

For Immediate Release



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AUB raises the flag for Lebanon

The American University of Beirut (AUB) community gathered in front of West Hall on November 21, 2017, in an annual ceremony to raise the national flag in honor of Lebanese Flag Day, a day before Lebanon's Independence Day.

Dean of Student Affairs Talal Nezameddin, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Charbel Tarraf, faculty, staff, and students participated in the ceremony, which started with the Lebanese national anthem.

Speaking about the ceremony, Dr. Talal Nezameddin said, "Whatever the weather, rain or shine, we gather here to honor the Lebanese flag and once more express and dedicate our loyalty to our beautiful Lebanon."

He then talked about the student elections that happened recently at AUB saying, "Here at AUB the student body elected its representatives in free, fair, and innovative elections to prove that Lebanon can be a role model for the region and that AUB is a role model for Lebanon." He stated that this achievement is a credit to the AUB community and students in particular, who handled themselves in a civilized way before, during, and after the elections. He added, "Democracy, tolerance, dialogue, peaceful political competition and diversity are values that AUB cherishes with all its will."

Nezameddin also talked about the active and engaged AUB clubs and societies, and about the heavy participation of students in a workshop for AUB clubs and societies that took place last weekend, despite their exams, assignments, and other commitments. He said, "It was a truly successful event because it affirmed once more that AUB students go over and above the norm." He added that despite the political challenges Lebanon is facing, we have to keep focusing on the positives. He continued, "Let us not forget that we are blessed to be in this land. Lebanon has sacrificed a great deal and yet the Lebanese remain welcoming and proud."

Nezameddin concluded: “The way the Lebanese displayed national unity in the past two weeks, crossing sectarian and political divides, is something we must hold on to. This will allow us to build a better future if we believe and we stand together.”

ENDS

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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 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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