Overall Report on Sustainable Development Goals
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SDG1: NO POVERTY

Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1) underscores the global commitment to eradicating poverty in all its forms. In Lebanon, a country with its unique socio-economic challenges, Beirut Arab University (BAU) has taken significant steps to address poverty within its campus, support both local and foreign students, and engage with the broader public community.

Financial Assistance Programs:

- **Scholarships and Grants**: BAU offers a range of scholarships and grants to local and international students, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder access to quality education.
- **Work-Study Opportunities**: The university provides work-study programs, enabling students to gain work experience while financially supporting their education.

Empowering Local and Foreign Students:

- **Career Services**: BAU offers comprehensive career counseling and job placement services to empower students in securing employment opportunities, thus reducing the risk of poverty upon graduation.
- **International Outreach**: Through its diverse student body, BAU fosters an environment that promotes cross-cultural understanding, supporting foreign students as they navigate their academic journey in Lebanon.

Community Engagement:

- **Outreach Programs**: BAU actively engages with the local community through outreach initiatives that include free medical clinics, educational workshops, and support for vulnerable populations, contributing to poverty alleviation.
- **Research and Advocacy**: The university's faculty and students conduct research on poverty-related issues, driving discussions on policy changes and social reforms.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces economic and social challenges that require sustained efforts to address poverty comprehensively. To continue working towards SDG 1:

- **Increased Collaboration**: BAU aims to strengthen collaborations with governmental and non-governmental organizations to expand its outreach and impact in poverty alleviation efforts.
- **Awareness Campaigns**: The university plans to enhance awareness campaigns on poverty-related issues, fostering a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by vulnerable populations.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University's commitment to SDG 1 - No Poverty goes beyond its educational mission. Through financial assistance, student support, and community engagement, BAU actively contributes to alleviating poverty and promoting economic stability in Lebanon, demonstrating its dedication to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
With the aim of providing opportunities for our BAU graduates, to acquire international Scholarships, the Deanship of Graduate studies & Research, in cooperation with the coordinator of Educational and Scholarship Programs, AMIDEAST/Lebanon, Mrs. Hala Kaadi and the Exchange Programs Coordinator from the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Mrs. Leen Al Yaman Chehade, 3 days workshops were held on the 13th, 14th & 15th March about ‘Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship Program" in Debbieh, Tripoly, and Beirut Campuses respectively. Mrs. Kaadi highlighted the opportunity offered to BAU students to obtain a Master’s Degree from a University in the United States and discussed all the application requirements, instructions and provisions about the scholarship in addition to the scholarship benefits and more.
Erasmus Scholarships for Postgraduate Students

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/Event/Erasmus-Scholarships-for-Postgraduate-Students

Under the collaboration of EACEA, Beirut Arab University is pleased to announce the Scholarships offered by Erasmus and Programs 2015 for Postgraduate Students.

Program based Scholarships

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Graduate/Program-based-Scholarships

WHAT IS THE SCHOLARSHIP ABOUT?

BAU provides direct financial support in the form of tuition fees reduction to newly admitted students holding a Bachelor Degree obtained from Beirut Arab University or any other recognized university and applying to Master majors in the:

- Faculty of Human Sciences (except Mass Communication program)
- Faculty Law & Political Sciences and to
- Faculty Architecture - Design and Built Environment. (awarded to MArch program only)
WHAT DOES THE SCHOLARSHIP COVER?
Applicants can benefit from reduction in tuition fees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CGPA -Bachelor Level</th>
<th>Tuition Fees Reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT ARE THE SCHOLARSHIP TERMS?
- Scholarships are awarded to applicants for both the fall and spring semesters of every academic year.
- Graduates must apply for an application to benefit from this scholarship.
- Graduates in all of the Master Programs at the Faculties of Human Sciences (except Mass Communication program), Law & Political Sciences and the MArch program in the Faculty Architecture - Design and Built Environment.
- Non-BAU Graduates must successfully pass a language exam in accordance with the language of instruction at the Faculty of Human Sciences or provide a proof of English proficiency by obtaining a minimum score on any of the equivalent tests shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BAU’s English Proficiency Exam</th>
<th>TOEFL (Paper &amp; pencil) iBT</th>
<th>TOEFL (Internet based) ITP</th>
<th>IELTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Non-BAU Graduates applying to the MArch program at the Faculty Architecture - Design and Built Environment must successfully pass the language exam or provide a proof of English proficiency by obtaining a minimum score on any of the equivalent tests as shown in the table above.
- BAU and Non-BAU Graduates are exempted from the language exam if applying to the Faculty of Law and Political Science. However, they must sit for a personal interview with the concerned department at the Faculty.
- Selection criteria is based in accordance with the student’s CGPA or its equivalence in the case of the full academic year system.
- Registered students can carry on with the Tuition fees reduction only if maintaining the minimum SGPA required until graduation.

WHICH FACULTY EMPLOYS THIS SCHOLARSHIP?
Faculties of Human Sciences, Law & Political Sciences and Architecture - Design and Built Environment.
The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research in collaboration with the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies hosted an info session on Thursday September 28th, 2023 in Ali Rashed Hall, Beirut campus aiming at informing our students of study and scholarship opportunities at the Doha Institute.

Students from BAU faculties attended the info session, particularly from the Faculties of Human Sciences, Law and Political Science, and Business Administration where they learned about study, research and scholarship opportunities. Distinguished speakers from the Doha Institute presented information in this session and they were: The Admissions Manager, Mr. Mahmoud Ahmed, the Director of Student Affairs Ms. Nasema Hassan Abdeen, and the Student Career Advising and Skills Development Specialist Ms. Alia Chebaro. The speakers discussed all details regarding enrollment and possible means of collaboration between the institute and Beirut Arab University.

Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani Humanitarian Initiative

Beirut Arab University extends its sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to His Highness the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani for his generous humanitarian initiative to support the academic path of university students, especially in light of the current economic conditions that the country is going through.
Thanks and appreciation to His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani [7]

Beirut Arab University extends its sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani for his generous humanitarian initiative in supporting the academic path of university students, especially in light of the current economic conditions that the country is going through, and the majority of the Lebanese people suffer from it.

Beirut Arab University salutes His Highness for this generous gesture towards its eighty-four (84) students who benefited from the educational scholarship provided by His Highness specifically for Tripoli students of various disciplines, amounting to one hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred and fifty US dollars ($250’113).

The University renews its appreciation for the initiative of His Highness the Father Amir, and wishes him good health and longevity, and the State of Qatar continued progress, pride and brilliance.

An MOU between BAU – Faculty of Human Sciences and Sidon Orphan Welfare Society (OWS) [8]

On Wednesday, 20th October 2021, the Faculty of Human Sciences at Beirut Arab University and the Sidon Orphan Welfare Society (OWS) signed an MOU towards the enhancement of undergraduate and graduate internships as well as the provision of work opportunities as OWS for the Faculty graduates. The agreement was signed by Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi, President of Beirut Arab University, and Dr. Said Mekkawi, President of OWS. It aims to facilitate the rendering of multi-sector services to children in Lebanon in a safe and timely manner. The agreement also aims to provide students at BAU with the required technical and field skills to ensure their capacity building, expertise and readiness for the job-market.

In the light of the agreement, BAU and OWS are committed to strengthening the humanitarian response to children’s needs, with the ultimate goal of bettering children’s wellbeing and development.
CFE has collaborated with IAAF to empower a team of students each year. While CFE offer them coaching and support, IAAF awards the winning team a $10,000 in cash to start their project.

**BAU and “IRADA” Launched Free Clinics for Corona Patients [10]**

The President of Beirut Arab University Professor Amr Galal El Adawi and President of the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA) Mr. Assem Nawam opened the free field clinics for Corona patients affiliated to the BAU Health Care Center which were established in partnership by the two parties.

The clinics will provide free medical examination and follow-up to patients who do not need hospitalization and can be treated at home by a group of specialist doctors and nurses in field clinics specially established near the intersection of Sports City and Tarik Al Jadidah. They consist of seven
clinics fully equipped with their facilities, and a ready ambulance for the Islamic Medical Association to transfer critical cases to Makassed Hospital and Rafik Hariri Hospital.

Beirut Arab University and IRADA had started the first phase of the community support agreement to face the Corona epidemic through the telephone clinics, which had provided support for more than 1,800 consultations and reviews through university doctors, and the second phase was completed by with opening of the clinics.

The ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Lebanon H.E. Dr. Yasser Elwi, President of the Board of Trustees of the Wafq El Bir Wal Ihasn Society Dr. Ammar Houri, Dr. Khaled Kabbani, General Manager of Social Welfare Institutions in Lebanon, Faissal Sinno President of the Islamic Philanthropic Association in Beirut, representatives of medical and social societies, Deans of Medical Faculties, the Secretary General of BAU Dr. Omar Houri, Dean of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, and Director of Statistics Division at ESCWA, Dr. Juraj Riecan.

The Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and the Medical Director of the Health Care Center at BAU, Dr. Issam Shaarani, said that the number of patients in a medical perspective is divided into a large group, which is for patients who suffer from limited symptoms and are treated at home through the necessary instructions, while the second group is for the patients who have severe symptoms where they need a medical evaluation, and they may need to be admitted to hospital. As for the third group, they are critically ill patients and mostly need intensive care.

“The idea of establishing Corona telephone and field clinics was launched from this perspective. Telephone clinics enable the largest group to obtain medical care over the phone all day long, while those with severe symptoms can be evaluated in the field clinics and given the necessary treatments and instructions.” Shaarani said.

Then Mr. Assem Nawam President of IRADA said, “What we are doing today is not just cutting the opening ribbon for an important social and health initiative for our community, but rather it is more and further away from that. In cooperation with our partners at Beirut Arab University, we are laying together the foundation stone for the future Beirut Arab University Hospital, which is the dream project that we must all work to achieve with all our strength and capabilities to establish it in this particular place so that it forms a long-awaited medical and social edifice.

Nawam added: "By opening the Corona field clinics project, we will have contributed to achieving the third goal of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which is to secure good health for an important segment of society, which is an act that makes us all feel honored and proud".

Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, President of the University talked about "the importance of cooperation between institutions to serve the community in light of the pandemic that is widely spreading. The health and social situation of the human being in Lebanon has become threatening, especially since hospitals have reached their maximum capacity, and that field clinics shall contribute in facing the virus, which will provide its services freely for everybody through a medical and nursing team from BAU under the supervision of the BAU Health Care Center of the Faculty of Medicine.

The President of the University mentioned that “The graduates and students from the Faculties of Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy are in the frontlines in all the Lebanese areas doing their jobs in facing the pandemic.” He added: “The opening of the clinics is a completion of the second phase of the project according to an agreement signed between the two parties where Beirut Arab University is responsible for selecting the medical and nursing staff, manages it and handles its affairs, provided that IRADA prepares the telephone and field clinics and provide the cost of operation.”

The ceremony was concluded by a field tour.
The Nursing Students at the Faculty of Health Sciences – Tripoli Branch have assisted in clearing debris from downtown Beirut – Al Nahar Newspaper Region and Karantina Hospital. Students of the faculty from other departments are helping “Beirut Hope” Association in packing and distributing food items to the families affected by Beirut Blast. Professor Maha Dankar, a lecturer in the Nursing Department in Tripoli, is organizing and supervising these activities and coordinating the work between students to help needy people and ensure the efficiency of their work.
**SDG2: ZERO HUNGER**

Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2) aims to end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture. In Lebanon, a country grappling with various challenges, including economic hardships, Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a significant role in addressing the issue of hunger and promoting food security.

**Food Security Initiatives in Lebanon:**

- **Agricultural Programs:** Lebanon's diverse landscapes provide opportunities for sustainable agriculture. Several local organizations and initiatives focus on promoting self-sufficiency through farming practices and supporting local agriculture.
- **Food Banks:** Food banks in Lebanon collect, store, and distribute surplus food to vulnerable populations, reducing food waste and addressing immediate hunger-related concerns.

**BAU's Contribution to Achieving SDG 2:**

- **Research and Innovation:** BAU's research activities focus on sustainable agricultural practices, including urban farming, water-efficient irrigation methods, and crop diversification to ensure food security.
- **Educational Programs:** BAU offers degree programs related to agriculture and agribusiness, producing skilled professionals who contribute to the sustainable development of the country's food systems.
- **Community Engagement:** BAU engages with local communities to promote food security through workshops, training, and awareness campaigns. The university collaborates with local NGOs and governmental organizations to address food insecurity issues.

**Challenges and Future Directions:**

Lebanon faces challenges related to food security due to economic instability and political instability. To continue working towards SDG 2:

- **Advocacy and Policy:** BAU can actively advocate for policies that support sustainable agriculture and food security at the national level, contributing to lasting change.
- **Increased Outreach:** The university can expand its community outreach efforts, particularly in underserved areas, to ensure that knowledge and resources reach those who need them most.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University's dedication to SDG 2 - Zero Hunger is evident through its multifaceted approach, encompassing research, education, and community engagement. As Lebanon grapples with food security challenges, BAU’s efforts contribute to the country's journey towards ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food for all, aligning with the broader mission of the Sustainable Development Goals.
The clinic was established in January 2013, and it is located in the Nutrition and Dietetics Department – Faculty of Health Sciences. It is equipped with a validated “body composition analyzer”, a gold standard “indirect calorimeter” for energy expenditure measurement and other equipment to perform anthropometric assessment.

VISION
To offer an essential platform for students in Nutrition and Dietetics to promote and enhance their professional skills in medical nutrition therapy in outpatient settings. In addition, it aims to provide an important environment for ongoing clinical research within the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics. Moreover, to create a unit that supports the promotion of healthy lifestyles in the community for the prevention of nutrition-related diseases.

MISSION
The mission of the clinic is to establish a distinguished unit that provides high-quality nutritional care for patients while adhering to recent evidence based guidelines within a community setting. Moreover, to be a valid training-site for students studying at the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics by providing the opportunity for hands on practical experience in nutritional management of different diseases under the supervision of a clinical expert.

OUR SERVICES
Lifestyle Modification Program Based On Cognitive Behavior Therapy For Obesity
Metabolic and Nutritional Assessment Service
Lifestyle guidelines for common chronic disease (Diabetes, Hypertension, Dyslipidemia...)

RESEARCH
Lifestyle Modification in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Dietary and Physical Activity Recommendations Based on Evidence.

Reduced Lean Body Mass and Cardiometabolic Diseases in Adult Males with Overweight and Obesity: A Pilot Study.

Clinical Management of Medial Patellar Plica Syndrome: Expert Point of View from Diagnosis to Treatment.
Lecture entitled Sustainable Healthy Dietary Patterns as part of SDGs Courses [13]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Lecture-entitled-Sustainable-Healthy-Dietary-Patterns-as-part-of-SDGs-Courses

The Faculty of Health Sciences at Beirut Arab University presented by Dr. Leila Itani, Assistant Professor at the Nutrition & Dietetics Department delivered a lecture on the 8th of April 2022 entitled "Sustainable Healthy Dietary Patterns". This participation was part of 8 modules offered through the educational activities of the series of SDGs Courses organized by the university of Pavia /Italy for Spring 2021-2022 (https://sites.google.com/unipv.it/unipv-sdgs-courses/nutrition).

The course aimed to provide knowledge on nutrition, lifestyle, and wellbeing, emphasizing a sustainable diet. In this respect, Dr. Itani presented in her talk the role of the food system and unhealthy dietary patterns in disrupting the resilience of the earth’s biophysical limits and transgressing their safe operating space contributing to climate change and loss of ecological resources.

Through the lecture, the definition and composition of the recently proposed healthy sustainable diet and evidence on its role in maintaining food system activities within the safe operating space of biophysical planetary boundaries was presented.

This diet is said to contribute to two global agendas for the food system namely the twelfth SDG by ensuring "responsible consumption” and “Paris agreement” to reduce climate change while ensuring a lower diet cost. Ultimately projection on the planetary healthy diet are shown to conserve people’s health and averting death and sustaining ecological resources, eventually ensuring achievement of the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental dimensions.
Incidents of Food Poisoning in Lebanon and the role of MOPH in handling this Issue at BAU [14]

As a part of the Food Safety and Hygiene course (NUTR413), Mrs. Joyce Haddad, the director of food safety in the Ministry of Public Health in Lebanon (MOPH) and the head of the scientific committee on Food Safety, was invited to deliver a talk about the “Incidents of Food Poisoning in Lebanon and the role of MOPH in handling this Issue”.

The visit was held on October 19, 2021 in the Lab of the Nutrition and Dietetics department at BAU. Students were able to learn the strategic plans followed by the MOPH in terms of Food safety. Topics included:

- The 8 steps for the investigation of food poisoning
- Types of food poisoning
- Procedure followed by the inspectors in food premises.
- How MOPH reports food poisoning cases.
- How MOPH collects data.

The Faculty of Health Sciences participation in the 28th European Congress on Obesity (ECO) [15]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/The-Faculty-of-Health-Sciences-participation-in-the-28th-European-Congress-on-Obesity-ECO-

The Faculty Member Professor Marwan El Ghoch, the Professor in Clinical Nutrition and the Head of Nutrition & Dietetics Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences delivered a symposium at the 28th European Congress on Obesity that was held in May 2021 entitled: “Understanding Sarcopenic Obesity: The Ignored Phenotype?” with my colleagues Dr. Giovanna Muscogiuri and Dr. Andrea P Rossi.
Shortage of Infant Milk in Lebanon... Alternatives and Solutions [16]

As the financial crisis in Lebanon is intensified and the unprecedented collapse of the value of the Lebanese currency with the lack of foreign currencies, the Lebanese market is witnessing scarcity in Infant milk which are imported from abroad and its price should be paid in US Dollars. Reports mentioned that pharmacies witness interruption of milk No. 3 supplies, which infants between ages of one to three years’ drink. The food security of infants at this age group is threatened forcing parents to constantly search for milk hoping they can get a box of milk to feed their infants. In light of this painful reality and with a sense of social responsibility, it was necessary to think about practical solutions and find alternatives to Infant milk in a way that preserves people’s dignity and guarantees their natural right to obtain food without begging at the doors of pharmacies and supermarkets, which in turn have no fault in the crisis. The propaganda that media spreads about companies producing various types of powdered milk has assured us for many years that it is "essential for the full development of infants", that it is "fortified with iron", "contains essential vitamins and minerals" and "maintains the child's mental health." This propaganda formed a false public opinion that was instilled by most of parents not to dispense these dried products even as their children grow old. Here, we do not claim that these products are harmful or threatens the safety and health of children, but rather a commodity that can be replaced by a natural product abundantly available at reasonable prices for all society levels.

For centuries, humanity has relied on natural or fresh milk to raise infants and as a healthy food for adults as well. In the past few decades, many rumors spread that natural milk may cause fever or allergy, or lead to a deficiency in some important elements that are necessary for growth, such as iron or a decrease in the level of some vitamins and so on. At the same time, some countries established big companies for producing and exporting these products. While the truth that people should know is that these products are nothing but food commodities produced and exported for business purposes even that many countries that produce and export milk powder depend on fresh or natural milk as food for children and they do not adhere to any specific type or brand.

Health researchers agree that infants from age one year and over can drink fresh milk with all its components. At this age, natural milk for a child has great nutritional value as it contains high-quality proteins, calcium, fats and micronutrients that are necessary for growth. According to the National Library of Medicine in the United States, the fat in natural milk is necessary for the growth of the child’s brain. It also recommends giving children milk with all its components starting the age of one or two years. Moreover, the components of natural milk have growth-promoting effects independently of specific compounds.
As for the argument that says that natural milk may cause some undesirable symptoms for infants such as allergies, diarrhea or weight gain, this may happen sometimes besides it also happens with powdered milk formulas. Scientific studies indicate that allergy to cow’s milk proteins is usually transient, and that the link between cow’s milk with autism spectrum disorders is not scientifically proven, in addition to that its relationship to type 1 diabetes (insulin dependent) has not been proven.

Here, we must present some advice to replace powdered milk for the infant in a safe and healthy way. First, you must gradually give natural milk to the child so that he gets used to its taste and digestion especially if he is accustomed to the dried formula. Second, if the milk will be prepared at home, it must boil for 20 minutes to ensure it is sterilized and safe. It is also possible to reduce the percentage of fat (especially for beginners) by skimming the fat layer that appears on the surface of the milk after boiling. Among the important advice is that should be accompanied by a varied and balanced diet to replace the vitamins and minerals by meat, chicken and vegetables that are allowed to be given to the infant at this age. We should not forget milk products and its derivatives (such as yogurt, salted yogurt, and cheese) as an alternative in case the infant did not accept natural milk. We also recommend that parents expose the infant to the sun on a daily basis (even for a short period of time) to ensure proper growth and an adequate level of vitamin D. If any of these are not possible, then there is nothing wrong if the infant is given medicinal supplements of vitamins and minerals (such as vitamin D and iron) to compensate for any possible deficiency and ensure healthy growth. Health advice - by the pediatrician or pharmacist - remains essential to safely and properly monitor the growth and health of your children.

In conclusion, it is worth mentioning that breastfeeding is the absolute priority for children’s health, especially for those under the age of one, because of the health benefits the infant receives, and economic benefits for parents and society. According to the World Health Organization, breast milk is the ideal food for an infant. It is safe, clean, and contains antibodies that help protect against many common childhood illnesses. It also provides all the energy and nutrients that an infant need in his first months. Studies also confirm that breastfed babies do better in IQ tests, are less likely to be overweight or obese, and less likely to develop diabetes and chest and intestinal infections later in life. If that was impossible, there are many aids that assist the mother to stimulate breastfeeding or use of modified breast milk for children of this age, either through ready-made products or prepare it at home.

Article Written by: Dr. Mohammad Ali Hijazi (Faculty of Pharmacy at Beirut Arab University)
Dietary patterns analysis

Department of Nutrition and Dietetics - Faculty of Health sciences

Beirut Arab University - Beirut-Lebanon

Presented at the National institute of Nutrition (NIN)

Cairo-Egypt March 3-4 2021

Dr. Leila Itani Assistant professor at the Faculty of Health Sciences/ Nutrition and dietetics department delivered a two days’ workshop on Dietary patterns analysis for the National institute of Nutrition in Cairo. The workshop took place over Zoom meeting platform on the 3rd and 4th of March 2021. The workshop aimed at capacity building for junior researchers in the statistics unit of the NIN lead by Dr. Inas Fawzy the areas of dietary data management, analysis and deriving dietary patterns.

Dr. Itani delivered the workshop in response to an invitation from the NIN represented by its Director Dr. Gihan Fouad Ahmad and professor Sahar Zaghoul at the Department of Nutrition requirement and growth. The workshop was attended by a group of physicians, dietitians and statisticians.
Together We Can Fight Obesity is an awareness Campaign launched by BAU [18]

For the occasion of the “World Obesity Day” assigned by the World Obesity Federation on the 4th of March, the Faculty of Medicine at Beirut Arab University coped the importance of this day and shed the light on this medical issue raised through a Television Interview with the Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Faculty Dr. Hala Ahmadieh MD, MHPE - Endocrinology Consultant as this day is considered to be of extreme importance in order to increase awareness on the seriousness of this disease and the complications commonly associated with it.

Below is the link of the full interview:
https://youtu.be/7uyY04YNICI

What is Obesity?
Obesity, is defined by the by the National Institutes of Health as having a Body mass index (BMI) of 30 and above. BMI is a person’s weight in kilograms divided by a person’s height in meters squared. A person is considered to be overweight when the BMI increases to more than 23 kg/m2.
**Is obesity considered a disease?**

Obesity is considered a disease since it was found to be linked to increased risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes mellitus, increased lipids, high blood pressure, joint problems, and gallstones. It also increases the risks of certain cancers such as breast cancers, colon cancers and other types of cancers. Obesity can also cause sleep and breathing problems.

**What causes obesity?**

Obesity is known to be multifactorial, with both genetic and behavioral factors playing a role. Primary causes of obesity are linked to genetic abnormalities that can cause excessive appetite and overeating, which can lead to obesity. As for the environmental factors, it is quite true that the rising epidemic of obesity is primarily attributed to sedentary lifestyle adopted and the poor dietary habits. In fact, childhood obesity increased and this is worrisome. Also, people suffering from a lack of sleep and stress may crave for more food, especially carbohydrate-rich foods. Secondary causes of obesity are common too. These include medications-induced obesity and endocrine related causes, such as deficiency in thyroid hormone production due to decreased thyroid gland function and increased endogenous steroids production along with others.

**Does obesity have any psychological impacts?**

Sure! Besides the physical comorbidities caused by obesity, it has been also associated with a psychological burden as well. Many individuals who are obese often struggle with depression, anxiety disorders, low mood and low self-esteem, and often complain of a poor quality of life.

**What are some effective ABC tips to manage obesity?**

A: Avoid sugary drinks and drink water instead.

B: Breastfeeding should be encouraged as it helps to avoid obesity in children.

C: Consult your doctor if you are concerned about your weight.

D: Drink more water instead of sugary drinks.

E: Exercise regularly at least 30 minutes a day five times a week.

F: Fruits and vegetables should be an essential part of a healthy well-balanced diet.

G: Get conscious of your eating habits and eat fewer calories to lose weight.

H: Healthy snack between meals can avoid overeating during your next meal.

Hala Ahmadieh MD, MHPE

Endocrinology Consultant

Assistant Professor of Medicine
The Faculty of Health Sciences at Beirut Arab University proudly announces that the Faculty Member Professor Marwan El Ghoch, the Professor in Clinical Nutrition and the Head of Nutrition & Dietetics Department at the Faculty had been acknowledged the title of “EASO European Clinical Fellow” acquired from the EASO Obesity Management Task Force as an expert in obesity management.
The Faculty of Health Sciences at Beirut Arab University-Tripoli branch organized a scientific webinar entitled “Diabetes Updates; Tribute to Nurses” on November 27, 2020 in collaboration with Dialeb-The National Diabetes Organization.

Eight international and local speakers presented in the conference that was attended by around 300 participants from over 20 countries around the world, and from the Lebanese ministry of public health, hospitals, schools, Universities and other organizations from North to South of Lebanon.

The webinar was organized on the occasion of the World Diabetes Day, whose theme this year is “The Role of Nurses in Diabetes Care”, knowing that the World Health Organization has designated 2020 as “The International Year of the Nurse and Midwife”.

The opening ceremony included a speech for Dr. Jackie Maalouf, president and founder of Dialeb, and Dr. Nisrine Bissar, Director of the Faculty of Health Sciences at BAU who greeted all participants, delivering a message of appreciation and gratitude to all nurses around the globe for their courage and sacrifices, especially during the COVID 19 pandemic. In addition to thanking the Order of Nurses in Lebanon for their collaboration, granting 2 CNE contact hours to nurses attending the webinar and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) for supporting the event.

Prof. Andrew Bolton, IDF president and event keynote speaker, delivered a speech covering worldwide statistics on the prevalence and complications of Diabetes and its relation to COVID 19. On the other hand, the president of IDF-MENA, Dr. Mhammad Sandid presented the prevalence and challenges of Diabetes in MENA region, and what can be done to overcome these challenges.

The first panel of the webinar entitled “Diabetes Updates and Challenges” was moderated by Dr. Judith skaff, and included the latest updates on treatment regimens and technology related to type 2 diabetes by Dr. Nancy Nakhoul, in addition to the history of insulin discovery and challenges associated with each phase by Dr. Marwan Zoghbi. On the other hand, Dr. Cosette Fakih presented the guidelines of Nutrition therapy for adults with Diabetes.

The second panel was dedicated for the role of nurses in diabetes management. It was moderated by Dr. Hala Ahmadieh, and included a talk for Dr. Myrna Doumit, president of the order of nurses in Lebanon, who presented on the art and science of nursing in diabetes care. The second presenter, Dr. Ahmad Tasseh discussed the role of diabetes nursing education in managing and improving care for diabetes patients, while Dr. Najwa El Gerges, presented on the nursing role in community-based control of diabetes, mainly in the primary care setting.
The conference was concluded by a speech from Dr. Bissar and Dr. Maalouf who thanked the speakers and attendees, hoping to meet again in future scientific activities.

**International Webinar about Nutrition organized by the European Association for the Study of Obesity [21]**


Professor Marwan El Ghoch, from the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics – Beirut Arab University (Lebanon), delivered a talk as invited speaker in the International Webinar organized by the Unit of Endocrinology – School of Medicine – University of Naples Federico II, Italy, and hosted by the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO) on Very Low-Calorie Ketogenic Diet (VLCKD), Obesity and COVID-19, with the participation of speakers from Italy, Netherlands and United Kingdom, and attendees from several countries.
SDG3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3) focuses on ensuring good health and promoting well-being for all at all ages. In Lebanon, where access to healthcare has been a longstanding concern, the government and the Ministry of Public Health are working diligently to address healthcare disparities. Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a crucial role in promoting health awareness and services for all, contributing to the achievement of SDG 3.

Government Initiatives for Universal Health Coverage:

- **National Health Coverage**: The Lebanese government and the Ministry of Public Health are working towards providing universal health coverage to ensure that all citizens have access to essential healthcare services without financial hardship.
- **Primary Healthcare Enhancement**: Initiatives are in place to strengthen primary healthcare systems, which are essential for promoting preventive healthcare and early intervention.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns**: The government conducts public awareness campaigns on various health issues, including vaccinations, nutrition, and disease prevention.

BAU's Contribution to Health and Well-being:

- **Medical Education**: BAU offers medical and healthcare-related programs, producing skilled professionals who contribute to the healthcare system.
- **Community Health Initiatives**: The university actively engages with local communities, offering health awareness campaigns, workshops, and free medical clinics. These programs target underserved populations and provide critical healthcare services.
- **Health Research**: BAU conducts research on health-related topics, addressing public health concerns and providing data-driven solutions.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces challenges in achieving universal health coverage, including economic difficulties and political instability. To continue working towards SDG 3:

- **Collaboration**: BAU can foster collaboration with local healthcare organizations and the Ministry of Public Health to expand its health awareness and services programs.
- **Research and Advocacy**: The university can intensify research efforts in areas such as disease prevention and healthcare access, influencing policy changes and public health practices.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University is committed to promoting good health and well-being in Lebanon by offering health education, awareness campaigns, and healthcare services to the community. In alignment with the government’s efforts to achieve universal health coverage, BAU actively contributes to making healthcare accessible to all, addressing public health challenges and working towards the realization of SDG 3.
HEALTHCARE CENTER

https://www.bau.edu.lb/health-services/healthcare-center

Open for Public at complimentary consultation fees

ABOUT US
Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center (BAUHC) is the right place where a team of competent and empathetic physicians, nurses, and health care providers treat you with respect and compassion and deliver high quality ambulatory care for you.

BAUHC, located in Hariri building ground floor in Beirut Arab University (BAU) Beirut campus, was launched on Thursday September 6th, 2018.

VISION
Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center intends to be a distinguished university healthcare center in the fields of health care, education, and research

MISSION
Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center is committed to improving the health of the community by providing quality and affordable healthcare services and wellness programs that meet people needs in a distinctive environment for education and research.

