American University of Beirut
New Faculty Appointments

Fall 2013 - 2014

Faculty of Arts and Sciences


Dr. Elisabeth Armstrong who joins CASAR as Senior Lecturer for 2013-14, is an Associate Professor of the Study of Women and Gender Program at Smith College (Northampton, MA, USA). She is the author of The Retreat from Organization: US Feminism Reconceptualized (SUNY Press, 2002) and most recently of Gender and Neoliberalism: The All India Democratic Women's Association and Globalization Politics (New York: Routledge and New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2013). She is currently working on a book on the Women’s International Democratic Federation’s work in the “East” – from the two ends of Asia to North Africa, as well as a project on Indian women’s love stories.

Dr. Arianne Shahvisi is joining the department of philosophy as an assistant professor. She has research interests in the philosophy of science and metaphysics, and will be teaching a new course in the philosophy of physics. She studied for masters in astrophysics from the University of Cambridge, masters in philosophy from the University of Oxford, and returned to Cambridge to work on her doctorate. Aside from philosophy, she is committed to resistance politics and activism, and will be working with feminist groups in Beirut.

Dr. Kamal Aziziheris will join the Department of Mathematics in September 2013. He earned his doctorate degree from the Kent State University with specialty in Algebra (Group Theory). He has research interests in the Representation Theory and Character Theory of Finite Groups. Dr. Aziziheris has taught several courses during his graduate school in the US including Calculus, Pre-Calculus and College Algebra. Also, he has taught several courses during his postdoctoral position at the Texas State University in the US including Calculus and College Algebra.

Dr. Hossein Radmard will join Department of Economics in September 2013. He earned his doctorate degree from West Virginia University with specialty in Applied Microeconomics and Development Economics. Prior to his Ph.D. he attended East Carolina University where he graduated as outstanding master student in applied economics program in 2008. Dr. Radmard has taught several courses during his graduate school in the US including Introductory Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Public Economics and Comparative Economic Systems. His major research interest areas are Institutional economics, socioeconomic, political economy and economics of religion.

Dr. Alaa M. Hijazi is joining the psychology department as an assistant professor where she’ll be involved in teaching and research and contributing to the newly launched clinical psychology master's program. She obtained her Ph.D in clinical psychology from Wayne State University in 2012 and is
currently completing a fellowship at the Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Medical Center where she is specializing in working with women's health, war related, and sexual trauma. Her research interests broadly seek to understand how life stressors and trauma impact psychological and physical health. Within this umbrella, she is particularly interested in the role of gender, emotions, and culture. One of her main research projects involved testing a narrative intervention with Iraqi refugees in the US. Alaa grew up in Saudi Arabia and the US and lived in Egypt and is looking forward to reconnecting with her Lebanese roots.

Dr. May Awaida graduated from AUB with a B.A. in Psychology (1985). In the United Kingdom, she earned her M.A. in Speech Sciences (1986); and her Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology: Children Learning to Read (1992). She joined AUB’s faculty in 1992 as a full-timer in the SBS department for six years, but shifted to a part-time position since 1998 to date. She has taught at LAU and the Lebanese University during this last period. She got involved in a European Union project giving workshop in five Palestinian camps in Lebanon (2003 - 2004). She has also led workshops around ‘Learning Disability’ in several schools in Lebanon and the region. Furthermore, she has experience in testing children for Dyslexia (1999 - 2001) at (La-Sagesse High School) and (2006-2007) at CIS, and works in the Ministry of Education, examination department, on Brevet exemption for eligible students.

Dr. Tania Haddad will be joining the department of Political Studies and Public Administration as an Assistant Professor. Her teaching expertise includes civil society, nonprofit management and the role of public policy in a globalized society. She earned her BA in Political Studies and Public Administration in 2003, her MA at the American University of Beirut in 2006, and her PhD from LUISS University in 2012. During her PhD studies, she was a visiting scholar at the center for Civil Society at Johns Hopkins University. Her research interests currently focus on issues related to civil society and public policy in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Dr. Hussein Abdulsater is joining the Civilization Sequence Program as a visiting assistant professor. He obtained his Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Yale University in spring 2013. His research focuses on Muslim ethical and theological discourses in their interactions with each other and with non-Muslim discourses throughout Islamic history. For Islamic Studies broadly conceived, his program of research is concerned to uncover the ethical and historical roots of major theological and legal themes. For the wider scholarly community, it highlights ethical and philosophical aspects of Islamic religious thought independent of the outmoded theology/law dichotomy, thereby opening up a new field of study beyond religious studies proper, expressed in humanistic disciplines such as historiography and literature.

