

# FAFS Dean's Office Updates

Issue no.18 | November 2019

*FAFS Dean's Office Updates is the monthly newsletter that keeps FAFS faculty, students, staff, and friends informed of the latest activities, initiatives, and achievements of the FAFS family. Please share your department's news and your suggestions with [fafs.deanupdates@aub.edu.lb](mailto:fafs.deanupdates@aub.edu.lb)*

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## In the spotlight

### Message from the Dean

Lebanon is going through one of the toughest periods in its recorded history, but also one that carries hope of a more sovereign state: one that can rely on itself to meet its peoples demand for basic human needs. It is at times like these that the country needs us most.

It is time for our FAFS family of current and former students, faculty, and staff to come together and renew our commitment to our nation and the region. In this season, I urge you all to see what you can do to make life better for your country and your fellow citizens.

Now is the time to show the true FAFS spirit!

Happy holidays and may you each all spend a peaceful time with your loved ones.

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### FAFS at the 10<sup>th</sup> GCHERA Conference: Transforming Higher Education

During the 10<sup>th</sup> GCHERA Conference on *Transforming Higher Education* in Nanjing, China, FAFS' Dr. Roula Bachour presented an overview of the progress made by AUB, in partnership with W.K. Kellogg Foundation, GCHERA, and EARTH University toward that transformation. [READ MORE](#)



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## Research & Outreach

### FAFS recommendations regarding environmental education in Arab universities

FAFS' Associate Dean Ammar Olabi participated in the annual conference of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (November 14-15). The conference provided the first comprehensive survey of environmental material in school and university curricula across the Arab countries. [READ MORE](#)



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### FAFS' Ajyal Salima on healthy kids at FNCE to promote healthy eating for children

FAFS lecturer Dr. Carla Habib Mourad and her team, research assistants Carla Maliha and Michele Dagher, participated in the Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) in Philadelphia, USA. They presented a poster entitled "Two-year intervention and one-year Follow-up of a School-based program to promote Healthy Behaviors and prevent Childhood Obesity in Lebanese Children: "The Healthier Kids Cohort Study". [READ MORE](#)



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## Events

### ***The Oxford Handbook of Water, Food, and Society* book launch and panel discussion**

FAFS hosted the launch (November 11) of *The Oxford Handbook on Water, Food and Society*, co-edited by Assistant Professor Martin Keulertz, FAFS Food Security Program. During the panel discussion, FAFS' Dean Mohtar, Dr. Keulertz, Dr. Rami Zurayk, and FAS' Dr. Tariq Tell described their respective approaches to the challenge of water security and techniques that society can use to achieve a healthier water supply in such regions. [READ MORE](#)



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## Faculty News

### **Yaser Abunnasr receives the MedSNAIL and NAWAMED grants**

FAFS congratulates Dr. Yaser Abunnasr (LDEM) for receiving the prestigious MEDSNAIL and NAWAMED grants as an AUB representative and lead beneficiary for the new EU grant: Sustainable Networks for Agro-food Innovation Leading in the Mediterranean. Dr. Abunnasr is also PI and AUB representative in a second EU grant, *Nature Based Solutions for Domestic Water Reuse in Mediterranean Countries (NAWAMED)* both funded under the framework of ENI CBC MED. [READ MORE](#)



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### **Salma Talhouk and Jala Makhzoumi receive Life Time Achievement Award at the Landscape Middle East Awards Ceremony**

Dr. Salma Talhouk, LDEM Professor and Chair of AUBotanic, was invited together with LDEM associate Dr. Jala Makhzoumi to participate in the first 'Landscape Middle East Awards Ceremony' at which they received the 'Life Time Achievement Award' in a ceremony organized by Landscape Middle East Magazine in Dubai. [READ MORE](#)



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### Rami Zurayk speaks at the CFS in Rome

Dr. Rami Zurayk (LDEM) was an invited participant at the 46th annual meeting of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), held at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy. The CFS session brings together food security and nutrition stakeholders from across the world to network, review global progress, share experiences and agree on policy guidance.

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## Student and Alumni News

### LDEM students and Beata Dreksler in Germany to support UN SDG initiative “Sustainable cities and communities”

Dr. Beata Dreksler and three LDEM students, Luna Mansour, Ranim Hariri, and Abdul Halim Hariri, represented AUB in an intensive workshop for The Middle East Social Innovation Lab (MESIL). The workshop offered a unique experience that combined design (landscape architecture and architecture) with business, organized by a DAAD funded program, *Higher Education Dialogue with the Muslim World*. [READ MORE](#)

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### LDEM Alumna Thea Maria Maroun at the Global Undergraduate Summit, Dublin Summit

LDEM alumna Thea Maria Maroun presented her final year project during the Global Undergraduate Summit in Dublin. Thea’s presentation on quarryscapes in Lebanon attracted the attention of many of the participants. Ms. Maroun, among the top 10% in the Architecture & Design category, was recognized for her paper. [READ MORE](#)

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## Faculty Research Publications

Find the latest research publications by FAFS faculty [here](#).

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## Lectures | Conferences | Seminars

November 18 – **Intercultural Communication in the Global Class | FAFS** – Dr. Maya Nabhani, director of continuous education, FAFS; Dr. Marie A. Valentin, faculty fellow, San Antonio College; Usha Venkat, director of technology and communications, San Antonio College. [READ MORE](#)

October 24-25 – **Structural transformation of the countryside workshop | Freie Universität, Berlin** – Giuliano Martiniello, assistant professor, RCODE, Department of Agriculture department, FAFS. [READ MORE](#)

September 25 – **Food Sovereignty and Food Security symposium | University of Toronto, Canada** – Keynote speaker: Rami Zurayk, assistant professor, LDEM, FAFS. [READ MORE](#)

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## Announcements

### SAVE THE DATE

#### **FAFS Lecture Series | Dietary recommendations to enhance resilience of communities in times of crisis: Lebanon's uprising 2019**

**Date:** Tuesday, December 17, 2019

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:00 pm

**Location:** Michel and Sherine Bayoud Lecture Hall, FAFS

As part of the FAFS Lecture Series, in coordination with the Lebanese Food Bank and UNESCWA, you are invited to a discussion of dietary recommendations and nutrition solutions that are healthy and cost effective in response to the current financial crisis and uprising.

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### SAVE THE DATE

#### **Christmas Honey Day**

**Date:** Thursday, December 19, 2019

**Time:** 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

**Location:** FAFS courtyard and West Hall

The class of apiculture at FAFS is holding their annual Honey Day. The AUB community, as well as others, are invited to attend this event to learn about the importance of bees, buy local AUB honey, and to see the work being done by the students in pollinating and honey work. Check out the [event poster](#).

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To learn more about FAFS events, please visit our website [Calendar](#)

To advertise your upcoming events, please send the event details (*title, location, date, brief description, picture, and contact name & email*) to [fafs\\_com@aub.edu.lb](mailto:fafs_com@aub.edu.lb)

If you missed the last issue of the FAFS Dean's Updates, [click here](#).



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