



Fadlo R. Khuri

President

Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri is the 16th president of the American University of Beirut (AUB) and professor of medicine (hematology and medical oncology) at the Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center. He assumed office on September 1, 2015. Prior to joining AUB, he was professor and chairman of the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Emory University School of Medicine where he held the Roberto C. Goizueta Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research. He also served as deputy director for the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University and was the executive associate dean for research of the Emory University School of Medicine.

Khuri was born in Boston, Massachusetts and raised in Beirut where his father, Raja N. Khuri, was dean of AUB's Faculty of Medicine and his mother, Soumaya Makdisi Khuri, was a professor of mathematics at AUB. Following a year of study at AUB (1981-82), Khuri earned his undergraduate degree at Yale University in New Haven and his MD at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Boston City Hospital and a fellowship in hematology and medical oncology at the Tufts-New England Medical Center. He was on the faculty of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center from 1995-2002 prior to joining Emory University and the Winship Cancer Institute (Winship) in 2003.

Khuri is an accomplished molecular oncologist and translational thought leader. His clinical expertise and research are focused on the development of molecular, prognostic, therapeutic, and chemopreventive approaches to improve the standard of care for patients with lung and aerodigestive cancers. He has authored over 750 publications, including 385 peer-reviewed journal articles, 55 reviews, 45 editorials and perspectives in leading journals, 250 meeting abstracts, and over 15 letters, notes, chapters, and short surveys. He serves as editor-in-chief of *Cancer*, the oldest and one of the most prestigious journals in the field. His scientific work has been cited over 46,000 times according to Google Scholar, 27,000 times according to Web of Science, and over 32,500 times according to Scopus (the latter two excluding self-citations), where his Hirsch index is 83 and 92, respectively. Khuri has also served as a permanent member of multiple peer review committees for the American Cancer Society, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and was chair of the National Institutes of Health's Clinical Oncology Study Section.

Khuri's ability to build teams to improve outcomes for cancer patients helped develop Winship into a premier translational research institution. He led the recruitment of over 90 faculty to Emory University, helped oversee an increase in adult cancer patients placed on trial annually from 143 (in 2002) to over 650 (in 2014), and paved the way for Winship's NCI comprehensive cancer center designation.

Khuri was motivated to return to Lebanon in 2015 to assume the position of university president by his and his family's strong and deep personal connections to the country and the university and his appreciation of

AUB's enormous impact on the Arab world and its role as a fundamental driver of the American liberal arts ethos in the region. His priorities have informed the \$650 million BOLDLY AUB fundraising campaign that the university launched in January 2017 to strengthen its research and educational missions, and develop state-of-the-art campus and medical facilities. Under Khuri's leadership, AUB has reintroduced academic tenure and formed partnerships with peer universities in Lebanon and the world including Emory University, John Hopkins University, Paris Descartes University, Saint Joseph University, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Michigan, and University College London. Khuri is also leading VITAL 2030, a far-reaching plan to make AUB a university that is even more strongly defined by its liberal arts ethos in education, excellence in research, compassionate medical care, and an abiding commitment to Lebanon and the Arab world.

Since assuming the presidency, Khuri has greatly increased external and institutional support for students through new and expanded scholarship and financial aid programs. He has helped obtain grants and donations for underprivileged students and patients totaling over \$250 million. He also established the Leadership, Equity, and Diversity (LEAD) initiative to oversee scholarship programs and support students from underserved communities. Other inclusion initiatives launched by Khuri include a standing committee on the Lives and Careers of Women at AUB, and Accessibility for a Bolder Learning Experience (ABLE) to work towards implementing digital accessibility in higher education. In 2016, he started #AUB4Refugees as a university-wide initiative to nurture cooperation and build partnerships to deal with this crisis.

Khuri brought to AUB a new vision for health that takes an all-encompassing approach to human health, including mental health, nutrition, agriculture, nursing, public health, science, and clinical medicine. Since 2015, AUB has introduced new PhD programs in epidemiology and chemistry, as well as an interdisciplinary, inter-faculty PhD program in biomedical engineering. In 2019, the university established the Talal and Madiha Zein AUB Innovation Park to nurture startups and cultivate an entrepreneurship ecosystem in Lebanon. This period also saw the elevation of the Hariri School of Nursing to independent faculty status, and the naming of the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering and Architecture in honor of alumnus Maroun Semaan following his transformative gift to AUB, the largest in the university's history.

Enhancing the connection between AUB alumni and their alma mater has been a primary goal for Khuri. During his tenure, the university's worldwide alumni association (WAAAUB) underwent a complete restructuring and a landmark agreement was finalized between WAAAUB and the Lebanon-based AUB Alumni Association. In addition, a new campus master plan was developed to allow for strategic and sustainable growth of the campus. New and revamped facilities include the Daniel Academic and Clinical Center, the Munib and Angela Masri Building, and an extensive renovation of Penrose Hall that is LEED gold certified. In 2018, Khuri spearheaded the effort to transform AUB into a fully tobacco-free campus and was awarded the World No Tobacco Day Award by the WHO.

Khuri's work has been recognized with several major awards including the 2006 Nagi Sahyoun Award of the Middle East Medical Assembly for "research that has changed the way we think about and treat lung and head and neck cancer," the 2010 Waun Ki Hong Distinguished Professorship by the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and the 2013 Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Memorial Award from the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) for "his pioneering work in developing oncolytic viruses, signal transduction inhibitors, and biomarker-based chemoprevention approaches to lung and aerodigestive cancers." In 2013, Khuri was also recognized with the Arab American High Achievers (AAHA) Award by the Alif Society, the major Arab Cultural Foundation of Georgia. In 2018, Khuri received the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) Joseph Cullen Prevention Award as well as the WHO Award. He was listed continuously among America's Top Doctors by Castle Connolly from 2005-16 when he was practicing in the US. Khuri is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (2007), a

fellow of the American College of Physicians (2009) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2015), and a member of the Lebanese Academy of Sciences (2015).