Mr. Paolo Orlando is an international touring artist and jazz educator. Prior to joining AUB, Paolo has taught courses in jazz history, performance, music appreciation and ear-training at the City University of New York, City College. Paolo’s performances have been heard in festivals and venues in Europe, USA, Central America and the Middle East. He has shared the stage with jazz luminaries such as John Patitucci, Dave Liebman, John Abercrombie, Franco Cerri, Anthony Wonsey and many others. Paolo holds an M.A. in Jazz Performance at the City College of New York, and will be teaching “Jazz History” and “Early American Music”.

Dr. Riikka Pietilainen-Caffrey will be joining the AUB Department of Fine Arts and Arts History for the fall semester 2013. Riikka, a native Finn, has toured Europe and South America with the internationally acclaimed choir Philomela. She appears on numerous recordings both as a conductor and singer. While in New York, Riikka founded and taught Las Sirenas, the women’s chamber choir at the City College of New York. The group premiered works by American and Finnish composers. Riikka received her doctorate from the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she taught the University Women’s Chorus and the University Choir. Riikka is an active conductor and vocal coach, and is frequently invited as a guest clinician and soloist for a number of Colorado choral ensembles. Most recently she was invited to join the Aster Women’s Chamber Choir as a soloist and a guest conductor.
Ms. Sahar Assaf, theatre actress and director, completed her Fulbright fellowship in Theatre Studies at Central Washington University, USA in 2011 and returned to Lebanon where she co-founded Beirut 8.30 Theatre Company. Sahar joined AUB Department of Fine Arts and Art History as a part-timer in Spring 2012 and starting this September she will be a full-time Visiting Lecturer at the department. Sahar will be working on Saadalla Wannous' "Rituals of Signs and Transformations" for her stage directorial debut at AUB. Most recently, she co-directed with Zeina Daccache "From the bottom of my brain", a play performed by the residents of Al Fanar Psychiatric Hospital at Al Madina Theatre on July 6, 2013. And, she appeared on stage as an actress in "Come back to bed, love" directed by Lina Abyad at Babel Theatre in November-December 2012. Sahar also holds an MA in Sociology from AUB and a BA in Journalism from the Lebanese University.

Mr. Toni Öyry is an award-winning, Beirut-based Finnish producer and director. Toni’s work spans international broadcasters and news agencies and focuses on production, strategy development, financing, project management, and software development. His specialties are film, television, and web productions; online content distribution; audience engagement strategies; and internet marketing. He also works as a management consultant and lectures internationally on web content distribution and audience engagement. He was the project manager for the BBC of the 2011 International Digital Emmy Award-winning Shankaboot, the world’s first Arabic-language web series.

Dr. Tayeb El-Hibri is currently professor of Arabic and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He obtained his BA in History from Stanford University (1986) and Ph.D. in Islamic history from Columbia University (1994). He has published: "Reinterpreting Islamic Historiography: Harun al-Rashid and the Narrative of the Abbasid Caliphate" (1999), and "Parable and Politics in Early Islamic History: The Rashidun Caliphs" (2010), and a range of articles in journals such as: International Journal of Middle East Studies, Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient, Journal of Near Eastern Studies and Der Islam.

Dr. Lyall Armstrong will be joining the Department of History and Archaeology as an Assistant Professor of Islamic History. He recently received his PhD from the University of Chicago where he wrote a dissertation on a group of scholars (quṣṣāṣ) in the early period of Islam, “The Quṣṣāṣ in Early Islam.” He is interested in the formation of Islamic thought, its propagation during the foundational stages of the faith and the environment into which it arose. He will be teaching in the areas of early Islamic history and thought as well as late antiquity.

Dr. Nadia Bou Ali who joins the Arts and Humanities Initiative as Post-Doctoral Research Fellow for 2013-2014 has a Doctoral degree from the University of Oxford’s Faculty of Oriental Studies. She has spent the last year as Post-Doctoral Research Affiliate at the Orient Institut Beirut. Her dissertation “In the Hall of Mirrors: the Arab Nahda, nationalism, and the question of language” looks at the rise of nationalist discourse in the late nineteenth-century Arab world. Her research focuses on the relationship between modernity, nationalism, and language in her work on Arab intellectual history. She has written on the subjects of lexicography and nationalism, translation and ideology, the Arab Nahda, and sectarianism and political economy in nineteenth-century Mount Lebanon. She is now working on a book project based on her doctoral work.

