

For Immediate Release



Upcoming events at AUB, through April 23

Beirut, Lebanon- 17/04/2014 - The following events will take place at AUB in the next days:

- **Materials Science and Energy International Symposium**

The Materials Science Initiative in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture is organizing the first AUB Symposium on Materials Science and Energy, supported and funded by the Munib and Angela Masri Institute of Energy and Natural Resources, on April 22, 2014, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, in Samir Zaabari, Science Lecture Hall.

Keynote lectures by international scientists:

Professor Michael J. Aziz, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University

Professor Sebastian Volz, CNRS, Ecole Centrale de Paris.

In addition, a two-hour poster session will be held in the garden outside of the Science Lecture Hall, where AUB faculty and students will be presenting their latest research work in the area of materials science, with special emphasis on energy research. This symposium will present an opportunity to learn about the latest research in nanoscience, materials science and energy related applications in the different faculties at AUB. In addition, the Masri Institute for Energy and Natural Resources will be announcing during the symposium the awarded research grants for the fifth research funding cycle. Three awards for best students' posters (\$400 each) will also be announced.

- **Lecture on the Experience of LCPS in Influencing Policymaking in Lebanon**

The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs is organizing a Director's Policy Series Lecture, "Setting the Agenda: The Experience of LCPS in Influencing Policymaking in Lebanon," by Mr. Sami Atallah, on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm, in the Issam Fares Institute (Green Oval), Auditorium - AUB.

Sami Atallah, who is trained in economics and political science, is the director of the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS). Prior to joining LCPS, he served as a consultant for the World Bank, the European Union and the United Nations Development Program in Lebanon and Syria. Atallah also served as an advisor for the Lebanese Ministries of Finance, Industry, and Interior and Municipalities, as well as in the Prime Minister's Office. In addition, he taught economics and political economy at the American University of Beirut (AUB).

At LCPS, he is currently leading several policy studies on the governance of the gas sector, electoral behavior, monitoring the Parliament and political parties, economic diversification and industrial policy, and decentralization and service delivery. From November 2012 till April 2014, Atallah served on the Committee established by the Lebanese Prime Minister to draft a decentralization law.

He has two master's degrees in international and development economics from Yale University (1996) and in quantitative methods from Columbia University (2004). He is currently completing his PhD in politics at New York University.

- **The 13th FEA Student and Alumni Conference**

The 13th FEA student and alumni conference will start in the morning of April 23, 2014 with introductions and awards of four Distinguished Alumni and four Distinguished Young Alumni of 2014. Four faculty members and Emeritus Professor Raja Iliya will also be honored during the Opening Ceremony. After the awards, the remainder of that morning will be devoted to the Department of Architecture and Design with Mr. Mu'taz Sawwaf, Mashrou' Leila, and Prof. Lina Ghaibeh, while the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering will occupy the afternoon with Dr. Marwan Nader, Dr. Chrisitan Manasseh, and Prof. Mounir Mabsout. The morning of April 24 will be devoted to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering with Mr. Malek Chebaro, Dr. Soleiman Itani, and Dean Ibrahim Hajj. The Department of Mechanical Engineering will close the conference that afternoon with Ms. Rana El Chemaitelly, Dr. Eva Kanso, and Prof. Ramsey Hamade. The Conference will be followed by a reception on the evening of April 24th where student winners are given their awards.

- **Violence, Torture and Cinema**

The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Media Studies is organizing a lecture entitled, “Violence, Torture and Cinema: From the Middle East to Latin America and Back,” by Dr. Riccardo Bocco, professor of political sociology at the Anthropology and Sociology Department of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

The lecture will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm, in the Issam Fares Institute (Green Oval), Auditorium - AUB.

The lecture is based on a project that compares Latin America and the Middle East by exploring the role of documentary and fiction films in reconstructing collective identities in the wake of armed conflicts and political transitions.

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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 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the 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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