

Michel Jirjis Touma

Michel Touma joined AUB in 1961. Throughout his 50 years at AUB, he has worked in various departments with generations of students, faculty members and staff. He is currently working in the Pharmacology Department.

From the letters of recommendations that were written to support his nomination to the President's Service Excellence Award, a common thread can be traced: Mr. Touma's undeniable sense of camaraderie for his fellow colleagues and deep rooted loyalty for his Department.

The authors of the letters commended his steadfastness in supporting his colleagues; whether they are his senior or his junior. They also commended his hard work to always fulfill his duties in a timely and efficient manner. When the team evaluating Mr. Touma's nomination for the President's Service Excellence Awards interviewed his direct and indirect customers, he was consistently described as dependable, positive, liked by all, and loyal to his department.

Although his position is that of a Senior Technician, he has been carrying out the duties of the secretary, administrator and everything else that needs to be done to keep the Department running smoothly. "He takes on tasks and completes them without any complaints" said one of his customers. His colleagues voiced concerns on how they will be able to manage, when Mr. Touma retires in September of this year.

His colleagues are thankful for his unrelenting efforts and patience in teaching them the ways of the labs. He is always eager to

show his colleagues tricks that he has acquired from his long experience.

Throughout the interviews, Mr. Touma was described as resourceful, always eager to solve any problem that arises in the shortest time and most effective way possible. For example, a laboratory machine was received with some missing accessories. Mr. Touma took the initiative to have these accessories custom-made locally, thus saving time and money for the department.

It is evident, from the interviews and from the letters of support, that Mr. Touma deserves the President's Service Excellence Award. Throughout his half-a-century of service to the University, there is only praise and gratitude to him, as well as deep appreciation for his consistent positive character and support to each and everyone who has had the chance to work with him.