Dr. Samir Mahmoud was recently Barakat Postdoctoral Fellow at the Khalili Centre for Research in Art & Material Culture, University of Oxford and Agha Khan Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT. He received his PhD in philosophical aesthetics from the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, researching comparative aesthetics (Western and Islamic). With a Bachelor degree in Anthropology (UNSW, Australia), a Masters in the History of Architecture & Urban Design (UNSW, Australia), and a Master of Philosophy (Cambridge), Samir's interests vary widely. He is the author of several publications including: Book Chapter: "Suhrawardi and Plotinus on Self-Knowledge as Illumination, in Selections of Papers from Prometheus Trust Conferences 2006-2010, Prometheus Trust Publishers, June, 201; Book Chapter: 'Colour and the Mystics: Light, Beauty, and the Spiritual Quest,' in And Diverse are Their Hues, Edited By Sheila Blair & Jonathan Bloom, Yale, Yale University Press, 2011; Book Chapter translations: "A

Mrs. Juheina Fakhreddine Yakzan has been an active educator since 1970. Before she became a part time instructor of English at LAU and AUB, she worked as an English language teacher and coordinator at several secondary schools in Lebanon. She conducted a number of workshops on Methods and Strategies in teaching the language and attended a number of conferences in Lebanon and abroad where she presented several papers on teaching methods, assessment, and creative thinking. She also participated in a number of professional educational workshops in Lebanon and the UK. She is the co-author of a number of English language textbooks published by Heritage House in Lebanon and by the NCERD. Her recent publication is a co-authored research report on reflective writing published by Macro World in 2013. Fakhreddine-Yakzan has a BA and TD in English Language and Literature from the Lebanese University and an MA in Education (TESOL) from the Lebanese American University–Beirut.

Ms. Missan Lacey Stouhi will be teaching writing and rhetoric full-time at the Communication Skills Program in the English Department. She taught part-time at the program over the past three years. She studied at AUB and received a BA in English Language (2002), a minor degree in Mass Communication (2002), and a Master’s Degree in English Language (2009). Missan’s research focused on language and gender, particularly women’s talk. Her work has appeared in Al Raida Magazine, the Quarterly Journal of the Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW). Missan is also into translation and copywriting.

Ms. Emma Moughabghab who will be joining the communication skills program in the English Department earned her BA and MA in English Literature from the American University of Beirut. She has previously taught composition and rhetoric at the American University of Beirut, as well as academic writing and Literature at the Lebanese American University. She was also a senior staff member of the American University of Beirut Writing Center. Her research focuses on interdisciplinary analyses of the visual arts and literature, the intersections between media and literary theory, mediation, and the networks of power in poststructuralist American literature. Her previous research has appeared in Studies in the Humanities. In addition to being involved in several research projects, she is currently pursuing an advanced degree in Byzantine music and chant, as well as working on her paintings for upcoming exhibitions.

Mr. Hicham Kharroub is joining the University Preparatory Program as Instructor of English. Educated at The American University of Beirut and Lebanese American University, Kharroub has an MA in Comparative Literature with emphasis on translation of Classical Arabic poetry in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Kharroub has taught a variety of courses in language and literature primarily at UPP and Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES). He is a member of the American Comparative Literature Association and his main research interests are teaching and learning of English and Arabic as second languages, and translation of Classical Arabic poetry in the wake of Orientalism.
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Dr. Salma Samar Damluji  Appointed as Professor, Mu'allim Muhammad b. ‘Awad Binladen Chair for Architecture in the Islamic World, Dr. Damluji is a graduate of the Architectural Association School of Architecture, London (1977) and The Royal College of Art, London (1987) Laureate, The Global Award For Sustainable Architecture 2012, Locus Foundation (Paris). She worked with Egyptian Architect Hassan Fathy (Cairo 1975-1976 and 1983-1984), the Royal College of Art, Tutor at the Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts. She was the co-ordinator of the RCA Morocco-Asilah Studios, & PhD supervisor, London 1989-1998 and a lecturer & senior tutor at The Architectural Association School of Architecture, Housing & Urbanism, Graduate School, 1989-1997 and the Director of The Technical Office of the Chairman of The Works Department, Abu Dhabi, 2002-2004. Since 2005 she has been lecturing in London and working on architecture projects in Hadramut, Yemen. She founded the Daw‘an Mud Brick Architecture Foundation (www.dawanarchitecturefoundation.org), and is Project Partner with the Prince Claus Fund in Amsterdam on Yemen projects. She has several published books and articles on the architecture of the region (including Morocco, Oman, UAE, Qatar & Yemen) and her work was exhibited in London, Paris and Madrid. Her latest titles are: The Architecture of Yemen from Yaf’it to Hadramut, London 2007; Earth Architecture: Landmarks of Wadi Hadramut & Daw‘an, Beirut 2011 and Al Diwan Al Amiri Doha, Qatar, London 2013. Her current research is on Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur, India.

