

For Immediate Release



## **Business School stakes its place among world's top-accredited business schools**

Beirut, Lebanon- 31/03/2014 - The Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB) at the American University of Beirut has been re-accredited by AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business -- considered the benchmark for business school quality among the academic community.

By maintaining rigorous standards, OSB stakes its place among the world's 5 percent of business schools who have AACSB accreditation, the likes of Harvard Business School, MIT, Sloan School of Management, INSEAD and others. In 2009, OSB became the first Lebanese institution to receive its AACSB accreditation.

"AACSB-accredited schools are considered to be the best business schools in the world," according to the AACSB website. "Their undergraduate, master's, and doctorate degree programs have passed rigorous standards for quality. AACSB-accredited schools have better programs, better faculty, better students with higher overall GPAs, more international students, more employers that recruit from them, and graduates that receive better salaries."

Professor Salim Chahine, OSB acting dean, underscored the importance of this recognition, as proof of the OSB team's dedication in pursuing the school's mission of delivering an internationally-recognized, high-quality education in Lebanon and the Arab world.

"The collaborative efforts of our dedicated faculty and staff to maintain high standards will continue regardless of any challenges," Chahine said. "We are committed to maintaining excellence in teaching, producing impactful research, and nurturing our interaction and relationships with business and industry. Most importantly, this accreditation will give our graduates an advantage as it certifies to the business community that learning matters at OSB, and helps our students find better job opportunities locally and internationally."

AACSB-accredited schools are known to produce graduates that are highly skilled and more desirable to employers than other non-accredited schools.

Founded in 1916, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business is the longest-serving global accrediting body for business schools. AACSB Accreditation is considered the hallmark of excellence in business education. "It takes a great deal of commitment and determination to earn and maintain AACSB Accreditation," said Robert D. Reid, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International.

Since its formal establishment as a stand-alone school, the Olayan School of Business has grown its full-time faculty complement from 13 in the academic year 2000-2001 to 53 in the academic year 2013-2014 (all recruited on the international market) and has graduated over

3,664 students from its undergraduate program, over 373 students from its MBA program, and more than 170 students from its Executive MBA program (which was introduced in the February of 2004). The School currently offers five degree programs: a Bachelor of Business Administration, a Master of Business Administration, an Executive Master of Business Administration, a Master in Finance, and a Master in Human Resource Management, in addition to its executive education and management training programs.

To learn more about the American University of Beirut / Suliman S. Olayan School of Business, visit [http://www.aub.edu.lb/osb/osb\\_home/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.aub.edu.lb/osb/osb_home/Pages/index.aspx). Or to learn more about AACSB International accreditation, visit the accreditation section of the AACSB International Web site at: <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/>.

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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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