

For Immediate Release



## **Wadad Kadi, Munib Masri, and Donna Shalala to be awarded honorary doctorates from AUB**

Beirut, Lebanon- 15/06/2012 - American University of Beirut President Peter Dorman announced on June 15 the names of three distinguished individuals to be awarded honorary degrees by AUB this year. Two women and one man will receive honorary doctorates of humane letters at Commencement exercises for graduate students to be held on June 22, 2012.

Wadad A. Kadi, who completed her BA, MA, and PhD at AUB, has gone on to world renown as one of the preeminent scholars of Islamic thought and civilization. Author of eleven books and numerous other published works, she has taught at many prestigious universities and is currently the Avalon Foundation Distinguished Service Professor Emerita at the University of Chicago. Celebrated for her groundbreaking scholarship as well as excellence in teaching, Professor Kadi is the recipient of the prestigious King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature, considered by some to be the equivalent of a Nobel Prize in the world of Arabic studies.

Munib R. Masri is a leading international businessman who has built numerous businesses spanning the globe. A native of Nablus, he returned to Palestine 20 years ago to dedicate himself to nation-building and promoting social welfare, education, and development in Palestine. His success in business is balanced by a dedication to philanthropy, addressing the cause of peace in this region, and helping mediate unity among the Palestinian leadership. Masri has served in multiple governmental capacities, as a former minister of state in Palestine, former minister in the Jordanian government, and current member of the Palestine Legislative Council. Munib R. Masri has served on the board of trustees of AUB and is now a trustee emeritus.

Donna E. Shalala, an American of Lebanese descent, has devoted her life to public service in teaching, government, and academic administration. She has taught political science at several universities and been top administrator of three: president of Hunter College of the City University of New York (1980-87), Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1987-93), and currently president of the University of Miami in Florida. She held two US government cabinet posts; as Secretary of Health and Human Services (1993-2001) under President Bill Clinton, she was described as "one of the most successful government managers of modern times."

ENDS

**For more information please contact:**

Maha Al-Azar, Associate Director for Media Relations, [ma110@aub.edu.lb](mailto:ma110@aub.edu.lb), 01-353 228

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 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 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.

**Stay up to date on AUB news and events. Follow us on:**

Website: [www.aub.edu.lb](http://www.aub.edu.lb)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aub.edu.lb>

Twitter: [http://twitter.com/AUB\\_Lebanon](http://twitter.com/AUB_Lebanon)