Dr. Yousef Salameh is a new assistant professor in the chemical engineering department, American University of Beirut. He holds a Ph.D. degree in chemical engineering from Queen’s University Belfast, UK, with specialization in drinking water treatment systems. He also has a B.Sc. in chemical engineering from the University of Jordan. He is a member of QUESTOR center, a global environmental research network. He has published papers and given presentations both local and international in the area of his expertise.

Dr. Saif Al-Qaisi earned his undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering from Louisiana Tech University, in August 2008. Upon graduation, he joined the Industrial Engineering program at Louisiana State University (LSU) to pursue a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering with a concentration in Human Factors/Safety and a minor in Applied Statistics. Following the Master Degree, he pursued a Doctorate Degree in the same field of research at LSU. He received both the Master and Doctor of Philosophy degrees by May 2013. During his graduate studies, he coauthored ten publications, including refereed journal articles and conference proceedings.

Mr. Alexander Graef is founder and director of Alex Graef Associated Architects, a practice that deals with architecture, interiors and product design and has offices in London and Vienna. Having graduated with a postgraduate Diploma in Architecture at University of East London, he received a Master of Science degree in Computing and Design at the same institution. Partly as a result, he now views himself academically as a recovering parametricist with a strong programmatic interest in systems theory, the continual state of flux in urban structures, and textural and cultural patterns. He has taught at various schools of architecture in the United Kingdom and mainland Europe, amongst them the University of Greenwich, London Southbank, Vienna University of Technology and University of Innsbruck.

Ms. Rana Haddad co-founded dblu, a design and architecture practice-workshop in 1997. In parallel to all assigned projects within the practice, it started as a research workshop with the aim of questioning the ability of objects and places to become means of political expression in post 1990 Beirut. With an interest in the city and an aspiration to bridge the academic field with this entity through the use of daily findings and oral history, dblu’s activities developed in the educational domain by the founding in 1997 of the ‘atelier de recherche’ at the Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts. Also, and stemming from a keen interest in installations as objects of political, social and urban statements, dblu produced several installations and performance works in Beirut, Mantes la Jolie, Bern, Geneva and Algiers and collaborated with various NGO.
Rana Haddad, a graduate of the Architecture Association School of Architecture, London, acquired the RIBA part II in 1995, works and lives in Beirut. She is presently an Assistant Professor AUB, department of architecture and design. Due to her quest and interest in Beirut as a city, she was invited for a series of lectures and multi-disciplinary workshops to Berlin, Copenhagen University, the Geneva School of Fine Arts and Design, and by Studio Kajima at ETH University, Zurich. From 2003 to 2006, she co-founded PSlab, a custom made lighting design firm for P.S, s.a.l.

Ms. Carla Aramouny received her Bachelor of Architecture (2003) with high distinction from the Lebanese American University. In 2006, she graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia with a post-professional Master of Architecture. Carla has previously worked at Pierre El Khoury Architects in Beirut, and Rafael Vinoly Architects in New York. Since 2007, she has been working as Lead architect at Raed Abillama Architects in Dbayeh. She has been also teaching in parallel as a part time lecturer at AUB, where she has given several architecture studios dealing with subjects of urban agriculture, infrastructure and hybrid systems.

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Dr. Susan Prattis has taught, conducted and published research studies, and managed programs in undergraduate and graduate biomedical, veterinary medical and biological science departments throughout New England, New York City and Chicago in the United States. She initially completed her undergraduate education at Amherst College (BA, Bio-Psychology); professional veterinary medical education at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine with emphasis on small, exotic and laboratory animal medicine; and a doctoral degree in Experimental Pathology and Cell Biology (Ph.D., North Carolina State University). Most recently she has completed cross disciplinary graduate training in Nonprofit Management and Philanthropy (MS, Bay Path College).

