



Archives and Special Collections Department,  
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon  
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**Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meetings  
of  
the Syrian Protestant College & the American University of Beirut,  
1863-Present**

A Finding Aid to the Collection at the University Libraries, AUB  
Prepared by Dalya Nouh

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## Descriptive Summary

**Call No.:** AA:2.1.0

**Library catalog ID:** [b14622555](#)

**Record Creator:** Board of Trustees of the Syrian Protestant College and the American University of Beirut.

**Collection Title:** Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meetings of the Syrian Protestant College and the American University of Beirut, 1863-Present

**Collection Dates:** 1863-Present

**Physical Description:** 18 boxes (approximately 6 linear feet)

## Administrative Information

**Source:** The bulk of the collection was received from New York Office in 2001.

**Access Restrictions:** The collection can be used within the premises of the Archives and Special Collections Department, Jafet Memorial Library, American University of Beirut.

**Photocopying Restriction:** No photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

**Preferred Citation:** Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1863-Present, AA:2.1.0, Series no., Box no., Vol. no., American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

## Scope and Content

The Board of Trustees governs the university by establishing policy and exercising fiduciary responsibility for the long-term well-being of the institution. The board and its Executive Committee act on recommendations of the board committees, university offices, and the University Senate.

The Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meetings of the Syrian Protestant College & the American University of Beirut Collection is around 6 linear feet of archival material housed in 18 boxes; in addition to the restricted volumes which are released after twenty-five years from the date of record creation. The collection contains bound volumes of the minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees, handwritten, for the years 1863 to 1907 and typed, for the years 1908 to present. The minutes include decisions related to university's finances (annual operating and capital budgets), elections, increase, promotion and tenure, compensations and benefits, fundraising, educational programs and academic affairs, alumni relations and external relations, major capital projects, physical plant, new medical (clinical and academic) facilities, the establishment of clinical and research centers, investment in state-of-the-art equipment, and regional and international partnerships, etc.

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged in three series.

**Series I:** Minutes and Meetings: General, boxes 1-2

**Series II:** BOT Minutes 1863-1996, boxes 3-18

**Series III:** BOT Minutes 1997-Present (restricted)

## Subject Headings

American University of Beirut. Board of Trustees  
Syrian Protestant College -- Administration.  
American University of Beirut -- Administration.  
Meetings.  
Minutes.

## Historical Sketch

Daniel Bliss, founder of the Syrian Protestant College (later renamed the American University of Beirut in 1920) in 1866, met William E. Dodge, a wealthy New York businessman, in 1862 at a presentation Bliss was giving to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in New York. Dodge was so impressed by Bliss that he helped him form a board of trustees for the burgeoning University. A charter for establishing the college was granted by the legislature of the State of New York in 1863. The Board of Trustees was also officially established in 1863 with William A. Booth as its first Chair. Before 1919 University affairs in New York City, board meetings or otherwise, were conducted out of the offices of the chairman of the Board of Trustees. In 1919, a New York office was established at 18 East 41st Street, it shared space with the Near East College Association (NECA), which included The Constantinople Women's College and Robert's College, Constantinople, headed by Albert W. Staub. In the 1930s, the office shared services, space with the NECA, and moved to 50 West 50th Street. In 2003, AUB purchased the condominium at 3 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza (aka 305 East 47th Street), and in 2005, the office was named the Debs Center in honor of Dr. Richard A. Debs, Chairman of the Board of Trustees (1995-2005). Eileen F. O'Connor was the first director of the office under its new name and. AUB New York office still resides in the Debs Center today where the annual Board of Trustees meetings are hosted.

The Board is now formed of 45 active positions that serve for three years, renewable for three-year terms, up to 75 years of age.

[Retrieved on May 31, 2021 from: <https://www.aub.edu.lb/AboutUs/bot/Pages/Board-History.aspx>]

## Container List

### Series I: Minutes and Meetings: General, boxes 1-2

#### Box 1: Minutes and Meetings 1884-1956

File 1: Minutes: General 1884-1894.

File 2: Meetings: General 1903-1920.

File 3: Meetings and Decisions: General 1921-1978.

File 4: Finance Committee Meetings, April 1948-January 1966.

#### Box 2: Minutes and Meetings 1980-1998

File 1: Meetings and Decisions 1980-1978.

File 2: Meeting and Decisions, 2008- .

File 3: Amman Meeting: September 1987.

File 4: Damascus Trip: Arrangement, Travel, Program, Notes on University Meetings in Damascus. April- May 1998.

File 5: Board of Trustees Development Committee Meeting. 17 June 1993.

## **Series II: BOT Minutes 1863-1996**

### **Box 3: December 1863-January 1895** (handwritten)

Book #1: December 1863 - December 1874.

Book #2: November 1875 - January 1895

### **Box 4: January 1895-June 1916** (1895 handwritten; 1896-1915 typed)

### **Box 5: January 1896-January 1929**

Book # 3A: January 1896 - May 1907. (Handwritten)

Book #3: November 1908- January 1929.

