

American University of Beirut
Office of the President



December 15, 2016

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As you are aware, AUB is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and has been successful in serial reaccreditation processes since 2004. It is now time for our institution's decennial reaccreditation. This evaluation consists of an extensive, in-depth self-study process that is designed to produce a Self-Study Report highlighting AUB's strengths, achievements and possible challenges. This report will serve as a basis for a future site visit by an evaluation team composed of peer reviewers selected by MSCHE.

A self-study steering committee was recently appointed with the primary task of overseeing the entire self-study process. The Steering Committee is chaired by Interim Provost Dr. Mohamed Harajli and co-chaired by Interim Associate Provost Dr. Hala Muhtasib, with Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Saouma Boujaoude serving as Vice Chair. There will be eight **Working Groups**, each of which will be co-chaired by two members of the Steering Committee.

All working groups will be guided by a Self-Study Design document that is to be prepared by the Steering Committee. The Design will define the tasks of the working groups, direct their research, analysis, and reporting on their assigned topic. Each working group is expected to engage in a process of active and open inquiry, recognize institutional strengths and challenges, and make recommendations for improvement which would ensure our institution's renewal and reaffirmation of accreditation.

This reaccreditation process is enriched when there is inclusiveness and broad representation for the AUB community. Hence, I am cordially inviting you to participate in AUB's Self-Study by volunteering on one of its eight working groups that will address the seven MSCHE Standards for Accreditation (*Mission and Goals; Ethics and Integrity; Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience; Support of the Student Experience; Educational Effectiveness Assessment; Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvement; Governance, Leadership and Administration*), and *Verification of Compliance* to the Requirements of Affiliation.

The Steering Committee will begin its work in January 2017 and continue through the Spring of 2019. The working groups will start their work and submit their report between the Spring of 2017 and the Spring of 2018. We anticipate having between 8 and 12 members (faculty, staff and students) in each working group.

I encourage you all to contribute to this extremely important service to AUB by participating in the “Self-Study”, the heart of our reaccreditation process. Your acceptance to serve will require your dedication, cooperation, and consistently demonstrated efforts. Please follow the [link](#) if you wish to participate and submit the form by **January 5, 2017** at the latest.

Best regards,

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD
President