Dr. Prattis previously completed a Residency in Experimental Animal Medicine and a National Research Service Award – funded Postdoctoral Fellowship at The Rockefeller University, and is Board Certified in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, a specialty of the American Veterinary Medical Association. She holds veterinary clinical licenses in multiple individual states, is accredited by the US Department of Agriculture (New York State), and has served as a veterinary owner and employee in small animal / exotic and shelter medicine practice settings. Throughout her professional career she has focused on areas of interest including Musculoskeletal, Neurological and Neuroimmunological Animal Models of Human Disease utilizing whole animal, cellular and biochemical methods; Environmental Biology; Science Education; Veterinary Education and Practice; Evaluation and Assessment Practices, including Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Method Models; Organizational Management; and Development and Philanthropy. She looks forward to working with new colleagues and friends at the American University of Beirut in shared areas of interest within the University and greater community.

Dr. Christer Bengs is by basic training an architect who is specialised in urbanism and planning. He holds a DSc degree in planning and architecture, and has habilitated as a docent in these subjects. During the last 15 years he has been working as a full professor in Finland and Sweden, taking part in a number of international programmes and projects. Besides research and teaching, he is also experienced in practical planning and design.

The praxis of Christer Bengs covers more than four decades of professional work. His focus has been on understanding the broad lines of urban development in terms of planning, real estate, economics as well as history and cultural heritage. In addition to environmental aspects, sustainability must include social, cultural and economic considerations as well.
Dr. Lamis Jomaa is joining AUB as a Visiting Assistant Professor for the Fall 2013-2014. As a Fulbright scholar, Dr. Jomaa earned her Master’s degree (2008) and PhD (2010) in Nutritional Sciences, from Pennsylvania State University, with a focus on community and public health nutrition. Post-graduation, she completed a four months Science & Technology Policy Fellowship at the National Academies of Sciences in Washington, DC during which she worked within the Food and Nutrition Board at the Institute of Medicine and participated in a number of obesity prevention studies, reports and workshops. Prior to joining AUB, Dr. Jomaa served as an Assistant Professor in the Nutritional Sciences Program within the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Balamand, Lebanon. Her research work and interests include prevention of childhood obesity, analysis of school nutrition policies and programs and their educational, nutritional, and health outcomes, and exploring maternal and child health challenges among other areas of interest.

Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Mona Osman will be appointed as Clinical Instructor of Clinical Family Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine effective May 1, 2013. She will be also assuming the responsibilities of Outreach Clinics Medical Director. She graduated with an MD degree from AUB in 1992. After which, she did one year of Internship at King Abdel Aziz University (1993-1994), and three years of Residency training in Family Medicine at FM/AUBMC (1995-1998). Dr. Osman has also a Master degree in Public Health from AUB (1999-2002), and a Master degree in Business Administration/ Healthcare Management from the University of Phoenix (2003-2005). She served as Clinical Instructor at FM/AUBMC (1998-2003), Chief of Medical Staff of Directorate of Health & Social Services-Hariri Foundation (1999–2003), Medical Director of the United Medical Group (2004-2006), and Hospital Director of Saida Governmental Hospital (2006-2008). In 2008, she joined Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) as a Medical Coordinator and she has been serving since 2009 with the United Nations for Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) first as Health Management Expert and then as Chief- Field Health Program at UNRWA, Lebanon since April 2011. Dr. Osman will bring with her a broad experience in medical administration, and will be contributing to the teaching, research, and clinical activities in the Department of Family Medicine.

Dr. Randa Barazi will be appointed as Instructor of Clinical Otolaryngology effective September 1, 2013. She graduated with an MD degree from AUB in 2007; after which, she completed one year of Internship in General Surgery (2007-2008), four years of residency training in Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at FM/AUBMC (2008-2012), and one year fellowship in Pediatric Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at the Children’s Hospital of Michigan, Wayne State University (2012-2013). She will be involved in the teaching, research, and clinical activities in the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Abdel Kader El Tal will be appointed as Assistant Professor of Clinical Dermatology effective July 1, 2013. He graduated with an M.D. degree from AUB in 2001. After which, he completed residency training program at AUB in Dermatology (2001-2004), one year of internship in General Surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (2006-2007), three years of residency training in Dermatology at Wayne State University (2007-2010) and one year fellowship in procedural dermatology at University Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (2010-2011). He is certified by the American Board of Dermatology. Dr. El Tal is currently an Assistant professor and Director for Dermatologic Surgery at Wayne State University since 2011. He will join the Department of Dermatology, focusing on surgical dermatology.
Dr. Albert El-Hajj is appointed as Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery effective July 1, 2013. He graduated with Doctor of Medicine from Universite Saint Joseph in Lebanon in 2005, and received Diploma of Laparoscopy in Urologic Surgery from the Institut de Recherche Contre les Cancers digestifs (IRCAD) in 2008. Dr. El Hajj completed five years of residency training in Urology at Hotel Dieu de France Hospital in Beirut (2005-2010), six month of fellowship in Advanced Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery at Institut Mutualiste Montsouris (2010), six month fellowship in Urological Oncology and Transplant Surgery at CHU Henri Mondor de Créteil (2010-2011), and a two year fellowship in Laparoscopic, Robotic and Laser Surgery at Groupe Hospitalier Paris Saint Joseph (2011-2013). He will be involved in the teaching of residents and medical students, and help in establishing a robotic urology program at AUBMC, and his appointment will be an asset to AUBMC and Lebanon for his advanced expertise in laparoscopic and robotic surgical skills.