Our Physicians Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIALITY</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ear, Nose, and Throat</td>
<td>Dr. Samer Serhal</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>09:30 - 11:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dermatology</td>
<td>Dr. Salam Itani</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>01:00 - 04:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Razane Hamze</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12:00 - 03:00</td>
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<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Jean Claude Honein</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Dr. Sawsan Abiad</td>
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<td>Dr. Khaldoun Sinno</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dr. Zeinab Darwich</td>
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<td>Dr. Amal Naous</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dr. Nadia Koleilat</td>
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<td>Dr. Wael Atrouni</td>
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<td>Dr. Khouloud Demachkie</td>
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<td>Dr. Bilal Itani</td>
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<td>Dr. Ghassan Kantar</td>
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<td>Dr. Jad Dergham</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Family Medicine</td>
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<td>Neurology</td>
<td>Dr. Mohammad Agha</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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**CORE VALUES**

Our Core Values are SAFE CARE

**Service Excellence:**
we strive to provide our patients, physicians, and co-workers with Quality Service.

**Accountability:**
we demonstrate Professionalism and Responsibility in us

**Fairness:**
we exhibit Integrity and Honesty in all we do.

**Effectiveness and Efficiency:**
we are effective by doing the right things and efficient by doing things right.

**Compassion:**
we give priority to our patients and respond to their needs in a Safe and Caring environment.
Accessibility: we aim to make our services Accessible to all at Affordable cost.

Respect: we treat our patients, physicians, and co-workers Individually with Courtesy and Dignity.

Empowerment: we promote an environment of Creativity, Innovation, Collaboration, and Teamwork to enhance Critical Thinking and Decision Making.

AIM
BAUHC offers a broad spectrum of preventive health and counseling services to address the various needs of the community. It aims at developing an environment of comprehensive care that responds to community needs and ensures patient satisfaction.

- We focus on treating the person as a whole
- We listen to the community we serve to better understand its concerns
- We always plan, develop, implement, and evaluate our services

OBJECTIVES
At BAUHC, we look forward to provide the highest standards of care, hereby ensuring the health and wellbeing of the community. The center is an accessible place for you and your family members to receive adequate medical care for acute and chronic illnesses at affordable prices.

- To make BAUHC a distinguished place to provide both curative and preventive health care services to the community.
- To be a trusted leader in primary health care according to standards established by the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health.
- To provide an excellent, comprehensive, safe, and accessible primary health care for patients in order to achieve both physical and spiritual health.
- To enhance clinical research and education to medical, nursing, and other allied health students and trainees.

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Services [23]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/healthcare-center/Services
BAUHC provides compassionate health care services for you and for each member of your family in one place. Available services are:

- **Dentistry**: Dental Care is available through Oral Diagnosis Clinic at BAU Faculty of Dentistry in the main building in Beirut campus.
- **Immunization**: BAUHC believes that immunization is one of the most cost-effective health investments and proven means for controlling and eliminating life-threatening infectious diseases. In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), BAUHC administers free of charge vaccines as per the National Immunization Calendar established by the MoPH.
- **Dietary and Physiotherapy services**: Dietary and Physiotherapy services are available through Faculty of Health Sciences located in Hariri building third floor in Beirut campus.
- **Laboratory and Radiology Services**: BAUHC Laboratory and Radiology diagnostic centers are under development. For the time being, patients are free to do the requested studies at their preference.
- **Electrocardiography (ECG)**: Electrocardiography (ECG) is a quick, simple, painless procedure that provides information about the heart electrical activity. Recorded ECGs helps the physician in evaluating the heart condition and develop appropriate intervention.
- **Ultrasound imaging**: Ultrasound imaging helps the physician to evaluate, diagnose, and treat medical conditions. Ultrasound imaging is generally considered a safe technique to visualize tissues and organs inside the body and record the movement of internal organs and blood flow through blood vessels. Examples of available ultrasound imaging procedures at BAUHC are ultrasound of abdomen and pelvis organs, breast, thyroid, and heart as well as for the pregnant woman and her fetus.
- **Diagnostic Physiology Procedures**: Available diagnostic studies available at BAUHC are stated above under the Diagnostic Physiology Center.
- **Treatments and minor procedures**: BAUHC provides treatments such as vitals checks, glucose level, injections, IV hydration, wound dressing, nebulization of medication, pap smear test. Available minor procedures are IUD insertion, ear wash, removal of foreign body from external eye, ENT scope examination, and minor surgery (such as removal of cyst, excision of nail and nail matrix, and incision and drainage of abscess, hematoma, seroma, or fluid collection).
- **Pharmacy Assistance**: BAUHC is developing a program to support the community members who cannot afford to buy their medications. The pharmacy room at BAUHC will provide a list of medications that will be delivered free of charge.
Introduction:
In the light of the accelerating rhythm of modern life and the increasing needs of university students for support, both psychologically and socially, to be able to better face the stressors and difficulties of daily life, the Faculty of Human Sciences (Psychology Department) proposes the establishment of the Psycho-social Unit at BAU. This unit becomes an inevitable requirement for the welfare of BAU students. Such a step will be a pioneering contribution by BAU among Lebanese universities. The Unit offers counseling services and interventions, including but not limited to psychological, social and educational services for the students. These services are rendered in accordance with world-wide counseling, therapeutic psychological and ethical standards which regulate psycho-social services. The guiding principle for the Unit is nondiscrimination and equality.

Vision:
The Unit aims to be a pioneer in Lebanon, that offers psychological and social services to the students at the university, while empowering them to achieve their inner adjustment in both psychological and social terms.

Mission:
The Unit seeks to effectively contribute to the self-development of the students who are in need of care and psycho-social support. The aim is to help them attain the optimal level of psycho-social adjustment with themselves and their surroundings, by providing counseling sessions and raising awareness.

Beirut Arab University’s concept of social responsibility towards the Lebanese society has manifested itself over the years on various educational, academic and social levels, through crises and unpleasant events, in particular the recent dramatic events of August 4th, 2020. The explosion of the Beirut Port has aggravated the suffering of the people in this country, in particular the psychological suffering that requires immediate psychological intervention to help the distressed overcome this crisis towards a gradual return to a normal life style. The Faculty of Human Sciences, as part of the diverse services rendered by Beirut Arab University to the Lebanese community in this crisis, proposes to offer psychological guidance and support, through the following:

To receive all those who suffer psychologically in reaction to the Beirut Port incident, as well as subsequent loss or grief, at the Psycho-social Unit, the Faculty of Human Sciences, Beirut Arab University (Hariri Building, Floor 10), as of 17th August 2020, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

In collaboration with Radio Liban, a four-week live program will be held every Friday at 10:30 am to receive calls from the audience, to respond to their questions on all topics relevant to trauma and PTSD at various ages, and to offer advice and psychological first aid, as well as coping strategies that enhance resilience, and mechanisms to restore confidence and a positive outlook for Lebanon.
Beirut Arab University represented by its President Professor Amr Galal El Adawi signed an agreement of cooperation with the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development “IRADA” represented by its President Mr. Assem Nawam to provide support for the Healthcare Center of the Faculty of Medicine at Beirut Arab University in order to alleviate the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Lebanon.

In the first stage, the agreement stipulated the establishment of a "Corona Telephone Clinic", a 24/7 service where IRADA provides three hotlines and the necessary equipment to receive referrals and emergency telephone consultations related to Coronavirus patients by specialists’ doctors from the university. In the second stage, an assessment and primary examination center for patients will be established under the name "Corona Field Clinics". They will be consisted from three equipped clinics in the university campus where the university shall bear the responsibility of selecting the medical staff, managing and handling the clinics. IRADA in its turn shall equip these clinics and the telephone clinic in addition to provide the cost of operation.

It is worth noting that this initiative is only a starting point for future social, health and educational initiatives between the two parties in accordance of society needs.
Agreements with three hospitals in the North of Lebanon: Nini, Haykel and New Mazloum hospitals [26]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Medicine/Event/

Beirut Arab University signed coordination agreements with three hospitals in the North of Lebanon: Nini, Haykel and New Mazloum hospitals. The agreements with these hospitals were signed at BAU’s Beirut campus in the presence of Beirut Arab University President Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi, Vice president for Medical Sciences Prof. Essam Osman, Dean Faculty of Medicine Prof. Najlaa Mashaal, Secretary General Prof. Omar Houry, and representatives from the three hospitals. The agreements with the different North Hospitals aiming to raise the level of healthcare services provided, promoting scientific research and promising to launch scientific conferences with the hope of fulfilling the objectives behind this collaboration with the different hospitals. Moreover, Dr. Nisrine Bazerbachi, general manager of Haykel Hospital highlighted the fact that such opportunity will help in graduating more knowledgeable, competent, and skilled physicians. Dr. Haitham Khayat, the general manager of New Mazloum Hospital promised to assure the best educational clinical environment to the medical students of BAU hoping to achieve mutual benefit for both parties. While, Dr. Wahib Nini was enthusiastic about the integration of the different clinical experiences and exposure to different patients between the North Lebanon Hospitals and our very prestigious and respected university.
Cooperation Agreement between Beirut Arab University and Tripoli Governmental Hospital [27]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Science/agreements#:~:text=Three-year%20agreement%20with%20Tripoli%20Governmental%20Hospital%20was%20signed%20to%20benefit%20students%20in%20applied%20and%20research%20practices.

Beirut Arab University’s President, Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, and Tripoli Governmental Hospital’s Board Chairman, Dr. Fawaz Hallab, signed a cooperation agreement for three years, in the presence of the Minister of Public Health Dr. Jamil Jabak; BAU Secretary General, Dr. Omar Houri; Dean of the Faculty of Science, Prof. Ramadan Awad; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. Najlaa Mashaal; Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Prof. Rajaa Fakhoury; and Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Prof. Hania Nakkash.

The agreement aims to utilize the hospital’s human and scientific potentials and capabilities, to train Medical Physics Masters students on how to use diagnostic imaging, radiation therapy and other devices at the hospital to benefit students in applied and research practices. In addition to organizing sustainable educational training courses, scientific seminars, and workshops, as well as conducting joint research and studies in the field of medical physics, approved by both the Faculty of Science and the hospital.
Beirut Arab University Opens Health Care Center - Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services Under the Patronage of the Minister of Public Health Dr. Firas Al-Abiad [28]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Beirut-Arab-University-Opens-Health-Care-Center-Diagnostic-and-Therapeutic-Services-Under-the-Patronage-of-the-Minister-of-Public-Health-Dr-Firas-Al-Abiad

The President of Beirut Arab University, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, launched the Health Care Center “Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services” in Beirut campus under the Patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Public Health, Dr. Firas Al-Abiad, represented by Mr. Omar Al-Koush. The ceremony was attended by The President of the University Board of Trustees, Dr. Ammar Houry, Vice-Presidents, Deans of faculties, Secretary-General, Dr. Omar Houri, Presidents of Orders, University Presidents, hospital directors, and a crowd of interested people.

The Health Care Center at Beirut Arab University (BAUHC) provides high-quality and affordable diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitation and preventive services, including diagnostic medical laboratory, diagnostic imaging center, physiological diagnostic center, outpatient physical therapy clinics (PTOC) in affordable prices.
The ceremony started with the Lebanese national anthem and the University anthem, then the ceremony master, Ms. Rima Chehab, said “In these difficult circumstances, and based on the University’s pioneering role in serving the surrounding community, we are convinced of the need to promote these social and human values among our students and motivate them to serve as an example of solidarity for the best of the future of this country, this center opened its doors thanks to the initiative of Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation.

The President of the University, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, said: “The Health Care Center was established a few years ago by opening the medical clinics and was then supplemented with departments related to diagnostic treatment and therapeutic services, such as laboratories and radiology. We also thank Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation for providing us with equipments”. El-Adawi continued “This center was established specifically to serve the community, especially since Lebanon is witnessing a phase of deterioration in health care. For this reason, we must establish all medical and diagnostic services to serve the people of this country. The University is keen to provide these high quality services to all segments of society in appropriate prices. It is worth mentioning that the center has its own management that is independent of the university where it plays its role far from the educational process”.

Professor El-Adawi concluded by thanking all those who had contributed to the establishing and completing the Centre, in particular the dear friend Minister Dr. Firas Al-Abiad. Then, His Excellency Dr. Firas Al-Abiad, Minister of Health, represented by Mr. Omar Al Koush said “Emphasizing on the pivotal role and unlimited support of the Ministry of Public Health and its tireless endeavors to mobilize the public health sector in Lebanon through several means such as the establishment of a network of health-care centers and support them with the necessary medical and health assistance. The ministry also recognizes the role of civil society and civil, social, cultural and scientific institutions in assisting and actively participating with the State in addressing health problems.

Al Koush continued: “We thank the President, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, for the great efforts made towards not only giving in the scientific and cultural areas, but also because it was extended to giving in the field of health.”

At the end, the attendees toured the Center and its departments, out-patient clinics and laboratories.
BAU HRC organized a Campaign for the Occasion of the World Health Day [29]


For the occasion of the World Health Day, the Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University HRC-BAU with the support of the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO LNCU released a campaign during for April-May 2021. The campaign aimed to highlight youth role and their engagement in bringing attention to the importance of global health issues and how they are engaged in the efforts to minify the Pandemic impact especially on social and health levels. It also intended to give a tribute to the young medical and healthcare staff/students as well as to raise awareness on the COVID-19 pandemic from a social and educational perspective.

The campaign encompassed several activities such as an awareness video, which included messages from medical students who were and still in the front lines during the pandemic and the vaccination phase. It also held a Webinar entitled “Youth and social cohesion during the Pandemic”. The campaign also included a Digital Wall of Heroes and Heroines that was shared on the university’s website and social medial platform as well as university screens on campus where it presented photos of BAU’s young medical front-liners with their messages to the community.
The President of Beirut Arab University Professor Amr Galal El Adawi, signed a three years renewal agreement between Beirut Arab University Life Support (BAULS) with the Vice President International of the American Heart Association Mr. Michael Hulley.

The agreement aims to train students according to the guidelines of the International Training Center, in addition to teaching the courses in Lebanon and provide training sites, trainers (Professors), students and the necessary material as per the request of American Heart Association to offer the following courses:

• Basic Life Support
• Advanced Life Cardiac Support
• Pediatric Advanced Life Support

It is worth mentioning that the BAULS at the Faculty of Health Sciences has obtained the accreditation in 2017 from the American Heart Association. The Faculty’s accreditation matched the highest international standards of training programs for the individuals who work in the health field, such as doctors and nurses; in accordance with the medical and legal procedures required by the Lebanese Orders, Syndicates and Hospitals.
BAU Attained the International accreditation for the Faculty of Medicine from the WFME [31]

The Faculty of Medicine at Beirut Arab University attained the International Accreditation from The Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Medical Education Programs (TEPDAD) based on The International Standards of World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). This achievement was launched under the auspices of the Minister of Public Health Dr. Firas Abiad at Hariri building in Beirut Campus.

The accreditation corresponds with the decision of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates in the United States of America (ECFMG), which states that the applicant for its professional certificate must be a graduate or student accredited by the World Federation of Medical Education.

The university had started a huge workshop for developing the programs of the Faculty of Medicine, however, several reasons- such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic collapse and the Beirut Port explosion- did not hinder but rather increased the challenges for the Faculty to attain this International Accreditation.

The ceremony took into consideration prevention measures against that COVID-19 Pandemic and was attended by the President of Beirut Arab University Professor Amr Galal El- Adawi, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Lebanon Dr. Yasser Elwi, the Medical Director of Sahel Hospital Dr. Walid Alameh, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Medical Officer at Makassed General Hospital Dr. Mohammad Bader and Dr. Mohammad Hasbini respectively, Acting Chairman of the Board at Rafic Hariri University Hospital Dr. Jalal Natour, General Director of Dar Al- Ajaza Islamic Hospital Dr. Bader Zeidan, Faculty Deans, the Secretary General Dr. Omar Houry, faculty professors, doctors and students.

After a welcome speech from the master of the ceremony, Dr. Bilal Azakir, to attendees, Minister Abiad said, "I express my extreme happiness to be with you at Beirut Arab University, not only as a minister but also as a friend of this university. I also express my pride and honor for what this university is doing, and we, as a ministry, are partners with the university in many projects in addition to training doctors and administrative staff."

Minister Abiad continued: "What brings us together today is not only that the Faculty of Medicine attained international accreditation, but the education that the university offers which contributed in the leadership of Lebanese people all over the world. Therefore, universities have chosen the difficult path in order to maintain high quality."
I also want to refer to the subject of "the brain drain of doctors and nurses, which is a major problem for the Ministry of Public Health and has led to negative repercussions on the country, and this requires concerted efforts by those who remained to provide medical services to our people." He added, "Countries pass through difficult times but what determines the person's identity is his reaction to the challenges and his eagerness to come out of the crisis better than they were."

Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, President of the University, said, "Today we celebrate the International Accreditation for the Faculty of Medicine which was founded in 1995. We announce the university's completion of all the international accreditation system for all programs". The President continued: "I would like to pay tribute to Minister Abiad, the hero of encountering the COVID-19 pandemic, when he was in charge of Rafic Hariri University Hospital. I also thank the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Lebanon for his great efforts in supporting Lebanon and Beirut Arab University and the efforts of the former deans and the entire staff of the Faculty of Medicine, including professors, employees and students, which led to this achievement."

Prof. El-Adawi pointed out that "the Faculty of Medicine has made great efforts in developing the programs despite the difficult circumstances and challenges. We are one of the first medical schools in Lebanon which developed their programs and we have worked on integrating medical specialties that include various faculties and not limited to the Faculty of Medicine only."

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Professor Mahmoud Mahfouz said "We attained accreditation amid many very difficult challenges from the Corona pandemic, the economic crisis, and Beirut Port explosion. The faculty and university were able to quickly respond and adapt to the various changes and challenges, and even played a positive role in community service. This was evident in the vaccination center, the hotline and Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center (BAUHC)." Dean Mahfouz continued, "The Faculty’s mission is to graduate medical competencies according to international quality standards capable to achieve the proper practice of the profession of Medicine and scientific research and qualified to serve the community as defined by The International Standards of World Federation of Medical Education for undergraduate programs and post graduate programs according to Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Medical Education Programs."

At the end of the ceremony, President El Adawi presented the university honorary shield of appreciation to His Excellency Dr. Firas Abiad, Minister of Public Health, in appreciation of his efforts.
SDG4: QUALITY EDUCATION

Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) emphasizes the importance of quality education for all. In Lebanon, a country with a rich educational history, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education is dedicated to offering education for all. Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a crucial role in providing access to quality education, not only for its students but also for the broader public community.

Government Initiatives for Inclusive Education:

- **Public Education:** The Lebanese Ministry of Education offers free and compulsory education at the primary and secondary levels to ensure all children have access to quality learning.
- **Scholarship Programs:** The government provides scholarships and financial aid to deserving students, helping them pursue higher education.
- **Educational Reforms:** Initiatives are in place to enhance the quality and inclusivity of education, focusing on curriculum development and teacher training.

BAU's Commitment to Quality Education:

- **Community Access:** BAU offers free access to its facilities and library for the public community, welcoming individuals to benefit from the university's resources.
- **Free Courses:** The university extends its commitment by offering free courses to the public, fostering lifelong learning and skill development.
- **Scholarships:** BAU provides scholarships and financial assistance to students, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder access to quality education.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Despite efforts to promote quality education, Lebanon faces challenges related to education quality and accessibility, including the impact of the economic crisis. To continue working towards SDG 4:

- **Support and Inclusion:** BAU can enhance its support and inclusion efforts, especially for underserved communities and students with different abilities.
- **Advocacy:** The university can engage in advocacy for educational reforms and broader access to quality education, contributing to nationwide improvements.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University's dedication to SDG 4 - Quality Education goes beyond its campus. By providing access to its facilities, offering free courses, and supporting students through scholarships, BAU actively contributes to promoting quality education for all. In alignment with the government's initiatives, the university fosters a culture of inclusive learning, empowering individuals in Lebanon to access quality education and skills development.

**BAU Ranked First in Lebanon on Quality Education in THE Impact Rankings 2022 [32]**


The fourth edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking in 2022 was issued. This year's assessment included 1406 Universities from 106 countries/regions.

This is the first year Beirut Arab University participates in the THE Impact Ranking which assesses Universities against the United Nations’
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). BAU ranked third in Lebanon, a total of six Universities in Lebanon made it to the THE Impact Rankings list this year.

BAU’s top scoring SDGs were SDG 4 “Quality Education”, SDG 3 “Good Health and Wellbeing”, SDG 5 “Gender Equality” and SDG 17 “Partnership for the Goals”, with BAU having the highest score in Lebanon on Quality Education with a score of 73.3 and ranking 100th worldwide. BAU also held the second highest score in Lebanon on both SDG 3 & SDG 5.

BAU embraces the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within its strategy and had also aligned its research themes with these SDGs to guide BAU’s research production and enhance BAU’s visibility, collaboration, opportunities and partnerships. BAU is hence proud to be a top scorer on quality education as it is our aim to provide inclusive quality education and empower our community with education, knowledge, and lifelong learning opportunities. This is just the beginning!
SDG5: GENDER EQUALITY
Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. In Lebanon, the government is actively working to promote gender equality and women’s participation in underrepresented fields. Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a significant role in supporting these efforts by aligning its policies and practices with those of the government.

Government Initiatives for Gender Equality:
- **Gender-Responsive Policies:** The Lebanese government has introduced policies that aim to reduce gender disparities in education, employment, and political participation.
- **Women’s Empowerment Programs:** Various programs and initiatives focus on empowering women, including encouraging their participation in fields traditionally underrepresented by women.
- **Anti-Discrimination Laws:** Lebanon has implemented anti-discrimination laws to protect the rights of women and ensure equal opportunities in various sectors.

BAU’s Contribution to Gender Equality:
- **Equal Opportunities:** BAU actively ensures that its policies and practices do not discriminate on the basis of gender, fostering an environment of equal opportunity for both male and female students and staff.
- **Women’s Leadership Initiatives:** The university supports and promotes women’s leadership in academia and administration, providing women with opportunities to excel in their chosen fields.
- **Research and Advocacy:** BAU engages in research and advocacy activities that address gender equality issues, with a particular focus on breaking down barriers to women’s participation in STEM fields and other underrepresented sectors.

Challenges and Future Directions:
Gender equality challenges in Lebanon persist, including societal norms and stereotypes that hinder progress. To continue working towards SDG 5:
- **Education and Awareness:** BAU can enhance its educational programs and awareness campaigns to challenge traditional gender roles and stereotypes.
- **Partnerships:** Collaborating with local women’s organizations and government entities can amplify efforts to empower women and promote gender equality.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University’s commitment to SDG 5 - Gender Equality is evident through its alignment with government policies and its proactive approach to fostering equal opportunities for all. By providing a supportive and inclusive environment for women and actively working to challenge gender-related barriers, BAU contributes to the broader goal of achieving gender equality in Lebanon.
The faculty of The Business Administration at Beirut Arab University is proud to announce that Dr Abdul Rahman Beydoun, assistant Professor in the Business administration department, The winner of the prestigious award delivered by the Academy of Management, gender and diversity in organizations division at its 79th annual meeting of the academy of management held on August 9-13,2019 Boston, MA, United States.

Beirut Arab University Equality and Diversity Policy [34]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Policies-and-Procedures

Beirut Arab University is committed to ensuring that no-one is disadvantaged as a consequence of their age, disability, ethnic or national origin, gender reassignment, family responsibilities, marital status, pregnancy, religion or political belief, sex and sexual orientation or offending background.

As part of this commitment the University will address issues of discriminatory practice towards staff, students, and external stakeholders. This commitment is reflected in the University's values which include the promotion of equality and diversity.
Policy Statement
Beirut Arab University strives towards creating a working, learning and social atmosphere which is inclusive and harmonious.

The University will achieve this by:
- Embracing a positive attitude towards the promotion of equality on the basis of age, disability, ethnic origin, gender reassignment, marital status, pregnancy, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation to ensure all reach their full potential.
- Further embedding equality and diversity into both academic and non-academic induction and training courses.
- Being prepared to understand that fairness and equality is not always about treating people similarly, but can sometimes mean treating people differently.
- Acknowledging and celebrating the breadth of experiences and perspectives that people from diverse backgrounds bring to the life of the University.
- Eliminating discrimination and prejudice by empowering people to treat each other with respect.

The University’s Approach
- The University believes that the most effective way to promote equality and eradicate discrimination is to mainstream the consideration of equality across its functions. In this respect, all employees, students, and visitors to the University have an individual duty to ensure that equality and diversity is actively promoted.
- Ultimate responsibility for overseeing this approach rests with the Board of Governors which delegates responsibility to the Principal and Vice Chancellor who, in turn is assisted by the Executive. To ensure there is effective leadership within the University, one of the Vice-Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellors assumes the role of having overall strategic responsibility for the promotion of equality and for the mainstreaming of equality and diversity and is supported by the Equality and Diversity Sub-Committee (EDSC).

Implementation
- Mainstreaming equality and diversity is the responsibility of the EDSC, comprised of membership from a wide range of the university’s administrative functions and staff and students to ensure it represents staff and student experiences at the University.
- The mainstreaming of equality and diversity includes ensuring that staff are aware of their responsibilities, the University does this through mandatory new staff training and periodic refresher training, both of which are embedded in the University’s values and strategy.
- The University is committed to creating and promoting a working and learning environment where everybody is treated with respect.

Responsibilities
- Ensure that the University has an effective Equality and Diversity Policy.
- Ensure that the University’s equality and diversity policies and action plans are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary, to ensure compliance with all statutory obligations.
- Make available the necessary resources for the effective operation of all University activities.
- Ensure that responsibility for equality and diversity is properly assigned and promote active acceptance of this responsibility throughout the University.
- Work to secure a culture of active engagement with equality and diversity issues.
Article Two: University Values
The University’s basic values are academic distinction, honesty and integrity in teaching and scientific research, autonomy, freedom in conducting research, respect for individuality and safety, social justice, equality amongst individuals, scientific integrity, good conduct, setting good role-models, and honorable representation of the University.

It is the responsibility of the persons active within the context of the University to uphold these values through:
- Committing to integrity of behaviour which is translatable into professional excellence and ethical behaviour.
- Adhering to responsible and decisive attitudes in their actions.
- Adhering to the practice of tolerance in their human relations.
- Openness towards new ideas that intrinsically bear elevated objectives.
- Enhancing benevolent and parental relations between staff members and the students.

Article Seven: Tolerance and Acceptance of the Other
Academic staff, researchers, non-academic staff and students should show tolerance and acceptance of the Other.

Article Nine: Academic Freedom
Academic freedom is an inherent right of the Academic staff as well as students. They have an obligation to preserve it and ensure its continuity. This freedom is practiced through teaching as well as research and creative activities, and within the boundaries publically acceptable moral values and in accordance with the University standards in particular.

Article Eighteen: Excellence & Good Treatment
Beirut Arab University is an establishment that is committed to achieving excellence and securing an environment which supports this objective. Likewise, it is committed to the treatment of every individual in the community with respect and integrity.

Article Nineteen: Equality
The University is keen on realizing the principle of equality and the repulsion of extremism and discrimination among members of the human community, and offering them equal opportunities regardless of colour, race, religion, origin, family status, gender, age, physical disability, social status,
Dr. Mirna Fawaz listed in the top 2% ranking of the most influential researchers in the world [36]


Dr. Mirna Fawaz, Head of the Nursing Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences has been listed in the top 2% ranking of the most influential researchers in the world according to Stanford University ranking.

This ranking lists researchers which have generated the most impactful and cited research in the past five years. It includes only 180,000 researchers from around the world out of more than 8,000,000 active researchers in various fields of study.
Beirut Arab University Received the Honorable Mention at 2021 Tamayouz Excellence Award [37]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Beirut-Arab-University-Received-the-Honorable-Mention-at-2021-Tamayouz-Excellence-Award

Architect Mounira Al-Halabi, graduate from the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment at Beirut Arab University has been selected as one of the seven Honorable Mentions Project in the "Tamayouz" Excellence Award of Graduation Projects in Architecture for the year 2021.

Tamayouz Excellence Award is one of the biggest international awards for students of architecture, urban design, planning and garden design where the number of participating projects for this year reached 485 projects from 153 universities in 41 countries worldwide.

Architect Mounira Al-Halabi was able to achieve this result upon participating with her graduation project "Khan Al-Saboun Center for Handicrafts in Tripoli", which she prepared during the academic year 2018 - 2019 under the supervision of Dr. Islam Al-Samahi.

The jury praised the project since it provided a comprehensive study on the relationship between social traditions, crafts and the urban fabric of the city. It also extracted realistic solutions to revive the urban heritage and linked it to the surrounding streets.

This new success for one of the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment graduates at the international level confirms the distinguished level of the students of this faculty, with the support of its President, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, and the Faculty dean, Professor Ibtihal Bastawissi, to advance the educational process and secure all the resources and the latest technologies necessary for it.

Happy Women’s Day [38]

https://twitter.com/BeirutArabUni/status/1633365601770000385
Congratulations Dr. Dima [39]
https://twitter.com/BeirutArabUni/status/1536685882295590913

Happy Women’s Day [40]
https://twitter.com/BeirutArabUni/status/1501172503774961668
Seminar on Enhancing Women’s Political Participation

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Human-Sciences/Event/Seminar-on-Enhancing-Women-s-Political-Participation

The Department of Mass Communication at the Faculty of Human Sciences, Beirut Arab University, organized a seminar, entitled Enhancing Women’s Political Participation. The seminar hosted anchor Ms. Claudine Aoun, Mr. Majed Eddi Abi Allamaa, Mr. Elias Hankash and Ms. Lori Haitian. The attending students posed questions that were answered by the panel members, and subsequently discussed with the floor. The seminar closed with a set of recommendations towards the enhancement of women’s political participation.

Women Empowerment for SME Management [42]

December 8, 9 and 10, 2016 at Beirut Arab University Bekaa campus to motivate and encourage rural women to launch their own successful businesses.
Beirut Arab University participated in the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Francophonie Network of Women in Higher Education and Research (RESUFF) in France on the 16th and 17th of October 2019. The conference was attended by Prof. Rajaa Fakhoury the Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences and Official member of the RESUFF, Ms. Wafa Beytamouni Director of President and Secretary General Office, and Ms. Lina Anouti Administrative Assistant of President and Secretary General Office. This conference was organized by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, and brought together 90 participants from 10 regions of the world, to encourage women in Universities (students/staff) to take on responsibilities and set up training modules for them in order to overcome obstacles and have a better future.
A Discussion Panel on the Experience of Indonesian and Lebanese Women in Politics at Beirut Arab University

[12]

In cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Lebanon, the Faculty of Human Sciences at Beirut Arab University organized a Discussion Panel entitled "Women in Politics: Indonesia and Lebanon as a Model" in Beirut Campus with the participation of the Indonesian MP Ms. Lena Maryana Mukti, Lebanese MP Ms. Paula Yacoubian, and Faculty Dean Professor Mayssah El Nayal, Panel Presenter and Moderator. The panel was attended by BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, faculty deans, BAU Secretary General Dr. Omar Houri, Indonesian Ambassador Ahmad Khazen Khamidi together with the embassy staff, Iraqi Ambassador Ali Al Amiri, Bangladesh Ambassador Abdulmutallab Sarkar, Ambassador of the State of Palestine represented by Mr. Maher Mishael, and representatives of women's associations in Lebanon as well as a crowd of interested audience. The panel started with the Lebanese and Indonesian Anthems followed by Professor El Nayal’s welcoming speech in which she pointed out that the participation of women in politics will have a significant impact as it will contribute to diffusing their capabilities and helping them achieve more gender equality. "In a world that seeks peace, it is necessary to establish stronger democracies, and democracy is never achieved without utmost equality, which requires the full political participation of women,” El Nayal said. In his speech, the Indonesian Ambassador thanked BAU President for his contribution and for the panel. He reviewed the developments of the Indonesian women in the political field and stressed that the role of women in Indonesia is an integral part of the history of the country as they participated in and contributed to fighting the colonists for independence. He also assured that, today, nothing prevents women from participating in the political life and that Islam guarantees them equal rights with men in assuming positions of power. Professor El-Adawi stressed the necessity to free women of all restrictions that hinder the full performance of their roles in the society and in the political life, pointing out BAU’s encouragement of the role of women which is crystal clear in their large and prominent presence at the university at the administrative and educational levels. El-Adawi called for strengthening the role of women more in the political life as
this factor is effective in achieving the concept of participation. MP. Ms. Lena Maryana Mukti gave a presentation in which she explained her experience in the Indonesian political life, pointing to the success of the role of women in Indonesian politics after achieving a 30% quota for women, which prompted the political parties to promote women’s involvement and seek to increase their participation in the political life. Thus, a law was enacted and Indonesian women, since then, have held important positions in the country. Mukti talked about the political work within her party, pointing out that 54 women assume leading positions in the party, which is a very good figure as compared to the past when women were absent from these positions. MP Ms. Paula Yacoubian said that the annual struggle has a history of race in the Lebanese political life, recalling the roles of Linda Matar and Laure Moghaizel and stressing the inevitability of seeking to achieve quotas for women to correct the historical mistakes against women in Lebanon. For Yacoubian, the representation of women is no longer a luxury but a necessity to achieve participation. She criticized the serious injustice against the Lebanese women and their role during the recent parliamentary elections in Lebanon. Yacoubian called for the correction of the legacies and the conventional archetypes of the patriarchy according to which some families were raised thus depriving women over time of performing their full roles at all levels. At the end of the panel, President El-Adawi presented honorary shields to Mukti and Yacoubian and the Indonesian Ambassador presented shields to both guests, as well as BAU President and Faculty Dean.

