The Annual Report documents Beirut Arab University’s performance and the toiling challenges it has undergone to continue delivering its educational mission in the academic year 2020-2021.

Sincere appreciation and thanks to the University community for all the contributions and efforts dedicated in this exceptional year.

May, 2022

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Dear BAU Family, Friends and Community

From the heart of Beirut Arab University, I introduce, with great pleasure and satisfaction, the annual report of 2020-2021, reflecting our serious efforts and perseverance to face all the dares that tested BAU’s endurance and capabilities. BAU has withstand and overcome all challenges caused by the unsteady circumstances, economic difficulties, as well as social and health sufferings. Still, thanks to the staff efforts, innovation, and quest to improve education, BAU has the potential to pursue and reach admirable endeavors.

2020-2021 was a challenging year to the Lebanese in general and BAU community in particular due to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and the various crises that hit Lebanon. The University, through the unlimited and tremendous capabilities of its staff, has been able to proceed and prove its ability to overcome any difficulty.

As a result of the pandemic and Beirut Port explosion, BAU dedicated all its resources to help and support the Lebanese community, by involving its medical facilities, students and staff in civil and health care missions, tirelessly performing their societal and humanitarian duties that reflected a united front in the face of adversity. The University maintained a powerful stand after the blast by taking several actions to heal the wounds and demand justice for the society such as establishing Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition as an artwork that aims to introduce cultural heritage to children, Youth-Led Rehabilitation Efforts to support local communities affected by Beirut Blast, among many others.

In order to maintain a safe and stable environment during Covid-19, BAU provided healthcare services for the community along with precautionary measures to achieve the highest level of awareness. Therefore, BAU Vaccination Center was established to secure vaccines for students, as well as academic, and non-academic staff in the first place. Then, it expanded its services to the community through launching vaccine campaigns with the support of the newly established COVID-19 Call Center, and inaugurating the COVID-19 Field Clinics, which managed to contain the pandemic to some extent.

BAU’s safety policies and procedures have always been in place to ensure the welfare of the community along with BAU risk management plan, ensuring that the University is aware of the risks it faces, takes appropriate decisions to manage these risks and identifies potential opportunities.

Despite all the crises that Lebanon has been facing recently, BAU has been able to accomplish many achievements. It succeeded in protecting its internal and external networks, aiming at securing the future of higher education by leading SDG9 in the IAU HESD Cluster and engaging in various Erasmus+ projects.

The University has thrived while striving for academic prosperity in the face of all challenges, including the suspension of classrooms and administrative work on all campuses due to the lockdown, hence the necessity to take important measures and restructure platforms, reflecting our resilience and ability to adapt with the new circumstances. We effectively implemented online education for two consecutive years with the aim of accommodating a more constructive virtual teaching and learning experience through the development of our academic programs. Later, we adopted the blended learning method to ensure quality education. This helped BAU make exceptional progress and enabled its students to push back the frontiers of knowledge.

To preserve its rank among the top universities in the region, BAU has always invested in its students and staff who strive to innovate in order to secure a bright future for the University. The undesirable impacts of the economic, health, and financial difficulties affected BAU students, yet BAU’s remarkable efforts helped students maintain positive self-esteem, which constructively impacted their academic achievement.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all members of the BAU family who managed to turn the page and tread steadily to achieve milestones of success. The immense efforts exerted by our students and staff did me proud, as they were able to surmount all dares and make such distinguished progress in tough times.

I, hereby, submit BAU Annual Report, wishing the University every success in its future endeavors.

Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi
President of Beirut Arab University
Building resilience in times of turmoil, epidemics, and crises has been a major challenge to ensure academic continuity, meet the needs of the community, and act on lessons learned. Beirut Arab University has managed to sustain and retain its influential position to deal with encountering any emerging plights. Due to COVID-19 and the financial meltdown, the economic situation has been deteriorating, and its disturbing effects continue to widen and spread. The pandemic along with the Beirut explosion have irrevocably changed and affected the Lebanese Community and students’ spirit.

Following the success of the online teaching process adopted in the previous year, this approach has continued to be used throughout the current academic year, adopting a blended learning approach that combines digital teaching tools and face-to-face instruction. This allowed the University to benefit from the expertise of staff in using online technologies when conducting courses, assessments, and assignments. BAU incorporated the advantages of online platforms by hosting online webinars and activities that have helped advance scientific research. In addition, a unique collection of academic journals affiliated with the University has assisted in promoting research publishing and collaboration nationally and internationally through six subject journals.

The University’s academic and non-academic staff succeeded in carrying out their work and duties virtually, retaining a smooth online academic transition on all levels. The BAU staff also completed the preparation of the new 2020-2030 strategy, and the documents required for the renewal of the international institutional accreditation. National and international connections with institutions and organizations were also maintained.

The biggest challenges that caused a deep impact on higher education include the admission arrangements and students’ recruitment in 2021. With the cancellation of most events such as campus tours, open doors, school visits and regional forums, the focus shifted to online activities.

As part of the University’s continuous efforts to provide support, BAU provided health and awareness services during the Corona pandemic and effectively contributed to providing vaccinations to its staff and to the community as a whole. Adhering with the necessary safety measures and procedures, the outpatient dentistry clinics opened with limited capacity to provide basic oral healthcare and essential clinical experiences for students. The complexity of accessing clinical training in light of COVID-19 as well as the inability of hospitals to afford equipment was another challenge, but that did not stop BAU students from meeting the necessary clinical hours, as the team went the extra mile to get there.

The University stands by its family during the economic and financial crisis that Lebanon is witnessing, by offering financial grants, and resolving the effects of the fuel crisis. This was achieved by establishing BAU’s own station to supply the university needs with fuel to bypass the country’s transportation problems. It is worth noting that at a time when the country was facing severe drug shortages and a scarcity of medicines for chronic diseases, the NSSF unit was able to provide medicines to many employees and their relatives.
BUILDING RESILIENCE 2020 - 2021

SEPTEMBER

Memorandum of Cooperation, with the Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University on September 23, 2020

Mobile Dental Clinics, two portable clinics to help the stricken areas in Beirut on September 10, 2020

OCTOBER

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Health Care Center, opening in Beirut Campus on October 1, 2020

A Call to Retain Beirut Built Heritage, after Beirut explosion on October 1, 2020

NOVEMBER

Diabetes Updates; Tribute to Nurses, a webinar in collaboration with Dialeb-The National Diabetes Organization at Tripoli Branch on November 27, 2020

Harassment and Bullying in the Laws of Arab Countries between Reality and Expectations, a webinar in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for Gulf Countries on November 27, 2020

Modern Cyber-security: Educational and Technical Perspectives, a webinar hosted as a part of the Erasmus+ project ELEGANT, on November 25, 2020

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) at Beirut Campus on November 22, 2020
Emerging Trends in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Educational and Industrial Perspectives

Radioactivity in Everyday Life, a webinar in cooperation with the Lebanese Association of Physics Teachers at Beirut Campus on December 11, 2020

Classes and administrative work have been suspended at all University campuses due to the complete COVID lockdown on January 7, 2021

BAU lead the work on SDG9 in the IAU HESD Cluster on January 10, 2021

International Postgraduate Studies in Environmental Management and Sustainability for Mediterranean Countries (ENVIPRO-Med) Kick-off Meeting at Debbieh Campus on December 8, 2020

Awareness Workshop Celebrating the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, in collaboration with the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO (LNCU) and Internal Security Forces (ISF) on December 4, 2020

Together We Can Fight Obesity, an awareness campaign on February 24, 2021

An Agreement of Cooperation, was signed with the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA), to alleviate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Lebanon at Beirut Campus on February 1, 2021

The Impact of Crisis on Culture and Human Behavior, an international virtual conference held at Beirut Campus on March 30, 2021

The COVID-19 Field Clinics, seven clinics affiliated to the BAU Health Care Center were established remotely for Corona Patients in collaboration with IRADA in the parking of the University at Beirut Campus on March 30, 2021

Year in Review - Building Resilience

Annual Report 2021
APRIL

Meet and Communicate, a virtual webinar by BAU Entrepreneurship Hub to boost the communication and employability skills, of over 250 students from different northern schools on April 27, 2021

An Agreement of Cooperation, was signed with the Minister of Public Health Dr. Hamad Hassan, some private universities in Lebanon and a representative from Pfizer to secure a quantity of Pfizer vaccines to vaccinate the academic and non-academic staff, along with the students at Beirut Campus on April 22, 2021

MAY

Sputnik V COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign, in collaboration of IRADA to provide Sputnik V COVID-19 Vaccine to around 500 people from Beirut at Beirut Campus on May 10, 2021

The 5th Virtual Graduate Open House, a live information session to introduce all the graduate programs, admission requirements, financial aid, and other relevant information on May 5, 2021

BAUHC COVID-19 Vaccination Center, in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health to contribute to the national vaccination campaign by delivering vaccination service to all BAU community at Beirut Campus on May 2021

JUNE

The 17th Residency Batch Commencement Ceremony, at Beirut Campus on June 30, 2021

Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition, an art work to introduce Cultural Heritage to Children at St. Nicholas Stairs on June 25, 2021

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) at Beirut Campus on November 22, 2020
JULY

The Achievers, a grand commencement ceremony was held and broadcast live to honor the efforts exerted by the students during COVID-19 pandemic at Beirut, Deebieh, and Tripoli Campuses on July 2021.

Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign, was launched to vaccinate 7,500 persons from BAU community with two doses at Beirut Campus on July 2021.

AUGUST

The 36th Level of Universities in the Arab World, was ranked by BAU according to Times Higher Education on August 24, 2021.

A Youth Meeting with the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator Najat Rochdi and representatives from UNESCO, UNFPA and UNODC for the occasion of the International Youth Day on Deebieh Campus on August 12, 2021.
Unprecedented circumstances and intentional changes owing to the global COVID-19 pandemic have affected education at various levels, resulting in significant risks and closures that have almost brought life to a standstill. To overcome and defeat these challenges as well as allow students to complete all their classes and academic requirements, BAU has been able to balance and align curricular learning objectives with accreditation standards in order to achieve the highest quality.