Dr. Issam El-Rassi will be joining AUB as Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery (Pediatric Cardiotoracic Surgery) effective July 1, 2013. He graduated with M.D. degree from Saint Joseph University School of Medicine in 1991. Followed by five years of postgraduate training in adult and pediatric surgery at Hotel-Dieu de France Hospital (1991-1996), one year training in adult cardiac surgery at Bichat Hospital (1996-1997), two years of training in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at Necker Hospital, Paris (1997-1999), one year of training at the Department of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne (1999-2000). He has been on the faculty of Hotel-Dieu de France University Hospital since 2001. He is a well-trained in the pediatric cardiac surgery with a track record load of treating more than 60% of Lebanese patients with congenital heart disease, and his name appears on 40 peer reviewed journal publications. This special and large experience will be instrumental in the enhancing the clinical services at AUBMC and will be an added value to teaching medical students, residents and fellow in his areas of specialty.

School of Nursing

Mr. Mohammad Saab will be appointed as Clinical Instructor of Medical-Surgical Nursing at the AUB Rafic Hariri School of Nursing. He graduated with a BSN degree from AUB in 2008. After which, he worked as an Oncology Nurse at AUBMC (2008-2011). Mr. Saab earned his MSN degree from AUB (2009-2013) and received extensive training in Palliative Care Advanced Practice Nursing in Our Lady's Hospice in Dublin, Ireland. After which, he worked as a Palliative Care Nurse in the Lebanese Center for Palliative Care – Balsam (2011-2013). Mr. Saab has a special interest in research on palliative care, sexual health, and the psychosexual health of men with cancer.

Faculty of Health Sciences

Dr. Maha Damaj joined the Faculty of Health Sciences in April 2013 as an Assistant Professor in Public Health Practice. She will be coordinating the development of a new global master’s in health and sustainable development, a project that is being conducted jointly with EARTH University in Costa Rica. A graduate of the faculty, Dr. Damaj returns after having worked on community development and rights issues for over 15 years, specifically in the areas of child protection, non-discrimination, forced migration, the involvement of children and youth in decision making, and disability and inclusion. She has worked in academia as well as with local, regional, and international NGOs and UN agencies where she was involved in strategic planning, policy development, research and evaluation, and technical training among others. Based primarily in Lebanon, her experience spans several countries in the Arab region, as well as a year in Sri Lanka managing post-emergency programs with UNICEF.
Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Anaheed Al-Hardan joins the American University of Beirut as an Assistant Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Media Studies. Her research interests are in the areas of collective memories and remembrance, decolonial, indigenous and feminist of colour theory, modern Arab intellectual and political history and imperialism and anti-imperialist social movements. Her research has been supported by Fellowships and Awards from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Trinity College, University of Dublin; the Palestinian American Research Center and the ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry. Her research has appeared in the Journal of Palestine Studies and Qualitative Inquiry, and her book on memories and histories of the 1948 Nakba in the Palestinian refugee community in Syria is forthcoming.

Dr. Mohamad Hmadeh was appointed as Assistant Professor of Chemistry at AUB in January 2014. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry (Jan 2010) from the University of Strasbourg (UdS) in France. His research as a graduate student was focused on the ionic and molecular recognition processes in bioinorganic and supramolecular systems. After graduation, he joined the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) as a postdoctoral fellow in the group of Professor Omar M. Yaghi who is known as one of the pioneers of Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs). During his stay at UCLA (2010-2012), his research was focused on the design, synthesis, and characterization of novel porous and crystalline materials with exceptional gas sorption, catalysis and electronic properties. He is currently in his second year as a postdoctoral researcher in Prof. Geoffrey Ozin’s group at the University of Toronto (U of T) where he is working on synthesis and evaluation of new photocatalysts for solar fuel production. His research group at AUB will utilize an interdisciplinary approach to study emerging problems at the forefront of inorganic and nanomaterial chemistry. His research will be directed towards the design and fabrication of a new set of inorganic and hybrid (organic-inorganic) materials with unprecedented chemical, topological and gas sorption properties. Various applications are envisioned in the fields of gas storage, gas separations, conductivity and catalysis. His research program will result in strong collaborations with faculty members both within the chemistry department at AUB and around the world.