The First Women as a Military investigation judge [13]

Alumna Najat Ramez Abu Shakra has been appointed as a military investigation judge.
Based on a collaborative initiative with the Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) and the Faculty of Business Administration at Beirut Arab University (BAU), and the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB) and RCED, a workshop on “Women Empowerment for SME Management” was organized at RCED-Bekaa during December 8-10, 2016.

**Objectives**
- Promoting business management skills of rural women
- Enhancing women’s role in local economic development

During the interactive sessions of the workshop, experts and mentors from BAU and successful business women from LLWB provided more than 35 women of all across Bekaa with knowledge and skills needed for business start-up and survival and good practice for building confidence and for resolving real-life business problems.

After a welcoming speech by RCED director, Dr. Safaa Baydoun, and CFE director, Dr. Wassim Itani, experts from the Faculty of Business Administration at BAU; Prof. Nehal Mostapha, Prof. Wagdi Higazi, Dr. Abdalla Nasreddine, Dr. Ekrami Mokhtar, Prof. Ahmad Slim and Dr. Ala'a Abbas, exchanged with participants information and experience on challenges and important aspects necessary for successful management of women owned start-up businesses and SMEs. The experts also shared knowledge on the importance of the role of women's entrepreneurs in economic growth and various aspects of successful business planning, management skills, finance and human resources management and marketing.

Moderated by the engineer Mrs. Najah Jaroush, the LLWB inspirational panel introduced the success stories of several women entrepreneurs; Ms. Yusr Sabra, Mrs. Haya el Kassem, Mrs. Lina Idriss, Mrs. Kinana Rahhal and Mrs. Chantal Rbay.

Manager Mrs. Sabine Rbeiz Kassis from BLOM Bank, the sponsor of the event introduced the various funding products and explained the terms and conditions of each product wishing women entrepreneurs all the success through the different steps of their business development.

At closing ceremony certificates were distributed while women participants expressed their sincere appreciation for the efforts of the organizers and their wishes to attend for further training.
A Panel Discussion on Activating Women's Political Participation [15]

In cooperation with Beirut Arab University and the National Commission for Women, and in collaboration with the British Council and the National Committee for the Follow-up on Women’s Issues, the Maharat Foundation organized a panel discussion on "Activating the Role of Women in Political Participation" among students and decision-makers within the framework of the EU-funded project DAWRAK. The panel was attended by the President of the National Commission for Lebanese Women Ms. Claudine Aoun Roukoz and MPs Majid Edi Abi El-Lamaa and Elias Hanaksh, as well as the candidate for the parliamentary elections Laury Haytian.

Students and participants discussed issues related to activating women's political participation, such as approving quotas in the election law, the role of political parties in supporting women in political participation, and the strategy of the National Commission for Women to activate women’s political participation.

The students raised a number of questions and made several recommendations to the participants in order to enhance the participation of the young in the discussion of public issues and the development of public policies related to the political role of women and to support communication between them and officials and decision-makers.

The event started with BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi and Head of the Media Department Dr. Gamal Mujahed welcoming the participants and stressing that BAU supports enhancing the role of women at all levels not only in the political realm.

President of the National Commission for Lebanese Women Ms. Claudine Aoun Roukoz noted that the percentage of female candidates increased in the recent elections, but this was not reflected in the presence of women in the Lebanese Parliament, pointing out that women do not vote for female candidates but for a list that is compatible with their political stance.

She also maintained that the National Commission has called for a transitional quota to activate the participation of women in political life, considering that waiting for real equality only is useless at the moment. She added, "Laws reveal a significant prejudice against women. We as a national entity for
women's affairs have many law suggestions which we will submit soon. Though women’s participation in the government is represented by 4 ministers out of 30, this is considered an achievement and a great progress at the level of female presence in the government.”

Continuing her speech, she said that the political presence of women needs a law and she encouraged the initiative of Prime Minister Saad Hariri to nominate women for the parliament and the government, adding that Hariri kept his word concerning women’s presence in political life.

Within the context of the participation of women in the political parties, she stressed that females must get out of the shadows and impose themselves without allowing males to take the lead, adding “we are witnessing progress at all levels and the upcoming parliamentary elections will reflect this. Stereotypes change with the new generation.”

MP Majid Edi Abi Al Lamaa, pointed out that there are many women in our patriarchal society who do not believe in the role of women in political life. "Here lies the danger. We must exert a great effort at the level of education at schools and universities to raise awareness about this subject,” he said.

Abi Lamaa assured that there are many discussions about the quota within the parties, considering that it is a kind of discrimination and imposing it is useless. He added, "Basically, it is linked to raising the young’s awareness through education in order to create a public opinion that is supportive of women’s political participation, especially as there are many citizens who are against the quota, which is still considered a controversial issue.”

As for the role of parties in supporting women’s political participation, Abi -Lamaa expressed his hope for the new generation to change the current situation in the parties.

MP Elias Hanaksh, said that the current parliament members represent not only males but all citizens as well, especially as the problems in Lebanon are shared by men and women.

He pointed out that there is an improvement in the political participation of women through a set of indicators, for there are now six female parliament members and 4 ministers, as well as the post of Minister of Interior in the Middle East for the first time.

He also expressed his support for the approval of the quota, especially as all countries that have shown progress in the field of raising the political representation of women had approved the quota.

Laury Haytian, the candidate for the parliamentary elections, said that most of the female candidates who took part in the elections don’t belong to any party. They accepted the challenge to encourage the new generation to join the political domain. "There is a stereotype concept that women don’t understand politics which we tried to change in the previous elections," she continued.

Concerning the role of parties in supporting women's political participation, Haytian said that parties were not supportive as females’ candidates were absent from the election lists. The parties do not want the quota in order to maintain their posts and their gains. "We are witnessing a non-traditional situation in the political life; it is a transitional phase and civil society has played its political role, but the best way for women to achieve political presence is through the party, so the battle must take place within the parties for the women's involvement in the political life.”

It is worth mentioning that DAWRAK project aims at enhancing women's participation in public affairs. In this context, the project resulted in a set of basic priorities for activating the role of women, including the promotion of women’s political participation and civil status law. Therefore, DAWRAK launched two advocacy campaigns around these two priorities.
Believing in the role played by distinctive and special women who are marked in the Lebanese Society, and embracing such women in the field of Researches and Leadership, the Dean of Health Sciences and the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at Beirut Arab University, Prof. Rajaa Fakhoury and Prof. Hania Nakkash have been honored as women leaders in research in Lebanon in an event that took place in the Lebanese parliament, in the presence of Beirut Arab University President Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, on September 1, 2016.

The event was organized by the National Initiative for the Centennial of Greater Lebanon, “Lebanon, the State of Knowledge” which is an initiative launched by Mrs. Bahia Hariri in remembrance of the declaration of the State of Greater Lebanon in September 1920.

The ceremony celebrated the efforts and achievements of Lebanese women in the field of education and highlighted the importance of their role in maintaining Lebanon as a “state of knowledge.” Thirty-one Lebanese women were honored in this event, which was under the patronage of the Speaker of the Parliament of Lebanon, Nabih Berri.
SDG6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) underscores the importance of clean water and sanitation for all. In Lebanon, a country with historical water resource challenges, the government is committed to protecting these resources. Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a pivotal role in addressing water waste, both within its campus and by raising awareness in the broader community.

Government Initiatives for Clean Water and Sanitation:
- **Water Resource Management:** The Lebanese government focuses on effective water resource management, including the preservation of natural springs, protection of rivers, and improved water quality.
- **Water Infrastructure:** Initiatives are in place to upgrade and maintain water infrastructure to minimize water loss and ensure the efficient distribution of clean water to all citizens.
- **Legislation and Regulation:** Lebanon has implemented laws and regulations aimed at safeguarding water resources, and penalties exist for water wastage and pollution.

BAU’s Efforts to Address Water Waste and Raise Awareness:
- **Water Efficiency:** BAU has implemented water-efficient technologies within its campus, such as water-saving fixtures, to reduce water waste.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** The university conducts awareness campaigns within its campus and collaborates with local communities to educate the public on water conservation and responsible water use.
- **Research and Innovation:** BAU actively engages in research projects related to water conservation and quality improvement, contributing to the knowledge base of sustainable water practices.

Challenges and Future Directions:
Lebanon faces water resource challenges due to climate change, over-extraction, and pollution. To continue working towards SDG 6:
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** BAU can further invest in innovative water-saving infrastructure and practices within its campus.
- **Community Partnerships:** The university can strengthen partnerships with local communities to expand the reach of its awareness campaigns on water conservation.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University aligns with the goals of SDG 6 by actively addressing water waste within its campus and raising awareness about responsible water use in the broader community. By fostering a culture of water conservation, BAU contributes to Lebanon’s efforts to protect its water resources, ensuring clean water and sanitation for all, in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Specialized Water and Soil Analysis Laboratory [49]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Science/Specialized-Water-and-Soil-Analysis-Laboratory

The Specialized Water and Soil Analysis unit utilizes cutting edge instrumentation to perform full service analytical environmental testing in emerging organic and inorganic contaminants. A variety of techniques to determine the elemental composition of variable materials including petroleum products, environmental samples, biological tissues or artificial polymers are widely used.

Infrastructure of the Laboratory
Atomic Absorption Spectrometers (AAS), Calorimeter Visible Merck Spectroquant, Ultraviolet-Visible spectrophotometer, Aqua Quest Spectrophotometer for Water Analysis, Diet Quest Spectrophotometer for Water Analysis Spectra Analyzer, Shaker Incubator, Bacterial Incubator, Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Dissolved oxygen meter, Flame Photometer, Prime lab 1.0 Multitest Photometer, Near IR Spectra Analyzer, Conductivity meter, pH-meter.

Applications
This organic area is focused on the basic techniques of:
- Water and soil analysis
- Modified supra-molecular and nano-materials for water treatment
- Modified biomass and activated carbon for the removal of dyes and heavy metals from waste water
- Determination of trace metals, pesticides in tissues, sediments and water
- Quantitative determination of organic nitrogen in chemical substances
- Analysis of dairy product, meat and other food products, snacks, grains, animal feed, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals.
- All methods follow international quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) standards.
On World Water Day 2018, under the theme, “Nature for Water”, Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED), Beirut Arab University, Bekaa jointly with Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC)-Italia organized a celebration event on March 30, 2018. This event was funded by UNHCR being the donor of several development projects that support the water networks and services in Bekaa region. The event targeted a group of students from the faculty of Civil Engineering, Beirut Arab University.

GVC team of both Italian and Lebanese members shared with participants the organization’s vision and information about its projects in several countries including those implemented in Lebanon. In addition, the use of nature-based approaches for water pumping and improving water quality were presented while examples of best practices were high lightened. This was followed by a site visit to the water system projects implemented by GVC in Qoub Elias, Central Bekaa and open round table discussion was held.
ASCE Student Chapter at BAU-Tripoli branch made a field trip to “Tripoli Treatment Plant” on Friday February 22, 2019 in El-Bahsass. The students were accompanied by a group of Civil Engineering faculty. The plant discharges about 70,000 m3/day of fresh water to Tripoli city. The students were able to visualize a backwashing process of the filtration tanks together with the different processes involved in water treatment from coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation and disinfection to have the water clean from any collides and bacteria for safe public use.
Participation in the international workshop : Waterfront Redevelopment [52]

Based on the invitation sent by Ljubljana Faculty of Architecture, Izola-Slovenia to Prof. Jose Madrigal, he is going to participate in the international workshop entitled “ Waterfront Redevelopment: Izola East ” which will be held from 24 September, 2012 to 28 September, 2012. This workshop is integrated in the Ware-Program, and the presence of Prof. Madrigal in the opening lecture on 24 September, will be an excellent opportunity to develop future links between BAU and other institutions in Slovenia.

Site Visit to Water Front City- Dbayeh [53]

Faculty of Architectural Engineering has arranged a set of site visits to Water Front City Project at Dbayeh for the Fourth Level Students of the Academic Year 2014 - 2015.

The site visit aims to make the students in direct contact with the construction processes as well as the contact administration procedures (Material submittals, commissioning, Safety procedures...) in large scale projects.

National workshops on “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges” [54]
As the National Facilitator of the USAID funded project “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges”, RCED organized two workshops during February 21-22, 2017 in Beirut and Bekaa to present and discuss with stockholders and decision makers the findings and the proposed policy white paper generated by the project for groundwater governance in Lebanon. Workshop I, Beirut, Feb. 21st 2017, targeted officials and decision makers from the Ministry of Energy and Water, Bekaa Water Establishment and the Litani River Authority. Whereas workshop II, Bekaa, Feb. 22nd 2017, was oriented towards local stakeholders including municipality members, Water User Associations and farming communities.
Objectives

- Addressing challenges facing groundwater resources in Lebanon
- Contributing to finding solutions and mitigation measures to groundwater crisis and abuse in Lebanon
- Bringing decision-makers, practitioners and users together to set up aquifer dialogues and discuss groundwater governance
- Drawing connections between science, knowledge and policy making

During both interactive workshops I and II, the research team of the project led by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) presented and discussed the “Case of Central Bekaa, A Policy White Paper”. On the behalf of the BAU President, Prof. Amer Galal Adawi, and BAU family, Prof. Adel El Kordi, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, addressed the participants and research team with a warm welcome and acknowledgment for the efforts and importance of project’s findings for the management of one of the most national pressing challenges of Lebanon. He emphasized that BAU has followed a dedicated path to provide quality educational outcomes that contribute to water management and governance in Lebanon through qualified civil and environmental engineers. Dr. Safaa, Director of RCED, added that this project which is part of the regional project that includes Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, UAE and Oman aims to identify the required actions to achieve good groundwater governance in Bekaa which is suffering from excessive pumping illegal pumping and that the workshop maybe viewed as a platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange in the field of groundwater governance at the national level. The valuable participation of managers and donors of international water projects in Bekaa including USAID Lebanon Water Project, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Solidarite – Eau, France, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), German Organization for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) allowed and facilitated knowledge sharing and building links for potential future collaboration. Through his intervention Prof. Jamal Al Khatib, Faculty of Engineering, BAU, stressed on the urgency of developing and implementing integrated water management plans to combat the severe challenges water sector is facing due to climate change and pressures of Syrian refugees.
USAID Water Project in Lebanon (LWP) meeting
municipality council members in Central Bekaa [55]

RCED hosted in 19 October 2016, a meeting of the USAID funded project “Water Project in Lebanon (LWP)” with the municipalities in Central Bekaa including the Union of the Municipalities, and the municipalities of Bwarej, Majdl Anjar, Anjar, Marj, Kab Elias, and Meksse. LWP is a five-year program funded by USAID with the objective to increase access to clean, reliable and sustainable sources of drinking water for Lebanese citizens (info@lebanonwater.net).

Objectives

- Strengthening and improving service delivery and resource management at the water authorities
- Enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of the public water utilities and responding to water issues arising from the influx of Syrian refugees
- Promoting better water governance to assure the long-term protection of Lebanon’s water resources
- Improving private sector participation in water management

During the interactive meeting, LWP managers and consultants Drs. George Akl, Nabil Amasha, and Marwan Rizkalla introduced to participants the objectives and framework of LWP. This was followed by an open discussion on the needs of every municipality through which technical and capital assistance to enhance capacities and upgrade the infrastructure for better services and protection of natural resources were emphasized. The role of civil society and women as important stakeholders in water management and decision making is stressed. At the end of the meeting participants expressed the need to foster synergies and coordination between the Lebanese government, local authorities, private sector and NGOs towards a more efficient implementation of integrated actions.
Conference panels at AUB-IFI, Beirut hosted participants from AUB, BAU, PU and Balamand Universities, and industry experts who encouraged the next generation to focus their studies and careers on the water and environmental sector in order to turn Lebanon’s water challenges into opportunities. The panels also featured various private and public actors who are involved in water management as well as Mr. Michele Pierpaoli – Attache’ for Water and Waste Water Affairs from the European Union Delegation to Lebanon. Interactive discussions with students and participants was held. The live streaming and BAU- ACF live discussion panel at BAU-RCED, Bekaa, conducted a discussion and knowledge-sharing platform led by Dr. Safaa Baydoun & Dr. Kamal El Kalaani with around 150 participants from universities, freshman and school students. Major water challenges in Lebanon, especially on Litani River, Bekaa region and management means of the impact of Syrian crisis and climate change on water resources issues were highlighted. Students were encouraged to purse higher studies on water resources related majors and contribute to local and national activities towards turning challenges into opportunities.
A Cooperation Agreement between Al Mina Municipality and BAU to turn the land adjacent to the university branch into a public park [57]

The President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi and the President of Al-Mina Municipality Council Abdel Kader Alameddine signed a cooperation agreement covering infrastructure and the surrounding area of BAU Branch in Al Mina.

The President of Al-Mina Municipality Council spoke about the nature of this agreement saying “This is not the first agreement of cooperation between the Municipality and BAU. Our cooperation began since laying the foundation stone for the establishment of BAU Tripoli Branch in Al-Mina City. We believe in BAU’s role to raise the status of the city and our relationship with BAU has developed during the era of former Secretary General late Mr. Issam Houri. Also, we have always been able to meet the university demands concerning the building, investment and licensing.” He added, “We are proud today to sign an agreement of cooperation regarding the establishment of the public park near the university campus which will be a public common for BAU students and Al Mina people.”

BAU President Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi maintained, “Today we signed an agreement, which is the first of its kind to turn the land adjacent to the university branch into a park of public interest for Al Mina people and BAU students.”

He added, “Our presence here is not limited to this distinctive educational facility in Lebanon and the Middle East. It includes our vision of being partners with the people of Tripoli, Al Mina and the North to create a success story not only at the educational level but also for the development of the city. BAU Branch in Al Mina was established nine years ago, and since then the region has been significantly developed and many job opportunities have been open for the people in the North as most of the BAU academic and administrative staff members and professors are from Tripoli and the North. This was reflected in the university labour needs which we emphasized to be limited to the people of the region so they feel we are here to achieve development goals in addition to educational issues.”
On the other hand, and within the framework of the Signing Ceremony, a gathering was held between
the President of BAU Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi and the Northern figures: Former Prime minister Najib
Mikati represented by Mokbel Malak, Minister of State for Economic Empowerment for Women and
Youth Ms. Violette Khairallah Safadi represented by Ms. Nadine Ali, M.P. Dr. Ali Darwich, M.P. Jean
Obeid represented by Mr. Elie Obeid, Ministers and Former Deputies Dr. Ahmad Fatfat, Mohamad
Safadi represented by Mr. Ahmad Safadi, Mr. Omar Miskawi, Election Candidate for Tripoli Ms. Dima
Jamali, Mayor of Tripoli Municipality Eng. Ahmad Kamareddine, the President of Al Mina Municipality
Council Abdel Kader Alameddine, The Head of the Educational Area Ms. Nahla Hamaty, and the
Director General of Water in the North Dr. Khaled Obeid.

BAU President Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi delivered a speech emphasizing on the role of universities in
spreading the social awareness and services in addition to their role in educating people. He
mentioned the importance of establishing BAU Tripoli Campus in helping the Northern students to
maintain education. In addition, he spoke on the high standards of education provided by Beirut Arab
University at the five current faculties at the Campus. Moreover, he mentioned that BAU works on the
student’s personality that serves the community and can builds success stories despite the difficult
economic situation Lebanon faces.

The gathering was culminated by a lunch included BAU and all distinguished gusts.
SDG7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) seeks to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Lebanon, a nation striving for energy sustainability, is taking steps towards achieving this goal. Beirut Arab University (BAU) is actively contributing to this mission through its own sustainable energy practices and by supporting the government's initiatives.

Government Initiatives for Affordable and Clean Energy:

- **Renewable Energy**: The Lebanese government is working on promoting the use of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. Incentives and subsidies are available to encourage the adoption of clean energy solutions.

- **Energy Efficiency**: Initiatives aim to enhance energy efficiency in various sectors, including buildings, transportation, and industry. These efforts help reduce energy consumption and lower costs.

- **Policy Development**: Lebanon is developing policies and regulations to govern the energy sector, ensuring the sustainability of the country's energy sources and their affordability.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 7:

- **Sustainable Campus**: BAU has implemented energy-efficient technologies on its campus, including solar panels and energy-saving lighting systems, to reduce its carbon footprint and promote sustainable energy practices.

- **Research and Innovation**: The university actively engages in research on clean energy solutions, providing valuable insights and contributing to the development of renewable energy projects in Lebanon.

- **Educational Programs**: BAU offers educational programs in fields related to clean energy and sustainable development, producing professionals who can drive the country's transition to affordable and clean energy.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces challenges in achieving affordable and clean energy, including infrastructure limitations and political instability. To continue working towards SDG 7:

- **Advocacy and Outreach**: BAU can advocate for policies and practices that promote clean energy adoption and engage with local communities to raise awareness.

- **Collaboration**: The university can strengthen collaborations with government and industry partners to accelerate the transition to clean and affordable energy.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University's commitment to SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy is reflected in its sustainable campus practices, research, and educational programs. By aligning with government initiatives and actively contributing to the clean energy transition, BAU supports Lebanon's mission to ensure sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy for all, in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Beirut Arab University Lights up Its Surrounding Area

Within the framework of "Light Your Street" initiative, Beirut Arab University organized a street lighting ceremony surrounding its Beirut campus, in cooperation with Rebirth Beirut and Medco, under the slogan "From Our Energy...To Our Region" (من طاقتنا...لمنطقتنا), where the streets were lit on an area of 18,500 square meters and 1,040 linear meters.

The ceremony was attended by the Governor of Beirut, Judge Marwan Abboud, the Founder and President of the Rebirth Beirut Association, Gabi Fernaini, the Chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, Dr. Ammar Houri, the University’s President, Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, the vice presidents, the faculty deans, the university’s Secretary General, Dr. Omar Houri, some military and religious personnel, and the university’s neighbors.

The event started with the Lebanese and university’s anthem, and then the host of the ceremony, Ms. Rima Shehab, spoke: “One of the main goals of higher education institutions is to enhance the spirit of cooperation and nurture students to be role models by serving their community, their surroundings, and their country. This, of course, is part of our university’s strategy and confidence in building generations that are united and useful for a better tomorrow.”

Then the President of the University, Prof. El-Adawi, spoke: "We are pleased that we have created a new partnership with Rebirth Beirut and Medco. It is known that the university’s policy is not only to issue certificates and education, but rather it has responsibilities towards society and its surroundings. We have provided many services and projects, whether in Tripoli, Beirut, or Debbieh, and we always use the materialistic and human capabilities of the university to serve the community, similarly to what happened in the August 4th explosion.”

Prof. El-Adawi continued: “Today, in these difficult circumstances, all institutions must unite and cooperate with each other to reduce the burden on the citizens. In addition, the Faculty of Architecture- Design and Built Environment under the supervision of the Dean, Professor Ibithal Youssef El-Bastawissi, has worked on a project that aims for the redevelopment of Tariq Al-Jadida and Cola Region, to enhance the performance level on the urban spaces within the city, and helps in reducing the pollution levels and contributes to improving the quality of life amongst the citizens, starting with the first phase of improving the traffic circulation in this urban area. This Project will be in collaboration with the Beirut Municipality.

Then, Founder and President of the Rebirth Beirut Association, Gabi Fernaini, stated: “We are a people who are accustomed to rising from the rubble, just as Beirut has shaken off the dust of destruction, war and explosion, and has regained its radiance thanks to the many initiatives... including the initiative that brings us together today. Today we are in front of one of the most important universities that bear the city’s name, Beirut Arab University; this university is a symbol of the region and occupies a large space in the hearts of its residents, students, professors, and staff... and in our hearts as well.”
Fernaini continued: “Today, our association, Rebirth Beirut, is proud to add new streets to its achievements and new hope to confirm that Beirut is the capital of culture and science in this East and will not be drowned in darkness!

Fernaini also indicated that the "Light Your Street" initiative has illuminated 61 streets and 6 main avenues to date, and aims to light 200 streets until the end of 2023.

Then the Governor of Beirut, Judge Marwan Abboud, said: “Beirut, our beloved, despite it going through difficult days, and with God’s will, our will and your will, it will rise again, and will never be extinguished. Beirut faced a lot, Beirut shook, but with perseverance and will, it won’t overturn, but rather we want to light it street after street, and with the university’s support, so that Beirut Arab University becomes a laboratory to develop this region in various living, economic and urban aspects”.

The governor also asked the president of the University for “the Support of the university’s engineers to detect and survey the buildings affected by the earthquake due to the lack of sufficient human capabilities to carry out this duty.”

The ceremony concluded with lighting the streets surrounding the university.
The President of Beirut Arab University, Prof. Amr Jalal Al-Adawi, and the Secretary-General of the National Council for Scientific Research, Prof. Moeen Hamza, signed two scientific and academic memorandums of cooperation for the Faculties of Pharmacy and Science for a period of three years aimed at conducting research and studies in disciplines directly related to the work of the Research and Supervisory Authority, as a continuation of the continuous cooperation between the Authority and the University.

The agreement with the Faculty of Pharmacy stipulates that the laboratories of the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, represented by its director, Dr. Bilal Nsouli, will receive students from the postgraduate stage to conduct scientific research offered through master’s and doctoral theses in the field of pharmaceutical analytical chemistry and drug control, and the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission is working with the Faculty of Pharmacy to present joint research projects within the program to support scientific research between the two sides to advance scientific research in the field of medicine.

As for the College of Science, the Commission has participated academically in cooperation with the College on the scientific and practical program of the diploma in "Radiation Protection and the Safe Use of Radioactive Sources", Master of Control and Radiation Protection and Master of Medical Physics, in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The university also offers one scholarship to those nominated by the Council or the Commission who hold a license in the specialization required to obtain a master's or doctorate, whether in analytical pharmaceutical sciences or in radiation physics, provided that the authority works to involve professors and graduate students in the faculties of pharmacy and science in regional programs and international programs of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

On the sidelines of the agreement, Prof. Hamza presented to the President of the University, Prof. Al-Adawi, his book on "Arabs and the Challenges of Transformation towards Knowledge and Innovation" in both Arabic and English.
Energy and Environment [60]

The Faculty of Engineering conducts research that has relevance to Energy and Environment with a mission to support planning of environment-friendly energy systems in Lebanon and the Middle East region. For example, some research is concerned with the development of construction/structural materials that have lower carbon footprint (e.g. incorporating waste materials in construction). Other areas of research include new ways to reduce contamination and the treatment of contaminated soil/water. This can have a positive impact on the quality of air, water and soil that would be beneficial to health and wellbeing. Other research areas investigate different techniques to reduce carbon emissions originating from the operation of current wireless communication networks. This would have a direct impact on the reduction of greenhouse gases and thus contribute to the preservation of the environment. A main driver for this approach is the reduction of energy consumption through advanced energy management techniques. This would lead to the decrease in the use of non-renewable energy resources in favor of renewable resources such as solar and wind based.

Several research topics currently being tackled by researchers in the faculty of engineering fall under this theme. Examples of these topics are listed here below:

- Green wireless communications design,
- Green PV panels,
- Innovative construction material with low embodied energy,
- Reducing CO2 emission due to cement production,
- Extracting the dust coming from quarries and using it in the production of cement. This will reduce the air pollution and its direct effect on human health (e.g Asthma),
- Reducing traffic congestion which would reduce the travel time and the associated CO2 emission,
- Treatment of groundwater and reinjection in the aquifer which would reduce water pollution,
- Strengthening of existing structures. This will eliminate the demolition of existing structures and the associated dust emission and noise, and
- Wastewater and ground treatment of Litani basin.

Researchers in the Faculty of Engineering show their interest in these topics by conducting research and reporting the outcomes in prestigious international and national journals, magazines, symposia, conferences and meetings. More than 7 publications were reported during the last two years.

The Faculty has plans concerning this research point precisely because it is of extreme importance to Lebanon. For instance, electricity provision must have regard to minimizing environmental and public health effects, both directly from generation and indirectly from obtaining fuels and dealing with wastes. This issue and many others to be cited below are the faculty’s main concern as reflected in its short and long-term strategies.
The Faculty of Architectural Engineering at Beirut Arab University- Tripoli branch organised a scientific workshop under the title of “Building Energy Modelling and Monitoring”. The workshop was held from the 29th of November until the 1st of December, 2014.

The workshop which was divided into three main activities each day, included 23 participants from various educational and professional backgrounds, and was oriented to providing the guidance for the appropriate application of Building Performance Simulation (BPS), promote good practice and to offer reference material to support practicing environmental engineers and architects. It dealt with the basics of using simulation tools with an emphasis on application and case studies. The workshop also emphasizes on the importance of simulation validation, in particular building performance monitoring. The workshop included an experiential half-day intricacies and joys of evaluating environmental performance aspects of buildings. Using cutting-edge microprocessor based data loggers and handheld instruments on site.
The Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University organized its 17th Engineering Day to demonstrate the projects completed by engineering students from various levels and fields of specialization. The Day was entitled “Alternative and Renewable Energy” and exhibited over 50 graduation projects, ranging from designs, models and devices in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Communications, Electronics, Electrical Engineering, Computer, Industrial Engineering and Petroleum Engineering. Around 200 students from the Faculty of its two branches in Debbieh and Tripoli participated, and the opening was attended by Prof. Dr. Amr Galal El Adawi, President of BAU, Mr. Mohamed El Saoudi, Head of Saida Municipality, the deans of faculties, staff-members and a crowd of students.
After the National Anthem and the BAU Anthem were played, Prof. Dr. Adel El Kordi, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering spoke, stating that the exhibition deals with an important issue, namely renewable energy and green engineering. He explained that renewable energy is the energy derived from natural and renewable resources, which does not run dry. It is thus produced from wind, water and the sun, and can also be produced from the motion of tides and ebbs, as well as agricultural crops.

Prof. Kordi also highlighted that the Faculty of Engineering, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, has been granted a project funded by the EU. It is a green energy project for green companies, and aims at improving the efficiency of the energy used in agriculture in the Mediterranean basin. This can be achieved by introducing the culture of renewable energy, as well as providing technical support for local skills.

Prof. El-Adawi then expressed his happiness at the opening of the exhibition, since it presents a promising opportunity for the students and constant encouragement for outstanding students to be creative. The exhibition also opens up new horizons for the students through their interaction with the society, which acts as an incentive in entrepreneurship.

