July 8 – 10, 2016, the FEA Class of 1966 is planning to celebrate its 50th reunion with additional events. These include dinners, field trips, and gatherings. Make sure to join us!

Saad Ajil (BBA ’66) works as an independent management consultant in Dubai, UAE. [saadajil@hotmail.com]
**Reza Kazemi-Shirazi** (BS ’66, MS ’68)

After receiving her degrees in agriculture, Reza earned a doctorate from Iowa State University in 1972. She joined the University of Tehran, Iran and is now retired in Vancouver, Canada. She welcomes emails! [srkazemi@telus.net]

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**May S. Nabil** (BA ’66) writes, “As a graduate of the class of 1966, I would like to share a note of gratitude and love. The year I graduated coincided with AUB’s 100th anniversary, which made my graduation very special. Lebanon was then a magical place and AUB was the place to be. I walked to class every morning through a lush green campus with a view of the Mediterranean Sea. Beauty, knowledge, fun, and enrichment came together in one place. I will always cherish these memories and look forward to meeting alumni this summer to celebrate AUB’s 150th anniversary.”

[tahermay@gmail.com]

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**Usamah Shahwan, PhD** (BA ’66, MA ’76) earned a PhD at the University of Southern California in 1984. Currently, he is a faculty member in the MBA program at Hebron University and a part-time faculty member in the master’s program’s International Cooperation and Development (MICAD) at Bethlehem University in Palestine, where he also serves as academic coordinator for the public administration professional diploma. Usamah is a freelance consultant for a number of local and international agencies. [osamash@hebron.edu]

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**Fawzi Sultan, PhD** (BA ’66) lives in Kuwait with his wife Fadila, son Hamad, and daughter Nouf. His youngest son Naser works in Dubai. Fawzi is retired but still active on the boards of international water and agricultural research centers and private companies. For the last few years, he has enjoyed yacht sailing and racing in Dubai and Muscat.

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**Basimah Yousif** (BS ’66) graduated with a degree in statistics and then earned a master’s degree at University of Kent, UK in 1977. She is now retired and living in Highland, California. [ybisa@hotmail.com]

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**Fairouz Farah Sarkis** (MA ’76) earned her master’s degree in mathematics education and a doctorate in the subject from the University of London in 1981. In 1996, she joined Lebanese University, where she was appointed head of the Office of External Projects and general secretary of the Scientific Council. Fairouz has served as the director of the Arab Open University in Lebanon since 2001. The author of a series of mathematics school textbooks, Fairouz was the national point of contact for the European Commission on Research Frameworks from 2004-11.

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**Muna Sami Jaafar** (MS ’76) is the widow of Nabil Chaar. She received her master’s degree in pharmacy and is presently retired. [mjchaar@gmail.com]

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**Mohammad Ali Sinno** (BEN ’76) majored in mechanical engineering. He is currently a director of Qatari Diar Saudi BinLadin Group (QD SBG) and works in Qatar at Hamad International Airport where he leads a team of 1,200 employees and is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the utilities systems. [msinno@qdsbg-om.com]

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**Joe Ayache** (BA ’86) graduated with a degree in economics and then went to Paris to study advertising. He has spent some 33 years in the field and currently serves as group managing director of Impact BBDO, the leading communications group in Lebanon and the Middle East. [j.ayache@impactbbdo.com.lb] [j_ayache@hotmail.com]

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**Sayed Mohammad Arabi Azzouzi** (BA ’86) graduated with a degree in economics. He has worked in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, where he currently lives. Mohammad works as a general manager at the Bustan Al Wataniya Trading Company. [azouzim@hotmail.com]

