

For Immediate Release



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Mary Jaber Nachar named **first woman Vice President for Administration at AUB**

President of the American University of Beirut (AUB), Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri, announced the appointment of Ms. Mary Jaber Nachar as Vice President for Administration at AUB. “It is my distinct pleasure to announce Mary Jaber Nachar as Vice President for Administration, with the full support of the Board of Trustees. This is a landmark step for the university, as a distinguished woman professional assumes the university’s leading administrative role for the first time in our history,” Khuri said.

He added: “With her vast institutional knowledge, profound understanding of the university’s inner workings, and unquestioned commitment to its lofty mission and goals, Ms. Jaber has served as a lodestar from the beginning of my tenure as president. As chief of staff since 2015, Mary quickly established herself as a linchpin of the leadership team, working collaboratively with key constituents across a broad spectrum of the university, bringing fresh ideas and problem-solving skills to any and all issues that have arisen”.

He continued: “In 2017, Ms. Jaber assumed even greater responsibility as she added the duties of associate vice president for administration to her already full plate. In this role, she has consistently transformed the units reporting to her. She introduced structure, developed clear roadmaps, streamlined processes, aligned objectives with the mission and strategic goals of the university, and improved customer service. In her new capacity, she will continue overseeing benefits, human resources, communications, physical plant, facilities, and enterprise risk management. Her managerial portfolio will broaden to include protection, strategic planning and process improvement, and Title IX. These changes will be announced shortly in greater detail along with other changes to the university organizational chart. I am confident that Mary will have a similar transformative impact on the areas coming under her supervision”.

Khuri said that VP Jaber has shown a remarkable capacity to build strong collaborative relationships, not only in the areas under her purview, but across the university and medical center, spanning both academic and administrative units, as well as with the Workers and Staff Syndicate, our colleagues at the Debs Center in New York, and our distinguished Board of Trustees. She has played a leadership role in our strategic planning team, helping to develop the new campus master plan and VITAL 2030. Mary is

particularly adept at bridging the gaps between administrative strategy and execution and she will now be overseeing the all-important step of shepherding our ambitious strategic plan into implementation.

He also said that “as An AUB-ite through and through, Ms. Jaber holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in business administration from AUB and is a certified professional in human resources and compensation (CPHRC). She has held several key administrative posts since joining the AUB staff in 2001, beginning with working in the Office of the Vice President for Administration—the very office she now leads”.

“Mary brings an impeccable work ethic, sound judgment, strong interpersonal skills, humility, teamwork, and a great devotion to her alma mater. Over the past year in particular—as we faced challenge after challenge—her crisis management, leadership, and negotiation skills have been especially valuable. Now, as we enter this period of great risk and responsibility, Mary’s leadership is crucial to our success,” Khuri ended.

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 900 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 9,100 students. AUB currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor’s, master’s, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 420-bed hospital.

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