Dr. Rakan Zahawi is a tropical restoration ecologist by training. He did his graduate work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received his Ph.D. in 2003. His research focuses on successional dynamics and mechanisms to accelerate recovery in degraded tropical habitats. He has conducted studies in Ecuador, Honduras, and Costa Rica where he currently has a large-scale restoration project established along with collaborator Dr. Holl who is based at the University of California-Santa Cruz. He has also established a permanent forest plot in the primary forest fragment at the Las Cruces Biological Station, in southern Costa Rica, where he currently serves as the Station Director. The establishment of the 2.25 hectare permanent plot allows for studies of tree dynamics in less impacted forest systems. Dr. Zahawi will be teaching Vascular Plant Systematics and Tropical Forest Ecology at AUB and will look to establish restoration research in Lebanon during his stay.

Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Samer Nassif has joined AUB as Instructor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine effective October 1, 2013. He graduated with MD degree from AUB in 2005, followed by two years of internship and residency training in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (2005-2017) at FM/AUBMC; after which, he completed four years of residency training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology (2007-2011), and one year of fellowship in Surgical Pathology (2001-2012) at George Washington University Medical Center, and one year of fellowship in Hematopathology (2012-2013) at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital. Dr.
Nassif is certified by the American Board of Pathology, Anatomic and Clinical Pathology. He will be involved in the teaching, research, and clinical activities in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

**Dr. Elie Hobeika** will be appointed at FM/AUBMC as Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology effective January 1, 2014. He graduated with MD degree from the Lebanese University in 2002. He completed three years of residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at AUBMC (2002-2005), four years of residency training at Eastern Virginia Medical School (2005-2009), where he acquired skills in minimally invasive, robotics, pelvic reconstructive surgery and uro-gynecolgy. In 2009, Dr. Hobeika was appointed as Attending Physician at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Sutter Coast Hospital (2009-2013) and served as Medical Director for the department (2010-2013) after going through multiple leadership labs, and safety trainings (TEAM-STEPPS) through Sutter Health University. At the same time he continued to work on his clinical skills with multiple single port laparoscopy and robotics workshops. He will be involved in teaching, research and clinical activities of the department.

**Dr. Cynthia Karam** will be appointed at FM/AUBMC as Instructor of Clinical Anesthesiology effective October 1, 2013. Dr. Karam graduated with MD degree from AUB in 2008; after which, she completed four years of residency training in Anesthesiology (2008-2012) at FM/AUBMC, and one year of Fellowship in Cardio-Thoracic and Vascular Anesthesia (2012-2013) at The Onze Lieve Vrouw Clinic, Belgium. She will be involved in the teaching, research, and clinical activities in the Department of Anesthesiology.

**Dr. Mohamad Haidar** will be joining FM/AUBMC as Assistant Professor of Clinical Diagnostic Radiology effective November 1, 2013. He graduated with MD degree from the Lebanese University in 1995, and received Diplome Interuniveritaire des Specialites de Medicine Nucleaire from the University of Paris VII in 2000 after completion of four years of residency training in nuclear medicine. After which, he completed two years of fellowship in nuclear medicine at Bichat Claude Bernard Hospital (2000-2002) and one year fellowship at Saint Antoine Hospital Paris (2002-2003). Dr. Haidar is currently a Professor in Radioprotection at the Beirut Arab University since 2008 and Professor in Nuclear Medicine in the Lebanese University since 2009. He serves as Head of Nuclear Medicine and PET/CT department and Cyclotron Unite since 2002, Head of Nuclear Medicine Division at Rafic Hariri University Hospital since 2006, Head of Nuclear Medicine department at Sahel General Hospital Beirut since 2002, and is responsible for the Nuclear Medicine Department at Dar Al Amal since 2006. Dr. Haidar will be involved in the teaching of residents and medical students, and he is one of the most experienced Nuclear radiologists in the country in the field of nuclear medicine with special skills in Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scans. His expertise will be essential for its proper utilization and the expansion of the nuclear medicine services. Dr. Haidar will be an added asset to the department and potentially KMC for his clinical expertise in nuclear medicine and imaging.