Prof. El-Adawi added that this exhibition is part of the University’s commitment to its students to stimulate their innovativeness and creativity, for it is the University’s belief that it is a forum for knowledge, culture and entrepreneurship. It, therefore, fully supports these projects so that they can become a bridge towards a better future.

In the end, the University Shield was distributed as a token of appreciation and gratitude to the firms and companies that contributed to the success of the event. After the ribbon was cut, the guests toured the exhibition in accompaniment of the President.
The Role of Geothermal Energy in Efficient Building Performance [63]


Targeting building energy use is a key to decrease energy consumption by incorporating energy-efficient strategies into the design. Geothermal system helps us to achieve Zero Carbon design. The lecture revealed a link between geothermal system, human comfort, indoor environmental quality, and aesthetics.

Geothermal energy is an underused resource that emits no greenhouse gas emissions, highly reliable, and is produced locally.
The AFED 2013 Annual Report titled SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN ARAB COUNTRIES highlights the need for a more efficient management of the energy sector.
The conference was held in 28th and 29th of October at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. There were 500 delegates from different countries. Of those delegates are public officials including minister/MP/director general level, corporate executives, 50 CEOs, international and regional organizations, 25 heads of agencies and funds, civil society, and academia. 70 media representatives (international, regional and national) have been accredited.

Concerning the future environment leaders’ forum, Arab youth speak out on the right of future generations to equitable access to energy. Arab youth attended the conference came from different universities including BAU (Beirut Arab University), AUB (American University of Beirut), AUS (American University of Sharjah) hosting, AUD (American University of Dubai), USJ (University of Saint Joseph), University of Petra, USEK, LAU (Lebanese American University), etc... Each university was assigned a topic from the AFED report. After discussing each statement prepared by universities, a general statement was prepared by the students and read in the plenary closing session by Rita Naoum (Master’s Degree) from LAU.

Concerning the statement assigned to Beirut Arab University, the topic assigned was about “Energy Efficiency”, and it was prepared by the three delegates from the department of mechanical engineering whose names are listed below:
- Layal Abdallah (graduation year)
- Fadel El-Naamani (graduation year)
- Khalil Darwish (graduation year)

Solar Energy System Workshop [65]

Promoters were having hands-on experience in working with solar energy system.
Building Energy Modelling and Monitoring workshop


The Faculty of Architectural Engineering Tripoli branch has organised a scientific workshop with title ‘Building Energy Modelling and Monitoring’. The workshop lasted for three days 29th, 30th November and 1st of December, eight hours per day (total 24 hours).

The objective of this workshop was to furnish guidance on the appropriate application of Building Performance Simulation (BPS), to promote good practice and to offer reference material to support practicing environmental engineers and architects. The workshop has covered the basics of using simulation tools with an emphasis on application and case studies. The workshop also emphasised the importance of simulation validation, in particular building performance monitoring. The workshop included an experiential half-day intricacies and joys of evaluating environmental performance aspects of buildings. Using cutting-edge microprocessor based data loggers and handheld instruments on site, participants have understood about how (and how well) buildings perform.

Participants:
There were 23 participants from various educational and professional backgrounds.

Activities and preparations for the three-day workshop:
The workshop was divided into three main activities in each day: lectures, applications and simulation, in addition to two coffee breaks and lunchtime.

All the facilities were prepared and provided on the third floor of the Faculty of Architectural Engineering, building (F). The preparation included installing Wi-Fi internet, installing the trial software on 30 computers at our computer lab, and printing labels, lecture notes and collecting the workshop data on CDs. On the first day (Saturday 29th), the participants have registered and received the workshop bag (from 8:30 to 9:00), which included all the printed data in addition to the workshop CD.

At the end of the third day, the instructor has distributed the workshop certificate to each participant.

The organising committee would like to thank Dr. Wassim Itani (Director of Center for continuing and professional education) for his tremendous effort and support for this workshop. Also, special thanks to Mr. Ahmed Sankari for his continues assistance and unlimited efforts, in addition, we appreciate all the help provided from the student affairs in our Tripoli branch Ms. Rola Homsi and her team.

Finally, this workshop would not have been done without the support of the Vice President for Tripoli Branch Affairs Prof. Khaled Baghdady and the President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr El-Adawi.

Report PDF

Building Energy Modelling and Monitoring workshop

Organizing committee:
Dr. Nabil Mohareb; Dr. Kareem Galal; Eng. Yathreb Sabsaby
SDG8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8) centers on promoting sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. In Lebanon, the government has enacted labor laws to protect employment rights, while Beirut Arab University (BAU) ensures these rights are upheld within its institution.

Government Initiatives for Employment Rights:

- **Labor Laws**: Lebanon has established labor laws to regulate employment conditions, protect workers’ rights, and set standards for fair wages and working hours.
- **Minimum Wage**: The government periodically revises the minimum wage to ensure it reflects the cost of living, providing workers with a decent income.
- **Labor Market Reforms**: Initiatives are ongoing to improve the efficiency of the labor market, reduce informal employment, and enhance job opportunities.

BAU’s Commitment to Decent Work and Economic Growth:

- **Labor Practices**: BAU adheres to the labor laws of Lebanon, ensuring that its employees receive fair wages, reasonable working hours, and a safe working environment.
- **Equal Opportunity**: The university practices equal opportunity employment, promoting diversity and inclusion in its workforce.
- **Educational Programs**: BAU offers educational programs in fields related to labor and employment, producing skilled professionals who contribute to the country’s economic growth.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces challenges related to economic growth and labor market efficiency, especially in light of economic instability. To continue working towards SDG 8:

- **Skill Development**: BAU can enhance skill development programs to produce a workforce that meets the evolving needs of Lebanon’s job market.
- **Advocacy**: The university can engage in advocacy for labor market reforms and the enforcement of labor laws to support decent work.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University’s commitment to SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth is reflected in its adherence to labor laws, equal opportunity employment, and educational programs that empower individuals to contribute to Lebanon’s economic growth. By upholding employment rights and promoting economic development, BAU aligns with the broader mission of the Sustainable Development Goals.
Human Rights Center Launches a Club for Dialogue and Citizenship Fostering Diversity

Adyan Foundation, in cooperation with the Human Rights Center at BAU, organized a seminar entitled "Can a Christian-Islamic Dialogue Contribute to Building Peace and Stability?", hosting the President of the Official Sunni Court of Said, Sheikh Mohammed Abu Zeid, and the Chairman of Adyan Foundation, Father Dr. Fadi Daou, to launch a club for dialogue and citizenship fostering diversity.

The event opened with a welcoming note by the Director of the Human Rights Center at BAU, Dr. Omar Houri, who pointed out that the Center, since its establishment, has played a positive role towards both the students and the society, by organizing such activities that aim at a strong and educated society.

Sheikh Abu Zeid spoke about the importance of dialogue, pointing out that the issue begins in both Muslim and Christian homes.

Abu Zeid resumed, saying that "Lebanon is distinguished by Islamic and Christian diversity, and the Lebanese environment is the most beautiful for such a title. The dialogue of life is a serious dialogue that emerges through schooling, through the family, within religious groups, and through a religious discourse that is accepting of the Other".

In turn, Father Daou thanked the Center for launching the club, which will also be launched by the Antonine University. He also stressed that the dialogue we are calling for is not a form of small-talk, but rather begins with listening, accepting diversity, and interacting with others to establish a co-existence.

Daou stressed that the aim of dialogue is to create peace-makers, and eradicate the religious labeling of conflicts that exist in our society.
Awareness sessions on "Violations Against Domestic Workers" [68]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Human-Rights/Activity/Awareness-sessions-on-Violations-Against-Domestic-Workers-

The center organized a series of awareness sessions on violations against domestic workers in collaboration with KAFA enough violence & exploitation, 15th, 16th of Feb 2017, Beirut- Debbie and Tripoli campus.

Labor Rights and Workplace Environment [69]

Industries are under increasing pressure from public initiatives and laws to improve their work ethics by demanding more business processes and ethics. Corporate social responsibility has become relevant to the market today after growing interest in social aspects. Corporate social responsibility can help increase business confidence, deal with community challenges while achieving winning results. Everyone seems to be aware of the need for sustainable development and that companies have a great responsibility to achieve them, and companies have to make sure that they are able to manage their social responsibilities and that those responsibilities of course make a profit when implementing them.

Students can refer to a number of books and researches written by Dr. Mohammed Hassan Qassem in this field, as it should be noted that these references include comparative analytical reading and recommendations issued by many seminars that have accompanied the development of some concepts that we will address in research topics and mention, for example, the stages of negotiation in the contract of the information machine", a look at the development of medical responsibility, and telecon contracting.
The Conclusion of the Fourth Regional Summer Session on “Implementing the Human Rights Agreements in National Systems” at BAU [70]


For the fourth consecutive year, the Human Rights Center at BAU concludes the “Fourth Regional Summer Session” on the “Implementation of the Human Rights Agreements in National Systems”, in collaboration with the Arab Academic Network for Human Rights, and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law. The event which was held on the 25th of August, 2014, hosted 34 students from eight Arab countries, namely Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Iraq, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

The course ran for 10 days, during which staff members at BAU, the Jordanian University and the University of Algeria, in addition to a group of experts in the field, such as Jordanian Ex-Minister of Justice, Dr. Ibrahim Al Jazi, and Judges Yehia Ghabboura and Khaled Akkari, presented lectures.

Various topics were dealt with, most important of which is the current state of human rights in the Arab World, the status of International Agreements in National Systems, Women’s Rights, Children’s Rights, Enforced Disappearances, and the Rights of Migrant Workers.

What is worth to be mentioned is that BAU has been proactive in introducing a course on Human Rights as part of the University Requirement Courses, as well as in establishing a center dedicated to Human Rights in 2009. The aim is to raise awareness of Human Rights and train qualified people who can conduct studies, and organize seminars, workshops and lectures in the domain.
Behavior Modification [71]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Human-Sciences/Event/Behavior-Modification

Dr. Mayssah El Nyal, Professor of Psychology and Dean of the Faculty of Arts, BAU, presented a workshop of entitled “Behavior Modification”, organized by the Women’s Humanitarian Organization in Beirut. The workshop was held on Saturday, 1st December 2012, and was attended by psychologists, sociologists and social workers. The workshop focused on the concepts of behavior, motivation, and modification, as well as on the strategies and techniques of behavior modification. The trainees discussed a number of cases and methods of behavior modification of students in the classroom and in society.

Lebanon and Human Rights Round Table Discussion [72]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Lebanon-and-Human-Rights-Round-Table-Discussion

The Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University represented by the Senior Specialist Salam Zahran, participated in a round table discussion entitled "Lebanon and Human Rights," that was held at the La Nau Cultural Center at the University of Valencia in Spain.

The discussion dealt with the Human Rights Situation in Lebanon in the context of the recent crisis in light of the financial collapse, Right to Health Medication during the pandemic, and Beirut Blast, with a focus on Lebanese women's rights and Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon. The seminar was accompanied with a photography exhibition by the photojournalist Germán Caballero which depicted the status of the Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon's Camps.
The Human Rights Center at BAU participates in the "Religion and Human Rights" Event [73]


The Human Rights Center at BAU and NDU organized, in collaboration with the Council of Research for Values and Philosophy and the Johns Hopkins University Protection Project, a student exchange activity entitled "Religion and Human Rights". Forty students from Faculties of Law, media and humanities from both universities participated in the event throughout lectures and seminars.

The activity was concluded with a dinner hosted by NDU, and was attended by the presidents of both universities, in addition to Dr. Omar Houri, Director of the Human Rights Center and Assistant to the Dean of Law and Political Sciences at BAU, Dr. Edward Alameddine, Secretary General of the Council of Research for Values and Philosophy, as well as the concerned deans and heads of departments at both universities.
SDG9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9) focuses on the development of industry, innovation, and infrastructure. In Lebanon, the government has initiatives to support this goal, and Beirut Arab University (BAU) actively contributes by promoting innovation, organizing workshops and conferences, and providing opportunities for students in alignment with the SDG.

Government Initiatives for Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure:
- **Industrial Growth**: The government supports the growth of industries by offering incentives, reducing bureaucratic hurdles, and promoting investment.
- **Innovation and Research**: Initiatives foster innovation, research, and development to enhance productivity and technology adoption in various sectors.
- **Infrastructure Development**: Lebanon is investing in infrastructure, including transportation and energy, to facilitate economic growth and sustainable development.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 9:
- **Innovation and Research**: BAU encourages innovation and research through academic programs and by fostering a culture of creativity and exploration.
- **Workshops and Conferences**: The university organizes workshops, seminars, and conferences to promote knowledge sharing, industry networking, and innovation.
- **Student Opportunities**: BAU provides students with internships, research opportunities, and access to entrepreneurial programs to help them gain practical experience and drive innovation.

Challenges and Future Directions:
Lebanon faces challenges, including economic instability and infrastructure limitations. To continue working towards SDG 9:
- **Partnerships**: BAU can strengthen partnerships with industries and the government to align academic programs with the needs of the job market.
- **Infrastructure Development**: The university can engage in projects that support the development of sustainable infrastructure in Lebanon.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University actively supports SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure by promoting innovation, organizing knowledge-sharing events, and providing opportunities for students to engage in practical experience. By fostering a culture of innovation and contributing to the growth of industries and infrastructure, BAU aligns with the broader mission of the Sustainable Development Goals in Lebanon.
BAU participated in the “Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization: Reimagining Approaches in Higher Education in an Era of Global Uncertainties” Virtual Conference [74]


Beirut Arab University, represented by Prof. Ibtihal Y. El-Bastawissi (Dean, Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment) and Siam University, represented by Prof. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit (President of Siam University) have been invited by the IAU (International Association of Universities) to share their experience in engaging with the Cluster and sustainability in the Networking Session in the York Virtual Conference on Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization.

The conference was organized by York University – Canada, in partnership with the IAU, Okayama University – Japan, and Canadian Commission for Unesco. The conference took place on 20-22 January 2021, while the Networking Session that has been hosted by the IAU was on 21 January 2021. In her presentation, Prof. El-Bastawissi focused on achieving the SDG goals generally and SDG9 particularly through education, research, conferences, new labs, innovation and community-based projects as well as wide-spreading BAU Journals, and developing partnerships with other universities.

Following this successful intervention in the conference, IAU represented by Hilligje van’t Land, the Secretary General, welcomed BAU and Siam Universities to share concrete examples of community engagement focusing on social impact to be presented by IAU during the University World News Webinar entitled “Building Social Impact and Civic Engagement on 27 January 2021. Prof. El-Bastawissi shared with the IAU seven examples on BAU Community Engagement and on the university’s role in promoting sustainable urban development.
The faculty of Business administration Tripoli Campus organized on December 05-2017 a "Marketing Day " in which 11 Video projects was presented by 50 students. During this activity, the faculty of business students tried to prove their marketing skills by using the marketing tools and concepts.
The First Conference on Research and Innovation At Beirut Arab University [76]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/The-First-Conference-on-Research-and-Innovation-At-Beirut-Arab-University

Under the patronage of Minister of Education H.E. Mr. Marwan Hamadeh, the Faculty of Science at Beirut Arab University organized the “First Conference on Research and Innovation” for students at Arab Schools and Universities at Debbieh Campus. The conference was attended by representatives from the universities of Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Poland and Germany, in addition to 12 universities and 23 schools from the various Lebanese Regions. Five hundred students from Arab Schools and Universities participated in the conference and presented 250 abstracts for Lectures, Posters and Scientific Projects. The topics of the conference focused on modern scientific topics, including environmental treatment, robotics, renewable energy, nanoscale materials, drug exploration, industrial and pharmaceutical microbiology, corrosion control, new materials and biomedical sciences as well as three workshops which shed light on the topics presented. Minister Marwan Hamadeh, represented by the General Director of Higher Education- Ministry of Education and Higher Education Dr. Ahmed Al-Jammal, delivered a speech believing that BAU’s quality track has been effected on more than one level, and is attracting minds, organizing conferences and encouraging students to experiment with research that allows them to discover their intellectual and creative abilities. In turn, Dean of Faculty of Science Professor Ramadan Awad considered this
conference the first of its kind as it is held at a Lebanese University, bringing together school and university students, postgraduates, industrialists and innovators in Lebanon. This conference, for Professor Awad, represents a distinguished partnership with schools and universities to develop the scientific research system. BAU President Professor Amr Galal Al-Adawi stressed the aspiration to employ the university facilities, capabilities and programs at the service of the community, reflecting sustainable community development in all sectors, from supporting students and graduates to be pioneers of science and development characterized by a distinguished, competitive, academic personality -- the personality of an initiator, researcher, knowledge-maker, and an experienced administrator. For two days, a scientific committee including professors from various Lebanese and Egyptian Universities examined the topics and 23 awards were distributed as follows: • Seven Scholarships for High School Students • Four financial Awards for Grade 7, 8 and 9 school students presented by Beirut Arab University, Lebanon Fund for Development and Innovation, Banque Misr Lebanon and the Federation of North Iqlim El Kharroub Municipalities • Three awards for best Oral Presentation for Graduate Students • Three awards for best Oral Presentation for Undergraduate Students • Three awards for best Poster Presentation for Graduate Students • Three awards for best Poster Presentation for Undergraduate Students However, ten travel awards were presented at the opening ceremony for winners from the Arab countries as 30 researchers applied to the competition and the winners were selected in accordance with the mechanism announced in advance on the conference website. On the other hand, the Faculty of Science at Beirut Arab University – Tripoli Branch participated in this conference through 26 Projects distributed on the following Departments: Biological Sciences – Mathematics and Physics and harvested the following awards: - Abeer Chouk-2nd Year Mathematics under the supervision of Dr. Maher Jounaid. The Project was entitled “On solving the fractional Newell – Whitehead – Segel equation using the conformable reduced differential transform method”. - The Team of the Student Rayan Farha (Sarah Mbayyed and Mazhar Issa) 3rd Year Biological Sciences under the supervision of Dr. Tarek Houry and Dr. Bilal Osta. The Project was entitled “Multiple Factors Increased “Narghile” Consumption among Teenagers in North Lebanon Tripoli”. - Student Samia Samad – 1st Year Ph.D. Physics under the supervision of Dr. Salem Marhaba. The Project was entitled “Extinction cross-section of Palladium nanoparticles chains”.

Emerging Trends in ICT for Entrepreneurship and Innovation: An Educational and Industrial Perspectives

[77]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Engineering/Modern-Cybersecurity

WEBINARS ON
EMERGING TRENDS IN ICT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: AN EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVES
DECEMBER 9, 2020
10:00 – 15:00 (GMT +2)
BEIRUT, LEBANON

DETAILED PROGRAM
10:00 – 10:10 :
Welcome Speech

EMERGING TRENDS IN ICT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: AN EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVES
DR. SOUBHI ABOU CHAHINE, BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY, LEBANON
Dr. Sobhi Abou Chahine joined Beirut Arab University (BAU) in 1994, where he is currently a Professor in the Electrical & Computer Engineering and the dean of student affairs. He is member of the technical academic committee at the ministry of Education and Higher Education since 2002, which studies the higher education institution files for licensing, audit, and recognition of degrees. He participated in many international projects relevant to higher education reform and quality assurance. In addition, Professor Abou Chahine was an advisor of the minister of Education and Higher Education between 2010 and 2014.
10:10 – 10:30 :
Digital Transformation & Entrepreneurship

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION IN A DIGITAL ECONOMY
DR. HASHIM HUSSEIN, HEAD UNIDO INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION OFFICE
Currently Dr. Hashim S. Hussein is the Head of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Investment and Technology Promotion Office in the Kingdom of Bahrain (ITPO Bahrain), and the Arab International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Investment (AICEI). He is also the Executive Director of the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum, appointed as an International Ambassador for Social Corporate Responsibility; the Secretary General of the Maritime-Continental Silk Road Entrepreneurs Alliance, and the Elected Vice Chairman of the Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance. He is also a founding member of the Islamic Creative Economy; and a board member of the MENA Investment Center in Bahrain which is supported by the Organization of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD).

10:30 - 10:50 :
Digital Transformation & Entrepreneurship

DIGITAL INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DR. SAMIR EL MASRY, DIGITALIZATION COMPANY
Prof. Samir El-Masri received his PhD from INPG France. He worked with NTT in Japan for 4 years. He worked in Australia at universities and in industry for 10 years. El-Masri was a Professor for 5 years at KSU Saudi Arabia with 130 research papers and then worked at General Electric for 4 years leading digital. Prof. El-Masri is a well-known digital expert helping large companies in the region and he is the founder of Digitalization.
10:50 - 11:10 :
Digital Transformation & Entrepreneurship

ICT, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DR. MANAL YUNIS/ABED NASER KASSAR, LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Manal M. Yunis is an assistant professor of information technology management. She holds a PhD in Business Administration with a concentration in Computer Information Systems from the University of Texas-Pan American, an MBA and a BS in MIS from LAU Adnan Kassar School of Business. She is a member of the Association of Information Systems (AIS), Decision Sciences Institute and AIS Special Interest Groups. She has several peer-refereed journal and conference publications, and is the recipient of many best paper awards from conferences and publishing groups.

Abdul-Nasser El-Kassar is an associate professor at Adnan Kassar School of Business. He holds a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, and has received the Post-Doctoral Bridge to Business Program certificate from the University of Florida. With a background in both mathematics and engineering management translated by two master degrees from University of Louisiana, his research ranges from cryptography to engineering management and its underlying mathematics. His research has been published in recognized journals including the Journal of Mathematics and Statistics, Global Review of Business and Economic Research and the Business Review, Cambridge.

11:10 - 11:30 :
Digital Transformation & Entrepreneurship

INNOVATION OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE
MR. PHILIPPE FARES, INDUSTRY, G8T SOLUTION COMPANY- LEBANON

Founder and Managing Director of G8T Solutions S.A.R.L. with over than 10 years of experience in analyzing, designing and developing software across the MENA region. From a junior software developer, to taking part in designing and developing a PACS system for prestigious hospitals in the U.S, to leading the development of PRAXIS one of today’s most advanced ERPs in the MENA area. Started G8T Solutions S.A.R.L, a Lebanese software engineering company with offices in Lebanon, Nigeria and Sweden. G8T is currently considered a pioneer in the digital transformation of Lebanese local governments through a state-of-the-art Municipality Management System to answer the arising technological needs in the Lebanese municipalities.
Entrepreneurship in Education

TACKLING SUSTAINABILITY PROBLEMS USING IOT: AN ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRY OVERVIEW
DR. ANDRE GLORIA- UNIVERSITÁRIO DE LISBOA, PORTUGAL

André Glória was born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1994. He received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in telecommunication and computer engineering from ISCTE – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, in 2015 and 2017, respectively, and is finishing his Ph.D. degree in information science and technology, with a specialty in Internet of Things and Machine Learning, at the same university. From 2016 to 2017, he was a Teaching Assistant for the Artificial Intelligence class in the Information, Science and Technology department in ISCTE-IUL. Since 2018, he has been a Researcher at ISCTE-IUL and Instituto de Telecomunicações-IUL, with research on Internet of Things, Machine Learning, Wireless Sensor Network, Wireless Communications, Sustainability and Green Tech. Since 2020 is an Invited Assistant at ISCTE with classes on "Conception and Viability of Technology-Based Project". In 2018 he co-founded genviot, a Portuguese technological startup that tackles sustainability problems using IoT, mainly in the water management for irrigation systems. He acts as CTO, being responsible for all the research and development, in both software and hardware, of genviot solutions.

Entrepreneurship in Education

ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION
DR. DINA BELAL, UNIVERSITY OF KHARTOUM, SUDAN
12:10 - 12:30 :
Entrepreneurship in Education

RA’EDAT A SUSTAINABLE WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP PLATFORM
MR. UBAYDLI AL UBAYDLI - ARAB ICT UNION, BAHRIAN

12:30 - 12:50 :
Entrepreneurship in Education

SPATIO-TEMPOTAL DATA AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DR. HATEM HALAWI, HAIGAZIAN UNIVERSITY – LEBANON

Associate Professor and chair person of the division of Mathematical sciences (Math and computer science) at Haigazian University
Research: Spatio-temporal Databases, geographical Information Systems, Using AI and smart Algorithms in GIS and navigation

12:50 - 13:10 :
Innovation and Technology

INNOVATION PROCESS IN SMART HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES
DR. SANDY RIHANA- HOLY SPIRIT UNIVERSITY OF KASLIK, USEK, LEBANON

Sandy Rihana is a results-oriented professional with a sound academic background covering multiple disciplines including engineering, technology, healthcare and management. A creative thinker, Sandy is multilingual and has presented at numerous international conferences and workshops. She is first
author and co-author of more than 40 peer-reviewed articles in various domains in the medical and
in the healthcare technology interdisciplinary journals. A computer communications engineer, Sandy
received her Master’s degree and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the Technical University Of
Compiegne, France. While there, she was awarded the Best Ph.D. Prize called the Guy Denielou Prize.
She is a Fulbright scholar at University of South Florida, USA and an invited researcher at Ecole
Polytechnique Montreal. She joined USEK in 2011 to co-found the Biomedical Engineering
Department, American Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET). She is currently Professor and
the Head of Department. Her research interests are smart healthcare technologies including artificial
intelligence for medical applications.

13:10 - 13:30 :
Innovation and Technology

WEARABLE BIOMEDICAL DEVICES: HARDWARE & SOFTWARE

DR. ABDULLAH KASEM, NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY – LEBANON

Abdallah Kassem has previously worked as research assistant at Polystim Neurotechnologies
Laboratory of the Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada. He still cooperates with this laboratory
doing some researches. He received his B.S in Microelectronics from University of Quebec in Montreal
in 1992, his M.Sc and Ph.D in microelectronic from Ecole polytechnique de Montreal in 1996 and 2004
respectively. From 1996 to 2000, he taught computer architecture, microprocessors and digital
electronic courses and laboratories at AUB, LAU in Lebanon. Prof. Kassem joined Notre Dame
University-Louaize in 2005 as an assistant professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering
department. He was promoted to the rank of full professor in 2020. Prof. Kassem published more than
70 papers in reviewed journals, book Chapters and international conference proceedings. He is an
Associate Editor in IEEE Access and a Guest Editor Elsevier, AEU - International Journal of Electronics
and Communications. His research interests include microelectronics design and testing, VLSI,
semiconductor device modeling and simulation, microprocessors, engineering
education/management, ultrasonic applications, hardware/software embedded system, healthcare
applications, e-Health and m-Health. Prof. Kassem is a Professional Engineer in Lebanon (Ordre des
Ingénieurs du Liban). He is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering
(IEEE) and Organizer and TPC member of many IEEE International conferences.
13:30 - 13:50
Innovation and Technology

INNOVATION OF BRAILLE COPY MACHINE
DR. ALI EL-ZAART- BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY, LEBANON

Ali El-Zaart was a senior software developer at Department of Research and Development, Semiconductor Insight, Ottawa, Canada during 2000-2001. In 2001, he started his work in the capacity of assistant professor at the Department of Biomedical Technology, College of Applied Medical Sciences, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia. Afterward, in 2004, he transferred to the Department of Computer Science, College of Computer and Information Sciences. In 2010, he has been promoted to associate professor rank in computer science. Since 2011, he has been a faculty member at the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Faculty of Science, Beirut Arab University. On March 2016, he has been promoted to full professor rank in computer science. Currently, he is the director of the center for continuing and professional education and director of the center for entrepreneurship. He received a M.Sc. (1996) and Ph.D. (2001) degrees in computer science from the University of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Canada.

13:50 - 14:10:
Innovation and Technology

NEURO-MARKETING: ENTREPRENEURIAL POTENTIAL OF AFFECTIVE COMPUTING
DR. IVANA PAVLIC – UNIVERSITY OF DUBROVNIK, CROATIA
14:10 - 14:30 :

Innovation and Technology

“STONE AGE” BUSINESS IS OVER!

REINE ABBAS, SPICA TECH S.A.L, LEBANON

With more than seventeen years in the gaming industry and fifteen years in higher education, Reine Abbas is one of the first female game designers in the Middle East and the first to be a founder of a video games company. She is the COO and Co-Founder of Wixel Studios, the first independent gaming company in Lebanon and one of the first in the MENA Region. She is also the CEO and founder of Spica Tech, one of the few gaming academies in the region. Abbas’ work has been recognized around the world and she has won many awards, including the WIT Women in Technology Award 2010, the WOW award for artistic expressions 2013 at the 6th New Arab Woman Forum, Inc.com’s World’s five most powerful women in gaming in 2013, one of The World’s 100 Most Powerful Arab Women in both 2014 and 2015 as selected by ArabianBusiness.com, winner of the MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab Region competition 2017 and Mena Region winner in the Cartier Women’s Initiative Awards of 2019. In 2019, she also won the Best Animation award at the ARFF Paris International Awards for her music video “Right Now”. She was featured in Forbes 2019 and was a TEDx Beirut speaker in 2011.

14:30 - 15:00 :

Conference Closing

DR. IRAJ HASHI – UNIVERSITY OF DUBROVNIK – CROATIA

Dr Iraj Hashi is Emeritus Professor of Economics at Staffordshire University, stoke on Trent, United Kingdom where he has worked since 1978. He also has a part time appointment as Professor of Economics and Assistant Coordinator of the ELEGANT project at the University of Dubrovnik, Croatia. He has a long history of working on European projects going back to early 1990s. He has previously worked with the Lebanese universities in the framework of the Tempus Project ASPIRE involving Beirut Arab University and Modern University for Business and Sciences.
14:30 – 15:00: Conference Closing

DR. BASSEM KAISSI - MODERN UNIVERSITY FOR BUSINESS AND SCIENCE, LEBANON

Professor Bassem Kaissi is currently the Vice President for International Affairs at the Modern University for Business and Science in Lebanon. He has over 20 years of experience in human resource strategy consulting and as a higher education consultant and expert. He speaks and consults throughout the Arab & European countries on a variety of higher education and management topics. Professor kaissi coordinated and participated in more than 50 research, capacity building and mobility projects funded by the EU, World Bank, AUF, and UNESCO.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Adel El-Kordi
DEAN OF FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Dr. Soubhi Abou Chahine
DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
Dr. Issam Damaj
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Prof. Ali El-Zaart
DIRECTOR OF THE ENTERPRENEURSHIP CENTER

Eng. Mustafa Bizri
SENIOR SPECIALIST, NETWORK ENGINEER
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

MENA Innovation Summit [78]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/MENA-Innovation-Summit-2018

Within the Framework of the “Middle East and North Africa Region Innovation 2018 Conference”, the President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi, Secretary- General Dr. Omar Houri, The Dean of the Faculty of Architecture- Design and Built Environment Prof. Ibtihal Bastawissi, The Dean of the Students’ Affairs Prof. Sobhi Abou Chahine participated in the Summit that was held in Cairo in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology at the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Innovation Summit Institution. The Summit discussed the right methods of the digital transformation and the role of Artificial Intelligence in the industry of making decisions aligned with the investment in the fields of Information Technology, Innovated Communications and Intelligent Universities.
SDG10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Sustainable Development Goal 10 (SDG 10) emphasizes the need to reduce inequalities within and among countries. In Lebanon, the government has launched initiatives to support underrepresented groups, and Beirut Arab University (BAU) is aligned with these efforts, striving for inclusivity and equal opportunities.