COVID-19 pandemic, along with the diesel and fuel oil crisis have made it difficult for students to commute to university, thus the demand for more support and flexibility with regard to reading and close attendance periods has arisen. Though exams during the first semester were held online through facilitated processes, hard challenges remain to outlast and set new confrontations for BAU. This goes back to the lack of complete feed of electricity and massive power outages in addition to poor internet performance. This prompted the University to conduct final exams and resume teaching and learning processes on campus taking into consideration public health in purpose of maintaining an effective learning and teaching environment.
ONLINE TEACHING AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

BAU faculties have shifted to innovative online teaching and learning methods and techniques, which are a mixture of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (anytime). Moodle, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Voice-over PowerPoint presentations, and online assessments were employed to ensure a more flexible, personalized, and active learning environment, along with ongoing support and compassion.

Faculty of HUMAN SCIENCES

Compared to the previous year which was rife with unprecedented challenges, this year has witnessed great improvements in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to the economic and fuel crisis. The Faculty succeeded in nurturing its ties with its student body, while facilitating education for hundreds of students at BAU through the University courses offered by it.

- The Faculty upholds the philosophy of developing autonomous and creative learners in line with BAU Strategy through diversifying its teaching and learning methods and encouraging students to develop self-learning and life-long knowledge skills.
- The Faculty had shifted swiftly and smoothly, with the onset of the COVID-19 situation into an online virtual environment, developing students’ skills and knowledge into novel directions and opening up new horizons. This shift has become an additional asset for academic staff and students paving way for them for additional learning facilities. Students were provided with the necessary classes to complete their academic requirements, along with sustained affection.

Faculty of LAW and POLITICAL SCIENCE

As the Faculty prepares to return to regular on-campus teaching in the spring of 2020-2021, the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic has forced online teaching to continue as the previous semester. Thus, changes involving course schedules and exam management were executed to avoid putting students under pressure. That being said, spring semester ended after the winter break with reorganized partial and final exams as well.

- The Psycho-social Unit welcomed BAU students for psychological counseling and advice on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- The Book Club, created by the Department of English, is held monthly to enhance students’ reading skills, online communication, and social interaction.
- The Global Technical Meeting dedicated to build connections and make a change, was attended by the Mass Communication Department as part of the Global Technical Meeting (GTM2020) on Reimagining Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda, on July 16, 2020.
- Final Year Projects for the Mass Communication Department was held on June 26, 2021. (Photo 1)
- Representation of Crisis in Culture and Literature, an annual French Department conference was held online in March 2021.
- How to Use Zoom Workshop, was held for the academic staff to teach them how to lead virtual workshops or remote sessions on September 17, 2020.

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Facility of BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

In the context of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, the Faculty has implemented contingency plans to slow and limit the spread of the virus, prepare for a possible long-term disruption of university enrollment and ensure that knowledge is well delivered to its students through maintaining high quality learning and teaching methods.

- The Faculty has launched various forms of online education fortified with necessary resources to convert the difficult situation into an opportunity that experiments and envisions new innovative models of teaching for the best usage of face-to-face learning time.
- The Faculty has been well benefited from Zoom to conduct video lectures and make use of screen sharing for better communication. It also managed to enrich students with a well-prepared learning course track using Moodle with online/offline access to all its contents such as recorded lectures, books, or live sessions. In addition, a flexible evaluation method with high quality standards has been implemented to achieve the course ILOs.
- Classes were carried on successfully through online platforms, and graduating projects were presented by students using Zoom to comprehend their graduation requirements successfully. This allowed the Faculty to achieve its mission through technological facilities accompanied by high standards. (Photo 3)
- DBA program defended its first Cohort by presenting 12 dissertations in front of internal and external juries, cooperated with the student’s advisor in May 2020. Such presence took place in two forms: using Zoom meetings to conduct online presence, and actual attendance through taking all necessary safety precautions and measures against COVID-19 pandemic into consideration.
- The Faculty at the Tripoli Branch collaborated with different national and international institutions such as COSV, Aventiz, BRD, and many others to offer BAU students, alumni, and community a number of free of charge workshops. These workshops focused on digital marketing, business communication, and entrepreneurship.

Faculty of ARCHITECTURE – Design & Built Environment

After the online teaching process adopted by the Faculty in the previous year, the same method continued to be used during this year. This has brought about massive advantages to the staff experience characterized by masterfully using online techniques through conducting courses, assessments, and assignments. It also paved the way to encourage the usage of Miro Platform to archive the students’ portfolios.

- The Faculty took many educational policy actions in response to COVID-19 pandemic:
  - Introducing Moodle, Microsoft Teams, and One Drive as methods and techniques for online learning to facilitate conducting virtual courses.
  - Adopting the blended learning approach for teaching the courses.
  - Using the binary approach for the spring exams where only the oral exams were allowed to be held online.
  - The Faculty conducted the written and oral final exams on campus in alignment with COVID-19 pandemic safety measures and producers:
    - Exam rooms were cleaned and sanitized regularly.
    - Staff and students’ temperature was measured before entering the campus. They were strictly committed to wearing their face masks as a precaution measure.
    - Sanitizers were provided in each exam room.
    - Social distancing was considered a priority when assigning seats for the exams.
    - An indirect contact was established through BAU-Hotline and the medical clinic in Deibieh Campus, for any consultation.
  - As the Director of the Scientific Chair for Creative Sustainability affiliated with ALECSO, the Dean of the Faculty Prof. Ibtihal ElBastawissi, attended the working session organized by the Secretariat of the Executive Council and the General Conference/National Committees Division of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization – ALECSO, in association with the Arab National Committees for each of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Lebanese Republic, the Kingdom of Morocco, along with its academic chairs affiliated with ALECSO on February 8, 2021. (Photo 4)
  - The Dean represented the University through SDG9 Leadership in the IAU HESD who has been actively involved in the promotion by participating in IAU online events and by implementing concrete projects that foster innovation on January 21, 2021.
  - The Faculty at the Tripoli Branch received its 3D handy scanner from the UNIDO and was installed in the digital fabrication lab.
  - The Faculty at the Tripoli Branch facilitated the agreement with Tripoli Municipality to perform a 3D digital archive of Noufal Palace in Tripoli.

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Faculty of ENGINEERING

Due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire teaching process has shifted from traditional to remote learning (online learning mode and bi-weekly on-campus learning). All department members have adopted teaching methodologies in line with modern education practices using the latest technologies of classrooms and lecture halls.

- Serious and effective quality assurance practices were taken in preparing files for each of the taught courses. A detailed analysis that meets the standards of both the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) and department requirements has been conducted for each course to guarantee that the activities of such courses have been successfully covered and notable outcomes have been achieved.
- New teaching methods were adopted to ensure that all courses are well delivered to students and total learning objectives are successfully met. This required having both synchronous sessions by using Microsoft Teams and Moodle as well as having asynchronous learning practices through the traditional on-campus learning method with the preparation of recorded sessions and recorded problem-solving videos. (Photo 5)
- Interactive sessions are conducted on campus with students as well as among themselves politely and objectively.
- The Faculty has implemented the Library Research activity in several petroleum and chemical engineering courses to enhance student-based learning methods which assisted them in improving their skills and increasing the overall number of students using library books in several engineering areas.
- In alignment with COVID-19 pandemic safety measures and procedures, the Faculty conducted final exams on campus.
- Several courses were held in partnership with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) to solve the problem of student training which resulted due to Lebanon’s economic crises:
  - A significant course on the design and implementation of swimming pools was implemented.
  - Introduction to Simulink workshop, in addition to an introduction to Solid Works workshop were conducted.
  - Preparation for several courses through summer (Solid Works, Firefighting systems, IMS course) was being achieved.
- A new student Chapter in the chemical program was launched by the Faculty in association with the American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE-BAU).
- The Career and Education Operating Council of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers has approved the petition to form the American Institute of Chemical Engineers AIChE Student Chapter at the University on April 26, 2021.
- An online seminar entitled Tools for Online Teaching was attended by the Faculty at Tripoli Branch. It was organized by Higher Education Capacity Development Program and funded by the United States Agency for International Development on February 11, 2021.

Faculty of SCIENCE

Despite the challenges in Lebanon, the Faculty achieved its mission by providing distinguished education and research depending on basic and applied sciences. A transition to remote teaching and learning took place, where several platforms have been adopted to ensure academic follow up with students and to reduce the disruption of their education.

- The Faculty members used a mix of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (any time) online teaching and learning tools, not only to keep students engaged throughout the duration of the course but also to enable more flexible, personalized, and active learning.
- Live video conferencing platforms, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom have been used for synchronous online learning activities during COVID-19 pandemic. They include traditional online lecture components through live video conferencing, problem solving, case studies, activity-based learning, webinars, tutorials, virtual lab experiences simulations, student presentations, and online class discussions. (Photo 6)
- The e-learning platform, Moodle, was used to facilitate all asynchronous activities in fully online Faculty courses and to manage blended Laboratory courses as well.
- Several Online Interactive Tools have been effectively integrated during virtual classrooms such as Breakout Rooms Feature, Padlet, DirectPoll, AnswerGarden, and Kahoot.

- A range of student-centered and active learning approaches have been implemented in all courses to improve comprehension and retention of increased student engagement in virtual classrooms and their subsequent mastery of complex topics.
- In alignment with COVID-19 pandemic safety measures and precautions, the final exams of fall semester were conducted online while spring semester ones were performed on campuses.
- Several Online Orientation Sessions for Grade 11 and 12 students from different schools were organized by the Faculty to provide them with a clear perspective of what information they need to take academic choices, along with a strong overview of academic expectations and job opportunities in science disciplines (Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Chemistry, Biology and Biochemistry) so that they are well prepared to make the right decisions.
Faculty of PHARMACY

The Faculty rapidly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic lock-down and implemented an action plan to switch to e-learning which included the academic didactic teaching, experiential learning, as well as online continuous assessment. In complying with the national authorities’ decisions and in line with the healthcare facilities’ decision, the Faculty was obliged to move to distance learning for students, and to suspend all physical attendance in all of the health care facilities as access was restricted to employees and residents only. The Faculty designed a flexible schedule to promote student engagement with safety procedures during the pandemic, and to allow faculty members to perform their tasks in teaching, assessment, and other relevant tasks.