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**Manahel Bitar** (BS ’79, MA ’86) earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry, a Teaching Diploma and a master’s degree in science education. She also holds an International Education Leadership Certificate from the Principal’s Training Center. She is currently the director of La Cite...
Imad Hamzé (BS ‘86, MS ‘91) is a graduate of FAFS. He writes, “The best of my university years were when we went to AREC. A few of my classmates: Rabi Sabra (BS ‘86, MS ‘89), Bilal Hamieh (BS ‘86), Amin Nuwayri (BS ‘86), Remy Milad (BS ‘86), and I took an AUH car via Karameh Road, passing by Shemlan Road, meeting up with other colleagues from AUB and from the Off Campus Program (OCP) on the AREC farms. United with the OCP students for the first time after a few years of separation due to the civil war was a remarkably lovely experience and one that certainly stressed the AUB way of life. I am now serving as the international economic development expert in South Tunisia. Formerly I worked as a lecturer at FAFS and as a team leader, chief of party, and country director with international organizations and development banks in Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Morocco, Palestine, Maldives, and in Canada, my second country.”

Hadi Jaber (BBA ‘86) joined the Lebanese Diplomatic Corps on April 9, 1999. He is currently the chargé d’affaires in the Lebanese Embassy in Yemen.

Hassan Hussein Khalife (BEN ‘86) With his degree in civil engineering, Hassan founded Khalife Engineering and Contracting in 1990. Located in Saida, Lebanon and in Al-Basra, Iraq, the company focuses on building construction and infrastructure. [khalifeh_eng@yahoo.com]

Ziad Khatib (BS ‘83, MD ‘86) completed his residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Florida and a fellowship in hematology-oncology at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of several medical societies. The director of neuro-oncology at Miami’s Nicklaus Children’s Hospital where he has been practicing for over 23 years, Ziad is also a clinical associate professor at Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine. He conducts research studies on new approaches for cancer treatment, brain tumors in children, retinoblastoma, vascular and lymphatic malformations, stroke and thrombosis, cancer genetics, and complementary and integrative approaches to brain tumors. Ziad and his wife Randa Mnaymneh recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. They have two children: Laila (19), pre-med at Boston University, and Sami (17), a high school student. [Ziad.Khatib@mch.com] [Ziad.Khatib@mch.com]

Jurji Rustom (BS ‘82, MD ‘86) is living in Batroun, North Lebanon, where he practices general surgery at Batroun Hospital and where he has served as head of the Administrative Board since 2009. Jurji and his wife Rania Dibbs (BS ‘87, MD ‘91) have two children who are AUB students: Lilia (Graphic Design) and Estephan (Computer Science). [jrls10@hotmail.com]

Maher Taleb (BA ’86) moved to Canada in 1995. He is a single dad of two remarkable young men, Omar (16) and Hamzah (13). In addition to being a wealth management adviser based in Oakville, Ontario where he is supported by a team of three advisers, Maher is the adviser care manager for Canfin Financial Group of Companies, where he coaches about 100 advisers to build and expand their practice. In the last few years, Canfin started a global expansion by offering financial planning services to international clients, mainly Canadians residing outside Canada. Maher is the managing director for the Middle East and Africa servicing clients in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and Ghana. [mtaleb@Canfin.com] [www.mahertaleb.canfin.com]

Imad Tarabay (BEN ’86) writes that 29 years after graduating from AUB, the best educational institution in the Middle East, he is glad to help MainGate celebrate AUB’s 150th anniversary: “The University is a dream for every student in our region. I owe a lot to AUB, which was, and still is a passport to a successful life.” Imad is currently working in Saudi Arabia as general manager for Al Masheed International Development Ltd. Company, which does general contracting. He is also a partner in an aluminum contracting company in Lebanon called ALUCON S.A.R.L. Imad’s son Wael is studying civil engineering at LAU (class of 2016), and his daughter Rana is a first year business student at AUB’s Olayan School of Business. [Imedtr@hotmail.com]