**Dr. Hassan Zaraket** will be appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Experimental Pathology, Immunology and Microbiology effective March 1, 2014. Dr. Zaraket received his Ph.D. in Community Disease Control from Niigata University Graduate School of Medicine and Dental Sciences, Japan, in 2009. He has been serving as postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Infectious Diseases at St Jude Children's Hospital since 2009. Dr. Zaraket is the author of 32 publications, 8 of which as major contributor, and his research is focused on influenza and other respiratory infections of clinical relevance and public health virology. The research interests of Dr. Zaraket are in infectious diseases with focus on Virology. Dr. Zaraket background education and experience at a leading pediatric oncology center in the US studying infectious agents should be great assets to the Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Zaraket will be involved in teaching medical students and mentoring graduate students.

**Dr. Riyad El-Khoury** will be appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine with a joint appointment with the department of Neurology effective January 1, 2014. He graduated with Doctor of Philosophy in Biology with specialty in Genetics and Molecular Biology from Paris-Sud XI University, France in 2009. After which, he completed four years of post-doctoral fellowship
at Inserm-U676 Hopital Robert Debre 2009-2013, which included training in Flow Cytometry at Institut Jacques Monod, Paris, France, as well as in animal experimentation at Cordeliers Research Center in Paris, France. He acquired technical training in molecular biology, genetics technique, cellular biology, biochemistry, and bioinformatics. He was appointed as Instructor at Versailles Saint-Quentin University (2006-2008), and part-time Assistant Professor at Paris-XII Créteil University (UPEC) (2012-2013). His publication record includes 14 journal publications, 4 of which as major contributor. Dr. El-Khoury will be involved in the teaching of residents and medical students.

**Dr. Nada B. Lawand** will join AUB as Assistant Professor of Neurology effective April 1, 2014. An alumnus of AUB, Dr. Lawand holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience from the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston (PhD, 2000). Following graduation, she completed a four-year post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. William D. Willis. Her research focussed on the cortical mechanisms of inflammatory pain. After a maternity leave, she joined the Department of Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences as an adjunct Instructor where she taught Neuroscience to Medical and Graduate students. In 2010, she joined the Department of Arts and Sciences in Strayer University, and in 2011 she became Associate Campus Dean of Strayer University in Little Rock. Dr. Lawand is expected to contribute to teaching basic neuroscience to students in their preclinical and clinical years, and to contribute to the research activities at the Abu Haidar Neuroscience Institute (AHNI), the Department of Neurology and the Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiology.

**Faculty of Engineering and Architecture**

**Dr. Anwarul Hasan** joined as an Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon in January 2014. Prior to joining his current positions, Dr Hasan was an NSERC Post Doctoral Fellow at the Harvard Medical School and MIT during 2012-2013. Dr Hasan obtained his PhD from University of Alberta, Canada in 2010 and worked in oil sands, bitumen and heavy oil research at Alberta Innovates Technology Futures in and Champion Technologies LTD in Alberta, Canada during 2010-2011. His current research interests involve Biomechanics, Microfluidics, Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering of Heart Valves, Blood Vessels and Articular Cartilage. Dr Anwarul Hasan has published more than 40 peer reviewed papers including 25 journal articles and 15 conference proceeding articles. His published research article from PhD work was widely covered by international media including Global TV, City TV, and CBC Canada among many. Dr Hasan is a winner of more than sixteen national and international awards. He has also served as a Senate member, elected Vice President of Graduate Students’ Association and a member of numerous University committees including Chancellor Search Committee, Dean of Students Search, VP External search, and Chair of Mechanical Engineering Search committees at University of Alberta. More information about Dr Hasan is available at www.handhiinternational.ca.

**Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences**

**Dr. Jamal Sawwan** will join the AUB faculty as a professor of Horticulture at the department of Agricultural Sciences in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. Jamal’s long experience in the field of horticulture and wide background enabled him to excel in many fields of horticultural sciences. Jamal got his training at the university of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1987. He started his career at the University of Jordan as an assistant professor, and then as a professor. He served as the department head for 5 years during which he established a new program in horticultural landscape then served as a Dean of the Institute of Agricultural Research, Teaching, Education and Extension. In 2013, he joined the UIUC as a visiting professor. Jamal was awarded the Arab Youth Scientists Prize. He published more than 40 peer reviewed articles and two glossaries.

*Postponed till Fall 2014-15