- An online seminar entitled ‘Tools for Online Teaching’ was attended by the faculty at Tripoli Branch. It was organized by Higher Education Capacity Development Program and funded by the United States Agency for International Development on February 11, 2021.
- Students from Computer Science program participated in several online programming competitions:
  - The 8th Undergraduate Virtual Research Competition, organized by Abu Dhabi University on May 19, 2021,
  - The Lebanese Collegiate Programming Contest (LCPC 2020) on February 9, 2021,
  - Huawei ICT Competition on November 11, 2020,

Faculty of MEDICINE

The Faculty tried its utmost best to overcome circumstances in hopes of fulfilling the expected educational program and curricular learning objectives along with meeting the accreditation standards. The Faculty’s efforts towards achieving the highest quality levels of medical education culminated in the success of the virtual accreditation visit held in July 2021, with the aim of obtaining accreditation by the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME) soon.

- The Faculty was keen to continue using different teaching and learning methods despite the difficult conditions, as part of these activities was transferred to online platforms due to the closure that hindered some activities on campus. These activities included Flipped Classroom, Problem Based Learning (PBL), Medical Education Workshops, Team Based Learning (TBL), Inter-Professional Education (IPE), Simulation Based Learning, Research Based Education, and treat such cases.
- A number of techniques aiming at promoting students’ engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic was implemented by the Faculty to ensure the achievement of the course’s learning outcomes and targeted competencies by the students. Each lesson was planned and delivered in three phases, namely pre-class learning phase, in-class learning phase, and post-class learning phase.
- The Faculty has established an internal procedure for online and on-site exam absence and attendance, which recognizes and plans the possibility for students to be exempted from the pandemic related absences from online exams.
- Online Interprofessional Education (IPE) module was composed of two main phases: Exposure Phase through didactic lectures and activities focusing on the IPE competencies delivered through online Moodle program, and Immersion Phase which grounded on the Team project.
- The Dean, Prof. Abdalla El-Lakany conducted awareness meetings with students on COVID-19 pandemic highlighting safety measures and disinfection process before and after each on-campus laboratory session held by small groups to help in maintaining physical distancing. (Photo 7)
- Breast Cancer Awareness Session, was held on Zoom for the 10th grade students at the Lycee Francais International Elite.
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- The learning process was shifted from traditional to remote learning through the use of video conferencing software: Zoom or Microsoft Teams and Social Media Apps as a platform for asynchronous discussion between students and academic staff. It also optimized the use of Moodle as a powerful open-source learning-management system.
- The Experiential Learning Committee, comprising the Dean Prof. Abdalla El-Lakany, Experiential Learning Coordinators and the Faculty Executive Administrator, has been formed to discuss strategies that will be implemented to ensure effective online experiential learning. The committee recommended providing students with activities similar to those encountered in real practice, those which were developed later by the course coordinators in collaboration with experiential preceptors, using online tools and virtual operations.

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- The self-evaluation journey undertaken by the Faculty as a requirement for accreditation by the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME), has inspired the implementation of several context-based modifications and improvements.
- The Standing Committee on Public Health (SCOPH) organized several online sessions:
  - Epilepsy Awareness Session was held to enlighten the students on a medical level.
  - Stay Safe: Food Safety Edition provided insight about safe practices when it comes to storing & preparing food.
  - Brain Death: End of life and Start of Another explained what brain death is, how hospitals and physicians declare brain death, its misconceptions, and how to differentiate it from coma and locked-in syndrome.
  - Organs Donation “A Gift of Life” to explain what this concept means and which organs can be donated, adopting a scientific and medical approach, on April 16, 2021. (Photo 8)
- The Standing Committee on Sexual & Reproductive Health (SCSRH) organized several online sessions:
  - STIs in Women was held to talk about STI prevention and management including the new idea of HIV self-care kit.
  - Sexual Dysfunction aimed to increase the knowledge of the students about the topic, and explain how to diagnose and treat such cases.
  - Varicocle and Infertility introduced the members to the severity of this disease, its relation to infertility, surgery recommendations, and psychological aspects of living with it.
  - It wasn’t Her Dress: Ending Rape Culture, an awareness session to stop rape on April 15, 2021.
In order to improve the oral health of a diverse population, the Faculty continues to respond effectively to changes in education, healthcare treatment, and research in purpose of ensuring the provision of committed professional graduates capable of providing optimal oral health care. During the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, daily headlines dedicated to blended and hybrid learning were issued and both academic staff and students took part in live broadcast classes while everyone was in self-isolation.

- With the world in lockdown during the pandemic, Zoom sessions have been executed nearly every day for distance learning, and both faculty and students have participated in live-streaming classes in addition to Moodle which has been used to support learning and training needs.
- Outpatient clinics were released with a limited capacity to adhere to the necessary preventive guidelines and ensure the safety of staff, students, patients, and the community while providing basic oral health care and important clinical educational experiences.
- Exams were conducted on campus in alignment with COVID-19 pandemic through necessary safety measures and procedures.
- The Faculty launched the awareness campaign for the human sector entitled United to Preserve Antimicrobials in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) on November 22, 2020.
- The Faculty celebrated the World Oral Health Day, where people all over the world join to encourage and improve oral and dental health by taking preventive steps and following doctors’ advice to preserve dental health and oral hygiene, avoid various oral health diseases and improve the quality of life as a whole.
The Faculty of HEALTH SCIENCES

The Faculty strived to deliver a high-quality experience to its students despite the crisis that the University and the whole country has been facing. It insisted on continuing its academic activities by finding different solutions and alternatives. The full accreditation of the physiotherapist professional entry level education program has been extended by World Physiotherapy till 26 June 2023. The Nutrition and Weight Management Clinic was re-accredited by European Asylum Support Office and still serves as an EASO collaborating center.

- The complexity of accessing clinical training in light of COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the hospitals’ inability to afford equipment triggered another challenge, but that did not hamper efforts to meet the necessary clinical hours, as the team went the extra mile to access them.
- The Faculty adopted the Microsoft Teams and Moodle platforms as tools for commencing with online learning, carrying out online thesis defenses, along with recorded lectures as an educational strategy. The adopted instructional methods were also adapted to the digital medium such as Team-Based Learning, Evidence Based Practice (EBP), Case studies, Problem Solving, Group discussions, and Project presentation.
- Same Laboratory courses were delivered using Moodle platform, Zoom, Microsoft Team, online lab sessions using GoPro Camera, physiotech, and physiotherapyexercises.com. Some self-paced recorded sessions were uploaded for the students to attend at their convenience (as a form of hybrid teaching and learning).
- Telehealth Platform was inaugurated for physiotherapy third level and senior students.
- IT has supported students continuously by providing them with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), dispensing social distancing labels (building, clinics, elevators and halls), and providing additional spaces to decrease the accumulation distance between people and ensure social distancing.
- In line with the pandemic safety measures and procedures, the exams were conducted either online or on campus.
- The Faculty conducted e-surveys to assess important topics at the university such as COVID-19 pandemic awareness, satisfaction with e-learning methods, etc., and digitalizing course files according to new guidelines.
- Kick-off Erasmus Global Project was attended by the Nursing Department in collaboration with the Arctic University of Norway where they conducted multiple talks on medical education and Corona Virus.
- Testing the Reliability of Angle Meter Application as a Mean of Virtual Range of Motion Assessment for Further Use in a Future Protocol, a project has been prepared to prove that the application Angle Meter Application is a reliable, applicable, and affordable method for therapists to accurately assess patient range of motion and get numerical readings rather than rely on approximation and experience, while being connected to these patients only virtually.
- The Medical Laboratory Technology Department signed a partnership with 3Billion Company (Soeul, South Korea) which identifies the genetic mutations responsible for the disease in thirty-three Lebanese patients.
- An Orientation Day was held for the new students to facilitate the academic advising and the course registration experience on October 26, 2020. (Photo 10)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected higher education comprehensively and widely in a short period of time, calling for complex and innovative responses. The effects of the global pandemic can be found everywhere: in countries, communities and campuses, etc..., causing unique educational, economic and social dares along with deepening the existing ones. Safety measures and precautions were implemented on a regular basis throughout the year to meet the BAU family’s needs, services, and facilities.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY ACTIONS

Another exceptional academic year started on September 21, 2020 marking the beginning of the fall semester. It occupied several interventions, ready to a year interrupted by severe lockdown that lasted from January 2021 till May 2021.

- In implementation of the Lebanese Government Decision to close from January 7, 2021 till February 1, 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Fall Semester Finals that were scheduled on January 4, 2021 were postponed and later performed online effectively on January 11, 2021.
- The actual studying process was held online, and no actual student attendance was recorded except for the performing of final exams in the spring semester. Students came across the campuses to take their exams wearing their masks and applying social distancing between them. BAU Staff was keen to implement the supervision of these safety measures and precautions.
- The spread of the pandemic along with the severe financial crisis has brought large-scale projects and infrastructure improvements to a halt. These challenging times have shifted adversity into an opportunity for in-house development as many services and applications, such as Iconnect, course assessment, etc., that have been ported to the platforms. Services such as Student Information System, Learning Management System, Portal and Online Services, Enterprise Resource Planning Systems have been provided.
COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES AND PRECAUTIONS

Public security and safety services have been provided with the aim of having a safe and stable environment during COVID-19 pandemic that calls for such precautions. Plans are in place to achieve the highest level of cleanliness within the campus through optimal allocation of labor as well as regulating the allocation of public facilities to conduct high quality procedures.

• In order to ensure that academic and non-academic staff stay up-to-date with the latest safety measures, the University has drafted health announcements to increase public awareness both on and off campus. Furthermore, a 24/7 hotline has been set up for any concerns regarding PCRs, sick leave and guidelines. (Photo 11)

• BAU established a field clinic center for COVID-19 patients located on the plot of land adjacent to the University’s public car park on an area of 850 m². Prefabricated offices and clinics were founded on the site equipped with all necessary medical devices, and connected to each other by a covered umbrella.