Ghassan A. Abdel Rahman (BEN ‘88, EMBA ’06) joined Midas Group in 1989 and is currently a group managing partner of MDS Site & Power activities in UAE. He is a very active alumnus and has served as a WAAUAB council member; on WAAUAB leadership committees where he helped establish the professional Executive MBA (EMBA) Chapter; and in the Abu Dhabi Chapter. Ghassan has also served as a contest judge for OSB’s Darwazah Student Innovation Contest, and is a member of AUB’s President’s Club. His oldest daughter Lynn is a third year graphic design student at AUB. [Ghassan@mdsuae.ae]
**Ghazwa Darwiche** (BS ’96) is working as a project manager for a consulting firm offering software development and change management to various clients in North America. She lives in Montreal, Canada [ghazwa_darwish@hotmail.com]

**Mazen Fawwaz** (BEN ’96) earned his degree in communications and computer engineering. He writes, “Since 2004, I have resided in one of the most livable cities in the world, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. I still enjoy the academic environment and work at Simon Fraser University as a network operations manager on the main university campus.”

**Joceline Fransawi** (BA ’96) writes, “I have been living in Montreal, Canada with my husband and my two kids since 2008. In 2016, I will return to the work that I started in December 2015 as a professional Arabic interpreter, assisting the Canadian government with the arrival of the Syrian refugees to Canada.” [joceyf@gmail.com]

**Alia Ibrahim** (BA ’96) is a journalist who works on long version reportage for the *Al-Arabiya* news channel, and writes opinion pieces for several publications. Formerly, she worked for *The Daily Star*, becoming managing editor there in 2002; Dubai TV; and *The Washington Post*. She is currently based in Beirut. Alia is married and the mother of two.

**Hussein Jundi** (BS ’96) is the commercial director for the Levant region at Merck, a leading multinational pharmaceutical company. He is currently based in Lebanon. [hussein.jundi@external.merckgroup.com]

**Noha Mazraani** (BS ’90, MA ’96) writes, “While teaching at ACS-Beirut for 13 years, I earned a TD and MA in education from AUB, and then in 2008, received a doctorate in education from Saint Joseph University, Beirut. In 2007, I started working abroad: in Cairo at Hayah International Academy in Cairo, as the head of Science Department; in Abu Dhabi as a curriculum and staff development consultant at Horizon Private School; and at Erika Schools in Istanbul as the director of curriculum development. The highlight of my professional experience so far has been working at the National Center for Educational Research and Development in Beirut, developing the Lebanese science curriculum by writing science textbooks for the elementary school students. I believe that studying at AUB gave me the skills and the global mindset to be able to succeed and enjoy a productive life!” [nohamazraani@gmail.com]

**Dalal Michel Moukarzel** (TD ’02, MA ’06) earned a PhD in educational sciences from the University of Haute Alsace in France in 2011. She worked for years as director of Faculty and Instructional Development at Qatar University and as a consultant with the Center for Teaching and Learning at AUB. Dalal is currently an assistant professor and head of the Education Department at the Institute of Oriental Letters, Saint Joseph University. [dalal.moukarzel@gmail.com]

**Nadine Aboushakra (Barakat)** (BBA ’06) lives in the United States with her husband and two kids. She works as a project manager for a software engineering firm. [nadineaboushakra@gmail.com]

**Olena Awada** (BSN ’06) After working for nine years in various hospital jobs, Olena decided to go to graduate school. She is currently in her second year of a master of science degree program in nursing administration at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. [olena.doronina@mail.mcgill.ca]

**Wissam Sayyour** (BEN ’96) currently works in Saudi Arabia with the Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC) where he is a construction manager, handling all the mechanical works in the Soot Ash Recovery Unit Project.