### **Box 6: February 1930-January 1952**

Book #4: February 1930 - April 1947.

Book #5: June 1947 - January 1952

### **Box 7: January 1952- March 1958**

Book #6: January 1952 - June 1955.

Book #7: June 1955 - March 1958

### **Box 8: October 1928-1963**

Book #8: October 1958 - December 1960.

Book #9: February 1961 - December 1963.

### **Box 9: January 1964-October 1967**

Book #10: January 1964 - October 1965.

Book #11: January 1966 - October 1967.

### **Box 10: October 1967-November 1970**

Book #12: October 1967 - November 1968.

Book #13: January 1969 - November 1970.

### **Box 11: November 1970-July 1974**

Book #14: November 1970 - September 1972.

Book #15: November 1972-July 1974.

### **Box 12: September 1974 - September 1977**

Book #16: September 1974-October 1975.

Book #17: November 1975 - September 1977.

### **Box 13: November 1977- November 1981**

Book #18: November 1977 - November 1979.

Book #19: March 1980 - November 1981.

**Box 14: March 1982 - July 1986**

Book #20: March 1982 - January 1985

Book #21: March 1985 - July 1986

**Box 15: September 1986 - January 1991**

Book #22: September 1986 - January 1988

Book #23: March 1988 - June 1989

Book #24: November 1989 - January 1991

**Box 16: March 1991 - June 1992**

Book #25: March 1991 - November 1991

Book #26: January 1992 - June 1992

**Box 17: November 1992 - November 1993**

Book #27: November 1992 - March 1993

Book #28: April 1993 - November 1993

**Box 18: March 1994 - June 1996**

Book #29: March 1994 - June 1994

Book #30: September 1994 - March 1995

Book #31: June 1995 - September 1995

Book #32: November 1995 - June 1996

**Series III: BOT Minutes 1997-Present (restricted)****Related Material****Archival Collection**

- Board of Trustees, 1863- . [AA:2.1.1](#)
- [Board of Trustees and Related Units](#)
- Minutes of Faculty Meetings of the Syrian Protestant College & the American University of Beirut, 1867-1940 [AA:3.4.2](#)
- Medical Division Faculty Minutes 1908-1979. [AA:3.9.3](#)
- Daniel Bliss Collection, 1852-1956. [AA:2.3.1](#)
- Philip Khoury Hitti Collection, 1910-1976. [AA:6.2.8.1](#)
- Ibrahim Salti Collection: AUB Deputy President 1987-1993 [Box 11-12] [AA:2.3.21](#)
- Malcolm Kerr Collection : AUB President 1982-1984 [Box 2] [AA:2.3.14](#)
- Congresses for the Support of AUB [Box 1 File 10] [AA:5.2](#)

**Audiovisuals**

- Ali I. Ghandour: Interview. [DVD:AUB:2015/10/30](#)
- Ann Z. Kerr-Adams: Interview [DVD:AUB:2016/01/26](#)
- Farouk K. Jabre: Interview [DVD:AUB:2015/10/22](#)
- Philip S. Khoury: Interview [DVD:AUB:2016/05/27\(01\)](#)
- Thomas Q. Morris: Interview [DVD:AUB:2015/08/11\(02\)](#)

## Books

- Penrose, S. B. L. (1941). *That they may have life: The story of the American University of Beirut, 1866-1941*. New York: Trustees of the American University of Beirut. [J 378.5692:P417t:1941](#)

## Digital Resources

- [The Board of Trustees](#)
- [Through the Years: AUB's Board of Trustees from the 1950s until Today](#)

## Periodicals

- American University of Beirut & Syrian Protestant College. (1908-1917). *Annual report of the Board of Trustees of the American University of Beirut*. New York, N.Y: Office of Trustees. [CA:P:AUB](#)
- American University of Beirut. (1920-1972). *Annual Report to the Board of Trustees of the American University of Beirut*. Beirut. [CA:P:AUB](#)
- American University of Beirut, (1961- ). *The President's report to the Board of Trustees*.Beirut. [CA:P:AUB](#)
- American University of Beirut. (1971-2002). *A U B newsletter*. [CA:P:AUB](#)