• The University was able to carefully control the process of administering the COVID-19 vaccine, where an exclusive BAU platform was created to facilitate data collection and maintain a clear database. The Pfizer and Sputnik vaccines have been supplied by the University and offered to students, academic and non-academic staff, relatives, and others in community.

• Support has been provided to faculties and students to ensure that the teaching and learning process is satisfactory. Basic tasks and duties (student records, services, networks, etc.) were also carried out on time despite the disruptions and challenges caused by the fuel crises.

• BAU portal (Iconnect) was renovated from an old platform to a new one. New BAU course evaluation platform was being developed, and cluster infrastructure for Moodle services was built.

• Admission arrangements were among the biggest challenges that profoundly affected higher education. As far students’ recruitment in 2021, most events such as campus tours, open doors, school visits and regional forums have been cancelled. As a result, the focus has shifted to online activities by holding about 50 virtual meetings with school students.

• Several technical initiatives have been taken to ensure that the admissions process is not disrupted by the current situation. New pages on the website have been developed to include all the basic information with useful details about admission procedures. The online application has been improved and modified with stronger technical solutions and student support systems that will serve them in the future.

• Admission for the 2020-2021 academic year was based on records of high school applicants in grades 10 and 11 for most faculties, but this process was not effective and did not reflect the academic level of students. Accordingly, entrance exams were held inside the University campus, taking into account all safety measures and precautions. The first entrance examination was held in May and the second in August for all disciplines except for the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry. (Photo 12)

ECONOMICS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSE

• The University supported its academic and non-academic staff during the economic and financial crisis that Lebanon witnessed through financial grants, within the framework of social support and assistance.

• Due to the fuel crisis, BAU took a constructive move by installing its own fuel station providing fuel for the University academic and non-academic staff’s vehicles in Beirut campus.

• An agreement with Medco S.A.L has been held to supply the vehicles of the Debbieh campus with fuel through the station located at the entrance of the campus creating prepaid electronic cards to ease paying procedures, in addition to contracting with the (Al-Khatib and Shehadeh) station to meet the University’s same needs.

• Due to the fuel crisis, BAU established a field clinic center for COVID-19 patients located on the plot of land adjacent to the University’s public car park on an area of 850 m². Prefabricated offices and clinics were founded on the site equipped with all necessary medical devices, and connected to each other by a covered umbrella.

• The University was able to carefully control the process of administering the COVID-19 vaccine, where an exclusive BAU platform was created to facilitate data collection and maintain a clear database. The Pfizer and Sputnik vaccines have been supplied by the University and offered to students, academic and non-academic staff, relatives, and others in community.

• Health and safety conditions have been well implemented while carrying out and performing tasks within the campus with rapid response to emergencies to provide the necessary assistance.

• Personal protective equipment have been provided to health care workers to secure their safety.

• A safe plan has been implemented to enter the University campuses during the closure of the COVID-19 pandemic, preventing unauthorized people from joining the University (visitors, parents...). Attendance was limited to workers assigned to some necessary duties and some students to complete specific tasks, while taking all safety measures and precautions.

• Awareness Campaigns to COVID-19 pandemic publications have been distributed and disseminated on TV screens and social media, in addition to social distancing posters and instructions about the importance of using masks.

• The internal follow up system was digitalized to a 50 percent attendance to follow up the work of cleaning and security companies in Beirut campus to keep the University properties always in the suitable view.

• A sterilization campaign was carried out as part of the University’s campaign to confront COVID-19 pandemic, in compliance with hygiene standards. (Photo 13)
Research development and activities at BAU still attained quality despite the dire financial and economic situation that made publication more costly, and the COVID-19 pandemic which made the publication process needs a longer interval of time to be accomplished. There is no denying that the amount of publications did decrease due to the economic crisis and the enormous pandemic that changed the course of everyone’s lives; however, the high value of research publication remains as prominent as it was in the prior year.

BAU has taken massive and effective steps in offering support, advice, and guidance to its graduate students. The University has always strengthened researchers by providing them with updated tools and methodologies in order to achieve breakthroughs and pass landmarks. It allows students to practice basic and applied methods and conduct qualitative and quantitative research by supporting its faculties financially, in addition to advocate research especially when it tackles pressing and current topics such as the COVID-19 pandemic, or the deteriorating monetary and societal situation in Lebanon.

The University strives to advance initiatives through developing core foundations, advancing skillsets to ensure competent responsibilities, and participating in virtual webinars and conferences to re-compensate especially during unprecedented times. Among the most valuable publications, BAU Journals flourishes, an international publication that encourages researchers and practitioners to prepare numerous qualitative papers in the disciplines.
This was a challenging year as the economic meltdown came to a head and the consequences of Corona virus continued to force the shadows of unsatisfactory results upon the financial situation. Despite the challenges posed by this pandemic and the critical and precarious situation in Lebanon, the University has continued to provide and ensure effective education, support, advice, and guidance to its graduate students. The focus of BAU was to conduct community research and direct research towards the current urgency of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since January 2020, BAU started publishing its scholarly journals on Elsevier’s Digital Commons Platform. BAU Journals are international journals dedicated to encourage academic exchange among researchers and practitioners using several qualitative research in disciplines related to the four BAU research themes. They are issued twice a year except for the “Journal of Legal Studies” which is issued once a year. All published articles are peer-reviewed by regionally and internationally recognized and reputable referees in their domains. The summary of achievements of these Journals during this academic year is publishing six volumes (11 issues, 119 articles), distributed over the six journals with a total number of 89,166 downloaded articles. The readership distribution of the Journals over the world refers to the diversity of readers from 191 countries.

Within the journals’ framework, the Publications Office was responsible for editing and unifying BAU Journals according to standard guidelines for each journal prior to submitting them for review and subsequent publication.

ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING JOURNAL - APJ

The Architecture and Planning Journal of the Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment released two issues (Issue 2 - Vol. 26) and Issue 1 - Vol.27) in 30 September 2020 and 31 March 2021 respectively. These two issues included 18 articles covering different topics in theories, practices, and new interrelated concepts in the files of architecture and urban planning. Both issues hosted an international guest editor; Prof. David Massey (Honorary Senior Fellow, The University of Liverpool, UK) and Prof. Hassan Abdel -Salam (Head of Department of Architectural Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University, Egypt) for the mentioned issues. The issue 2 of volume 26 hosted a message by BAU President Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, commented on the consequences of Beirut Port explosion. His message, entitled ‘A Call to retain Beirut Built Heritage’, to emphasize that BAU is keen on contributing to the process of re-building, beginning with the damage assessment, through to the intervention phase. Since being hosted by Elsevier Digital Commons, the number of downloaded articles of APJ has been obviously increased. It has reached to 24,522 downloaded articles until 20 January 2022.

BAU JOURNAL - JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES

In July 2020, the Journal of Legal Studies of the Faculty of Law and Political Science released its fourth volume including 14 articles, varying between legal cultures and law, as well as theoretical concerns. The current number of downloaded articles equals 8,496 articles. The articles of this journal are accepted to be published in several languages (English, Arabic, and French), while having the title, abstract and keywords in English.

BAU JOURNAL - HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Under the milestones of health aspects, quality of life, and wellbeing of individuals and communities, BAU Journal - Health and Wellbeing released three issues covering different multidisciplinary research areas. Issue 1 Vol. 3 (31 October 2020), Issue 2 Vol. 3, and a special issue of ‘COVID-19’ (30 April 2021) included 30 published articles. Each issue hosted a message, given by an international guest editor; Prof. Jihane Basbous (IGH-Institute of Human Genetics - UMR9102 CNRS-Université de Montpellier), Dr. Maria Stathopoulou, and Prof. Saroj Jayasinghe (MBBS, MD - Colombo, MD - Bristol, MRCP - UK, FRCP - London, FCCP, PhD - Colombo, FNASSL. Consultant to the Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and Consultant Physician). The total number of downloaded articles is 19,109 since the launching of the journal.

BAU JOURNAL - SOCIETY, CULTURE AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR

The Society, Culture and Human Behavior Journal released Issue 2 - Vol. 2 (28 February 2021) including 13 articles covering interdisciplinary research themes subsumed under the umbrella of Society, Culture and Human Behavior. This journal aims at contributing high-quality knowledge to literature and serving as the mind and heart of the community. The issue hosted Prof. Ahmed M. Abdel-Khalek (Professor of Psychology, Alexandria University) as an international guest editor. The number of downloaded articles is 17,379.

BAU JOURNAL - CREATIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Creative Sustainable Development Journal encourages authors to publish collaborative inter and multidisciplinary research under the sustainable development and creativity in its different dimensions. It released two issues, Issue 1 and Issue 2 - Vol. 2. The first issue was published on 30 November 2020, while the second Issue was published on 31 May 2021, including 22 articles, which aimed at solving environmental, urban planning, social, and economic problems. The two issues hosted guest editors; Prof. Saroj Jayasinghe (MBBS, MD - Colombo, MD - Bristol, MRCP - UK, FRCP - London, FCCP, PhD - Colombo, FNASSL. Consultant to the Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and Consultant Physician) and Prof. Hany Ayad (Professor of Urban Planning, Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University, Egypt). The total number of downloaded articles is 12,042.
BAU JOURNAL - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Science and Technology Journal released two issues; Issue 1 and Issue 2 – Volume 2. The first issue was published on 31 December 2020 and the second was published on 30 June 2021. Both issues included 22 articles, covering different interdisciplinary research areas in Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, and Statistics. Each issue hosted an international guest editor; Prof. Sunday O Nwaubani (The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa) and Prof. Giuseppe Di Fazio (The University of Catania Italy). The total number of downloaded articles is 7,618.