**Ghada Merhi Bleik** (TD ’06). After earning her teaching diploma, Ghada got married and had two beautiful children (ages 7 and 2). When her eldest son turned two, she earned a master’s degree in educational management. Ghada is now a full-time teacher at City International School and a full-time mother as well. She writes that she cannot wait for her kids to be old enough to embark on college life at AUB. [merhi_gh@hotmail.com]
Abla Darwish (BBA ’06) resides in Dubai, UAE where she works as manager for corporate performance at one of the area’s largest holding companies, Meraas Holding. [abladarwish@gmail.com]

Roula El Khoury Fayad (BAR ’06) is an assistant professor of architecture at LAU’s School of Architecture and Interior Design. Her research interests include topics in representation and design, design methodology, and urban planning. Roula received her BA in architecture with a minor in political science. She also holds a master’s degree in urban planning from Harvard University. She has been recognized with several awards and prizes, including the Revisiting Dalieh prize, the Areen Award, F. Azar Award, and the Peter Cook Award. In addition to her full-time position, Roula is an independent consultant in design, delivering projects from conception to execution for private homes, offices, festivals and theatrical productions. [Roulak.fayad@gmail.com] [Roula.elkhoury@lau.edu.lb]

Hanan Halwani (MPH ’06) works for United Nations Relief and Works Agency, Lebanon as a field nursing services officer. She writes, “Although it came late in my educational studies, my MPH added a lot to my career, helping me to better direct my work experience, and to develop and evaluate programs and policies aimed at promoting and advocating for the health of populations.” Married with four children, Hanan is appreciative of the support she received from her family, and also from her teachers and mentors at FHS. “I still have all my notes and even the handbook from 2005-06!” [h.halwani@unrwa.org]

Daniel Kandalaft (MBA ’06) has been working in Beirut as a director in the Technical and Project Management Division of M1 Real Estate since 2009. He is currently pursuing a degree in mediation and conflict resolution at Saint Joseph University’s Professional Center of Mediation. [dkandalaft@m1group.com] [deko3@aub.edu.lb]

Saly Shamra (BS ’06) writes, “I was able to realize the benefits of my education in human development and community well-being by managing the dietary department at Monla Hospital for five years. I also worked on several international non-governmental projects in North Lebanon. In 2014, I became a pioneer in the gluten-free baking industry in Lebanon and the Middle East region by starting up my own family business, LoCal Wheat-free Bakery. I am currently the managing partner and dietetic consultant at LoCal Wheat-free Bakery, and the monitoring and evaluation manager at the USAID funded Lebanon Water Project.” [salyshamra@gmail.com]

Alumni! WAAAUB 2016 Elections

This year you have the opportunity to nominate two of your fellow alumni as potential candidates for election to the AUB Board of Trustees. One of these nominees will have graduated within the past ten years from AUB.

Please review the profiles of the AUB Trustees here: www.aub.edu.lb/main/about/Pages/bot.aspx and if you would like to nominate someone who would be a suitable candidate to potentially join this esteemed leadership of our alma mater, send your nominations to the WAAAUB Nominations Committee at: nominations-committee@waaaub.org

Save the date for this historic all-class Reunion!

July 8-10, 2016

You’ll never get another chance to be on campus with alumni friends from around the world and celebrate AUB’s 150th anniversary as well!

This will be a one-of-a-kind alumni celebration and part of the 150th anniversary celebrations

For more info, email us at: alumni@aub.edu.lb
Elias Salim Srouji (MD ’44), was born in Nazareth, Palestine in 1921 and passed away on October 22, 2015, three weeks short of his 65th wedding anniversary. After earning his medical degree, he returned to Nazareth to practice medicine. As the only pediatrician for the entire Galilee, he was known as the “Hakim,” or wise man. In 1967, Srouji moved back to Beirut so that his children could have a better education. In 1976 the Lebanese civil war prompted a bigger move to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. There, Srouji became a highly respected teacher and clinician in general pediatrics at the Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center, where he worked for over 21 years until his retirement in 1998 at the rank of professor of pediatrics. Oklahoma physicians who trained under Srouji remember his compassion, knowledge, and good nature. In retirement, Srouji wrote and published Cyclamens from Galilee: Memoirs of a Physician from Nazareth. He is survived by his devoted wife Arlette Effat, daughters Maria and Sana, sons Salim and Nabil, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Fauzi Mitri Najjar, PhD (BA ’48) was born in 1920, in the village of Bishmizzine, Lebanon, and passed away on October 26, 2015 in Lansing, Michigan. Forced to put his college ambitions on hold in 1937, he served in the British Army Quartermaster Corp for seven years. With the money he saved, Najjar was able to resume his undergraduate studies, earning his degree in political science with distinction. Upon graduation, he moved to the United States to pursue graduate degrees at the University of Chicago (MA ’50, PhD ’54), where he also met his wife, Vivian Berquist, whom he married in 1953. Najjar taught at both his alma maters before accepting a teaching position with the College of Social Science at Michigan State University, where he spent the remainder of his academic career. Named a distinguished professor in 1973, Najjar retired in 1987. He edited three volumes of Alfarabi’s writings on political philosophy and published a number of papers in Islamic thought and institutions. He is survived by his wife, Vivian, his brother Naim in Lebanon, sons Mitri and Ameen, and six grandchildren.