Government Initiatives for Reduced Inequalities:
- **Social Inclusion Programs**: The government promotes social inclusion through programs that target marginalized and vulnerable communities, providing them with essential services and opportunities.
- **Education Accessibility**: Efforts are made to enhance education accessibility, particularly for underprivileged groups, to ensure equal access to quality education.
- **Anti-Discrimination Measures**: Lebanon has implemented anti-discrimination laws to protect the rights of underrepresented groups and mitigate discrimination in various aspects of life.

BAU's Commitment to Reduced Inequalities:
- **Equal Educational Opportunities**: BAU ensures equal educational opportunities for all students, regardless of their background, to foster a diverse and inclusive learning environment.
- **Scholarship Programs**: The university offers scholarship programs to support underprivileged students, enabling them to pursue higher education and advance their careers.
- **Research and Advocacy**: BAU engages in research and advocacy that addresses issues related to inequalities, raising awareness about the importance of inclusivity.

Challenges and Future Directions:
Lebanon faces challenges related to economic disparities and social inequalities, which require ongoing attention. To continue working towards SDG 10:
- **Outreach Programs**: BAU can expand its outreach programs to reach more underrepresented groups and offer support tailored to their specific needs.
- **Community Engagement**: The university can strengthen its collaborations with local communities and organizations to create a more inclusive society.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University's commitment to SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities is reflected in its efforts to provide equal educational opportunities and support underprivileged students. By aligning with government initiatives and fostering a culture of inclusivity, BAU contributes to Lebanon's mission of reducing inequalities and ensuring equal rights for all, in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals.
The Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University represented by the Senior Specialist Salam Zahran, participated in a round table discussion entitled "Lebanon and Human Rights," that was held at the La Nau Cultural Center at the University of Valencia in Spain.

The discussion dealt with the Human Rights Situation in Lebanon in the context of the recent crisis in light of the financial collapse, Right to Health Medication during the pandemic, and Beirut Blast, with a focus on Lebanese women's rights and Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon. The seminar was accompanied with a photography exhibition by the photojournalist Germán Caballero which depicted the status of the Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon's Camps.

UNESCO and the Hariri Foundation Launch a Workshop on Youth Civic Engagement from Beirut Arab University

In the presence of MP Bahia Hariri, the UNESCO Office in Beirut, in cooperation with the Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development (HFSHD) and Beirut Arab University (BAU), launched a workshop entitled MOST School on “Youth Civic Engagement and Public Policies for Urban Governance through Cultural Heritage.” The workshop is part of the “Enhancing Research Linkage for a State of Knowledge in Lebanon” project as MOST aims at exchanging experiences among those interested in policy research, especially the young, in order to develop a comprehensive urban policy.

During the opening session, Head of the Parliamentary Education Committee and Head of the Hariri Foundation MP Bahia Hariri spoke of the role of Hariri Foundation, which embodies the experience of late Prime Minister Rafic Hariri and his vision of supporting education. She also praised the role of Beirut Arab University in promoting justice in the higher education sector in Lebanon and thanked UNESCO, which attaches great importance to linking scientific research to policy development.
In his speech, Director of the UNESCO Beirut Office Dr. Hamad Bin Saif Al-Hammami maintained, “Cultural heritage education is a tool for promoting intercultural dialogue and social cohesion, and therefore the participation of the young in cultural heritage is essential to provide them with the tools of knowledge, skills and shared values and to promote peace through engaging the young in urban cultural heritage policies and strategies and supporting tangible youth-led measures.”

UNESCO has established a youth strategy (2014-2021) and clarified support on three issues: formulating youth policies, developing the capacities of youth organizations, and supporting youth civic engagement. Speaking of the significance of the workshop theme, "There are a lot of concerns about city life in light of its growth, spatial expansion, increasing services, complex lifestyles, local government development and future strategic policies. The city has become a centre of knowledge production in various interrelated disciplines. Therefore, understanding urban space at the research level has become interdisciplinary," Al-Hamami continued, “this multidisciplinary approach to the city has become evident in the 2030 Agenda adopted by the United Nations as a plan of action for social justice and human well-being. UNESCO's support to the city stakeholders concerning inclusive urban development is more important than ever. Fifteen years after the launch of the International Alliance for Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR) in 2004, there are now 23 Arab cities from seven active member states that contribute to mutual support, knowledge sharing and capacity development to combat discrimination and fear of outsiders and foreigners.”

BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi stressed BAU’s interest in heritage and its preservation. He also highlighted the importance of disseminating this culture at the youth level and contributing to enhancing communication and dialogue opportunities among the students, academic staff and all those interested in developing policies to preserve cultural heritage in Lebanon with their counterparts at the regional and global levels.

Dean of the Faculty of Architecture- Design and Built Environment Professor Ibtihal Bastawissi spoke about the role of architects in the process of preserving cultural heritage, stressing that this role has been adopted by the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment at Beirut Arab University since its establishment in 1962 through its support for heritage conservation projects and the adoption of many other projects and private research in the areas of restoration, rehabilitation and reuse. The faculty has always been keen to teach its students how to devise architectural solutions that harmonize with these buildings and are compatible with our current era. She also emphasized the importance of this workshop, as “it helps develop the ability of researchers and decision-makers to link academic scientific research with its practical translation.”

Prof. Bastawissi continued, “Beirut Arab University has always sought to actively participate in this workshop, as it comes in line with its belief in the importance of making practical use of scientific research to serve the local community and support sustainable development at the national level. BAU believes in the role of the youth in development and the importance of engaging them in the development of plans and policies, which helps benefit from their innovation and creativity, in addition to adding up to the practical experience of the university youth and increasing the efficiency of graduates to meet the challenges of the labour market. The participation of the young in the development of plans and policies also develops their sense of responsibility and concern for the success of their implementation.”

The three-day workshop was held between Beirut and Saida, including a field visit to the ancient city of Sidon. During this workshop, a series of research methodologies and good practices were reviewed in order to highlight the positive role of the youth in promoting social integration in the process of preserving cultural heritage in Lebanon.
A Seminar on Women’s Rights at BAU In Collaboration with the EU Delegation [81]


The Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University organized in collaboration with the European Union Delegation in Lebanon a seminar on “Women’s Rights: Challenges and Opportunities for Gender Equality in Lebanon”. The event which was held on the 3rd of December, 2013 was attended by Prof. Dr. Amr Galal El Adawi, President of BAU, Mrs. Angelina Ekhorrest, European Union Ambassador, Mrs. Ursula Fahringer, Austrian Ambassador to Lebanon, Deans of Faculties, Mr. Issam Houri, BAU Secretary General, Wakf El Bir and Ihsan’s Members of Board of Trustees, Directors of BAU Centers, BAU Administrators, and 250 students from various majors.

Prof. Dr. Amr Galal El Adawi reiterated in his word the role of BAU in supporting human rights, in particular women’s rights, through the Human Rights Center, as well as the establishment of a specialized Women’s Studies Diploma and a legal clinic where students – under the supervision of licensed lawyers – aid disadvantaged target groups to fight for their rights.

Mrs. Angelina Ekhorrest, European Union Ambassador, addressed the students, reminding the audience that Lebanon is an important partner to the EU, not only in terms of dealing with the Syrian crisis, but also in terms of human rights. This is manifest in the effectiveness of parliamentary elections and structural reforms in the economic and social sectors.

Dr. Omar Houri, Director of the BAU Human Rights Center reviewed in his word the foundations of a woman’s right to grant her family her nationality in accordance with the Lebanese Constitution and the International Law. He added that there are over 18000 Lebanese women married to foreigners in Lebanon. There are no accurate statistics as to the number of children in these marriages, but it is possible to imagine the amount prejudices these children and citizens are exposed to. Such discrimination impacts upon medical care, education, employment and other aspects of daily life.

The seminar also included an intervention by Mrs. Ursula Fahringer, Austrian Ambassador to Lebanon, and Lawyer Layla Awada from “Kafa”. The seminar was moderated by journalist Anne-Marie El Hage from L’Orient Le Jour.

A Panel Discussion on Activating Women’s Political Participation [82]
In cooperation with Beirut Arab University and the National Commission for Women, and in collaboration with the British Council and the National Committee for the Follow-up on Women’s Issues, the Maharat Foundation organized a panel discussion on "Activating the Role of Women in Political Participation" among students and decision-makers within the framework of the EU-funded project DAWRAK. The panel was attended by the President of the National Commission for Lebanese Women Ms. Claudine Aoun Roukoz and MPs Majid Edi Abi El-Lamaa and Elias Hanaksh, as well as the candidate for the parliamentary elections Laury Haytian.

Students and participants discussed issues related to activating women’s political participation, such as approving quotas in the election law, the role of political parties in supporting women in political participation, and the strategy of the National Commission for Women to activate women’s political participation.

The students raised a number of questions and made several recommendations to the participants in order to enhance the participation of the young in the discussion of public issues and the development of public policies related to the political role of women and to support communication between them and officials and decision-makers.

The event started with BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi and Head of the Media Department Dr. Gamal Mujahed welcoming the participants and stressing that BAU supports enhancing the role of women at all levels not only in the political realm.

President of the National Commission for Lebanese Women Ms. Claudine Aoun Roukoz noted that the percentage of female candidates increased in the recent elections, but this was not reflected in the presence of women in the Lebanese Parliament, pointing out that women do not vote for female candidates but for a list that is compatible with their political stance.

She also maintained that the National Commission has called for a transitional quota to activate the participation of women in political life, considering that waiting for real equality only is useless at the moment. She added, “Laws reveal a significant prejudice against women. We as a national entity for women’s affairs have many law suggestions which we will submit soon. Though women’s participation in the government is represented by 4 ministers out of 30, this is considered an achievement and a great progress at the level of female presence in the government.”
Continuing her speech, she said that the political presence of women needs a law and she encouraged the initiative of Prime Minister Saad Hariri to nominate women for the parliament and the government, adding that Hariri kept his word concerning women's presence in political life.

Within the context of the participation of women in the political parties, she stressed that females must get out of the shadows and impose themselves without allowing males to take the lead, adding "we are witnessing progress at all levels and the upcoming parliamentary elections will reflect this. Stereotypes change with the new generation."

MP Majid Edi Abi Al Lamaa, pointed out that there are many women in our patriarchal society who do not believe in the role of women in political life. "Here lies the danger. We must exert a great effort at the level of education at schools and universities to raise awareness about this subject," he said.

Abi Lamaa assured that there are many discussions about the quota within the parties, considering that it is a kind of discrimination and imposing it is useless. He added, "Basically, it is linked to raising the young’s awareness through education in order to create a public opinion that is supportive of women's political participation, especially as there are many citizens who are against the quota, which is still considered a controversial issue."

As for the role of parties in supporting women’s political participation, Abi -Lamaa expressed his hope for the new generation to change the current situation in the parties.

MP Elias Hanaksh, said that the current parliament members represent not only males but all citizens as well, especially as the problems in Lebanon are shared by men and women. He pointed out that there is an improvement in the political participation of women through a set of indicators, for there are now six female parliament members and 4 ministers, as well as the post of Minister of Interior in the Middle East for the first time.

He also expressed his support for the approval of the quota, especially as all countries that have shown progress in the field of raising the political representation of women had approved the quota.

Laury Haytian, the candidate for the parliamentary elections, said that most of the female candidates who took part in the elections don’t belong to any party. They accepted the challenge to encourage the new generation to join the political domain. "There is a stereotype concept that women don’t understand politics which we tried to change in the previous elections," she continued.

Concerning the role of parties in supporting women’s political participation, Haytian said that parties were not supportive as females’ candidates were absent from the election lists. The parties do not want the quota in order to maintain their posts and their gains. "We are witnessing a non-traditional situation in the political life; it is a transitional phase and civil society has played its political role, but the best way for women to achieve political presence is through the party, so the battle must take place within the parties for the women's involvement in the political life."

It is worth mentioning that DAWRAK project aims at enhancing women's participation in public affairs. In this context, the project resulted in a set of basic priorities for activating the role of women, including the promotion of women’s political participation and civil status law. Therefore, DAWRAK launched two advocacy campaigns around these two priorities.

**BAU Awareness Raising Day for the Disabled [83]**
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/BAU-Awareness-Raising-Day-for-the-Disabled
Seeking to support the people with disabilities and to integrate them into the Lebanese society and economy via procuring the environment which meets their needs and capabilities in the job market, the Human Rights Centre at Beirut Arab University, together with the CRS Association and in cooperation with EDAN and Arcanciel, organized an awareness raising day concerning the people with disabilities in Lebanon.

On that day, students from the Faculty of Architectural Engineering presented an integrated engineering project for the development of the Hariri Building at BAU to meet all the needs of disabled people.

Students from the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences clarified the rights which the disabled enjoy according to Article (220) of the Lebanese Law which stipulates the necessity of procuring an environment suitable for the disabled to carry out their everyday life activities.

The Centre for Entrepreneurship at BAU participated in presenting the ways the disabled can execute the projects that meet their physical capabilities and how to raise the funds necessary for these projects.

Students from the Faculty of Arts elucidated the codes of conduct and behavior necessary to deal with disabled.

During the day, a dialogue was held in which Dr. Omar Houri gave a talk and some short movies were shown, shedding light on the obstacles that the disabled face in both the society and the job market. Moreover, some testimonies and speeches were presented by some disabled people calling for the rectification of some offensive expressions and abusive behaviors towards the disabled.

Mr. Fadi Al Halabi, the known activist and media figure, summarized the challenges that the disabled face, stating that there are 100,000 disabled people in Lebanon, 80% of whom suffer from unemployment and 60% from illiteracy. Ms. Fadia Farah, Head of the Lebanese Association for Self Advocacy, attributed the injustice of the job market towards the disabled to the absence of experience in setting and observing the laws concerned with the disabled.

In his turn, Mr. Ibrahim Abdallah, Head of the Disabled Union in Lebanon, criticized the government’s inefficiency as related to the issue of the disabled, and accredited the achievements to the efforts exerted by the concerned associations actively involved in the field.

UN Marks 70th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights at BAU [84]
Under the theme “A Defender for a Right”, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre in Beirut (UNIC Beirut) and Beirut Arab University (BAU), organized a special ceremony to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and celebrate Human Rights Day that falls annually on 10 December.

The ceremony, which was held at BAU Premises, was attended by Bassam Al-Halabi, representative of Minister of State for Human Rights Affairs Ayman Choucair, MP and Head of the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights Michel Moussa, MP and representative of Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri Roula Tabesh, Regional Representative of OHCHR Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) Roueida El-Hage, Director of the UN Information Centre in Beirut Margo El-Helou, President of the Lebanese Constitutional Council Issam Sleiman, President of Beirut Arab University Amr Galal El-Adawi and BAU Secretary General Omar Houri. The ceremony was also attended by representatives of military and security leaders, BAU professors and students, representatives of media outlets and organizations specialized in human rights issues.

The Opening

The Opening featured statements by Choucair, Moussa, El-Hage, and El-Adawi, as well as a videotaped message by the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and a reportage on the BAU university and its major Faculties.

In his statement, Choucair said that decent life is the main issue that must be addressed when defending human rights, adding that the lack of sense of citizenship among people stops them from enjoying their basic human rights. “Citizenship is not a law,” he noted, “it is a struggle”. Choucair added that the Middle East is unfortunately witnessing a breach of human rights, especially in the presence of major powers that seek to destroy on daily basis the concept of democracy and reject peace and justice in the region.” He pointed out that citizens must strengthen their sense of belonging to their countries away from their social and sectarian affiliations in order for human rights to be attained in the communities.

For his part, Moussa pointed out that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has become a ‘unified constitution’ in the world that regulate the preservation and respect of human rights, despite the blatant violations recorded throughout the past 70 years. “There is no doubt that hate speech is caused by conflicts, wars, poverty, and religious extremism, as well as the absence of political
and cultural awareness that ignites hatred, intolerance and negative inherited traditions.” Moussa also stressed in his speech the need to control and confront hate speech, adding that this requires close cooperation between governments and civil society to enact effective legislations that regulate the work of educational and social institutions, media, including social media, while preserving the freedom of individuals.

El-Hage began her statement by recalling that the UDHR is enshrined in the preamble of the Lebanese Constitution. “Its principles are therefore constitutionally mandatory, surpassing national legislation, and many countries have followed Lebanon’s example,” she noted. “Although the UDHR has helped many people gain more freedoms and rights, we are still witnessing systematic violations in the world. The struggle for human rights is not over yet,” she added. El-Hage also mentioned some world figures reflecting the progress achieved after the adoption of UDHR. These include increase in women representation in Parliament to one quarter of the total number of Parliamentarians in most countries, increase in the number of countries that abolished death penalty, provision of access to information for all, and offering guarantees for persons with disabilities, including minority groups, migrants and refugees, among others.

El-Adawi in his statement said that “intolerance, xenophobia and incitement to racial and religious hatred all endanger the very essence of human rights.” He also noted that “BAU is one of the first universities in the Arab region that introduced the human rights course as a compulsory requirement for all university students and this shows its unwavering commitment to human rights principles. It also established a Human Rights Center in 2009, whereby volunteers participate in awareness raising activities aiming at combating extremism through social media networks.” El-Adawi concluded his statement by saying that BAU is committed to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its related 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as member of the Global Compact Network in Lebanon. “BAU is constantly seeking to achieve social justice and sustainable development in the country,” he pledged.

An Interactive Discussion
After the opening, El-Hage, together with Reda Abdel Aziz, a lawyer and regional human rights trainer, moderated an interactive dialogue entitled “Promoting Positive Messages” tackling the role of social media and arts in combating hate speech. The discussion also engaged Omar Houri, human rights activists Mirvat Rishmawi and Joumana Merhi, and human rights expert Habib Belkoush.

The dialogue discussed in detail current legislative and policy measures adopted by countries of the region to combat hate speech through social media. Discussions also tackled civil society efforts and initiatives in fighting hate speech, with special focus on the role of the youth.
SDG11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) focuses on building sustainable cities and communities. In Lebanon, the government is dedicated to creating sustainable urban spaces, and Beirut Arab University (BAU) actively supports this endeavor by fostering sustainability, engaging with local communities, and advancing research aligned with the SDG.

Government Initiatives for Sustainable Cities and Communities:

- **Urban Planning:** The Lebanese government engages in urban planning to enhance city infrastructure, public spaces, and green areas for more sustainable and livable communities.
- **Waste Management:** Initiatives target improved waste management practices, including recycling, to reduce the environmental impact of urban areas.
- **Community Engagement:** The government encourages community involvement in local decision-making processes to ensure urban development meets the needs and expectations of residents.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 11:

- **Sustainable Campus Practices:** BAU adopts sustainability measures on its campus, including energy-efficient infrastructure, waste reduction, and green spaces, serving as a model for sustainable urban practices.
- **Community Partnerships:** The university actively engages with local communities through outreach programs, research projects, and student initiatives that address urban sustainability challenges.
- **Research for Sustainable Solutions:** BAU conducts research aimed at finding sustainable solutions for urban development challenges, contributing to knowledge and innovation in the field.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces urbanization challenges, including traffic congestion, pollution, and inadequate infrastructure. To continue working towards SDG 11:

- **Advocacy for Sustainable Urban Policies:** BAU can advocate for urban policies that prioritize sustainability and engage with policymakers and city planners.
- **Sustainability Education:** The university can expand its sustainability-focused educational programs to produce professionals who can lead in creating sustainable cities.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University actively contributes to SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities through its sustainable campus practices, community engagement, and research initiatives. By aligning with government efforts and advocating for sustainable urban policies, BAU supports Lebanon's mission to build more sustainable and livable cities, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Beirut Arab University - Tripoli Branch launched the International Immigration Conference for the Development of Tripoli and the North – Yes We Can” in cooperation with “Hommes d’Affaires Libanais de France -HALFA” and “Sunday Cultural Council”.

The ceremony was attended by the Mufti of Tripoli and the North, Sheikh Muhammad Tariq Imam, the Patriarchal Vicar Bishop Joseph Naffa, the Pastor of the Maronite Diocese of Tripoli, Youssef Soueif, the Melkite Archbishop of Tripoli and the rest of the North, Edward Daher, the President of the Maronite League in Lebanon, Ambassador Khalil Karam, the former Minister, Sheikh Ibrahim Al-Daher, and the Captain of the Syndicate. Engineers in Tripoli and the North, Engineer Bahaa Harb, members of the Syndicate Council, the global president of the Lebanese Cultural University in the world, His Excellency Mr. Abbas Fawaz, represented by Mr. Elie Al-Turk, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Manla Hospital, Mr. Tariq Manla, and representatives of ministries, municipalities, and cultural and scientific institutions. In addition to a group of businessmen and specialized economists who participated in the conference as speakers from the countries of diaspora: Chairman of the Lebanese Business Council in Kuwait, Ali Khalil, Chairman of the Council of Lebanese Executives in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Rabih Al-Amin, President of the Global Organization of Partnership Units between the Public and Private Sectors in Geneva, Ziyad Hayek and Dr. Hatem Othman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Viva International in Belgium, Founder and CEO of Isocel Telecom in Cotonou, Benin, Robert Awad, International Consultant Richard Njeim from France, Executive Director of JP Morgan in France, Mounir Chahine, and CEO of Blue Sea Telecommunications from the United States of America.

And from within Lebanon: Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lebanese Investors in the World, Jacques Sarraf, President of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, President of the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce, Salim Al-Zeani, President of the Economic and Social Council, Charles Arbid, Head of Research and Economic Analysis at Byblos Bank, Dr. Nassib Ghobril, Director of the Levant Institute for Strategic Affairs Dr. Sami Nader, President of the International Federation of Lebanese Businessmen and Women, Dr. Fouad Zmokhal, Dr. Hassan Dennawi, Acting President of the Special Economic Zone in Tripoli, Dr. Claude Hayek, CEO of the Lebanese American Association JOBROOTER, President of the Association of Economic Journalists in Lebanon Sabine Aweys, the CEO of the Lebanese Institute for Market Studies, Dr. Patrick Mardini, the researcher at the International
Information Institute, Mr. Mohamed Shams El-Din, Mr. Elie Lebbs, Vice President of the Syndicate of Tourist Guides in Lebanon, and the Executive Director of the Cultural Agenda, Myriam Shouman.

In addition to the partners in the conference, the Lebanese-French businessmen gathered, led by Professor Antoine Menassa, and the Sunday cultural meeting was held by Dr. Ahmed Elmi. They were received by the President of the University, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, along with the Vice President, Professor Khaled Baghdady, the deans of the university and its academic and administrative family.

The ceremony started with the Lebanese and Beirut Arab University anthems, then Miss Nala Makkouk, Master of the ceremony, focused in her speech that according to Beirut Arab University’s mission to develop the region around, it hosted and organized this conference in order to revitalize, improve and develop the economic situation and contribute to the promotion of employment opportunities for promising young graduates and stop the drain of emigration.

Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, President of the University, welcomed the Conference and its substance, looking forward to "the role of young people in Lebanon's revival and work together to achieve it by supporting scientific and professional paths".

He also noted that the University looks forward to contribute into multiple development through its scientific programs and moving through specialized programs to establish a partnership with local communities.

He also thanked the partners for their preparation and cooperation in organizing the Conference and hoped that "there would be steps to follow up the substance of the Conference and implement its recommendations".

Dr. Bassem Bachache, from Sunday Cultural Council, delivered a speech, noting "the tragic conditions in which the country is passing and the Lebanese feels frustrated, that is why we have to work to grow some hope in the hearts of desperate people, by joining forces with emigrants and people who are living in Lebanon."

He continued “Countries are not measured by its area, but by the amount of their giving and Lebanon is great by its creative sons”. He also refused to name the diaspora for immigrants, but as members of diaspora and adhere with them because they made sacrifices and turned to be the lungs of the homeland.”

Mr. Antoine Menassa, President of Hommes d’Affaires Libanais de France -HALFA, also spoke, thanking the President of the University and everyone who contributed to the success of the conference, considering that this is a great opportunity for us to meet in Tripoli in Northern Lebanon to look together for how Lebanon can benefit from the enormous resources and the willingness of the Lebanese expatriates to support their country of origin...

He continued, “I tell you that it is our duty to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors, especially in this global and regional crisis we are facing. We have a great cause to work on to support making tomorrow a better place for our youth in Lebanon.

Times are changing, and we are on the verge of a new phase. It is true that we are suffering from monotony and stagnation, where many of our institutions are far from modernization, but fortunately, despair is not a destiny.

For that, we need to create another model to get out of the crisis and to better secure the future. We need to rebuild on new foundations and redefine a new pattern that reorganizes the country’s finances, to ensure the continuity of the country and the future of our youth.
Thus, Unity is a necessity, and it is our duty to propose tangible measures, within a realistic program, that simulates the size of the current crisis and to rebuild according to a unified plan and program, in addition to restoring legitimacy.

Sometimes, one needs a different reading and that we listen to each other without sensitivity. I refuse to feel defeated because success is an unstoppable goal, and I am proud of being from an immigrant family, just as I am proud of being Lebanese..."

Mr. Rami Baitieh, who is an emigrant, gave a speech about the title of the conference recalling his experience since he migrated, overcoming obstacles and moving to France. He mentioned also his excellence there until became the chairman of the Board of Directors of one of the world’s largest companies, Carrefour. He drew the attention that he abided by impulsiveness and sincerity in work, and what he achieved depended on "belief in God and the satisfaction of parents and creative work by fulfilling what is required, and on conditions based on a heartfelt desire for work, rejection of the work we do not like, and learning from mistakes and not repeating them".

At the end of the opening ceremony, Professor El Adawi, President of the University, presented the University’s Memorial Medal as a tribute to the participants in the opening session. Dr. Ahmad Alami was also honored on behalf of “Sunday Cultural Council”.

The Conference was concluded and resulted the formation of a unified program of work for cooperation between businessmen and their councils in the North, countries abroad and universities, which will:

- Follow-up to organize periodic conferences that works on creating remote employment opportunities, prepare young people and build their capacities to enter the labour market and attract foreign investments.
- Launch of the e-platform “Career flow” to link job opportunities available in investor companies of expatriates inside and outside Lebanon with young graduates from Tripoli and the North who are wishing to work as well as train them.
- Establish a task force who is responsible for information management and feeds in addition to control them.
- Contact companies and Lebanese business owners abroad to feed the electronic pages with information and publicity to those companies.
- Communicate with universities to provide online preparation and training programs
- Develop a strategic media plan about Tripoli to give the true picture and not the stereotyped one
- Develop a plan to build behavioral and cognitive shells for university and school students
- Develop a plan to improve technical shells in line with the future labour market.
- Encourage expatriate capitals to invest in Agro-Tech industry, knowledge industry, creative industry, fashion, act, and movies industry), health industry and engineering in collaboration with stakeholders
- Support the economic zone so that it will change from dream to reality.
- Make Tripoli a distinctive brand in cooperation with stakeholders.
- Establish committees to implement recommendations and monitor them.
Earlier today, Judge Mohammad Wissam Al-Murtada, Minister of Culture, inaugurated the opening event of The Museum at Beirut Arab University, which is officially listed in the list of national museums as per the minister’s speech. The event was held in the presence of BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, members of the Board of Trustees, as well as a crowd of political, diplomatic and educational representatives.

The Museum contains some 200 rare books and manuscripts, and the collections entail civilizations that have existed throughout history, particularly the Pharaonic-Egyptian civilization, Assyrian civilization, Phoenician civilization, Byzantine civilization, Persian civilization, Roman civilization, Babylonian civilization, Aramaic civilization, Arab & Islamic civilization, and Ottoman civilization.

These rare collections date back to the eighth century AD until the nineteenth century, noting that the rare books and manuscripts are unique copies that are not available elsewhere.

In celebration of the opening, Minister Al-Murtada delivered a speech, highlighting the importance of the role of universities as research centres as dynamic drivers in the development and evolution of knowledge.

In his speech, Minister Al-Murtada discussed the need for an Arab Union, pointing to the importance of Arab League Summit in Algeria. He said, "As we are gathering here today at the opening of this museum at the Beirut Arab University, Arab leaders are meeting with at the Arab League summit, endorsing the mere hope of reunion. Our hope for this summit is that Arab leaders can work hard on developing synergies among one another, successfully bringing Arab countries together in union. This reunion between Arabs will prove of great interest in culture, education and university research and will vastly impact the youth of these countries."

Minister Al-Murtada continued, “Beirut Arab University is not just a university, and its museum is not only a display of historical ornaments but also an essential reminder of how this university shapes the future of education and culture. If museums are created to honor the past, universities are created to build the future."

Minister Al-Murtada praised in his speech Beirut Arab University, saying, “BAU is an ambassador of education and knowledge enriching brain forces in the land of Cedars all the way from the Nile River. Today, the establishment of The Museum reminds us of Egypt’s richness lying in its history and culture and spread from the Valley of the Kings to the Delta, from Alexandria to Cairo, and from Sinai to the Upper Nile.”
In his speech, Minister Al-Murtada shed light on the importance of an educational development plan, where he said, “I make use of this occasion to emphasize that some Arab countries lack educational justice, because of many circumstances. Educational justice is a term that means securing the means of knowledge, especially modern ones, for every individual in Arab territories. This requires national action through an inclusive educational and cultural development plan, which all our states should collaborate in writing, approving, funding and implementing. Will that take place in the near future? It is worth noting that the abundance of schools, institutes and universities alone does not secure such justice, unless accompanied by developing curricula and a deep understanding of the university’s role as a research centre primarily, not only as a teaching centre, as well as of the role of education in the preparation of brains not only distribution of certificates.”

Concluding his speech, Minister Al-Murtada congratulated BAU for the opening of its museum, which he described as a cultural bridge between the past and the future.

In his speech, BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, thanked Minister Al-Murtada for supporting this initiative, highlighting the university’s cultural and pioneering role in society. He said, “For the establishment of this museum, we complied and restored scarce manuscripts and books according to special heritage standards. These manuscripts are attributed to 17 civilizations and will be displayed alternately with respective electronic copies to allow researchers and students to discover their contents.”

The ceremony host, Ms. Rima Chehab, mentioned that after long anticipation and delay due to the health and economic crises in the past years, the university’s museum of rare books and ancient manuscripts is finally ready for display, highlighting the fundamental role of the President in the founding of this historical and cultural project.

After the opening, Professor El-Adawi presented the university honorary shield to Minister Al-Murtada as a token of appreciation. At the end, attendees toured around The Museum.

**Cycling for a better Tripoli [87]**

[https://twitter.com/wasilcourier/status/1631349591453859840](https://twitter.com/wasilcourier/status/1631349591453859840)

We are delighted to invite you to our event "Cycling for a better Tripoli" with our partners @nlinlebanon and @BeirutArabUni, a mix of a conference and a bike ride. This March 11th in Tripoli, at 9:30am, see you!
Arab League Museum in Beirut: Knowledge within everyone's reach [88]
https://twitter.com/almodononline/status/158851037668241921

Beirut Arab University Museum: Rare Books and Manuscripts [89]

In this afflicted country, even a narrow segment of the educated are still interested in beautifying the cultural face of Lebanon, despite all the distortions that have affected it over recent years. Although the role of universities has been absent in the recent period, due to economic, social and political conditions, Beirut Arab University has managed to make its way beyond these obstacles, preserving a cultural heritage that would have collapsed had it not paid attention to.

For this reason, Beirut Arab University opened a few days ago its museum, which was included in the list of national museums and cultural institutions recently, and which includes a collection of rare books and unique and diverse manuscripts dating back to the beginning of the eighth century AD.

The restoration phase
In his interview with Al-Modon, the President of Beirut Arab University, Prof. Amr Jalal Al-Adawi, describes the stage of restoring rare books and manuscripts, as they were collected from the university's libraries, and sent to the Restoration Center at the University of Kaslik, which is concerned with the restoration of manuscripts, and then scanned and converted into a digital record, and placed on small electronic screens. The museum was then designed to display these books and manuscripts in a suitable environment, in order to preserve them from damage.