In order to ensure the high quality of publishing, BAU Journals apply a group of restricted criteria. All journals are bi-annual publications except for the “Journal of Legal Studies” which is published once a year. Each issue contains 10 to 12 articles. The required language for articles is English (In some journals: Arabic and French are accepted). All the submitted articles are blindly peer-reviewed by three reviewers. Authors must follow the formatting requirements, posted by the platform of Elsevier Digital Commons. The originality of articles is ensured through checking the plagiarism percentage before sending them to the referees. The journals’ editorial teams emphasize that the articles have to match the scope of each journal. Each issue hosts an international guest editor, since January 2020.

RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Research development and activities at BAU were documented through the Annual Research Report. This year research consisted of a total number of 235 publications which included 116 highly-indexed papers. The number of highly-indexed papers to the total number of papers published shows that Faculty members still preserved quality in research they published and in journals they chose to publish in despite the dire financial and economic situation that made publication much more costly, and the COVID-19 pandemic which made the publication process much longer and more challenging. Twenty five papers out of the following were dedicated to various topics on COVID-19 issues.
- The financial situation had a major impact on grants and research funding which were severely affected by the economic collapse that led to a significant depreciation of the Lebanese pound against the dollar. Obtaining new grants was very challenging, and completing the purchases and financial transactions for existing grants was also a challenge, especially for those offered in Lebanese pounds versus US dollars. Even grants in foreign currencies were difficult to disburse in cash due to banks suspending all cash transactions.
- Although the number of publications decreased this year due to economic conditions, lockdown circumstances, and reduced imposed research activity, the percentage of high-quality research published remained almost as high as it was in the previous academic year. In general, the number of highly indexed papers to the total number of papers published serves as evidence that faculty still strive for quality in the research and journals that they have chosen to publish.
- Research funding guidelines have been updated to keep pace with the fluctuation in the rate of the Lebanese currency. This included ongoing communication with the CNRS and funding bodies to help faculty staff make the best use of existing funds and even re-adjusting the terms of the grant contract to accommodate grantees’ financial obligations when needed through budget and funding adjustments.
- BAU’s collaboration with PEACE Advise to consult on best criteria to improve THE and QS ranking and to provide web impact and online marketing services led to an updated overview of all statistical data measures and BAU Publication and Conference form was modified accordingly to collect and analyze more information that would be relevant for ranking purposes and for accreditation summaries.
- Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, BAU University Council, out of its commitment to support graduate students who have finished writing their theses and are waiting to defense it publicly, but couldn’t, has acknowledged the validity of conducting an online dissertation through the academic year 2020-2021 with the set of guidelines that has been laid to follow.
- The graduate webpage content has been regularly updated to provide clear and useful information, and a new Page for Graduate Scholarships has been added to BAU official website to provide a direct and full information to newly admitted students about all types of scholarships and financial support offered by the University.
- BAU insisted on using blended learning in the Master programs, and continued to provide field visits and laboratory sessions. Blended learning approaches also allowed regular virtual meetings to be held with Master students to follow up on their thesis work progress.
• The Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship Program was held virtually through live via informative sessions via ZOOM, in cooperation with the coordinator of Educational and Scholarship Programs, AMIDEAST/Lebanon, with the aim of providing opportunities for graduates to acquire international Scholarships.
• Three students from the Faculty of Engineering obtained a full scholarship master’s program at the American University of Beirut.
• Healthcare Information Technology, a new BSc. degree program has been developed in the Faculty of Science, in addition to a Professional Master’s degree program in Ecosystems, Environmental Management and Restoration (EEMR) in collaboration with Montpellier University, to meet the local and global job market needs.
• The Master’s Program in Medical Laboratory Sciences is now licensed by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.
• The Faculty of Dentistry updated the study plan of Specialty Diploma and Master Degree programs. Testing laboratory was initiated for researches during the spring semester.
• The Faculty of Medicine used blended learning in the Master Program through few field visits and laboratory sessions. Regular virtual meetings have been held with Master students to follow their thesis works progress.
• The Faculty of Health Sciences has contributed widely to the scientific community through national and international research collaborations as well as staff exchange missions and academic partnerships, thus proving its highly significant academic and community presence. An agreement was signed by the University and The National Institute for Health and Medical Research INSERM for research and internship collaborations.
• Responsible Use of Recycled Tire Rubber in Asphalt Pavements, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Engineering and held by DAPIT Western Regional Superpave Center on July 23, 2021.
• International Conference on Mathematics, Engineering, Natural and Medical Sciences was attended by the Faculty of Science at Tripoli Branch and published the article 3D Mesh Matching Using Surface Descriptor and Integer Linear Programming in Paris – France on July 9-11, 2021.
• A series of three webinars, attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences, which were organized by USAID/ Education Development Center/ Florida State University entitled Building a culture of research and Grant Funding (planning and setup of Grant Administration infrastructure/ tips and strategies on proposal development. The sessions were held on June 17 and 24, and July 8, 2021.
• Non-destructive Evaluation of Containment Vessels of Nuclear Power Plants, a seminar attended by the Faculty of Engineering at Tripoli Branch on Monday, June 14, 2021.
• COVID-19 in the South and North of the Mediterranean what Difference? What Determinants?, an online conference attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences, which was organized by the Mediterranean Federation of Nutritional Sciences on June 6, 2021.
• Waste Management and Family Disaster Plan, two workshops were organized by the Faculty of Health Sciences - Tripoli Branch, in collaboration with BAU Entrepreneurs’ Hub, for high school and university students, on June 3 and 6, 2021.
• The IV National Congress OPERA 2021 (Obesity Program of nutrition, Education, Research and Assessment of the best treatment), was attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences in Italy, on June 3, 2021.
• Six Days Workshop, was attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences, which was organized by the Health Research Grant Opportunities (HRGO)/Clinical research institute/AUB and Medical center in June 2021.
• Ethical Hacking, a webinar organized by the Faculty of Science and presented by Mr. Ahmad Halabi, a cyber security specialist and security consultant on May 28, 2021.
• L’annonce de la Chaire de Leadership en Enseignement sur les Pratiques Pédagogiques Innovantes en Contexte Numérique, was attended by the Faculty of Engineering at Tripoli Branch, which was organized by Université Laval on May 27, 2021.
• Biomedical Applications of Gold: Sensors and Devices, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Science at Tripoli Branch, which was organized by Gold 2022 in Canada on May 26, 2021.
• The 28th European Congress on Obesity (ECO), was held online and attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences, where Prof. Marwan El Ghoch, presented a symposium entitled Understanding Saropenic Obesity: The Ignored Phenotype? on May 10-13, 2021. (Photo 14)
• The 5th Virtual Graduate Open House, was hosted through live information session via Zoom on May 5, 2021.
• Meet and Communicate, a virtual webinar organized by the Entrepreneurship HUB in Tripoli Branch for two consecutive days aiming at boosting communication and employability skills and building networking connections between high school students on April 27, 2021.
• Laboratory Performance Testing on Asphalt Mixtures, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Engineering and held by Center for Research and Education in Advanced Transportation Engineering Systems- Rowan University on April 26, 2021.
• BAU Virtual Science Fair for High School Students was organized by the Faculty of Science to encourage and support schools’ efforts, in the development of scientific minds and promote creativity, teamwork and independent thinking among students, where the top three winning teams received BAU scholarships, on April 12, 2021.
• International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, an online conference attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by the American University of Beirut on April 9, 2021.
• Weak Planning and Malpractice Threaten the Pharmacy Profession, two studies were conducted by the Faculty of Pharmacy. Both studies revealed worrying results about the reality and the future of the pharmacy profession, along with the challenges that it faces according to figures that showed increase in pharmacists’ rates relative to the population and a narrow horizon of practice in the absence of health planning and the necessary legislation for that on April 7, 2021.
• Unravelling Complex Biological Mechanisms in Bacteria Using State of the Art Techniques, a webinar organized by the Faculty of Science and delivered by Dr. Haith El Sayyed, Research Fellow at Oxford University, UK on April 7, 2021.
• The COVID-19 Pandemic on the Lebanese Setting: The Implication on Health and Wellbeing, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences in collaboration with the order of nurses in Lebanon on January 27, 2021.
• Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization: Reimagining Approaches in Higher Education in an Era of Global Uncertainties, a virtual conference was attended by Dean of Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment Prof. Ibthial Y El-Bastawi to share experience in engaging with the Cluster and Sustainability in the Networking Session in the York Virtual Conference on Sustainable and Inclusive Internationalization on January 30, 2021.
• Radioactivity in Everyday Life, a webinar was organized by the Faculty of Science in cooperation with the Lebanese Association of Physics Teachers for high school students and teachers to discuss how to introduce radioactive materials in the Lebanese educational curriculum and highlighted the importance of nuclear and radiological physics and how they are implemented to serve all the aspects of life, on December 11, 2020. (Photo 15)
• International Postgraduate Studies in Environmental Management and Sustainability for Mediterranean Countries” (ENVIPRO-Med) Kick-off Meeting was held at the Faculty of Science to develop a collaborative postgraduate master’s program between the Faculty and the Master “Ingénierie en Écologie et Gestion de la Biodiversité” (IEGB) of Montpellier University in partnership with the Environmental Observatory O-Life, and ECO-MED (France) in Debbiah Campus on December 8, 2020.
• Training of the Trainers, WorkReadyNow Course, a two-week workshop attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was delivered by International Experts from Education Development Center under the auspices of the Higher Education Capacity Development (HECD) Program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), on December 11, 2020. (Photo 16)
• Personalized Medicine: A Challenging Health Care Model for Human Wellness, a PHS 2020 attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by the Faculty of Pharmacy Alexandria University on November 28-29, 2020.
• The Management of Common Psychiatric Disorders in Primary Care, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by the American University of Beirut and the Medical Center on November 28, 2020.
• Diabetes Updates; Tribute to Nurses, a scientific webinar was organized by the Faculty of Health Sciences - Tripoli Branch on the occasion of the World Diabetes Day, whose theme this year is The Role of Nurses in Diabetes Care in collaboration with Diabetes The National Diabetes Organization on November 27, 2020.
• Harassment and Bullying in the Laws of Arab Countries between Reality and Expectations, a webinar hosted by the Faculty of Law and Political Science in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for Gulf Countries on November 27, 2020.
• An International Webinar about Nutrition, 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, was attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences on November 13, 2020.
• A Special E-Health Training was attended by the Physiotherapy Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences as part of Erasmus+Plus project on November 13, 2020.
• Mastering Statistics – Your Questions Answered, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by LePub Learning Nexus on November 13, 2020.
• CRI E-Workshop: Statistics Made Easy, an educational webinar attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by the American University of Beirut and the Medical Center from November 2 to 4, 2020.
• The 4th Dubai International Nutrition Congress, was attended by the Faculty of Health Sciences, where a talk entitled: Revising BMI Cut-Off Points for Obesity in a Weight Management Setting in Lebanon was delivered, on October 22 and 24, 2020.
• The International Center on the Use of Synchrotron Radiation in the Field of Experimental Sciences and its Applications in the Middle East, an online symposium attended by the Head of Physics Department at the Faculty of Science Prof. Mohamed Badawi, which was organized by the Association of Arab Universities on October 18, 2020.
• Introduction to Java Hibernate, a webinar organized by the Faculty of Science and presented by Mr. Mahmoud Anouti, a senior software engineer at Murex on October 15, 2020.