Sami Nassar (BA ’52, MD ’59) was born in 1931 and passed away on November 17, 2015. One of the region’s preeminent neurosurgeons who selflessly dedicated his life to help, heal, and restore hope in the hearts of many, Nassar was a much loved and respected colleague, teacher, and mentor. His passion for medicine took him to the United States where he trained in neurosurgery at Columbia University Presbyterian Hospital and was certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgeons. He joined AUB’s Faculty of Medicine as a clinical instructor in 1967, then became assistant professor in 1970 and associate professor in 1977. He served as chief of the Division of Neurosurgery from
George Rebeiz (BA ’49, MD ’53) Born in Beirut in 1927, Rebeiz passed away on December 8, 2015. He was a founding father of Lebanese cardiology who pioneered invasive and clinical cardiology. A renowned master clinician, a dedicated mentor, and an influential and passionate teacher, Rebeiz shaped the careers of many generations of doctors, and inspired countless students in the art, ethics, and science of medicine. After completing a fellowship in cardiology at Harvard Medical School, he began his career at AUB in 1959, serving as assistant, then associate, and finally emeritus professor of Internal Medicine and Cardiology. In 1970 and 1978, he was a visiting colleague at the University of London. Rebeiz is survived by his wife Daad (DIPL ’62), a brother Michel, children Helene (BS ’82, MD ’86), Nelly (BS ’83, MD ’87), and Abdallah (BS ’92, MD ’96), and three granddaughters.

Vera Gowlland-Debbas (BA ’62) was born of Lebanese parents in Alexandria, Egypt in 1943 and passed away in Geneva, Switzerland in September 2015. The family moved to Beirut in 1956. A few years later, Gowlland-Debbas became an active student at AUB, serving on the editorial board of Outlook, giving some memorable stage performances with the Drama Club, and earning her degree in political science. Following a further family move, she enrolled at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva where she obtained her master’s and doctoral degrees, and where she worked as a professor of public international law until her retirement. Described as one of the leading international lawyers of her generation, Gowlland-Debbas specialized in United Nations law, refugee law, and human rights. An acknowledged expert on sanctions, her book *Collective Responses to Illegal Acts in International Law: United Nations Action in the Question of Southern Rhodesia* is a seminal work in the field. She lectured and taught in several countries, was a visiting fellow at All Souls College, Oxford, and held visiting professorships at universities in Kyoto, Paris, and Berkeley, California. An outspoken advocate for Palestinian rights and a participant in the New York Russell Tribunal for Palestine, Gowlland-Debbas was a member of the legal team advising the Arab League in the 2004 Wall case before the International Court of Justice. Even at an advanced stage of her illness, she still managed to find the strength to maintain her advocacy for Palestine. Gowlland-Debbas is survived by her husband Neil, by her daughter Alix Naila, her son Geoffrey, and three grandchildren.