According to Al-Adawi, the main objective of the museum is to learn about civilizations, learn about other cultures, and preserve the value of these rare books and manuscripts, which reflect many civilizations that have passed through history. There is no doubt that this museum is an opportunity for researchers, university students and anyone who is familiar with the history of civilizations and
their development over time, to complete research related to civilizations or history, whether they are students from inside or outside the university.

New Project
Given the Beirut Arab University’s interest in providing a bright future for its students and professors, Beirut Arab University is also working on a project that will see the light of day in the coming weeks, called “Renewing Hope”, an idea inspired by international universities. An opportunity will be provided to university students and professors to launch and present their creative projects, while the university will provide them with all the required assistance from a group of experts, with the aim of developing and achieving this project.

Rare copies
The museum includes about 200 rare books and historical manuscripts belonging to more than 17 historical civilizations, including: Egyptian civilization, Arab and Islamic civilization, Ottoman civilization and many others. This collection dates back to the eighth century AD to the nineteenth century AD. Especially the advantage of this museum is that it includes rare and unique copies of some books and manuscripts, and no other copies are available around the world.

According to Hassana Mohieldin, a university doctor specializing in information sciences and libraries, these rare books began to be collected since the establishment of Beirut Arab University in 1960 until 2017, and after the completion of the restoration and processing process, the university was not authorized to open the museum in 2019 due to the conditions of the country and the Corona pandemic, but it reopened it this year.

Special criteria and circumstances
Mohieldin continued that this museum was built according to special standards and international specifications to preserve these books and manuscripts from damage, as attention was paid to securing the permanent electrical supply to the museum, withdrawing moisture from books and manuscripts, displaying them in thick glass panels, in addition to securing a constant temperature for them, due to the importance of preserving this heritage.

The museum is open weekdays for students and visitors. The university administration has allocated an employee to help the researcher or student use digital screens to browse books or images electronically, and the rest of the books and manuscripts were placed in numbered cabinets along with a group of valuable books that were distributed on the shelves of the museum.

Today, Beirut Arab University has proven its enlightening role through this museum in preserving the heritage that is considered the memory of peoples, making it an inextensible treasure, and a means of transferring knowledge to future generations.
Dealing with the past memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons Play [90]
https://twitter.com/BeirutArabUni/status/1437653429934084108

(HRC-BAU) invites you to attend a play that is part of a project entitled entitled "Dealing with the past memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons" to highlight on the consequence of this outcome and promote the right to freedom.

In Beirut, a BAU exhibition revives damaged architecture for Lebanese children [91]

At the heart of a historic area damaged by the Beirut blasts, the “Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition” of the Beirut Arab University has revived the Lebanese capital by reimagining its colors and memories over the course of 3 days, at the Saint Nicolas stairs in Gemmayze. It allowed children to enhance awareness to their cultural heritage and develop their emotional attachment to the territory of Beirut, by exposing them to miniature Beirut buildings developed by BAU students, and through the construction of cognitive maps and the use of spatial maps designed in a game environment.

The exhibition is an outcome of the initiative led by the BAU faculty of Architecture-Design & Built Environment to develop children’s emotional attachment to the city of Beirut following the blasts, and is supported by UNODC, UNESCO and UNFPA, as part of UNODC’s Education4Justice program and UNESCO’s Li Beirut initiative.

Partners, NGOs, students, teachers and parents gathered in Gemmayze to discover the colorful displays which restore Beirut to its former beauty. A Ribbon Cutting celebration was also held in presence of the BAU president Dr. Amr Galal El-Adawi and representatives from UNODC and UNESCO.
During the exhibition, more than 70 children from the affected area explored the models and interacted with a creative game board with 3D physical models for specific neighborhoods and historic damaged buildings in Beirut, that was designed to stimulate the spatial thinking of children as a coping strategy after the traumatic event. Children also colored an illustration that depicts the Beirut blasts, solidarity and resilience to convey positive and empowering messages.

As part of the project, 45 children had also been invited to a workshop at the BAU lab and Karantina garden in Beirut, in collaboration with NGO “Himaya Daeeem Aataa”, and were engaged in different activities. Each child created his/her own neighborhood using the materials of the game board including folded papers and landscape elements. The children also explored the large-scale model of selected heritage buildings in Beirut.

Earlier in April, 225 teachers of art and sciences had attended an online webinar and were trained on how to use the designed maps and models with students to improve the pedagogical practice, by integrating spatial thinking in their classes.
HRC Organized a Play by BAU Students tackling the Lebanese Civil War [92]

The Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University organized a play that tackled the Lebanese Civil War and lessons learnt from the legacy of this bitter experience.

This play was directed by Ms. Rania Mroueh and performed by BAU students from different faculties at Beirut Campus. The play was part of an activity held by the “Dealing with the Past Memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons” project funded by the United Nations Peace Building Fund and jointly implemented with the “Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights” (OHCHR).

Faculty of Architecture- Design & Built Environment
Inaugurated Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition [93]

The President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr Galal El – Adawi inaugurated “Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition to introduce Cultural Heritage to Children” that was launched by the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment in partnership with UNESCO, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at Saint Nicolas Stairs in Gemmayzeh Area.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Prof. Ibtihal El Bastawissi, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment, Ms. Rony Sabbagh, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Lebanon, Dr. Seiko Sugita, Programme specialist in social and human sciences at UNESCO Beirut, in addition to faculty deans and representatives of the United Nations Organizations, university professors and faculty students.

The three-day exhibition took place after the great efforts performed by the Faculty of Architecture-Design and Built Environment team for a period of six months to provide a large number of architectural miniatures of heritage buildings in Beirut with the contribution of the Urban Laboratory. These models were in high quality and accurate showing the architectural details of these buildings.

The faculty students and professors supervising the exhibition accompanied visitors in their tours, introduced them to the displayed models and explained the architectural details that characterize the heritage buildings of Beirut. They also gave souvenirs to children inspired by the main objective of the exhibition. Souvenirs consist from collections of facades in which the child can assemble by himself to recreate one of the models of heritage buildings for the identity of Beirut City.

Professor Amr Galal El- Adawi, President of Beirut Arab University, congratulated the working group under the supervision of Professor Ibtihal El Bastawissi, the Dean of the Faculty, in preparing for this exhibition, which embodies the real message of the University and its pioneering role in serving the Lebanese society in general and the people of Beirut in particular, through this project that enhances the social role of the architect in spreading the culture of preserving the architectural and urban heritage of the city.
The Human Rights Center at BAU organized a capacity building training on “Truth and Justice” at BAU-Tripoli Branch. The training lasted for two consecutive days on 1-2/10/2021 at the Multipurpose Room and was a part of the “Dealing with the Past Memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons” project funded by the United Nations Peace Building Fund and jointly implemented with OHCHR.

This project aims to shed more light on people who experienced the enforced disappearance of others and provide enough information to highlight the root causes of past conflict and present social tensions in addition to opening public debate and facilitating cross-confessional dialogue, which helps engage the Lebanese youth. The participating students from different majors were willing to know more about the core and values of the law that allow the affected Lebanese to achieve justice and seek the truth.

Judge Sara Rammal inaugurated the first day of the training, discussing the enforced disappearance in the light of concepts of justice and truth. After that, the Vice President of Fighters for Peace Mr. Asaad Chaftari held a debate with the students about true reconciliation and its conditions for the individual and groups. The second day of the training opened with Ms. Lara Al-Deeb, one of the board members of the Committee of the Families of Kidnapped and Disappeared in Lebanon. She gave details about the adoption of the law concerning the absence and the enforced disappearance of persons and the implementation of the resolutions of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Afterwards, Mrs. Dala Bazzi, the instructor of physical kinesiology and therapy through dancing, showed a video in which the dancers express their feelings through movement only. This video aimed to emphasize the importance of the theatre as a place for people to express their needs and deliver messages to the audience about the role of art and music in expressing solidarity with the issue of the enforced disappeared persons.
The Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment at Beirut Arab University participated in Beirut Urban Declaration Conference for restoration of afflicted areas after the huge explosion that occurred on August four. The conference was organized by the Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut in cooperation with the Faculties of Architecture in Lebanon whereby this event came after long preparations and workshops in addition to direct field work which started directly after Beirut Port explosion on August 4, 2020.

Since then, Professor Ibtihal El-Bastawissi, the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture- Design and Built Environment, has worked within the organizing committees of the Deans of Faculties of Architecture for Beirut Urban Declaration which included five sessions. She invited a group of university professors from various faculties to participate in all aspects of conference activities in coordination with the Dean of Faculty of Human Sciences, Professor Mayssah El-Nayal. Professor El-Bastawissi also participated in a workshop organized by the Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut in cooperation with the French government, UNESCO and the International Union of Architects (UIA) in order to achieve this declaration.

The university had interventions in more than one session in the conference where Professor Hassan Hallak gave a lecture entitled "The Economic and Social Role of the Beirut Port," in which he talked about the history of the development of Beirut Port and its economic and social impacts on the city.

Dr. Khaled Sadek gave a lecture under the title of "The Urban Fabric of Beirut between History and the Present" in which he dealt with the development of Beirut's urban fabric during the historical eras that the city has gone through. He mentioned the human values that the city has acquired, which are based on reverence of freedoms, respect of intellectual pluralism and openness to different civilizations.

In the fourth session, Dr. Hiba Mohsen gave a lecture entitled "Rehabilitation and Restoration of Damaged Heritage Buildings", in which she discussed the importance of preserving the heritage and the risks that threatens it, in addition to several proposals for the rehabilitation and construction of old neighborhoods.

In the second day, Dr. Khaled Sadek gave another lecture under the title of "Legislative Frameworks for Reconstruction Management", during which he presented the reality of legislation and the mechanisms available for reconstruction.
The Participation of the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture in the OEA Workshop [96]

The Participation of the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture in the OEA Workshop on the Reconstruction of the Neighbourhoods affected by the 4th of August Blast within a National Vision for Sustainable Development Policies

The Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Built Environment, Professor Ibtihal Youssef El-Bastawissi, participated in the workshop organized by the Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut in cooperation with the French Government, UNESCO, and the International Union of Architects (UIA).

Professor El-Bastawissi participated in the fourth session covering the legal aspects of the reconstruction process. The session was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the General Directorate of Antiquities in Lebanon.

While moderating the public discussion panel at the end of the axis, Professor El-Bastawissi stressed on the importance of this axis, as well as all the other axes of the workshop which complement each other and enriched the studies carried out by the Architectural Faculties in Lebanese universities in collaboration with Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut. Professor El-Bastawissi thanked the President of the OEA, Jad Tabet, for organizing this workshop and for all the efforts he is doing to keep up with the reconstruction of the districts devastated by the explosion of August 4, 2020.

The Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Built Environment, Professor Ibtihal Youssef El-Bastawissi, participated in the workshop organized by the Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut in cooperation with the French Government, UNESCO, and the International Union of Architects (UIA).

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A Research Study Project for Port Beirut Explosion conducted by BAU- Faculty of Engineering [97]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/A-Research-Study-Project-for-Port-Beirut-Explosion-conducted-by-BAU-Faculty-of-Engineering

A research team from Beirut Arab University - Faculty of Engineering led by prof. Yehya Temsah - Assistant dean, professor of structural engineering - conducted a Study Project for the Beirut Port Explosion in collaboration with the Lebanese Army. The project aimed, through structural analysis approach, to define the magnitude of the explosive material weight, the structural response of the Wheat Silos and their protective role.

The preliminary study results were of great importance and the research team was invited to present their study in several local and international scientific discussions.

On one hand, the Research Team Head Prof. Temsah also participated in an international online conference organized by Balamand University- Lebanon Map, entitled “Beirut Blast: A Paradigm Shift in Open Geospatial Data” which was held on November 6 and 7, 2020.

On another hand, Prof. Yehya Temsah and Dr. Ali Jahami - Assistant professor, lecture at the faculty of engineering - participated in a webinar organized by Beirut Order of Engineers and Architects entitled “Beirut Blast: Nature, Magnitude, Observation, Damages and Assessment” which was held on November 13, 2020.

The Three-Dimensional Survey of the Nawfal Palace in Tripoli [98]
A new collaboration between the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment and the Municipality of Tripoli

Within the framework of cooperation between the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment at Beirut Arab University and the Municipality of Tripoli, a team from the Faculty carried out a three-dimensional survey of the Nawfal Municipal Palace, located in Al-Tal district in Tripoli.

The 3D survey process of Nawfal Municipal Palace comprises two main stages:

- The first stage includes the field survey that spanned over a period of five days (from 16/11/2020 to 20/11/2020), during which the team collected digital data for all the internal and external spaces of the Palace.
- The second stage includes the process of extracting the collected data to generate the digital model that simulates the realistic details of the palace.

The three-dimensional survey is based on the use of new equipment and technologies which are available in the Virtual Reality Lab of the Faculty at Debbieh Campus. This lab has been newly equipped to be a pioneer in this field at the national and regional levels.

The Survey was conducted by a specialized team in the field of 3D scanning from the Faculty consists of Dr. Kareem Saad Galal and the students Khoder Bahr Joujou, Hadi Hassan Jalloul, Abdul Karim Rabie Oweidat, and Muhammad Nour Maher Abu Ammo.

This cooperative activity was coordinated between Tripoli Municipality Councillor, Dr. Bassem Bakhash, and the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture- Design and Built Environment Professor Dr. Ibtihal Youssef El-Bastawissi, who provided all the necessary facilities for the team to be able to complete the work successfully. The faculty branch in Tripoli also supported the working team through the vice president of Tripoli Branch Affairs, Professor Khaled Baghdady, and Faculty Director for Tripoli branch, Dr. Nabil Mohareb and Dr. Khaled Al-Daghar. The team also appreciated the generous hospitality and all the facilities provided by Tripoli municipality.

This activity is one of a series of cooperative activities between Beirut Arab University and the civil society in Lebanon as per the instructions and recommendations of the university president, Professor...
Amr Galal El-Adawi, who is always keen to accomplish the University’s lofty mission and pioneering role dedicated to community service.

Beirut Explosion Structural Assessment of the Explosion Magnitude [99]


After completing the two phases of the Research Project related to Beirut Port Blast, the Research Unit Team deduced the below Summary Research Work which was sent to publication at a highly ranked journal.

On August 4th 2020, tremendous explosion occurred in Beirut, Lebanon’s capital, specifically in its port.

The resulting damage was humongous, impacting the city along a radius of about 600m. Series of grains silos adjacent to the center of the explosion, at 85m proximity, had been importantly damaged.

The cause was anticipated to explosion of Ammonium Nitrate that had been stored in the port, of “said” quantity equal to 2750t, whereby different opinions have emerged regarding the amount of the explosive materials and the magnitude of the explosion. The aim of this research work is to define the magnitude of the explosion, using structural engineering approach throughout non-linear finite element modeling of the silos. The magnitude of the explosion is defined as the numerical model magnitude that generated the silos damages. The study is based on silos detailed drawings, data collected from site visits, and the use of the Conventional Weapons Effects Blast Loading (CONWEP) method. In addition, damage assessment for the “standing” silos has been conducted and final recommendations are included. This paper shows that the magnitude of the explosion is smaller than the equivalent TNT of the original declared quantity of stored Ammonium Nitrate.
A Call to retain Beirut Built Heritage [100]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/A-Call-to-retain-Beirut-Built-Heritage

From the first moments following the Beirut Blast, it became one of the priorities for Beirut Arab University to engage in the process of removing the destruction and to mobilize its community to offer the people in the affected neighborhoods of Beirut the help and support they needed.

Through its students, employees, and the academic staff, the University formed groups of helpers that participated in the removal of rubble and in surveying the damage that had befallen the port area, including the archaeological buildings in the old neighborhoods. The real danger is that the rescue plan for the damaged historic buildings is not expedited. The plan requires the displacement of the residents who do not have the capacity to rehabilitate these buildings due to the sensitivity of the origin. Rescuing these buildings also needs expert interventions to preserve their identity and value. The Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut has taken steps to develop a plan to survey and distinguish buildings of an archaeological nature, and to provide information to those concerned with cultural heritage in general and built heritage in particular. According to the third weekly report issued by the Order of Engineers and Architects dated on 9/9/2020, 14.1% of heritage buildings within the surveyed area are at high risk of collapse/damage, while 11.3% are at mid-risk of collapse/damage. This indicates that nearly a quarter of the surveyed historic buildings in the port vicinity were damaged by the blast.

The University spares no efforts, equipment and resources needed for the Urban Lab, such as a 3D scanning mechanism. Further, researchers in the field of preserving cultural heritage, including architects and engineers are brought together, to contribute with official and non-official bodies, such as the Beirut Municipality and the Ministry of Culture represented by the General Directorate of Antiquities, the Order of Engineers and Architects, and civil societies, in the development of the necessary engineering plans and the proposition of solutions to save historic buildings that are at risk while preserving the character of historic Beirut. In terms of resilience, the post-disaster urban and architectural reconstruction and rehabilitation of the cultural built heritage in Beirut should be included in any sustainable planning agenda of the city. For a traumatized society after disastrous events, such as the port blast, such urgent conservation practices will give a sense of localness and recreate the inhabitants’ collective memories concerning the image of their city, which promotes healing on a mid-term plan.

The interventions for the structural stabilization of heritage buildings that are at risk are among the priorities that necessitate the cooperation of all the different sectors in the Lebanese society. In addition, the partnership between the different sectors of society and civil organizations reflects community awareness and provides the best model for saving and preserving heritage. Keen on seeing
all these plans realized as soon as possible, Beirut Arab University is keen on contributing to all the stages of the process, beginning with the damage assessment, through to the intervention phase.

Prof. Amr Galal Al-Adawi
President of Beirut Arab University, Lebanon

Architecture and Planning Journal, APJ, celebrates its 26th volume issue 2 - 2020 - in synchronization with passing 60 years on founding Beirut Arab University in Lebanon. For further information, you can access the link below

https://digitalcommons.bau.edu.lb/apj/vol26/iss2/

Research Unit from the Faculty of Engineering completes Phase 2 of Beirut Port Blast [17]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Research-Unit-from-the-Faculty-of-Engineering-completes-Phase-2-of-Beirut-Port-Blast

The Research Unit Team from the Faculty of Engineering lead by Professor Yehya Temsah and including Dr. Ali Gahami, Colonel Bassam Timani and a group of Lab Technicians moved in their work from Phase 1 to the Phase 2 of the research project related to Beirut Port Explosion The Second Phase consisted of defining the mechanical properties of the Wheat Silos construction materials.

The Team performed a Site visit on September 16, 2020 to the explosion area in order to extract concrete core specimens and reinforcing rebar of different diameters from the Wheat Silos. The collected specimens were transmitted to the material laboratory at Debbieh Campus and were subject to tests in order to define their mechanical properties which is an important constituent part of the third research phase related to the structural analysis.
SDG12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Sustainable Development Goal 12 (SDG 12) emphasizes the need for responsible consumption and production patterns to reduce environmental impacts. In Lebanon, the government encourages sustainability, and Beirut Arab University (BAU) actively promotes responsible consumption by organizing awareness campaigns and events that aim to reduce plastic usage.

Government Initiatives for Responsible Consumption and Production:

- **Environmental Regulations**: The Lebanese government has enacted regulations to reduce the environmental impact of production processes and enhance product sustainability.
- **Waste Reduction Programs**: Initiatives target waste reduction, recycling, and responsible disposal practices to minimize the environmental footprint of consumption.
- **Consumer Awareness**: The government promotes awareness among consumers, encouraging responsible purchasing and product usage.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 12:

- **Plastic Reduction Campaigns**: BAU organizes awareness campaigns and events on campus and within the community to promote the responsible use of plastic and to reduce single-use plastic items.
- **Sustainable Practices**: The university promotes sustainable practices such as recycling, energy efficiency, and reduced waste generation on its campus.
- **Educational Initiatives**: BAU includes sustainability and responsible consumption topics in its educational programs, fostering a culture of responsibility among students.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces challenges related to waste management and consumer behavior. To continue working towards SDG 12:

- **Community Engagement**: BAU can strengthen partnerships with local communities to extend its sustainability efforts and awareness campaigns.
- **Research and Innovation**: The university can encourage research on sustainable production methods and collaborate with industries to implement eco-friendly practices.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University actively supports SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production through its awareness campaigns, sustainable practices, and educational initiatives. By aligning with government efforts and advocating for responsible consumption, BAU contributes to Lebanon's mission of minimizing environmental impact and promoting sustainable consumption, in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Beirut Arab University hosted a lecture for the Engineer Ziad Abi Chaker entitled "Zero Waste is Not Science Fiction", owing to the fact that Lebanon has been dealing with a waste crisis since 2015, and how we may achieve "zero waste" by recycling and using trash in the industrial realm. The lecture was attended by the Minister of Culture, H.E. Mohammad Wissam Mortada, represented by Dr. Nizar Daher, the Chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, Dr. Ammar Houri, the President of the University, Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, the Vice President for Medical Sciences, Prof. Essam Osman, the Secretary General of the University, Dr. Omar Houri, the Deans of the University, and a crowd of students and interested audience.

After the Lebanese national anthem, followed by the university’s anthem, Mrs. Zina Ariss, Director of Public Relations and Communications, introduced the lecturer Mr. Ziad Abi Chaker, saying, "Our crises in Lebanon do not end, and the most serious of them is their harm to public health first, the environment second, and civilization third. The worst part of the trash situation in our country, Lebanon, is that the government is not taking any action, despite the fact that there are solutions out there for those who have the expertise and the will to implement them."

Mr. Ziad then said, “The title "Zero Waste" has become a necessity in our country today, where we are working on spreading awareness about how to recycle and treat waste. There are many communities that preach the so-called zero waste, this is not beyond our reach as Lebanese people, and it would be wrong to resort to burying or burning waste, instead, an infrastructure must be created to recycle it.”

Furthermore, "Today, waste is not only household waste, either organic or not, but construction waste, medical and pharmaceutical waste, as well as electronic waste. The scope of what societies consume and throw away is now very large, and this is an issue that is no longer acceptable." Mr. Abi Chaker continued, “Any plan that adopts the principle of zero waste separates these categories from each other, as it’s known very well that their treatment techniques are different and cannot be placed all within one factory, and the "zero waste" plan for household waste requires that it be transported without resorting to compaction, which prevents the mixing and breaking of what is dangerous with the rest of the existing materials, considering that plastic materials are of economic value because they last long and are not affected by natural factors, so they are recycled and converted into solid structures that use bases for installing solar panels, and sewage covers.”
Mr. Abi Chaker urged the establishment of waste sorting centers and encouraging citizens to do so in their homes, as these materials have high economic value and are able to provide job opportunities and solve the waste problem in Lebanon, and in return we must establish sorting plants instead of random landfills, which facilitates the conversion of organic materials into agricultural fertilizer, while recycling recyclable materials.

After the discussion between the attendees and Engineer Abi Chaker, Mr. Ziad gave Prof. El-Adawi, President of BAU, a glass jug that he had recycled from the August 4th port explosion. In return, Prof. El-Adawi gave Abi Chaker the University Medal as a sign of appreciation and loyalty.

Incoming program in the Mechanical Engineering [103]
BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (B.E.) IN RENEWABLE ENERGY ENGINEERING (RNEE)

Renewable Energy Engineering Program
Renewable Energy Engineering (RNEE) is a 4-year program that consists of 150 credits and aims at educating engineers to acquire the necessary competencies to design, build and operate the green energy infrastructure.

In addition to basic science and math, the program begins by building solid grounding in fundamentals comprising elements from material, mechanical, thermal, and electrical engineering.

This is followed by 4 semesters of advanced engineering courses that cover Solar and Wind Energy, Photovoltaic Cells, Hydropower Generation, and Geothermal Energy.

The curriculum provides students with strong theory and practical hands-on enabling them to devise effective solutions for the generation, distribution, and utilization of green energy for grid-connected and off-grid applications.

The major culminates in a two-semester capstone where students, working in small groups, demonstrate their mastery of the required engineering competencies and the design process.

Program Aim / Objective
To prepare experts in the various aspects of energy and alternative energy sciences and technologies, in particular energy conservation strategies and engineering practices for clean energy production.

Learning Outcomes
Graduates from the Renewable Energy Engineering (RNEE) program are expected to:

- Design, build and operate green energy infrastructures.
- Pursue graduate studies in energy or other related multidisciplinary areas.
- Acquire professional leadership in their fields of expertise and commitment to environment, community, and global society.

Career Opportunities

Renewable Energy Engineers acquire a broad spectrum of skills needed for every profession in the energy industry that is booming worldwide.


Other career options include prominent chances to work in research and development spending huge budgets on green energy studies.

**Offered Courses**
- Fundamentals of Renewable Energy
- Sustainable and Passive Building Design
- Solar Thermal Energy Systems
- Green Buildings and LEED
- Renewable Energy Lab
- Geothermal Energy & Heat Pump Applications
- Wind Energy
- Energy Management
- Hydraulic Machinery and Stations
- Instrumentation and Measurement
- Control Systems
- Modern Drives
- Power System Operation
- Grid Integration
- Photovoltaic Systems

**Program Requirements**
The RNEE curriculum consists of the following components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Science and Mathematics</td>
<td>27 Cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Engineering Topics</td>
<td>15 Cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering Topics from Outside the Major</td>
<td>20 Cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energy Engineering Major</td>
<td>51 Cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Electives</td>
<td>12 Cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Year Project</td>
<td>4 Cr.</td>
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The Current Petroleum Activities and Sustainability in the Arab World Lecture at BAU [104]


Upon an invitation from the President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr Galal El – Adawi, the Society of Petroleum Engineers and the SPE BAU Student Chapter in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University organized a lecture entitled "The Current Petroleum Activities and Sustainability in the Arab world". The seminar was attended by President of the Society of Petroleum Engineers Dr. Sami Al Nuaim, HE Saad El Hariri represented by Engineer Refaat Saad, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Lebanon Dr. Hamad Saeed Al Shamusi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Lebanon Mr. Walid Bin Abdullah Bukhari and a crowd of experts and interested audience.

After the Lebanese Anthem and BAU Anthem, Head of SPE-BAU Student Chapter Youssef Abdul Hadi opened the seminar with a speech in which he highlighted the importance of the students' presence in SPE in Lebanon, for they must join this industry as professionals. Chairman of BAU Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Departments and the Faculty Advisor for BAU Chapter Dr. Rami Harkouss spoke about "the role of oil and its contribution to social development, as well as the need for common interests among the Arab countries and their cooperation at all levels such as the establishment of unified Arab funds and the establishment of a Lebanese academic community in order to activate joint academic research."

Dean of Faculty of Engineering Professor Adel Al Kordi considered that "the production of oil is one of the greatest challenges facing the world at present and its importance is highlighted as the foundation of the industrial renaissance and an important strategic commodity in international trade. Undoubtedly, oil has a major influence on all sectors. Therefore, our Arab world has become the focus of attention of the countries with an oil-based economy, resulting in some of the problems and unrest that have become a part of our daily life."

Chairman of the Board of Directors, Lebanese Petroleum Administration and Head of Strategic Planning Department Mr. Walid Nasr stressed "the importance of establishing an integrated legislative system and strengthening the laws of transparency to restore confidence between the government and the Lebanese, which can be achieved through monitoring and accountability." He also tackled several issues, including sustainability, environment preservation and value creation through the promotion of investment.
Nasr also emphasized that “the second licensing cycle will begin upon the approval of the Council of Ministers” and stressed “the need to complete the studies on how to take advantage of gas in the local market and benefit from the Lebanese cadres among universities and students to secure employment opportunities for individuals and Lebanese partnerships.”

The President of Society of Petroleum Engineers, Beirut Section and Board Member of the Lebanese Petroleum Administration Dr. Nasser Hoteit highlighted “the importance of Arab cooperation for oil investment in Lebanon and the role of each of the leading companies in this sector in the Arab world, especially Aramco, ADNOC and others."

He believed that “it is time Lebanon joined the Arab element in the field of oil,” and hoped for “future cooperation in all fields relevant to exploration, production, and export.”

President of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and Manager of Saudi Aramco’s Petroleum Engineers Services Department Dr. Sami Al Nuaim pointed out that “the oil and gas sector will absorb the increasing demand on energy resulting from population growth and new technological progress.”

“It is necessary to reform the term sustainability as improving human life is our main objective and this reform will be based on three main factors: economic growth, social development and environmental monitoring,” he continued, “oil and gas will continue to be a key part of the future global energy mix with the growing environmental challenge that calls for greater cooperation, stronger participation and the urgent need to develop cleaner and more efficient use of oil and gas.”

Quality of Life in the Built Environment [105]

The main aim of this subtheme is to let students provided with the competence to develop strategies for complex situations while planning a sustainable built environment and to understand the relation between the built environment and human behavior on the urban planning (the built and inbuilt environment). The faculty envisions that the staff members and the students can conduct researches in this theme through the capability of the library and its valuable references. This theme can cover the fields of (concepts, theories, and methods used by urban, understanding and management of systemic interdependencies of sustainability, systems engineering, systems modeling, urban planning, long-term urban development strategies, integrative design and modeling for sustainability, research oriented teaching).

Sustainable urban is a stimulator of system analysis and partial simulation for urban structures in urban development. Creating a holistic approach of scenarios that brings many solutions for several problems. This emphasizes the systems associated with infrastructures: solid waste, sewerage,
wastewater, drinking water supply, transportation, energy and communications. Focusing on the three concepts: sustainability, lifecycle, and implications of integration across urban infrastructure, through the technical and analytical simulations. Problems that affect the urban structures are the determinants, which are caused by these concepts: social, economic, physical, cultural factors of the built and inbuilt environment. Healthy cities aim to improve the living conditions and services in association with various urban development activities. Bring together the public, private and voluntary sectors. Enabling nations to mutually support each other in developing the performance of life.

The world contains many of the environmental decomposition which creates many families living in uninhabitable slums. This is caused by the unhealthy cities and urban context that are living in. The concept of co-production has introduced in the cities for the public services’ development and sustainability. It included solutions to a criticism that conducted in communities often fails in its design. Co-production aims to put principles of empowerment into practicing in communities. It is the relation between the service users and the community, through time, energy, cost, and knowledge.

City leaders must move quickly to plan for growth. The acceleration of the urban scale creates several families with different genders and ages. This should be assured by safe growth of all family members that are contained in the city. Truly developments were established in the low and the middle income countries, through the sustainable and green cities spread all over the city.

The ecological process triggers several solutions for the urban design planning. Designers have some lacks in the urban ecosystem; however, they do all of their best to keep the entire engulfed system in the city protected and safe. They have to take into consideration many other factors that affect the environmental issues: social, economic, context... making a truly use of the wastes of the materials used.

Energy and Environment [106]

The Faculty of Engineering conducts research that has relevance to Energy and Environment with a mission to support planning of environment-friendly energy systems in Lebanon and the Middle East region. For example, some research is concerned with the development of construction/structural materials that have lower carbon footprint (e.g. incorporating waste materials in construction). Other areas of research include new ways to reduce contamination and the treatment of contaminated soil/water. This can have a positive impact on the quality of air, water and soil that would be beneficial to health and wellbeing. Other research areas investigate different techniques to reduce carbon emissions originating from the operation of current wireless communication networks. This would
have a direct impact on the reduction of greenhouse gases and thus contribute to the preservation of the environment. A main driver for this approach is the reduction of energy consumption through advanced energy management techniques. This would lead to the decrease in the use of non-renewable energy resources in favor of renewable resources such as solar and wind based.