• The Impact of Crisis on Culture and Human Behavior, an international virtual conference was hosted by the Faculty of Human Sciences via Zoom, where topics included how culture can deal with such crisis, the role of the intellectual in the wake of the disaster that has befallen Beirut, as well as the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, and the diverse aspects of collapse on March 30, 2021.
• An awareness session about PT Profession was presented by the Physiotherapy Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences, through a webinar organized by Caderny NGO, as career guidance for high school students on March 26, 2021.
• Shine “Relooking VS Styling for Men and Women”, a webinar was held by the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment on March 22, 2021.
• Dietary Patterns Analysis, a two days workshop was delivered by the Nutrition and dietetics department at the Faculty of Health Sciences, for the National institute of Nutrition in Cairo on March 13, 2021.
• Mathematical Models in Condensed Matter and Beyond conference was attended by the Faculty of Science - Tripoli Branch at the Center for Advanced Mathematical Sciences in the American University of Beirut, on February 22-25, 2021.
• Nanoscience Global, a Lecture attended by the Faculty of Science at Tripoli Branch, which was organized by Nano Letters in Washington, USA on February 22, 2021.
• Epigenetics: Future Road for Cancer Therapy, a webinar was presented by Dr. Mahmoud Khalil from the Faculty of Health Sciences, to raise scientific awareness among the public audience and spreading cutting-edge science and knowledge on Feb 21, 2021.
• Pharmaceutical Nutritional Supplements and the Proper Nutrition in Managing COVID-19, a symposium attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by the Committee of Symposium and Conferences of School of Pharmacy, Jordanian University on February 19, 2021.
• Gold and Plasmonics, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Science at Tripoli Branch, which was organized by Gold 2022 Online Webinars in Canada on February 17, 2021.
• Unlocking the Potential of Effective Online Learning, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Engineering at Tripoli Branch, which was organized under the auspices of the Higher Education Capacity Development (HECD) Program funded by the United States Agency for International Development on January 28, 2021.
- Ethics in the Time of Climate Change in the Arab Region from Young Researchers’ Perspectives, a regional webinar was organized in cooperation with UNESCO on October 13, 2020.
- Arab Women and Psychological Stress: Techniques and Solutions, a webinar was attended by the Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences Prof. Mayssah El Nayal in collaboration with the Kuwait Trade Union Federation, and in coordination with the Kuwaiti Working Women Committee on October 13, 2020.
- Preparing Students to Improve Drug Therapy Using a Consistent Patient Care Process, a webinar attended by the Faculty of Pharmacy, which was organized by Mr. Grew Hill on October 10, 2020.
- Can the Digital World be Sustainable, a webinar was organized by the Faculty of Science and delivered by Dr. Luc Sorel, a senior software engineer at Zenika France on October 1, 2020.
- A delegation from Ajyalouna Organization and the Representative of PepsiCo, was hosted to grant 31 scholarships for BAU students for the Academic Year 2020-2021 under the title of Tomorrow, which is a joint cooperation scholarship program between Ajyalouna and PepsiCo on September 16, 2020.
- The European and International Congress on Obesity (ECOICO2020) in its 27th edition, was attended by the Dean of Health Sciences and Humanities (AGYA).
- The European and International Congress on Obesity (ECOICO2020) in its 27th edition, was attended by the Dean of Health Sciences and Humanities (AGYA).
- Introduction to the Basics of Research, an online session was held by the Standing Committee on Research Exchange (SCORE) to introduce the guidelines for a good research; how to choose references, the different types of researches, etc.
- Pharmacovigilance Awareness, a webinar was organized to raise the students’ awareness of the pharmacists’ and pharmaceutical companies’ roles in ensuring patient safety and potential career pathways.
- Social Innovation Hubs-Organizational Sustainability and Integration, online series of workshops were attended by the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment at Tripoli Branch.
- The Research Center for Environment and Development (RECD) contributed to several research activities:
  - Preliminary nutritional characterization of some wild edible fruits from Lebanon.
  - Proximate composition and nutritional attributes of some wild edible leafy plants from Lebanon.
  - First investigation on bioaccumulation potentiality of Linnema gibba L. for heavy metal pollution in Lebanese fresh waters.

BAU is proud of the initiatives that University academic staff have taken regarding extending project funding, higher rankings of its researchers, appointing chairs of technical programs and scientific program committees, participating in fellowships as experts, serving on reviewers for multiple research papers, in addition to being appointed as editors in various journals.

- Prof. Adel Elkeeli, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, and Dr. Wael Slika, from the Faculty of Engineering, were granted an extension of one year for the project funded by the CNRS and BAU, entitled “A Sustainable Structural Health-Monitoring Framework for Service-Life Prediction of Corroded RC Structures by Induced Vibration-Response Analysis” and submitted the final report and findings on August 2021.
- Prof. Ramadan Awad, Dean of Faculty of Science was nominated as a co-organizer and a chair of a session entitled: “Permanent Magnets: Materials and Their Applications at the 7th International Conference on Superconductivity and Magnetism” KSM2020 in Bodrum, Turkey.
- Prof. Jamal Khalab, from the Faculty of Engineering, was classified as one of the top 2 percent researchers in the world in the Building and Construction field according to a study conducted by Stanford University on November 30, 2020.
- Dr. Wael Slika, from the Faculty of Engineering, was appointed to be on the Chairs of Technical Programs and Scientific Program Committees of the International Conference on Advances in Biomedical Engineering (KABME) held in Lebanon.
- Eng. Raoufa Joumbilat, from the Faculty of Engineering, served as a reviewer on Transportation Research Board (TRB) Standing Committee on Binders for Flexible Pavements – AKM20.
- Dr. Mahmoud Khalil, from the Faculty of Science, participated as an expert and a Key speaker in the webinar OERWiki@Mena to promote the creation of the Open Educational Resources (OER) in the Middle East and North Africa Region on March 1, 2021.
- Prof. Marwan El Ghoch, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, had been acknowledged the title of EASE European Clinical Fellow acquired from the EASE Obesity Management Task Force as an expert in obesity management.
- Dr. Nada El Darra, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, was elected as a member of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA).
- Prof. Marwan El Ghoch, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, was appointed as permanent Associate Editor in the Journal “Frontiers in Endocrinology” (Q1; IF=3.644).
- Dr. Ibrahim Saad and Dr. Rami Abbas, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, were invited as honorary editors in the newly launched scientific journal of Delta University- Egypt.
- Dr. Leila Itani, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, served as an international Peer reviewer for 35 reviews in international journals.
- Dr. Said El Shamieh, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, joined the editorial board of Frontiers in Bioscience-Landmark journal, an international peer-reviewed journal ranked as a Q1 Journal in Scimago and an impact factor of 4.
- Dr. Fatima Saleh, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, has been awarded the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility KA107 grant co-funded by the European Union.
Beirut Arab University celebrated the Class of 2021 entitled “The Achievers” due to students’ achievement in challenging learning difficulties that the academic year witnessed. The 11 commencement ceremonies held in University campuses took place in accordance with safety measures to avoid the spread of Covid-19 pandemic. Six ceremonies were held at Beirut campus, two ceremonies were held at Debbieh campus, and three ceremonies were held at Tripoli branch.
Commencement Ceremony – Beirut Campus

01 Faculties of Human Sciences and Law & Political Science Ceremony
02 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Human Sciences
03 Faculties of Human Sciences and Law & Political Science Ceremony
04 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Law & Political Science
Commencement Ceremony – Debbieh Campus

01 Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment Ceremony
02 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment
03 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Engineering
04 Faculty of Engineering Ceremony
Commencement Ceremony – Beirut Campus

01 Faculty of Business Administration Ceremony
02 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Business Administration

03 Faculty of Pharmacy Ceremony
04 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Pharmacy
Commencement Ceremony – Beirut Campus

01 Faculties of Science and Health Sciences Ceremony
02 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Science
03 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Health Sciences
04 Faculties of Science and Health Sciences Ceremony
Commencement Ceremony – Beirut Campus

01 Faculty of Medicine Ceremony

02 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Medicine

03 Faculty of Dentistry Ceremony

04 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Dentistry
Commencement Ceremony – Tripoli Branch

01 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Business Administration
02 Faculties of Business Administration and Science Ceremony
03 Class of 2021 – Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment
04 Faculty of Engineering Ceremony
Commencement Ceremony – The Achievers

01 Faculty of Human Sciences
02 Faculty of Law & Political Science
03 Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment
04 Faculty of Engineering
Commencement Ceremony – The Achievers

- Faculty of Pharmacy
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Dentistry
- Faculty of Health Sciences
A worldwide confusion regarding social, political, technological and economic issues outspread due to the COVID-19 pandemic that swept across leaving uncertainty and insecurity. Consequently, universities around the world were forced to find remedies to diminish the detrimental impacts of the outbreak on the educational field. The University stresses the importance of all forms of cooperation aimed at strengthening national and international relations in particular when spreading social distancing and isolation, as virtual facilities have played a major role in supporting the new lifestyle at BAU by working from home, holding online conferences and signing agreements remotely.

