

For Immediate Release



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Families of students in the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program visit AUB

Muhtasib: "The success of the students and the program depends on your support."

The American University of Beirut (AUB) hosted the parents of students benefitting from the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at AUB. The students with their parents and some university professors spent an entire day on campus. This was intended to introduce the parents of the students to the social and academic environment on campus, in addition to getting to know its educational and administrative staff.

The visiting parents started the day's activities with a tour of the campus, accompanied by their children the students and by officials from AUB's Visitors' Bureau and Campus Tours Office. After that, they all moved to the Bathish Auditorium in West Hall, where they were greeted by Interim Associate Provost Hala Muhtasib and by Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) Iman Nuwayhid, Dr. Rima Afifi, and Maha Haidar along with AUB professors and staff.

Dr. Muhtasib spoke to the audience: "This university is characterized by several qualities and is of course an inveterate establishment which this year celebrated its 150th anniversary". She pointed out that AUB has managed to maintain its leadership in research and education during this long period of time and has maintained its reputation and credibility in spite of all the challenges and difficult economic, security and political circumstances in Lebanon and the region.

She added: "Today and in view of events and developments in the region and the world, the university chooses as usual to play an active role in the spirit of AUB and its leadership's commitment to responsibility to the community. Thus AUB reached out to many partners in Lebanon and the world to work diligently to improve the living conditions and secure a hope of a better life, for younger generations".

She continued: "In embodiment of these efforts, this program was born in 2012 and it was the fruit of cooperation between MasterCard Foundation and the Faculty of Health Sciences at AUB. Now, four years of continuous work and distinctive partnership later, MasterCard Foundation has

been convinced by the leadership of FHS of the importance of continuing this program. So, the partnership was renewed in 2016”.

Addressing the parents, Dr. Muhtasib said: “The success of the students and the program depends on your permanent support. Like you children, you are principal partners with us in this program. We appreciate and respect the role of parents and their sacrifices to always secure the best for their children in spite of all the difficulties”.

She concluded: “I will not lie to you by saying that all stages of the university education will be easy and joyful. I will be very frank and tell you that students often go through many academic, personal and social difficulties and challenges. But as I say this, I have faith in the firm resolve of our dear students, and the support and prayers of their families and in the commitment and professionalism of AUB faculty”.

FHS Dean Nuwayhid spoke next. He was followed by one of the students in the program. The student highlighted the true meaning of giving and the great encouragement that the students have received from MasterCard Foundation. The day concluded with a reception.

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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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