

## Press Release



### Remembering Zaha Hadid

Beirut, Lebanon- 4/1/2016- Zaha Hadid, who has died suddenly in Miami aged 65, studied mathematics at the American University of Beirut from 1968-69 before she went off to the AA in London to study architecture.

Her design was chosen for a striking building on the AUB Campus, housing the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs. The IFI building was inaugurated in 2014 with Ms Hadid attending the gala opening ceremony (see pictures).

The building features Ms Hadid's trademark futuristic approach with multiple, geometrically erratic points of perspective. It provides a facility that accommodates the specific functions of a modern-day think tank where the scholars, journalists, diplomats, and policy makers who are central to the work of the Institute are able to teach, research, convene, and collaborate.

Receiving news of Ms Hadid's death AUB President Fadlo R. Khuri said "This is shocking news and I extend sincere condolences to the family of Zaha Hadid and those who were close to her on behalf of our whole community."

"Zaha is a shining example of an Arab woman who made a global impact in an area traditionally dominated by men. Her designs are instantly recognizable in some of the most prestigious locations in the world; and AUB is very lucky to have one of them on Campus."

Zaha Hadid received an honorary degree in 2006 from AUB, as she did from several other universities. She received numerous international awards including the Stirling Prize in 2010 and 2011. In 2004 she became the first woman to be awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize and the first woman to be awarded the Gold Medal by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in 2016.

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#### For more information please contact:

Office of Communications, [information@aub.edu.lb](mailto:information@aub.edu.lb), 01-75 96 85

#### 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 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 130 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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