Several research topics currently being tackled by researchers in the faculty of engineering fall under this theme. Examples of these topics are listed here below:

- Green wireless communications design,
- Green PV panels,
- Innovative construction material with low embodied energy,
- Reducing CO2 emission due to cement production,
- Extracting the dust coming from quarries and using it in the production of cement. This will reduce the air pollution and its direct effect on human health (e.g. Asthma),
- Reducing traffic congestion which would reduce the travel time and the associated CO2 emission,
- Treatment of groundwater and reinjection in the aquifer which would reduce water pollution,
- Strengthening of existing structures. This will eliminate the demolition of existing structures and the associated dust emission and noise, and
- Wastewater and ground treatment of Litani basin.

Researchers in the Faculty of Engineering show their interest in these topics by conducting research and reporting the outcomes in prestigious international and national journals, magazines, symposia, conferences and meetings. More than 7 publications were reported during the last two years.

The Faculty has plans concerning this research point precisely because it is of extreme importance to Lebanon. For instance, electricity provision must have regard to minimizing environmental and public health effects, both directly from generation and indirectly from obtaining fuels and dealing with wastes. This issue and many others to be cited below are the faculty's main concern as reflected in its short and long-term strategies.
SDG13: CLIMATE ACTION

Climate action, as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13), is of paramount importance to Lebanon’s government. Initiatives for environmental protection, coupled with Beirut Arab University’s (BAU) own commitment to sustainability, emphasize the importance of climate action and raising awareness regarding climate-related issues.

Government Initiatives for Climate Action:

- **Environmental Regulations**: Lebanon has implemented environmental laws and regulations to combat pollution, protect ecosystems, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Renewable Energy**: Initiatives aim to promote renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power to reduce carbon emissions.
- **Natural Resource Protection**: The government is actively involved in preserving Lebanon’s natural resources, including its forests and biodiversity.

BAU’s Contribution to Climate Action:

- **Sustainable Campus Practices**: BAU actively promotes sustainability on its campus through energy-efficient buildings, waste reduction, and green initiatives, reducing its environmental footprint.
- **Climate Awareness Campaigns**: The university organizes events, workshops, and lectures to raise awareness about climate change and environmental issues within the academic community and the broader public.
- **Research for Climate Solutions**: BAU conducts research focused on climate change, offering solutions and technologies to mitigate the impact of environmental issues.

Challenges and Future Directions:

Lebanon faces challenges related to pollution, resource depletion, and climate vulnerability. To continue working towards climate action:

- **Policy Advocacy**: BAU can engage in policy advocacy, collaborating with governmental bodies to develop and enforce climate policies.
- **Community Engagement**: The university can expand its community engagement to involve local residents, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for environmental protection.

In conclusion, Lebanon’s government is actively pursuing climate action through environmental regulations and the promotion of renewable energy. Beirut Arab University contributes to this mission through its sustainable campus practices, awareness campaigns, and research efforts. By aligning with government initiatives and advocating for climate solutions, BAU supports Lebanon’s commitment to protect the environment and combat climate change in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Upon an invitation from the President of Beirut Arab University Professor Amr Galal El Adawi, a lecture was delivered by the Engineer Aly Abousabaa Director General of The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) who gave a lecture on "Food and Water Scarcity in the Light of Climate Change".

After the Lebanese and BAU Anthems, Colleague Ms. Nadine Koleilat opened the lecture saying, "The majority of the adverse effects of climate change are experienced by poor and low-income communities around the world as they are significantly exposed to environmental factors affecting health and wealth among many others as well as low levels of available aptitude to adapt to climate change."

BAU President Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi spoke about the importance of this lecture as “it addresses the climatic changes represented by the lack of rainfall and high temperatures which constitute a major challenge that will have repercussions on Arab food security.”

El-Adawi also praised the lecturer and his researches to find available solutions and proposed expectations in order to help countries and people face this painful reality.

Engineer Aly Abousabaa explained that "scarcity of water is a global issue. A large number of countries will be affected by climate change. Water scarcity will persist faster than we think, particularly in North Africa and the Gulf Region because they are most affected by water scarcity whether through rain or rivers. The shortage of water resources will be accompanied by severe desertification and deterioration in land quality, which will have a serious impact on the region's ability to produce food. Therefore, the solution is multifold, including intensifying the search for water sources, and increasing the efficiency of its use by converting the current irrigation systems to modern and sophisticated irrigation such as sprinkler and drip irrigation instead of drenching the soil with water."

He continued, “In the next phase, the focus will be on the development of crop species and varieties capable of providing food in light of the challenges of water scarcity and climate change that threaten food security,” pointing out that “the coming years require a change in the dates of agriculture
together with the development of irrigation systems, the adoption of a new agricultural policy and the necessity to change the food style.”

Abousabaa also maintained that “ICARDA is exerting a concerted effort to deal with the impacts of climate change on the region, including the production of seeds that tolerate high temperatures, the development of irrigation methods and the introduction of some plants into the animal diet.”

The lecture ended with a series of questions and interventions from the attendees followed by presenting him the BAU Shield of Appreciation by the President.

**Water in Lebanon: Turning Current Challenges into Future Opportunities [108]**


Conference panels at AUB-IFI, Beirut hosted participants from AUB, BAU, PU and Balamand Universities, and industry experts who encouraged the next generation to focus their studies and careers on the water and environmental sector in order to turn Lebanon’s water challenges into opportunities. The panels also featured various private and public actors who are involved in water management as well as Mr. Michele Pierpaoli – Attaché for Water and Waste Water Affairs from the European Union Delegation to Lebanon. Interactive discussions with students and participants was held. The live streaming and BAU-ACF live discussion panel at BAU-RCED, Bekaa, conducted a discussion and knowledge-sharing platform led by Dr. Safaa Baydoun & Dr. Kamal El Kalaani with around 150 participants from universities, freshman and school students. Major water challenges in Lebanon, especially on Litani River, Bekaa region and management means of the impact of Syrian crisis and climate change on water resources issues were highlighted. Students were encouraged to purse higher studies on water resources related majors and contribute to local and national activities towards turning challenges into opportunities.

**The Faculty of Science in cooperation with the Faculty of**
Engineering at Beirut Arab University, Tripoli Campus, organized a world day entitled "Earth Day Pollution and Solutions" [109]


The Faculty of Science in cooperation with the Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University in Tripoli Campus organized a world day entitled "Earth Day Pollution and Solutions". The ceremony was attended by the BAU Vice-President for Tripoli Campus affairs Prof. Khaled Baghdady, the Deputy Secretary General for Tripoli Campus Mr. Mohamed Hammoud, Director of the Faculty of Engineering Dr. Ahmad Lakkani, Director of the Faculty of Science Prof. Mohammad Jayyar, other directors and professors of all faculties, and a group of students. Dr. Jalal Halwani, Director of Water and Environmental Science Laboratories and Head of Health and Environment at the Lebanese University, conducted a presentation on the steps taken to preserve the Palm Islands Reserve in Tripoli from pollution. Dr. Safaa Baydoun from Beirut Arab University and Director of Center for Environmental Research and Development - Bekaa Campus, highlighted the current challenges facing natural resources in the Bekaa region of Lebanon. After that, Dr. Rami Owayni of the Faculty of Science presented innovative environmental techniques. A lecture on the desalination system was presented by Dr. Yasser Al Samdouni from the Faculty of Engineering, then followed by Dr. Mohamed Al Jawhary from the Faculty of Engineering who presented a lecture on solid waste management system. The students, Ryan Farha and Sarah Moubeid, from the Faculty of Science, concluded with a research about the factors that are leading to the increase in the number of adolescents, in northern Lebanon, smoking what is called “Nargileh”. This day was marked by an exhibition of students’ projects and ended up by distributing honor shields to lecturers and awards for successful projects.

Workshop entitled Green Environment Pollution Control [110]
The Faculty of Science at BAU hosted a workshop entitled “Green Environment: Pollution Control” in collaboration with the Research Center for Environment and Development in Bekaa and sponsored by PEER/USAID.

The workshop aimed at highlighting the latest issues related to pollution and ways to control it in order to reach a Green Environment in Lebanon. It provided a platform for leaders, innovators, researchers, and students from across the Lebanese community to exchange ideas and solutions.

The workshop speakers were Mr. Bassam Sabbagh, Head of Urban Environment Service, Ministry of Environment), Mr. Zaher Redwan, Green Hand Organization, Mr. Elie Abou Sleiman, Green Insight, Dr. Majida Mcheik, Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Ali Fadel, Center for Remote Sensing, CNRS-L, Ms. Nohal al Homsi, WHO representative, and Dr. Jamila Borjac, Beirut Arab University.

The workshop brought up together key environmental activists and researchers, officials involved in environment and NGO’s to highlight on pollution in Lebanon and ways to control it. Moreover, more than 20 Environmental Projects from more than 50 Makassed Schools’ Students were displayed.
7th NGO Fair on Sustainable Development Goals and Environment at Beirut Arab University [111]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/7th-NGO-Fair-on-Sustainable-Development-Goals-and-Environment-at-Beirut-Arab-University
The Human Rights Center (HRC) at Beirut Arab University organized its Seventh Exhibition of NGOs at Beirut campus under the title of "United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for the 2030 Agenda and Environment Preservation" in the presence of Minister of Environment Fadi Jreissati represented by Mrs. Anna Shaderfian.

HRC Specialist Ms. Salam Zahran opened the exhibition, stressing the fact that "this exhibition is an opportunity to introduce students to human rights issues with the participation of 47 associations and organizations concerned with all that aims to give the individuals their rights to contribute to the development of society at all levels."

BAU Secretary General and HRC Director Dr. Omar Houri stated that "this exhibition in its seventh edition has become an annual tradition for our students to meet with civil society organizations, the unknown soldiers in our country, keep abreast of their progress, discuss social affairs and harness these efforts to serve sustainable development."

In his speech, BAU President and Chairman of the HRC Board of Directors Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi indicated that, since its establishment in 2009, the Center has played a major role at the university, Lebanese and regional levels through its relationship with local and international organizations. BAU has also committed itself to achieving the 17 UN objectives both at the levels of research and education at the various faculties. BAU also seeks to achieve sustainable development through the application of the concept of community service which is a key component of its current strategy. El-Adawi, also, thanked the participating associations and organisations for their participation in this exposition.

Afterwards, the attendees toured the booths of the participating associations. On the sidelines of the exhibition, a student discussion session was held which tackled the current environmental challenges and the most important initiatives to solve them. Dr. Safaa Baydoun, Director of Research Center for Environment and Development at BAU Bekaa Campus participated in the session, presenting the most important BAU projects and initiatives within the environmental and sustainable development framework. Ms. Zeina Karameh, representing The Arab Thought Foundation, introduced the Short Story Competition, which was launched by the Foundation as part of the "Arab21" Project aimed at high school students to write texts in Arabic on the importance of sustainable environment and the risks resulting from its neglect. President of Beam of Environment Association (BEA) Engineer Salim Khalife presented the solid waste crisis, its risks and treatment. The session concluded with a speech by Ms. Anna Shaderfian, representing the Ministry of Environment, in which she presented the most important environmental strategies adopted by the Ministry and the existing initiatives to reduce the environment crisis in Lebanon.

The exhibition hosted 47 associations from various fields (environmental, social, health, educational and developmental). The distribution of the associations’ tasks in this exhibition was determined according to the objectives that serve sustainable development.
SDG14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14), "Life Below Water," focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas, and marine resources. In Lebanon, the government is dedicated to protecting water resources and the fishery ecosystem, while Beirut Arab University (BAU) aligns its efforts with these objectives to safeguard "Life Below Water."

Government Initiatives for Life Below Water:
- **Marine Conservation**: The Lebanese government has implemented marine conservation measures to protect the biodiversity of its seas and coastline.
- **Fishery Management**: Initiatives support responsible and sustainable fishing practices, ensuring the health of fishery ecosystems.
- **Waste Management**: Programs address marine pollution and waste management to maintain the cleanliness of marine environments.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 14:
- **Research and Awareness**: BAU conducts research on marine ecosystems and organizes awareness campaigns and educational events that promote the importance of marine conservation and responsible consumption of marine resources.
- **Community Engagement**: The university engages with local communities to develop sustainable fishing practices, emphasizing the long-term health of the fishery ecosystem.
- **Environmental Advocacy**: BAU advocates for policies that align with SDG 14 and supports government initiatives for marine conservation.

Challenges and Future Directions:
Lebanon faces challenges related to overfishing, marine pollution, and coastal development. To continue working towards SDG 14:
- **Conservation Efforts**: BAU can partner with government agencies and NGOs to support the conservation of marine habitats and fishery resources.
- **Marine Sustainability Education**: The university can expand its programs related to marine conservation and the sustainable use of marine resources.

In conclusion, the Lebanese government's initiatives aim to protect "Life Below Water" through marine conservation and fishery management. Beirut Arab University actively contributes by conducting research, raising awareness, and engaging with local communities to ensure the health of marine ecosystems. By aligning with government efforts and advocating for marine sustainability, BAU supports Lebanon's commitment to preserving life below water in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
National workshops on “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges” [112]


As the National Facilitator of the USAID funded project “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges”, RCED organized two workshops during February 21-22, 2017 in Beirut and Bekaa to present and discuss with stockholders and decision makers the findings and the proposed policy white paper generated by the project for groundwater governance in Lebanon. Workshop I, Beirut, Feb. 21st 2017, targeted officials and decision makers from the Ministry of Energy and Water, Bekaa Water Establishment and the Litani River Authority. Whereas workshop II, Bekaa, Feb. 22nd 2017, was oriented towards local stakeholders including municipality members, Water User Associations and farming communities.

Objectives
- Addressing challenges facing groundwater resources in Lebanon
- Contributing to finding solutions and mitigation measures to groundwater crisis and abuse in Lebanon
- Bringing decision-makers, practitioners and users together to set up aquifer dialogues and discuss groundwater governance
- Drawing connections between science, knowledge and policy making

During both interactive workshops I and II, the research team of the project led by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) presented and discussed the “Case of Central Bekaa, A Policy White Paper”. On the behalf of the BAU President, Prof. Amer Galal Adawi, and BAU family, Prof. Adel El Kordi, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, addressed the participants and research team with a warm welcome and acknowledgment for the efforts and importance of project’s findings for the management of one of the most national pressing challenges of Lebanon. He emphasized that BAU has followed a dedicated path to provide quality educational outcomes that contribute to water management and governance in Lebanon through qualified civil and environmental engineers. Dr. Safaa, Director of RCED, added that this project which is part of the regional project that includes Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, UAE and Oman aims to identify the required actions to achieve good ground governance in Bekaa which is suffering from excessive pumping illegal pumping and that the workshop maybe viewed as a platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange in the field of groundwater governance at the national level. The valuable participation of managers and donors of international water projects in Bekaa including USAID Lebanon Water Project, Swiss Agency for Development and
Cooperation (SDC), Solidarité – Eau, France, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), German Organization for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) allowed and facilitated knowledge sharing and building links for potential future collaboration. Through his intervention Prof. Jamal Al Khatib, Faculty of Engineering, BAU, stressed on the urgency of developing and implementing integrated water management plans to combat the severe challenges water sector is facing due to climate change and pressures of Syrian refugees.

Litany River from its Source to its Estuary: “Vision and Solutions” [113]


Under the patronage and in the presence of the former Minister of the Environment His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Mashnouk, Beirut Arab University organized a workshop entitled “Litany River from its Source to its Estuary: Vision and Solutions” on 24 September 2016.

Objectives

- Highlighting and sharing concerns regarding the severe degradation of the ecological status of Litany River and its adverse effects on development and economic growth not only of Bekaa region but also across all Lebanon
- Stressing on the urgent need to implement the governmental action plan to combat the environmental degradation of the river
- Cooperating with stakeholders, public farmers and industrials
- Enhancing collaboration and fostering BAU engagement in pressing national concerns

Participants included parliament members of Bekaa, universities, governmental and research institutions, NGOs, municipalities and a breadth of community members. Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi, BAU President, addressed participants with a welcoming presentation highlighting the major challenges facing the water sector in Lebanon and stressing the need for urgent implementation of actions to combat these challenges. In her presentation, Prof. Hania Nakkash, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, emphasized the role of higher education and scientific research in developing plans and implement actions to efficiently contribute to the integrated management and conservation of the integrity of the precious of water resources in the country. Projects covering various aspects of the challenges facing Litany River and government plans and projects to tackle them were presented by Ministry of the Environment (MoE) and Litany River Authority (Eng. Mohamad Younis). Parliament members Dr. Assem Araji and Mr. Jamal Jarah, Litany River Authority, members of municipality expressed their high concerns for the degraded environmental status of the river and its impact on economy, public health and society and sluggish performance of government. Prof. Hussein Amiri,
University of Colorado, presented an overview of some global best practices in the integrated management of river basins in USA and emphasized the need for coordination between ministries, governmental institutions and public for the successful management of the Litany River Basin. In the closing session a briefing on BAU contribution to the assessment of the ecological status of the river and management of its environmental degradation was presented by Dr. Safa Baydoun, Director of BAU, followed by an open discussion and development of a set recommendation.

Call for Volunteers [114]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Engineering/Event/Call-for-Volunteers

The oil spill that happened mid-February has impacted Lebanon shore severely especially Tyre Beach. Unfortunately, no serious action was taken to remove the tars that are expected to cause a huge damage to turtles, swimming season and fishing!

SPE Beirut Section in collaboration with its three affiliated students’ chapters (SPE BAU, SPE LAU, and SPE LU Roumieh Chapters) are organising a cleaning day of Tyre Beach this April 3rd at 10 am.

That’s why volunteers from all over Lebanon are needed to help during this day. All cleaning equipment will be provided.

To register sign up using the following link:
https://lnkd.in/emY6Ejm

For more information, contact us at
hsg_99@hotmail.com
s.mostafa@bau.edu.lb
kassem.alokla@hotmail.com

Be many!
Our environment is waiting for us!
#wearespe
Society of Petroleum Engineers International

Environmental Studies [115]
Environmental Protection Act (1986) defined “Environment as the sum total of water, air and land, their interrelationship among themselves and with the human beings, other living beings and property”. One of the most important disciplines included in environmental studies is the environmental science which is the scientific study of environmental system (air, water, soil and land) including any changes and damages that result from human interaction with the environment. Human activities polluting the natural resources worldwide. Lebanon like other countries in the region is suffering from major pollution crisis that is affecting both its aquatic and land resources. Understanding the scientific basis of our environmental science is vital to find solutions to these problems to protect the environment and then preserving our nature.

1- Environmental and Anthropogenic Effects on Radiocarbon Distribution in Lebanon
This research aimed to determine the radiocarbon content in annual plants growing in rural areas distributed along villages located in the surrounding of a cement factory at Mount Lebanon province. This determination was carried out at different environmental conditions in order to study the factors affecting this content in clean zones, and to map C-14 distribution. As well as, this study also quantified the depletion of radiocarbon in polluted zones in order to assess the anthropogenic impact caused by fossil fuel combustion or Suess effect in urban and industrialized areas.

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This study reviewed the detection of pesticides in different surface and groundwater samples collected from South Litani region in South Lebanon using an optimized and validated solid phase extraction method followed by gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry. Organochlorine and organophosphate pesticides were mostly noted at levels below the recommended value for individual pesticide in water except pirimiphosmethyl that was recorded at 300.87 ng L−1 in groundwater sample, designated for drinking water and collected in February. DDE concentration exceeded 100 ng L−1 in both surface and groundwater in October. The reported results represent the first Lebanese statistical data illustrating the quantification of pesticides in water over a period of time. More importantly, it draws attention to the need of pesticides’ monitoring programs in the Lebanese water resources.

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Keratinous wastes generated from various industries are increasingly accumulating in the environment. Bacillus licheniformis L. was isolated from soil collected from a Lebanese poultry barn. Purified feather meal and keratin solution were successfully prepared from feathers. Optimization of the factors affecting keratin-degradation and keratinase production was achieved using Plackett Burman design. Determination of amino acids formed in degraded feather and partial purification of the crude enzyme were also determined.

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A comparative study of indoor contamination in three private and three official schools in Aley, Lebanon was conducted. Sampling was performed in each school, from the air, desk-surfaces of classes and water taps of bathrooms, for the evaluation of microbial contamination. Official schools showed to be highly contaminated with respect to private schools. Among the three educational levels, the elementary level was the most contaminated.

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8- Marine Water Quality and Risk Assessment Along Tyre Lebanese Coast
The physical, chemical, and microbiological characteristics of seawater along Tyre city coastline, Southern Lebanon, were studied in order to assess its quality and its impact on the marine ecosystem. Untreated sewage discharge into the marine environment contaminates seawater, sediment, and marine flora and fauna. High total and fecal coliforms levels were recorded indicating high microbiological contamination of seawater exceeded the international accepted limit. In addition, pollution by heavy metals is a serious ecological problem; results indicated high concentration of iron, copper, cadmium, manganese, zinc, chromium and lead.

Future Research Plans
- Physico-chemical Characteristics and Microbiological Levels in Various Drinking water Sources of Iqlim Al-Kharroub in South Western Lebanon.
- Transition Metal Complexes for Treatment of Heavy Metals, Dyes, and Pesticides in water.
- Monitoring of Heavy Metals and Microorganisms in Fish Collected from Tripoli El-Mina.
- Phosphate Solubilization Potential Of Rhizosphere Soil Bacteria And Their Possible use As biofertilizers.
- Prevalence of Groundwater Pollution by Sewage in North Lebanon
- Biocontrol of Tomato Fungal Diseases in Lebanon.
- Phytoremediation Potential of Macrophytes in the Removal of Pollutants from Lebanese Water Bodies.
- Bioremediation of Soil Contaminated with Methomyl and Chlorpyrifos in Bekaa Valley.
Specialized Water and Soil Analysis Laboratory [116]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Science/Specialized-Water-and-Soil-Analysis-Laboratory

The Specialized Water and Soil Analysis unit utilizes cutting edge instrumentation to perform full service analytical environmental testing in emerging organic and inorganic contaminants. A variety of techniques to determine the elemental composition of variable materials including petroleum products, environmental samples, biological tissues or artificial polymers are widely used.

Infrastructure of the Laboratory
Atomic Absorption Spectrometers (AAS), Calorimeter Visible Merck Spectroquant, Ultraviolet-Visible spectrophotometer, Aqua Quest Spectrophotometer for Water Analysis, Diet Quest Spectrophotometer for Water Analysis Spectra Analyzer, Shaker Incubator, Bacterial Incubator, Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Dissolved oxygen meter, Flame Photometer, Prime lab 1.0 Multitest Photometer, Near IR Spectra Analyzer, Conductivity meter, pH-meter.

Applications
This organic area is focused on the basic techniques of:
- Water and soil analysis
- Modified supra-molecular and nano-materials for water treatment
- Modified biomass and activated carbon for the removal of dyes and heavy metals from waste water
- Determination of trace metals, pesticides in tissues, sediments and water
- Quantitative determination of organic nitrogen in chemical substances
- Analysis of dairy product, meat and other food products, snacks, grains, animal feed, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals.
- All methods follow international quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) standards.

Workshop on the Environmental Status of the Litani River at Beirut Arab University [117]

The Research Center for Environment and Development at Beirut Arab University, Bekaa Site, organized a workshop under the title of The Environmental Status of the Litani River: Problems and
Solutions” which aimed to raise the aquatic awareness among people and motivate them to act quickly and take practical measures in order to face the problems from which the Litani suffers.

The workshop that was held on the 28th of March 2012, was attended by MP Dr. Assem Araji, ex-MP Mr. Nazem Nasrallah, ex-Minister of Agriculture Dr. Adel Kortas, Heads of the West, North and Central Bekaa Municipalities in addition to representatives of non-governmental organizations, significant figures and interested audience.

In the workshop, the status of the Litani River Basin was portrayed in terms of its quality, the amount of water available and the key aspects of proper management through worksheets presented by Professor Hamdi Seif, Faculty of Engineering/BAU, Dr. Nabil Amaasha, Head of the Environment Unit in the Litani River Authority and Engineer Bassem Sabbagh, Head of the Pollution Control Department in the Ministry of the Environment.

The workshop resulted in calling for the establishment of an agency or a national council that coordinates among the concerned ministries, municipalities, the local community and the Litani Authority to manage the water of the basin, to put an end to the arbitrary environmental violations and to follow up, with the help of the Council for Development and Construction, on the status of the drainage system stations in the basin.

World Water Day 2018 at RCED [118]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research-Center-for-Environment-and-Development/Community-Engagement/World-Water-Day-2018

On World Water Day 2018, under the theme, “Nature for Water”, Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED), Beirut Arab University, Bekaa jointly with Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC)-Italia organized a celebration event on March 30, 2018. This event was funded by UNHCR being the donor of several development projects that support the water networks and services in Bekaa
region. The event targeted a group of students from the faculty of Civil Engineering, Beirut Arab University.

GVC team of both Italian and Lebanese members shared with participants the organization’s vision and information about its projects in several countries including those implemented in Lebanon. In addition, the use of nature-based approaches for water pumping and improving water quality were presented while examples of best practices were highlighted. This was followed by a site visit to the water system projects implemented by GVC in Qoub Elias, Central Bekaa and open round table discussion was held.
Sustainable Development Goal 15 (SDG 15) emphasizes the importance of protecting and restoring life on land. In Lebanon, efforts to support this goal are vital for preserving the country's ecosystems and biodiversity. Beirut Arab University (BAU) plays a significant role in contributing to SDG 15 through various initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable land management.

Environmental Challenges in Lebanon:
Lebanon faces a range of environmental challenges, including deforestation, soil erosion, and habitat degradation. The Lebanese government has recognized the importance of addressing these challenges and has implemented various measures to protect its land and ecosystems.

BAU's Commitment to SDG 15:
- **Tree Planting Initiatives**: BAU actively engages in tree planting campaigns to combat deforestation and enhance green spaces on its campus. These initiatives not only improve the campus environment but also set an example for students and the community.
- **Biodiversity Research**: The university conducts research on biodiversity and ecosystems in Lebanon, contributing to a deeper understanding of the country's unique flora and fauna.
- **Educational Programs**: BAU includes sustainability and land management topics in its academic programs, raising awareness about the importance of sustainable land use and conservation.
- **Community Engagement**: The university collaborates with local communities to implement sustainable land management practices, promote reforestation, and protect habitats.

Future Directions:
To further support SDG 15 and contribute to Lebanon's efforts in sustainable land management, BAU can:
- **Expand Reforestation Efforts**: Continue and expand tree planting initiatives both on and off campus to combat deforestation and promote greenery.
- **Community Outreach**: Strengthen partnerships with local communities and NGOs to engage in larger-scale reforestation and habitat restoration projects.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University is committed to supporting SDG 15 by actively engaging in sustainable land management, reforestation, and biodiversity research. By aligning its efforts with the Lebanese government's initiatives, BAU contributes to the preservation and restoration of life on land in Lebanon, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Minister El Machnouk Patronizes the “Recycling Project” and the 4th NGOs’ Fair at BAU [119]


Under the Patronage of the Minister of the Environment, Mohamed El Machnouk, the launching of the “Recycling Project” and the 4th NGOs’ Fair was organized by the Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University, and with the collaboration with “Arc en Ciel” and “Cleantec”. The Fair included thirty NGOs, introducing students to their work and the role they play in creating job-opportunities, and paving the way to establish venues of cooperation with the students. The “Recycling Project” aims to collect and recycle the hard waste materials produced daily at the University, the revenues of which will be donated to the Students’ Aids Fund.

The event was attended by Prof. Dr. Amr Galal El Adawi, President of the University, Prof. Dr. Essam Osman, Vice-President for Medical Sciences, Mr. Issam Houri, BAU Secretary General, Faculty Deans, Dr. Omar Houri, Director of the Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University and Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, Staff-Members, as well as the University administrators and Mrs. Zina Ariss, Director of the Public Relations Administration, representatives of the participating NGOs, and a crowd of interested people.

After the Lebanese National Anthem and the BAU Anthem were played, HE Minister El Machnouk described the occasion as a precious event because he found himself in an academic edifice cherished by Lebanon. He praised the development of the University from an idea to an academic institution that adopts an environmentally conscious approach. He further praised the Human Rights Center at the University for addressing all aspects relevant to human beings, in particular the environment.

El Machnouk then addressed the civil society representatives, describing them as the hope for Lebanon in the light of their pioneering role in supporting the society and orienting it towards the right direction. He pointed out that all the NGOs present noble aims that work towards the development of human beings.

El Machnouk also pointed out that protecting the environment begins when every aim is translated into a behavioral aspect that is reflected in the interaction of people with their environment. He stressed the necessity of sorting waste materials as a first step towards solving the problem of hard waste materials in Lebanon. It is also a sign of advancement and distinction sought by every Lebanese.

The Minister further emphasized that seeking sustainable development is not achieved if the slogan “My Environment is My Homeland” is not implemented. He expressed his optimism at the role played by the youth in pursuing the accumulative efforts that need to be exerted towards a better environment.
Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi, on the other hand, expressed his gratitude to HE Minister El Machnouk for patronizing and attending the event. He drew attention to the fact that the University had signed together with the UN the Global Compact Agreement, including the ten basic principles relevant to the environment and Human Rights. El Adawi expressed his regret that the recommendations issued by the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro are not implemented, stressing again on the close relationship between the environment and sustainable development.

Dr. Omar Houri, Director of the Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University, in turn stressed the fact that promoting human rights is a well-established tradition at the University. This is manifested in a mandatory university course on human rights, and the reiteration of the right of every individual to a decent life and a clean and health environment. He further called for the sustainable development to save human life.

Houri attributed the importance of the Project to its human and social dimension, through the collaboration of the society and the individual. He declared the establishment of an environmental unit that aims at raising awareness of the dangers of pollution and the means to preserve the environment. At the same time, he emphasized the close partnership with the civil society organizations, the unity of the aims to be achieved, and the strengthening of cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment.

The opening ceremony concluded with Prof. Dr. Amr Galal El Adawi presenting an honorary shield to HE Minister El Machnouk. The attendees then toured the Fair.

The Faculty of Science in cooperation with the Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University, Tripoli Campus, organized a world day entitled "Earth Day Pollution and Solutions". The ceremony was

attended by the BAU Vice-President for Tripoli Campus affairs Prof. Khaled Baghdady, the Deputy Secretary General for Tripoli Campus Mr. Mohamed Hammoud, Director of the Faculty of Engineering Dr. Ahmad Lakkani, Director of the Faculty of Science Prof. Mohammad Jayyar, other directors and professors of all faculties, and a group of students. Dr. Jalal Halwani, Director of Water and Environmental Science Laboratories and Head of Health and Environment at the Lebanese University, conducted a presentation on the steps taken to preserve the Palm Islands Reserve in Tripoli from pollution. Dr. Safaa Baydoun from Beirut Arab University and Director of Center for Environmental Research and Development - Bekaa Campus, highlighted the current challenges facing natural resources in the Bekaa region of Lebanon. After that, Dr. Rami Owayni of the Faculty of Science presented innovative environmental techniques. A lecture on the desalination system was presented by Dr. Yasser Al Samdouni from the Faculty of Engineering, then followed by Dr. Mohamed Al Jawhary from the Faculty of Engineering who presented a lecture on solid waste management system. The students, Ryan Farha and Sarah Moubeid, from the Faculty of Science, concluded with a research about the factors that are leading to the increase in the number of adolescents, in northern Lebanon, smoking what is called “Nargileh”. This day was marked by an exhibition of students’ projects and ended up by distributing honor shields to lecturers and awards for successful projects.

Environmental Studies [121]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Environmental-Studies

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pollution by heavy metals is a serious ecological problem; results indicated high concentration of iron, copper, cadmium, manganese, zinc, chromium and lead.