Despite the heavy work uncertainty that the disruption of business and the escalation of the economic and financial crisis implanted, BAU still manages to overcome all the struggles. Through exploiting the prospects and potentials of its staff members, BAU offers the best services even during the current circumstances which call for remote learning. In the light of the current pandemic and the uncontrollable spread of the COVID-19 virus, the University proceeds to take strict measures in order to maintain its operations and secure the health of its employees. Through grouping employees and fairly distributing the workload upon them, the effectiveness of the usual workflow in BAU is retained and comfort is granted to those who are working from home.
Based on the fact that University leaders emerge critical encounters to find new ways to rebuild and reassess the role of higher education in community, a new BAU Strategy 2020-2030 has been adopted and developed with BAU staff and students as an expression for their collective ambition. The strategy is grounded on a framework that shapes the future of BAU’s journey and has adopted a nature-inspired approach based on learning from nature. It derives from the analogy of the olive tree, which reflects endurance, resilience, glory, wisdom, grace, and peace. It is also composed of five themes, including sustainable university, outstanding learning experiences, inspiring people, strengthening research, and building engagement. (Photo 17)

WORK PROCESS

The unprecedented effects of the current economy of the country, the global pandemic and the absence of the minimum basic labor resources have reduced the usual sustainability of carrying out daily operations and performing the required tasks. Despite the escalation of the crisis and business disruption that led to work uncertainty, the university maintained its resistance and strived to continue by utilizing the potential of its members in order to provide the best services.

- With the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 virus, the University had a plan to continue operations besides maintaining the health of its employees. BAU has established a policy that has made working remotely from home easier by carefully grouping employees and distributing the workload in a way that maintains the efficiency of the usual workflow. In this context, the physical attendance has been applied in accordance with the work requirements in order to accomplish certain and specific tasks through shifts.
- IT services were expanded to remote locations, by providing the infrastructure, development and support in the following primary service areas:
  - Administrative computing in conjunction with the decentralized IT services in all administrative departments, as well as University offices.
  - Networking services, including cabled, Wi-Fi, WAN, and VPN, while providing all connections, and applications with adequate security software and hardware.

- The focus this year was also on remote and online tasks through various means (VPN, AnyDesk …):
  - A new authentication server was installed
  - SMS services were added
  - Currency in BANNER was converted from USD to LP
  - Acceptance letter was automated
  - More servers were moved to virtual infrastructure
  - JEA Administration was implemented to delegate administrative tasks to IT administrators on some modules like DNS, DHCP, etc.

- The University facilitated the mobility of:
  - Three incoming students from European Universities to the Faculties of Human Science, Business Administration, and Health Sciences.
  - Four outgoing students from the Faculties of Engineering and Law and Political Science to Nova School of Science and Technology in Portugal and the University of Santiago De Compostela in Spain respectively.
  - One incoming non-academic staff from the University of Santiago De Compostela in Spain
  - One outgoing academic staff from the Faculty of Health Sciences to Ataturk University in Turkey (Photo 18)
- An astonishing and precious collection of rare books and manuscripts were displayed in a professional manner in BAU Museum, in addition to the worldwide digital map that highlights significant civilizations, whereby three original statues were brought to BAU Museum from the Lebanese National Museum. These Statues were:
  - Altar with Latin Inscription: 45cm in length and 37cm in width.
  - Fragment with Arabic Inscription: 12.3 cm in length and 10.6 cm in width.
  - Fragment with Arabic Inscription: 13 cm in length and 13.5 cm in width.
Library opening work hours have been affected. There was a decrease in circulating materials, books checked on site, and students’ attendance/library entrance. Furthermore, to meet the increasing demands of library users during lockdowns and throughout the COVID-19 period, electronic resources were provided to users requesting the following support which included:
- Databases (in all faculties), search guidance, and steps (databases tutorials, research guidelines…)
- Open access search guidance and steps.
- Turn in usage steps and guidance for students and academic staff.
- Account creation for all faculties (students, academic and non-academic staff), databases access, and resolving related technical issues.
- The University organized and participated in a series of training sessions, lectures, workshops, and conferences to improve the skills and efficiency of non-academic staff, and to keep pace with the latest professional standards.


Building a Culture of Research and Grant Funding, delivered by International Experts from Florida State University as part of the “Grant Writing in Higher Education” webinar series under the auspices of the Higher Education Capacity Development (HECD) Program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on June 17, 2021.

Interview Etiquette, presented by Wael Mokahal through Zoom platform on June 4, 2021.

A Virtual Staff Week, at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences on May 24-28, 2021.


CV Writing and Interview Skills, presented by Wael Mokahal through Zoom platform on April 28, 2021.


Amboss Medical Platform by Amboss on April 12, 2021.

Publishing Medical Research: Ethics and Integrity by Taylor & Francis on April 8, 2021.

How to Write Medical Research by Taylor & Francis on April 6, 2021.

The Opening of Arab Union Catalogue Academy by Arabic Union Catalogue on March 29, 2021.


A Virtual Training for Trainers, presented by International Experts from Education Development Center under the auspices of the Higher Education Capacity Development (HECD) Program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on 7-11 December 2020.


LIBSENSE Virtual Workshop: Arab Region – Progress & Prospective by Arab States Research and Education Network – ARSEN on October 18, 2020.


Medad Library Virtual Service and Medad Search and Discovery Service by Arabic Union Catalogue on September 30, 2020.


The Strategy Assessment Meeting was held to evaluate the previous BAU Strategy 2013-2020.

Photo 19: Strategy Assessment Meeting

Photo 20: Virtual Signing of MoU with the USAID Higher Education Capacity Development, December 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

For the occasion of the International Youth Day, the University hosted a Youth Meeting with the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Najat Rochdi with representatives from UNESCO, UNFPA and UNODC.

Capacity building for curricula modernization of Syrian and Lebanese HEIs and lifelong learning provision: Towards Sustainable NGOs Management and Operation with Special Focus on Refugees, a morale project round table was held virtually on April 14, 2021.

Emerging Trends in ICT for Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Educational and Industrial Perspectives, a virtual international event as a part of the project ELEGANT that aims at enhancing teaching and learning, in addition to graduating employability through university-enterprise cooperation on December 9, 2020

Modern Cyber-security: Educational and Technical Perspectives, a webinar hosted by the University as a part of the Erasmus+ project ELEGANT that aims at enhancing teaching and learning, in addition to graduating employability through university-enterprise cooperation on November 25, 2020.

BAU President, Prof. Amir Galal Al-Adawi visited the Lebanese Minister of Public Health Dr. Hamad Hassan on September 4, 2020.

Project participation within the framework of Erasmus+ projects for 36 months including:
- Interprofessional student-run primary CARE clinics: A University-Enterprise Knowledge Triangle Cooperation Approach (ICARE).
- Developing Curricula for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (DECAR).

BAU has engaged and participated in a significant number of conferences, meetings, seminars, projects, webinars and other activities aiming at enhancing teaching and learning, graduating employability through university-enterprise cooperation, in addition to developing curricula for artificial intelligence and robotics.

Despite the limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the University has preserved its effective and long-standing national and international relations as a major priority on its agenda to build the most successful and strong partnership links through a series of cooperation agreements with various universities, institutions, organizations and different bodies where a number of them were signed virtually.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
NOTABLE VISITORS

BAU welcomed visits from:
- The president of Beirut Association for Social Development, Mr. Ahmad Hachmieh on May 5, 2021.
- The Regional Director of Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) Mr. Jean-Noel Baleo to discuss various aspects of cooperation on April 21, 2021.
- The Artist Dr. Nazr Daher, who handed the President a copy of his new book on April 20, 2021.
- The Chairman of Hammoud Hospital University Medical Center Dr. Ibrahim Ornis, MD to discuss ways of collaboration between the University and the Hospital in the fields of health, medical, and pharmaceutical specialties especially in this critical health situation on March 15, 2021.
- The President of Sagesse University Prof. Lara Karam Boustany on November 10, 2020. (Photo 21)
- The Minister of Culture and Agriculture, Mr. Abbas Mortada on October 12, 2020.
- The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University, Prof. Wael Nabil on September 23, 2020.
- The Director-General of the Ministry of Public Health of Lebanon, Mr. Fadi Sinan on September 1, 2020.
- The President of Sagesse University Prof. Lara Karam Boustany on November 10, 2020. (Photo 21)
- The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University, Prof. Wael Nabil on September 23, 2020.
- The Director-General of the Ministry of Public Health of Lebanon, Mr. Fadi Sinan on September 1, 2020.
- The president of Beirut Association for Social Development, Mr. Ahmad Hachmieh on May 5, 2021.
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- The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University, Prof. Wael Nabil on September 23, 2020.
- The Director-General of the Ministry of Public Health of Lebanon, Mr. Fadi Sinan on September 1, 2020.

AGREEMENTS AND COLLABORATIONS

During the academic year 2020-2021, BAU established a series of cooperation agreements with various universities and institutions:
- An appendix agreement was signed between the Faculty of Health Sciences and Albert Haykal Hospital on April 21, 2021.
- An agreement was signed with the Ministry of Public Health to get Pfizer Vaccines in order to vaccinate the academic and non-academic Staff on April 16, 2021. (Photo 22)
- An agreement of cooperation was signed between the Faculty of Health Sciences-Nutrition and Dietetics Department and Hammoud Hospital University Medical Center on March 18, 2021.
- A memorandum of understanding was signed between Human Rights Center and the Higher Education Capacity Development Program on March 12, 2021.
- An appendix agreement was signed between the Faculty of Medicine and Hammoud Hospital University Medical Center on March 8, 2021.
- An agreement of cooperation was signed with the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA) to provide sustenance for the Healthcare Center of the Faculty of Medicine in order to alleviate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Lebanon on February 1, 2021.
- An agreement of cooperation was signed between Beirut Arab University Health Care Center (BAUHC) and the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA) to launch COVID-19 Free Clinics signed on January 27, 2021.
- A memorandum of understanding was signed with the USAID Higher Education Capacity Development Program in Lebanon on December 3, 2020 (Photo 20)
- An agreement of cooperation was signed between For Good Association (Lei Khair Ana Wa Anta) with Tripoli Branch on October 27, 2020. (Photo 23)
- An agreement of cooperation by the Faculty of Dentistry with Naoum Merhej Laboratories on September 22, 2020.
- A memorandum of cooperation was signed between the Faculty of Medicine at the University and Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University on September 22, 2020.
- An agreement of cooperation was signed with Ministry of Public Health on recommending Drug Quality Control Center subordinated to the Consultation and Studies at BAU on September 2, 2020.
- An agreement of cooperation was signed between Beirut Arab University Health Care Center (BAUHC) and the Association of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA) to launch COVID-19 Free Clinics signed on January 27, 2021.
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- An agreement of cooperation was signed with Ministry of Public Health on recommending Drug Quality Control Center subordinated to the Consultation and Studies at BAU on September 2, 2020.

