



AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT

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OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

May 23, 2023

Dear members of the American University of Beirut community,

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Lokman Meho as University Librarian at the American University of Beirut (AUB), effective August 1, 2023. This appointment follows an international search led by Deans Abla Sibai and Yusuf Sidani. Dr. Meho will also hold an academic appointment at the Faculty of Medicine, working closely with colleagues at the Clinical Research Institute on research and educational projects and initiatives.

Dr. Meho earned his BA and MA in Political Studies from AUB in 1991 and 1996, respectively, MS in Library Science from North Carolina Central University (1996), and PhD in Information and Library Science from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill (2001). He began his academic career in 2001 as an assistant professor of Information Studies at State University of New York in Albany. In 2004, he moved to the School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University where he was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2008. Dr. Meho has contributed meaningfully to scholarship in his field, publishing over 30 journal articles – largely focusing on quantitative studies to influence research policy and practice. His recent work has been published in Quantitative Science Studies and other high quality medical and health sciences journals.

Dr. Meho is not new to AUB, having served as University Librarian between 2009 and 2021. During his tenure, Dr. Meho led the development of a clear and comprehensive direction for the University Libraries in alignment with the university's strategic vision. He overhauled operations, expanded library IT services, introduced social media services, and initiated several resource-sharing agreements with international libraries. He spearheaded the merger of the Saab Medical Library with the University Libraries, the establishment of AUB's institutional repository, and the founding of the libraries' preservation lab, data services, and digital scholarship units. Dr. Meho has been serving as Director of the Library at Georgetown University in Qatar since 2021, where

he led the development of a database that cataloged the scholarly publications of faculty and students, oversaw the establishment of an archives and collections unit within the library, and laid the foundation for an innovation hub that offers students and faculty a space to engage in collaborative projects.

Ms. Fatme Charafeddine has been serving as interim director of the University Libraries since Dr. Meho's departure in 2021. She has spent the past two years advocating for continued support for our libraries, advancing strong cross-campus collaborations, and working tirelessly to ensure the provision of high-quality university library services to our students and faculty members.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Ms. Charafeddine for her remarkable leadership of the University Libraries through challenging times. Please also join me in welcoming Dr. Meho back to AUB, the institution he has served with dedication and distinction for 12 years and wishing him every success at the helm of the University Libraries.

Sincerely,

Zaher Dawy, PhD
Provost