**Future Research Plans**

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- Bioremediation of Soil Contaminated with Methomyl and Chlorpyrifos in Bekaa Valley.

**Legal Protection for the Environment [122]**

[https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Legal-Protection-for-the-Environment](https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Legal-Protection-for-the-Environment)

We are witnessing sensory attacks on the environment in our roads and cities, from waste dumping between homes to pollution of rivers and the sea to air pollution caused by sewage and generators that spread toxins in the atmosphere, etc., hence the importance of researching and studying the penal protection of the environment, especially since jurisprudence and the judiciary in Lebanon are still far from punishing the continuing attacks on the environment.

We seek to ensure a clean, pollution-free environment, as in the case of high-end countries, so that the logger, river and sea water polluter and every complex person are punished for the environment, because one of the fundamental human rights is his right to live in a clean, pollution-free environment, that is the vision for the future.

The judiciary must therefore play its role effectively and the legislator must enact legislation that protects the environment, all through serious research work by universities, particularly law schools.
The Faculty of Science at BAU hosted a workshop entitled “Green Environment: Pollution Control” in collaboration with the Research Center for Environment and Development in Bekaa and sponsored by PEER/USAID.

The workshop aimed at highlighting the latest issues related to pollution and ways to control it in order to reach a Green Environment in Lebanon. It provided a platform for leaders, innovators, researchers, and students from across the Lebanese community to exchange ideas and solutions.

The workshop speakers were Mr. Bassam Sabbagh, Head of Urban Environment Service, Ministry of Environment); Mr. Zaher Redwan, Green Hand Organization, Mr. Elie Abou Sleiman, Green Insight, Dr. Majida Mcheik, Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Ali Fadel, Center for Remote Sensing, CNRS-L, Ms. Nohal al Homsi, WHO representative, and Dr. Jamila Borjac, Beirut Arab University.

The workshop brought together key environmental activists and researchers, officials involved in environment and NGO’s to highlight on pollution in Lebanon and ways to control it. Moreover, more than 20 Environmental Projects from more than 50 Makassed Schools’ Students were displayed.
SDG16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16) focuses on promoting peace, justice, and building strong institutions. In Lebanon, a country marked by historical challenges related to governance and justice, efforts to advance these objectives are critical. Beirut Arab University (BAU) actively contributes to SDG 16 through its commitment to fostering a culture of peace, justice, and good governance.

Challenges in Lebanon:
Lebanon has faced challenges related to political stability and the functioning of its institutions, making the pursuit of peace, justice, and strong institutions an imperative for the country.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 16:

- **Legal Studies and Research:** BAU offers legal studies programs, fostering a deep understanding of the legal system and the importance of justice among its students. The university conducts legal research aimed at addressing legal issues and improving the justice system.
- **Human Rights Education:** The university incorporates human rights education into its programs, promoting awareness of individuals’ rights and the significance of justice for society.
- **Ethical Leadership:** BAU emphasizes ethical leadership in its educational model, nurturing students who are committed to upholding the principles of peace and justice in their future careers.
- **Community Engagement:** The university collaborates with local organizations and civil society groups to promote justice, strengthen institutions, and foster a culture of peace within the community.

Future Directions:
To further promote peace, justice, and strong institutions in Lebanon, BAU can:

- **Advocacy for Legal Reform:** Actively participate in advocacy for legal and institutional reforms to improve governance and justice in the country.
- **Partnerships with NGOs:** Strengthen collaborations with local and international non-governmental organizations focused on human rights, justice, and good governance.

In conclusion, Beirut Arab University plays a vital role in advancing SDG 16 by offering legal education, promoting human rights, and fostering ethical leadership among its students. By aligning its efforts with the principles of peace, justice, and strong institutions, BAU contributes to the development of a more just and stable Lebanon in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
The Human Rights Center at Beirut Arab University, in cooperation with the LADE, organized a workshop about the current electoral law. Mr. Mohammad Jbara, the coordinator, started the workshop by introducing the law since Lebanon adopts in its current electoral law on the "proportional voting system". The law divided Lebanon into 15 major (geographical) electoral districts, which in turn are divided into smaller districts. According to the law, each district is allocated a number of parliamentary seats; the least is 5 and the maximum of 13, to fill 128 seats in the Lebanese Parliament.

Then Dr. Rima Adhami, University Professor at the Faculty of Law at the Lebanese University, gave a detailed explanation of the electoral law and the electoral quotient, which is calculated based on the equation of the number of voters in each district, divided by the number of its seats. For example, if the number of voters in a district reaches 100,000 actual voters, and the district includes 10 seats, the result will be 10,000 votes.

Adhami explained also how the sectarian and religious divisions of every list, noting the loopholes in this law, especially that it divided the districts and governorates according to the Lebanese composition.

At the end of the workshop Mrs Amani Al Hashimi, a coordinator at LADE in Beirut, gave a detailed explanation, about the role of LADE before and during the parliamentary elections. In addition, the elections are supervised by a special body called the “Supervisory Commission for Election”, which consists of 11 members, and practices its independent role, in direct coordination with the Minister of Interior and Municipalities.
The Human Rights Center and the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences at Beirut Arab University, in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung - Rule of Law Program in the Middle East and North Africa, organized a seminar entitled “The Rule of Law – Challenges and Hopes”. The seminar discussions were led by Dean of Faculty of Law and Political Sciences at BAU, Prof. Mouhammad Kassem, Minister Rasheed Derbas, Military Investigative Judge Najat Abu Shakra, BAU Secretary General and Director of the Human Rights Center Dr. Omar Houry.

The event opened with the National Anthem and BAU Anthem followed by the Public Relations Officer Ms. Rima Shehab's speech in which she pointed out that “we are back today with the joint seminar ‘The Rule of Law – Challenges and Hopes’ between the Human Rights Center and the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Rule of Law Program in the Middle East and North Africa,” affirming the fact that “what we really need today is a state of law or the state of justice and rights so that citizens enjoy civil liberties legally and use them in the courts as freedom and democracy can never exist without the rule of law in the first place.”

BAU President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Human Rights Center, Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, delivered a speech in which he indicated that “the Human Rights Center was established in 2009, and since that time, it has played an important role in promoting and spreading the culture of human rights as well as spiritual and human values among students. It has also been instrumental in communicating and cooperating with local and international institutions, universities and entities concerned with human rights issues, respecting international and Arab procedures, charters and agreements related to human rights, and developing and deepening jurisprudence research in this field.”

Prof. El Adawi added, " In 2011, BAU ratified the global foundations launched by the United Nations for human rights, and we, as a university, always seek to spread the concept of human rights which we define as a culture not law. Thus, today’s symposium is highly significant in relation to the situation in the region. The state of law means the state of the constitution and to achieve this there must be freedom, democracy and cooperation among the three authorities because law is above all.”

Professor Philip Bremer, Director of the Rule of Law Program in the Middle East and North Africa - Konrad Adenauer Foundation, praised the Foundation's work and tendency to consolidate the role of the rule of law and shed light on the challenges and hopes it faces within the region as a whole, from the Maghreb to the Gulf and Levant countries.
Bremer added that research on the rule of law has demonstrated its importance in promoting sustainable economic and social development, which is one of the most important needs of Lebanon and other countries in the region.

In the end, Professor Bremer noted the importance of the debate on the rule of law with regard to Lebanon and Egypt, and thanked BAU President for hosting and organizing the symposium.

The seminar was moderated by Professor Kassem, who defined the rule of law as the constitutional state in which the practices of the governmental authorities are restricted to law. The power of the state in the state of law is limited to protecting individuals from the arbitrary practices of power, as the citizen under this state enjoys civil freedom legally, and according to which he is able to use it in the courts. Hence, it is clear that no state can enjoy democracy and freedom without first having a state of law.

In his speech, Minister Rashid Derbass stated that the conditions in which the law exists in the State of Lebanon call for a reference to the origin, and to the assertion that the rule of law is not an option but a necessity as stated by philosophers; it is an individual need for every citizen that is equal to their need for water and food. Derbass affirmed that tampering with its rules and regulations is an act of premeditated murder subjected to the provisions of Article 549 of the Penal Code.

Judge Najat Abu Shakra spoke about the “military judiciary system along with the judicial, administrative, financial and religious judiciary. It is the judiciary that has its personal, qualitative and spatial jurisdiction defined by the Military Judiciary Law No. 24/68. This private judiciary has its distinct structure from the judicial judiciary, especially in terms of the judicial authorities that comprise it and the means of appealing its decisions.

Dr. Omar Houri pointed out the nature of the Taif Agreement as it contributed to providing a final definition of Lebanon, which decided the finality of the homeland, its sovereignty and regional unity on the one hand, and its Arab identity and affiliation on the other. Thus, the Taif Agreement constituted the political and legal framework which all Arab countries approved on several occasions, whether individually or collectively. This definition came as a noticeable reassurance to the Lebanese concerning Lebanon’s Arab identity, as well as an assurance of the finality of its existence and sovereignty.

The seminar concluded with a set of questions and discussions between the attendees and the lecturers.

The symposium was attended by the Head of the Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Directorate in the Lebanese Army Colonel Ziad Rizkallah representing the Lebanese Army Commander, Head of the Southern Intelligence Division Colonel Suhail Harb, Commander of Beirut’s 3rd Regional Company in Beirut Police Brigadier General Hussein Khashfeh, Director General of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas - ICARDA Professor Ali Abu Sabaa, representatives of the Faculties of Law and Political Sciences at some of the Lebanese universities, deans, faculty members, a crowd of interested students and audience.
Dr. Nada El Darra Associate Professor in Food Safety & Technology was elected as a new member of AGYA [126]  
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Dr-Nada-El-Darra-Associate-Professor-in-Food-Safety-and-Technology-was-elected-as-a-new-member-of-AGYA

Dr. Nada El Darra Associate Professor in Food Safety & Technology in the faculty of Health sciences was elected as a new member of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA).

AGYA brings together excellent Arab and German scholars to address common challenges and develop solutions through sustainable research cooperation.

https://agya.info/agya-life/members

Excursion “Social Justice and Human Rights” [127]  
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Human-Rights/Activity/Excursion-Social-Justice-and-Human-Rights-

The Center organized and participated in the “Social Justice and Human Rights” excursion in collaboration with University of Cologne and Hamad Bin Khalifa. Amman- Jordan, 16th – 24th of May 2016. This program was in coordination with the department of the Middle East Studies in Cologne University and the faculty of Islamic Studies in the University of Hamad Ben Khalifa-Qatar.
“Global Justice & Migration: Middle Eastern & European Perspectives” Workshop at BAU [128]


The Human Rights Center (HRC) at Beirut Arab University concluded its summer school which focused this year on the issue of immigration and social justice and was attended by Arab and foreign students. The one-week workshop which started on 28/9/2015 and ended on 5/10/2015 aimed at enhancing students’ legal, historical and cultural competence on this phenomenon affecting both European and Arab societies. The workshop was entitled “Global Justice & Migration: Middle Eastern & European Perspectives”, with the participation of 36 students from Beirut Arab University, the University of Cologne, Hamad Bin Khalifa University – Doha. These universities collaborate in the field of training students in human rights issues.

The lectures and workshops dealt with the laws, theories, history and literatures of immigration, and were followed by field visits to the Migrants Center at Caritas and the Palestinian Organization for Human Rights at Mar Elias Camp, for a better understanding of the social and legal circumstances of immigrants and refugees.
A joint statement from 11 university Presidents - Let us stand together to heal the wounds and demand justice


Let us stand together to heal the wounds and demand justice

We, the presidents of the undersigned 11 universities, have witnessed the devastation to our beloved capital city of Beirut with great pain and growing concern. We have seen the hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries, including many among our own communities. Our universities have sustained and absorbed serious damages to many of our campuses and hospitals and the homes of our people. Yet, we have also seen this destruction countered by the magnificent, inspirational examples of our physicians, nurses, and staff members in the hospitals, as well as our students, faculty members, alumni, and staff who are mobilizing to help the wounded, pick up debris in the streets, offer shelter to those who have lost their homes, and help search for those many unfortunates still trapped under the rubble.

Our hearts break for our beloved Beirut. Every one of us has grown up to a large degree in this magical, irreplaceable, irretrievable city. We pledge to make every effort to rebuild it and heal our communities. As the Lebanese people mourn, heal, rebuild, and repair, our universities in turn pledge to mourn, build, heal, and repair with them, and with Beirut, our shining capital city, damaged, broken, but of incalculable value, a shining star of shared destiny for the diverse groups of people who call it home. We pledge to never abandon Beirut, Lebanon, and our communities in these dark times and throughout the difficult years to come.

We also stand ready to assist now in any way we can. Our hospitals are open and our emergency rooms are receiving patients day after day, regardless of their ability to afford treatment. We will do everything possible to create tangible opportunities to support our students’ education and wellbeing irrespective of the collapse of the Lebanese economy and the additional burden placed on the Lebanese people by this latest catastrophe. Our 11 universities will stand firmly by our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and communities through this catastrophe as we have stood by Lebanon and the Lebanese people throughout the decades.

We share the anger all citizens of Beirut, Lebanon, and the world feel towards this entirely preventable disaster. We do believe there must be accountability and, in time, justice for this criminal, monstrous explosion. We fully support a transparent, expert, independent and just investigation of the destruction of Beirut. But first and foremost, our main priority must be to care for those wounded and
displaced by this horrific explosion. As such, we stand together, with constancy and devotion, with our people, from now until the end of this crisis and whatever the future may bring.

Throughout these terrible days we have collaborated and cooperated with one another and with the first responders and other brave personnel, all of whom risked their lives to save others, far too many of whom paid the ultimate price. To honor them and all those who died, we must pull together to bind the many, still open wounds. We do so by expressing our love for our communities, by opening our doors to them whenever and wherever we can, and by caring for those who were severely injured and those who lost family members or homes, all the way through the end of this healing process. And out of that healing must come a strong, sustainable and accountable civil state, a nation of laws and decency, one which will never allow such a tragedy to occur again.

With love and devotion,

- The American University of Beirut
- Université Saint Joseph de Beyrouth
- Beirut Arab University
- Université la Sagesse
- Lebanese American University
- Haigazian University
- Holy Spirit University of Kaslik
- Notre Dame University-Louaize
- Islamic University of Lebanon
- University of Balamand
- Antonine University

Social Justice [130]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Social-Justice

Social justice is a fundamental humanitarian requirement in the state of right and law; although it is practically important as a political principle in various intellectual doctrines, it has remained merely a guiding idea for the legislator; the general nature of constitutions in terms of social justice assumes that individuals are recognized for a range of rights that preserve their human dignity as an immediate obligation;

Thus, the importance of establishing the principle of social justice in the constitution in a clear and specific formulation through the enumeration of a list of guaranteed social and economic rights helps the constitutional judge, in terms of the mandatoryity of these texts, to establish his provisions, as well as his embrace of the flexible interpretation of different constitutional principles, in the light of the principle of justice on the basis of the ideas of social justice. to date, this has not received sufficient attention from constitutional law researchers.

The research orientation of the general section is therefore based on deepening the constitutional approach to the subject of social justice by focusing on it in the research work of graduate students and by considering the organization of relevant scientific seminars.
The Human Rights Center at BAU organized a capacity building training on “Truth and Justice” at BAU-Tripoli Branch. The training lasted for two consecutive days on 1-2/10/2021 at the Multipurpose Room and was a part of the “Dealing with the Past Memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons” project funded by the United Nations Peace Building Fund and jointly implemented with OHCHR.

This project aims to shed more light on people who experienced the enforced disappearance of others and provide enough information to highlight the root causes of past conflict and present social tensions in addition to opening public debate and facilitating cross-confessional dialogue, which helps engage the Lebanese youth. The participating students from different majors were willing to know more about the core and values of the law that allow the affected Lebanese to achieve justice and seek the truth.

Judge Sara Rammal inaugurated the first day of the training, discussing the enforced disappearance in the light of concepts of justice and truth. After that, the Vice President of Fighters for Peace Mr. Asaad Chaftari held a debate with the students about true reconciliation and its conditions for the individual and groups. The second day of the training opened with Ms. Lara Al-Deeb, one of the board members of the Committee of the Families of Kidnapped and Disappeared in Lebanon. She gave details about the adoption of the law concerning the absence and the enforced disappearance of persons and the implementation of the resolutions of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Afterwards, Mrs. Dala Bazzi, the instructor of physical kinesiology and therapy through dancing, showed a video in which the dancers express their feelings through movement only. This video aims to emphasize the importance of the theatre as a place for people to express their needs and deliver messages to the audience and the role of art and music in expressing solidarity with the issue of the enforced disappeared persons.
SDG17: PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17) highlights the significance of partnerships in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. In Lebanon, the government recognizes the importance of collaboration for sustainable development, and Beirut Arab University (BAU) actively participates in various partnerships to support SDGs.

Government Initiatives and Partnerships:

- **International Collaboration:** The Lebanese government engages in international partnerships, seeking assistance and expertise to address various development challenges.
- **Private Sector Involvement:** Partnerships with the private sector facilitate investments in sustainable projects and initiatives.
- **NGO Collaborations:** The government collaborates with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement development projects and provide essential services.

BAU's Contribution to SDG 17:

- **Educational Partnerships:** BAU forms partnerships with educational institutions worldwide, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration in support of SDGs.
- **Research Collaborations:** The university engages in research partnerships with local and international organizations, contributing to data-driven solutions for sustainable development.
- **Community Engagement:** BAU collaborates with local communities and NGOs to implement various sustainable initiatives, addressing community needs.
- **Advocacy for SDGs:** The university actively promotes SDGs, encouraging its students and the broader community to embrace these global objectives for a better future.

Future Directions:

To further promote SDG 17 and continue building partnerships for sustainable development:

- **Multi-Stakeholder Engagement:** BAU can enhance collaborations with diverse stakeholders, including government bodies, private sector entities, and civil society organizations, to strengthen the impact of its initiatives.
- **Youth Engagement:** The university can focus on engaging youth in partnerships, recognizing their role as active contributors to sustainable development.

In conclusion, Lebanon's government recognizes the importance of partnerships for sustainable development, while Beirut Arab University actively participates in partnerships to support the Sustainable Development Goals. By aligning its efforts with the principles of SDG 17, BAU contributes to the development of a collaborative network that advances the goals of sustainable development in Lebanon and beyond.
BAU’s “Petroleum Engineering” and “Art & Design” Programs in Top Ranks in QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023 [132]


Beirut Arab University secured top ranks in QS World University Rankings by Subject in the Year 2023. The Petroleum Engineering subject ranked in the #101-150 bracket among world Universities, while the “Art and Design” subject ranked in the #151-200 bracket. BAU also ranked second in Lebanon in both subjects, namely “Petroleum Engineering” and “Art and Design.”

The Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at BAU is the first engineering department in Lebanon that awards a BE in Petroleum Engineering, which is the practical application of the basic and physical sciences of mathematics, geology, physics, and chemistry and all of the engineering sciences to the discovery, development, production, and transportation of petroleum. BAU’s Petroleum Engineering program was established in the academic year 2013-2014 and continues to promote skilled engineers to the present day.

Beirut Arab University continuously strives to provide state-of-the-art education while taking into consideration contemporary issues and the needs of our community, and introducing highly qualified alumni and experts along the way.
BAU Ranked First in Lebanon on Quality Education in THE Impact Rankings 2022 [133]

The fourth edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking in 2022 was issued. This year’s assessment included 1406 Universities from 106 countries/regions.

This is the first year Beirut Arab University participates in the THE Impact Ranking which assesses Universities against the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). BAU ranked third in Lebanon, a total of six Universities in Lebanon made it to the THE Impact Rankings list this year.

BAU’s top scoring SDGs were SDG 4 “Quality Education”, SDG 3 “Good Health and Wellbeing”, SDG 5 “Gender Equality” and SDG 17 “Partnership for the Goals”, with BAU having the highest score in Lebanon on Quality Education with a score of 73.3 and ranking 100th worldwide. BAU also held the second highest score in Lebanon on both SDG 3 & SDG 5.

BAU embraces the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within its strategy and had also aligned its research themes with these SDGs to guide BAU’s research production and enhance BAU’s visibility, collaboration, opportunities and partnerships. BAU is hence proud to be a top scorer on quality education as it is our aim to provide inclusive quality education and empower our community with education, knowledge, and lifelong learning opportunities. This is just the beginning!
Launching (HPC4L) the High-Performance Computing for Lebanon [134]

https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/Launching-HPC4L-the-High-Performance-Computing-for-Lebanon

Under the auspices of His Excellency the President of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Najib Mikati, The Ministry of Telecommunications, in collaboration with the High-Performance Computing for Lebanon (HPC4L) Steering Committee, hosted an exclusive launch event of the cutting edge HPC4L facility.

Attended by a distinguished audience, the event marked a significant milestone in Lebanon's scientific research and technological advancement.

Kicking off the event, Ms. Jessy Tannous, the event moderator, extended a warm welcome to the esteemed guests. The program commenced with an enlightening video introduction showcasing different phases of the project since its inception and highlighting the important role of OGERO. By providing a state-of-the-art data center and the necessary high speed international internet connection to Geneva, OGERO has emerged as the backbone and enabler of this initiative, as stated by Chairman Imad Kreidieh.

Ms. Enrica Porcari, Head of IT at CERN, shed light on CERN's collaboration with Lebanon as well as their hardware donation to HPC4L, highlighting their commitment to supporting innovative initiatives.

Subsequently, Ms. Patricia McBride, CMS spokesperson, shared valuable insights about the training of Lebanese experts by CMS, sharing their expertise, and further strengthening the collaboration between CERN/CMS and Lebanon.

Mr. Martin Gastal, representing CERN, expressed gratitude towards the generous donors and all stakeholders who played a pivotal role in the success of the HPC4L project In spite of the difficulties
that the project faced, its success was the fruit of resilience and hard work furnished by all parties concerned.

Dr. Zafer Dawy, AUB Provost representing the HPC4L Steering Committee leadership, delivered an impactful speech emphasizing the significance of this national achievement in scientific research and technological advancement; emphasizing the importance of this Public Private Partnership.

Dr. Haitham Zaraket, Scientific Director of HPC4L and faculty member at the Lebanese University, provided a comprehensive overview of HPC4L’s capabilities and highlighted its unparalleled power compared to other supercomputers in Lebanon.

The event also featured addresses by Her Excellency Dr. Marion Weichelt, the Swiss Ambassador to Lebanon, reiterating Switzerland’s commitment to research and the advancement of science and education; Mr. Johnny Corm, the Minister of Telecommunications, who extended thanks to everyone who helped make the project what it is today; and concluded with a keynote speech by His Excellency Mr. Najib Mikati, the President of the Council of Ministers. His excellency saluted the remarkable efforts by all entities who have made this possible, promising them the government’s full support.

Attendees were afforded the opportunity to explore the fascinating world of HPC4L and its immense computational capacity, enabling students and researchers to achieve groundbreaking results in a fraction of the time previously required. The event fostered networking opportunities and facilitated knowledge sharing among the scientific community in Lebanon, further cementing the country’s position as a hub for cutting-edge research.

HPC4L’s launch event served as a testament to Lebanon’s commitment to scientific progress and technological innovation. As HPC4L continues to empower researchers and elevate the scientific landscape, it paves the way for a future defined by unparalleled advancements in various fields of study.

Established in 2018, HPC4L is a consortium of public and private institutions in Lebanon for the purpose of advancing computation research in Lebanon based on the generous HPC donation by CERN/CMS. The public partners are the Ministry of Telecommunications in Lebanon, Ogero, CNRS, and the Lebanese University. The private partners are AUB, LAU, USJ, USEK, and BAU.
Beirut Arab University attained the renewal of international accreditation in the strategic management of educational institutions from the German council (FIBAA) for the second time for a period of 8 years that ends in 2029 after it has attained it for the first time in 2015. This achievement comes within the framework of the university’s continuous development in the educational and research fields, community service and its local and international relations. This is considered a result of what the university offers to its students and beneficiaries in accordance with its mission and strategy ensuring that the standards of quality and excellence are applied at all levels.

Beirut Arab University’s journey of success and progress and the maintain of its constancy and stability, despite the stressful living and social conditions in the past three years; the university has deliberately linked the administrative and academic staff with a comprehensive strategy that laid the basic features of progress in order to reach today all segments of the Lebanese society and the social development through its branches scattered all over Beirut, Debbieh, Tripoli and Bekaa.
BAU ranked 3rd among Lebanese Universities for the year 2023 according to Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings [136]


Beirut Arab University made a noteworthy debut in the Times Higher Education (THE) 2023 Asia University Rankings, securing a commendable position as third in Lebanon and 166th in Asia.

The 2023 edition of THE Asia University Rankings evaluated a total of 669 universities across 31 territories. These rankings utilized the same set of 13 performance indicators as the THE World University Rankings, with necessary adaptations to accurately reflect the distinctive characteristics of Asian institutions. The performance indicators assessed were categorized under five key domains, namely Teaching environment (25%), Research (30%), Citations (30%), International outlook (7.5%), and Industry income (7.5%).
BAU Attained the International accreditation for the Faculty of Medicine from the WFME [137]

The Faculty of Medicine at Beirut Arab University attained the International Accreditation from The Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Medical Education Programs (TEPDAD) based on The International Standards of World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). This achievement was launched under the auspices of the Minister of Public Health Dr. Firas Abiad at Hariri building in Beirut Campus.

The accreditation corresponds with the decision of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates in the United States of America (ECFMG), which states that the applicant for its professional certificate must be a graduate or student accredited by the World Federation of Medical Education.

The university had started a huge workshop for developing the programs of the Faculty of Medicine, however, several reasons- such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic collapse and the Beirut Port explosion- did not hinder but rather increased the challenges for the Faculty to attain this International Accreditation.

The ceremony took into consideration prevention measures against that COVID-19 Pandemic and was attended by the President of Beirut Arab University Professor Amr Galal El- Adawi, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Lebanon Dr. Yasser Elwi, the Medical Director of Sahel Hospital Dr. Walid Alameh, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Medical Officer at Makassed General Hospital Dr. Mohammad Bader and Dr. Mohammad Hasbini respectively, Acting Chairman of the Board at Rafic Hariri University Hospital Dr. Jalal Natour, General Director of Dar Al- Ajaza Islamic Hospital Dr. Bader Zeidan, Faculty Deans, the Secretary General Dr. Omar Houry, faculty professors, doctors and students.

After a welcome speech from the master of the ceremony, Dr. Bilal Azakir, to attendees, Minister Abiad said, "I express my extreme happiness to be with you at Beirut Arab University, not only as a minister but also as a friend of this university. I also express my pride and honor for what this university is doing, and we, as a ministry, are partners with the university in many projects in addition to training doctors and administrative staff."

Minister Abiad continued: "What brings us together today is not only that the Faculty of Medicine attained international accreditation, but the education that the university offers which contributed in the leadership of Lebanese people all over the world. Therefore, universities have chosen the difficult path in order to maintain high quality."
I also want to refer to the subject of "the brain drain of doctors and nurses, which is a major problem for the Ministry of Public Health and has led to negative repercussions on the country, and this requires concerted efforts by those who remained to provide medical services to our people." He added, “Countries pass through difficult times but what determines the person’s identity is his reaction to the challenges and his eagerness to come out of the crisis better than they were.”

Professor Amr Galal El-Adawi, President of the University, said, "Today we celebrate the International Accreditation for the Faculty of Medicine which was founded in 1995. We announce the university’s completion of all the international accreditation system for all programs”. The President continued: “I would like to pay tribute to Minister Abiad, the hero of encountering the COVID-19 pandemic, when he was in charge of Rafic Hariri University Hospital. I also thank the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Lebanon for his great efforts in supporting Lebanon and Beirut Arab University and the efforts of the former deans and the entire staff of the Faculty of Medicine, including professors, employees and students, which led to this achievement."

Prof. El-Adawi pointed out that "the Faculty of Medicine has made great efforts in developing the programs despite the difficult circumstances and challenges. We are one of the first medical schools in Lebanon which developed their programs and we have worked on integrating medical specialties that include various faculties and not limited to the Faculty of Medicine only."

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Professor Mahmoud Mahfouz said “We attained accreditation amid many very difficult challenges from the Corona pandemic, the economic crisis, and Beirut Port explosion. The faculty and university were able to quickly respond and adapt to the various changes and challenges, and even played a positive role in community service. This was evident in the vaccination center, the hotline and Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center (BAUHC)."

Dean Mahfouz continued, "The Faculty’s mission is to graduate medical competencies according to international quality standards capable to achieve the proper practice of the profession of Medicine and scientific research and qualified to serve the community as defined by The International Standards of World Federation of Medical Education for undergraduate programs and post graduate programs according to Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Medical Education Programs."

At the end of the ceremony, President El Adawi presented the university honorary shield of appreciation to His Excellency Dr. Firas Abiad, Minister of Public Health, in appreciation of his efforts.
BAU Achieved the Student Chapter in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers by the AICHE [138]


The Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University proudly announces that the Career and Education Operating Council of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers has approved the petition to form the AICHE Student Chapter at Beirut Arab University.

The Council welcomed BAU to the AICHE family of over 300 global Student Chapters.

The AICHE Student Chapters provide undergraduate Students with valuable leadership and project management opportunities through participation in competitions, conferences and networking.
BAU participated in the “Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization: Reimagining Approaches in Higher Education in an Era of Global Uncertainties” Virtual Conference [139]

Beirut Arab University, represented by Prof. Ibtihal Y. El-Bastawissi (Dean, Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment) and Siam University, represented by Prof. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit (President of Siam University) have been invited by the IAU (International Association of Universities) to share their experience in engaging with the Cluster and sustainability in the Networking Session in the York Virtual Conference on Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization.

The conference was organized by York University – Canada, in partnership with the IAU, Okayama University – Japan, and Canadian Commission for Unesco. The conference took place on 20-22 January 2021, while the Networking Session that has been hosted by the IAU was on 21 January 2021. In her presentation, Prof. El-Bastawissi focused on achieving the SDG goals generally and SDG9 particularly through education, research, conferences, new labs, innovation and community-based projects as well as wide-spreading BAU Journals, and developing partnerships with other universities.

Following this successful intervention in the conference, IAU represented by Hilligje van’t Land, the Secretary General, welcomed BAU and Siam Universities to share concrete examples of community engagement focusing on social impact to be presented by IAU during the University World News Webinar entitled “Building Social Impact and Civic Engagement on 27 January 2021. Prof. El-Bastawissi shared with the IAU seven examples on BAU Community Engagement and on the university’s role in promoting sustainable urban development.
BAU Academic Staff selected one of the 2% Top Researchers in the World [140]

Professor Jamal Khatib from the Faculty of Engineering at Beirut Arab University was classified as one of the top 2% researchers in the world in the Building and Construction field according to a study conducted by Stanford University and published in October 2020. https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/btchktzyw/2

The ranking was based on Data from Elsevier’s Scopus, the Abstract and Citation Database, and was calculated using a complicated formula, which takes into account; the citations, h-index, co-authorship adjusted hm-index, citations to papers in different authorship positions and a composite indicator.

UNESCO Partnership [141]
https://www.bau.edu.lb/Public-Relations/News/UNESCO-Partnership

Dr. Bilal Azakir, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine- Beirut Arab University, has been selected by the UNESCO and received an award to partner in organizing a series of webinars and online meetings (July- October 2020) on Ethics of Science and Technology to engage youth, research and policy communities in the global conversations and to come up with recommendations in the Arab region regarding Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Research ethics and Ethics in the time of climate change. More than 250 experts, academics, young researchers and students had participated in these webinars from the Arab region.
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