## Photographs

- Najeeb Halabi Collection, 1970s. [Ph:AUB:1970s\(107\):1-9:53](#)
- President Malcolm Kerr meets Board of Trustees, 1982. [Ph:AUB:1982\(02\):1-2:56](#)
- Visit of Board of Trustees Members, 2012. [Ph:AUB:2012/06/21-22\(02\):1-25](#)
- Board of Trustees Committee Meeting, 2014. [Ph:AUB:2014/09/08\(01\):01](#)
- Board of Trustees Damascus meeting, 1988. [Ph:AUB:1988/05/03-09:1-2:65](#)
- Board of Trustees Dinner, 2008. [Ph:AUB:2008/02/18\(03\):01:84](#)
- Board of Trustees elections, 1994. [Ph:AUB:1994/06/17:1-10:61](#)
- Board of Trustees meeting, 1980s. [Ph:AUB:1980s\(65\):01:56](#)
- Board of Trustees meeting, 1983. [Ph:AUB:1983/07/08-10:01:56](#)
- Board of Trustees Reception, 1960s. [Ph:AUKB:1960s\(78\):01:49](#)
- Board of Trustees members 1968, having dinner. [Ph:AUB:1968/06\(04\):01:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1969. [Ph:AUB:1969/06\(01\):1-4:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1970. [Ph:AUB:1970/06/23-25:1-4:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1973. [Ph:AUB:1973/07/2-5:1-4:54](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1975. [Ph:AUB:1975/07\(01\):01:54](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 1978. [Ph:AUB:1978/07\(09\):01:55](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 1979. [Ph:AUB:1979/06\(01\):01:55](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 1997. [Ph:AUB:1997/07/07\(03\):01:63](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2004. [Ph:AUB:2004/05/08\(01\):1-2:77](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2005. [Ph:AUB:2005/05/06:1-3:79](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2006. [Ph:AUB:2006/02/19\(01\):1-2:81](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2007. [Ph:AUB:2007/05/03\(02\):1-8:83](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2008. [Ph:AUB:2008/05/02\(01\):1-3:84](#)

- Board of Trustees Members, 2009. [Ph:AUB:2009/02/18\(01\):1-2:85](#)
- Board of Trustees members, 2010. [Ph:AUB:2010/05/06\(01\):01:87](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2011. [Ph:AUB:2011/02/22\(05\):1-2:88](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2011. [Ph:AUB:2011/06/23\(04\):1-5:88](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2011. [Ph:AUB:2011/10/03\(10\):1-6:89](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2012. [Ph:AUB:2012/02/22\(04\):1-13:89](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2013. [Ph:AUB:2013/02:01:90](#)
- Board of Trustees Members, 2015. [Ph:AUB:2015/09/08\(01\):01](#)
- Board of Trustees Members departure from New York City to Beirut, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956/04/12:01:47](#)
- Board of Trustees members of the American University of Beirut, 1966. [Ph:AUB:1966/06\(01\):01:51](#)
- Board of Trustees members of the American University of Beirut, 1968. [Ph:AUB:1968/06/25:1-5:52](#)
- Board of Trustees Members visit to AUB Art Gallery, 2012. [Ph:AUB:2012/02/20\(04\):1-14:89](#)
- Board of Trustees Members visiting President Camille Chamoun, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956/04/17:1-23:47](#)
- Board of Trustees members visiting President Charles Helou, 1968. [Ph:AUB:1968/06/26:1-16:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members visiting President Charles Helou, 1969. [Ph:AUB:1969/06\(02\):1-18:52](#)
- Board of Trustees members visiting President Elias Sarkis, 1979. [Ph:AUB:1979/07\(01\):01:55](#)
- Board of Trustees Members visiting President Fuad Chehab, 1959. [Ph:AUB:1959/04/17\(01\):1-28:48](#)
- Board of Trustees New Members, 2007. [Ph:AUB:2007/12/13\(01\):01:84](#)
- Board of Trustees visiting LeMSIC Exhibition on Health Comics, 2007. [Ph:AUB:2007/10/02:01:83](#)
- Visit of the Board of Trustees members to AREC Farm and Baalbek, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956\(04\):1-26:47](#)
- AUB Board of Trustees members meet on campus, 1956. [Ph:AUB:1956/04/14:1-10:47](#)
- Reception by Dean Mohamad Sayegh for Board of Trustees Members, 2011. [Ph:AUB:2011/02/20:1-7:88](#)
- Tour by Board of Trustees Members to Charles W. Hostler Students Center, 2008. [Ph:AUB:2008/05/01:1-6:84](#)
- Meeting with Board of Trustees 2005. [Ph:AUB:2005/10/08\(03\):1-9:80](#)
- Meeting between Board of Trustees and students, 1999. [Ph:AUB:1999/05/18\(02\):1-5:66](#)
- Reception by Leila Sharaf for Board of Trustees members, 1989. [Ph:AUB:1989/10\(05\):1-3:58](#)
- Dinner in honor of Board of Trustees Members, 1983. [Ph:AUB:1983/07\(04\):01:56](#)
- Luncheon by Workers and Staff Syndicate in honor of Board of Trustees, 1978. [Ph:AUB:1978/07\(03\):01:55](#)
- Visit of the Board of Trustees members to the American University of Beirut, 1959. [Ph:AUB:1959/04/17\(02\):1-28:48](#)

- Alumni reception in honor of Board of Trustees members, 1956.  
[Ph:AUB:1956/04/23:1-16:47](#)