Nouhad Nassif Adi (BA ’71, MA ’76) was born in Ras Beirut in 1950 and passed away in Scottsdale, Arizona on October 28, 2015. She was the first of five sisters to graduate from AUB, where she met George Adi (BEN ’72, MEN ’77) in the Camping and Hiking Club in the early 1970s. They were married in the AUB Chapel in 1976 and embarked on an adventurous life, living in Nigeria and Abu Dhabi before they moved to the United States in the early 1990s. In the years following, they lived in Upstate New York, Northern Virginia, and Tucson, Arizona. Originally diagnosed with cancer in 2005, Nouhad fought the disease with great courage and spirit. She is survived by her husband George, her sisters Nawal, Nada, Georgette and Nabila, her daughter Samar and her son Salim.
Frederic Pratt Herter passed away in New York City on November 7, 2015, at the age of 94. He joined the American University of Beirut as a trustee in 1977, and served as chairman of the board from 1985-87, and as university president from 1987 to 1993. A highly respected surgeon and teacher, Herter received his undergraduate degree from Harvard College and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He did post-graduate training in surgery at Presbyterian Hospital. A pioneering surgeon and role model to generations of medical students, residents, and faculty members, Herter served as the Auchincloss Professor of Surgery at Columbia University, acting chairman of Department of Surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, acting director of Surgery at Presbyterian Hospital, director of Surgery at Francis Delafield Hospital, a trustee of Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Jackson Laboratories, and American Near East Refugee Aid; a regent of Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York; a member of the board of governors of the Middle East Institute, Washington; a member of the board of advisers of the Hariri Foundation USA; and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Barred from travelling to Lebanon during the most challenging years of the civil war, Herter successfully led the University from the New York Office. The scion of a distinguished New York family, he embodied the best qualities of leadership: inquisitiveness, determination, sensitivity, sense of purpose, and compassion. He is survived by his beloved wife Solange, sister Adele Seronde, son Eric, daughters Caroline and Brooke, stepson Marc, stepdaughters Mary, Veronique, and Jacqueline, and several grandchildren.

Friends

Frederic Pratt Herter

Shawki Droubi, age 41, had been a messenger in the AUBMC general support unit since 1996. He was known for his positive and helpful disposition and excellent service.

Khodr Alaa Deen, age 29, joined AUBMC in 2014, as a registered nurse. He was a diligent and generous colleague.

We Remember

Anna T. Davidowicz  BA 46
Nassim Nabbout  BA 51, BS 53
Ali A. Husayni  BA 53
Sami Georges Khayat  BA 53
Sadi Turki Said  BA 66
John E. Ashkar  BEN 69
Ali Youssef Eid  BA 70
Margaret M. Bordon  MA 71
George Ilyas Zilinski  MA 72
Bana S. Arnaout  BS 74, MS 76
Ghulam Faruq Abawi  BS 76
Cyril Albert El Amm  BA 02
Alecos Michealides  Former Student
Issa A Khalifah  Former Student
Adel Jamil Nassar  Former Student
Zuhayr A. Moghrabi  Former Student
Suheil Bushuri  Former Faculty
Jackson Bird  Friend
Eric Rouleau  Friend
William A. Darity  Friend

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Khodr Alaa Deen, age 29, joined AUBMC in 2014, as a registered nurse. He was a diligent and generous colleague.

The AUB community mourns the tragic loss of Shawki Droubi and Khodr Alaa Deen.
One of the Most Beautiful Universities in the World

AUB’s campus, stretching from the Mediterranean to the hills of Ras Beirut, is renowned for its greenery, Ottoman-inspired and modernist architecture, and vistas of sea and distant mountains. Photographer Guillaume de Laubier celebrated these features in his book “The Most Beautiful Universities in the World,” in which AUB was included along with Princeton University, the University of Oxford, and Stanford University. De Laubier captures the palms and pines standing out against the backdrop of majestic buildings, while Jean Serroy narrates the campus’s history.
Collect all three 150th editions for a full map of Beirut featuring streets named after figures from AUB’s history.