

IBSAR, Nature Conservation Center for Sustainable Futures

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

AUB Faculty with Membership in IBSAR

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Clary, Amy	Visiting Assistant Professor; English (FAS)
Darwiche, Nadine, PhD	Professor; Biology (FAS)
Dimechkie, Riad	Director of EMBA (OSB)
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Habib, Rima	Associate Professor, Environmental Health (FHS)
Homaidan, Fadia, PhD	Director of Grants and Contracts, Associate Professor; Physiology (FM)
Hwalla, Nahla, PhD	Dean and Professor; Nutrition and Food Sciences (FAFS)
Jamal, Ghada	Instructor; Fine Arts and History (FAS)
Jurdi, May	Professor, Environmental Health (FHS)
Kamleh, Rabih	Assistant Professor; Environmental Health (FHS)
Kassaify, Zeina	Assistant Professor; Nutrition and Food Sciences (FAFS)
Knio, Khouzama, PhD	Professor; Biology (FAS)
Makdisi, Karim, PhD	Assistant Professor; Political Studies and Public Administration (FAS)
Makhzoumi, Jala, PhD	Associate Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)
Mohtaseb, Hala, PhD	Chairperson and Professor; Biology (FAS)
Muraywed, Amal	Senior Lecturer; Fine Arts and History (FAS)
Obeid Omar, PhD	Associate Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)
Olabi, Ammar, PhD	Assistant Professor; Nutrition and Food Science (FAFS)
Rubeiz, Nelly, MD	Clinical Associate Professor; Dermatology (FM)
Saab, Basim, MD	Professor; Family Medicine (FM)
Saikaly, Pascal	Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering (FEA)

Salha, Neville	Senior Lecturer; Fine Arts and History (FAS)
Saliba Aoun, Najat, PhD	Associate Professor; Chemistry (FAS)
Talhok, Rabih, PhD	Professor; Biology (FAS)
Talhok, Salma, PhD	Chairperson and Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management Department (FAFS)
Zurayk, Rami, PhD	Associate Dean and Professor; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (FAFS)

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Introduction

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

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

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

Membership and Governance

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

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

- The executive committee is responsible for coordinating the work of the center and providing guidance to its committees. It is also in charge of fundraising.
- The research committee is responsible for the cultivation of research activities, and encourages those leading to patentable innovations.
- The outreach committee disseminates information to society at large and organizes activities that highlight the economic, social, and cultural value of biodiversity for communities.

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