Numerous agreements and collaborations were made with national and international organizations, institutions, and bodies to develop and strengthen relations:
- University Santiago De Compostela in Spain
- University of Minho (UMinho) in Portugal under Jamies Project
- University Nova De Lisboa in Portugal under Jamies Project
- Lithuanian University of Health Sciences in Lithuania
- University of Pavia in Italy
- Sapienza University of Rome
- The Arctic University of Norway
- Moulay Ismail University
- La Rochelle Université - France
- Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University

Regional, Local and International Cooperation Memberships were also established:
- CONFREMO
- International Association of Universities
- International Council for Open and Distance Education
- Association of Arab Universities
- Association of Universities of Lebanon
- Lebanese University Libraries - Consortium 1
- Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery Service (ILL DDS) - Consortium 2
- Lebanese Libraries Association
- Association of Arab Universities - Journal of the Faculty of Law
- The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
- The International Association of Technological University Libraries
- International Council on Archives.
Community Engagement

Community service is an actual part of BAU’s Engagement and Outreach Program. The University is dedicated to improve life at the environmental, human and social levels. It continues to strengthen and expand its global network of stakeholders and establish channels of communication by joining a large number of unions and organizations.

In reference to healthcare and community services, BAUHC has launched several initiatives related to the medical care during the widespread outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic for patients through its hotline service to support BAU students as well as academic and non-academic staff suspected of being infected with the virus. The COVID-19 Vaccination Center was also launched to serve the Lebanese community, mitigate the spread of the virus, and to ensure a return to normal daily activities within the university and the community. A qualified volunteer team from BAU medical faculties provided free medical care and support through the vaccination process, which was able to ease the burden on hospitals.

Due to the critical situation in Lebanon, the COVID-19 pandemic and Beirut Port explosion, all events and activities were canceled to secure the safety of students which led to a new challenge faced by BAU, which is the inability to access direct interaction with students. These challenges encouraged BAU to establish many extra-curricular activities to allow students to enjoy a wide range of activities that satisfy different tastes and make them actively participate in these actions in order to bring them closer to society and enhance their self-esteem in addition to expand their way to obtain awards and national recognition when participating in competitions. Academic staff, who are an essential part of university life, have also played an important role in these activities and have been honored by national stakeholders after receiving awards in recognition of their achievements in certain fields of study.
HEALTHCARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Despite having a difficult time, BAU has devoted all the resources to help the community by mobilizing medical facilities, students and staff to participate in healthcare and civic missions along with many initiatives that have been carried out to provide medical care and develop human values. During this period, the University maintained a constant presence in the field, volunteering and providing support in hospitals, with governmental and non-governmental organizations and various other bodies. From medical and professional assistance to securing provisions, the University has worked tirelessly to perform its societal and caring duties; forming a united front in the face of adversity.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- At the beginning of the academic year, BAU established the BAU COVID-19 Committee to manage all issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic within BAU. BAUHC director and the medical director were members of this committee. Its recommendations are based on the latest guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Physicians shared recommendations with the committee in order to implement appropriate measures at BAU and accordingly, a hotline for COVID-19 issues was launched.

- The BAUHC COVID-19 Vaccination Center was launched on Beirut campus in cooperation with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health in May 2021. The initiative aimed to contribute to the national vaccination campaign by providing vaccination services to staff, students and members of the surrounding community. BAUHC and health-related faculties have variously contributed to the running of the Center. A qualified team of trainees and residents of BAU provided medical clearance to the people prior to vaccination, a team of senior nursing students delivered the vaccine while senior pharmacy students prepared vaccine shots and monitored the vaccinated persons in the observation area for any reaction to act accordingly. (Photo 25)

- Sputnik V COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign: BAUHC provided the Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine to approximately 500 people from Beirut in cooperation with the Beirut Association for Social Development between May 10 and July 24, 2021.

- Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign: BAU launched a vaccination campaign to vaccinate 7,500 people from the BAU community with two doses (students, staff, and BAU close family members) in July 2021. To date, a total of about 8000 doses have been delivered; the vaccination campaign continued until the end of October 2021 after all new students were vaccinated.

- BAUHC, in collaboration with the Federation of Businessmen for Support and Development (IRADA), launched an initiative to help reduce the burden on the hospitals. The aim of this project was to provide free medical support for low to intermediate acuity COVID-19 patients who can be treated in an outpatient setting including guidance and medical follow-up. High-risk and critical COVID-19 patients have been directed to seek emergency medical care. The project was implemented in two phases.
- The COVID-19 Field Clinics: Seven clinics, in the form of hard tents, were set up remotely in the main campus parking lot and equipped by IRADA on March 30, 2021. Clinics were operating Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., excluding holidays. Field clinics were managed by nine registered nurses, 19 senior nursing students, 30 medical interns, 11 resident physicians, and seven family medicine specialists. Four of the clinics were run by junior doctors, two clinics were for observation for various reasons (e.g. oxygen supplementation), and the remaining clinic was for vital signs and initial assessment by the nursing team. The clinics operated for 23 working days ranging from March 30 till May 7, 2021 during when the number of new COVID-19 cases in Lebanon dropped vigorously, and received 125 visits.

- COVID-19 Call Center: The free-of-charge call center was founded on February 2, 2021. It is operated 24/7, by a team of 30 medical interns, 11 resident physicians, and eight family medicine specialists to answer patient concerns and take appropriate actions. It received 1,953 calls from February 2 till May 11, 2021.

  * Prof. Abdalla El Lakany, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, was nominated to head the committee responsible for organizing the proper flow of the vaccination campaign.
  * Nursing students at the Faculty of Health Sciences - Tripoli Branch participated in the National Vaccination Campaign especially during the peak of the nurse shortage on February 27, 2021. Students volunteered to help the medical team by providing vaccinations at Albert Haykel Hospital, which has been approved by the Ministry of Public Health as a vaccination center in North Lebanon. The students also conducted wide awareness campaigns on the importance of vaccination to encourage citizens to achieve the required community vaccination in a short period of time.
  * Despite all the challenges, the total number of BAUHC beneficiaries between September 2020 and August 2021 increased from 3,756 (academic year 2018-2019) and 4,608 (academic year 2019-2020) to 6,722. The majority of beneficiaries are patients from outside the BAU community, a total of 3,730, followed by BAU insurance/BAU community insurance holders (accredited and non-academic staff, as well as workers), at a total of 2,912. Because of BAU's closure and online teaching strategies, only 533 students on the University Health Services (UHS) program earned a BAUHC healthcare services, compared to 1,223 (2018-2019) and 844 (2019-2020).

- The Faculty of Health Sciences played a key role in the response to COVID-19, with its students and staff being instrumental in directing and implementing a vaccination campaign that led to a much-needed return to campus life for students, academic and non-academic staff.
  * The Faculty of Pharmacy manufactured hand sanitizers to provide for the shortage in hospitals and health care centers during the outbreak of COVID-19 and offered them to BAU staff to maximize preventive measures against this pandemic. It also helped in the vaccination campaign launched by the Ministry of Public Health at Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH).
  * A Free Medical Day was launched by the Faculty of Medicine to provide free health care services such as physical examinations, clinical consultations, laboratory tests, free PCR, and the provision of pharmaceutical drugs to patients in Bourj Hammoud and Tripoli. (Photo 24)
  * The Faculty of Health Sciences participated in a University wide vaccination campaign for students and academic and non-academic staff, and COVID-19 pandemic was added to the curriculum through various courses in various departments.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- On the occasion of the World Health Day, the University launched an awareness campaign on the Role of Youth in Promoting Social Cohesion during the Pandemic, through a virtual workshop for empowerment on May 12, 2021.
- Collaborating with communities to overcome the stress of children’s trauma through their interaction with these maps as a coping strategy for the physical and emotional stresses caused by the Beirut Port explosion.
- Beirut Miniature Model Art Exhibition to introduce Cultural Heritage to Children at St. Nicholas Stairs on June 25, 2021.
- A workshop was held with support of UNODC and in collaboration with NGO “Himaya Daem Aataa” in Karantina Park to develop children’s emotional attachment to the territory of the Beirut Port explosion on May 18, 2021.
- Children were invited to Debbieh Campus and engaged in different activities planned in this project on April 10, 2021.
- Capacity building for schools teachers through a webinar organized on April 24, 2021.

- The Research Unit Team from the Faculty of Engineering performed a Site visit to the explosion area in order to extract and evaluate under the supervision of academic staff online through TEAMS attended by the students who joined the session in March, 2021.
- The Research Unit Team from the Faculty led by Prof. 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 the Beirut Port explosion on September 21, 2020.
- The Research Unit Team from the Faculty of Engineering performed a Site visit to the explosion area in order to extract concrete core specimens and reinforce rebar of different diameters from Wheat Silos on September 21, 2020.

- Timani and a group of Lab Technicians moved in their work from Phase 1 to the Phase 2 of the research project related to the Beirut Port explosion on November 22, 2020.
- A research team from the Faculty led by Prof. Yehya Temsah, conducted a Study Project for the Beirut Port explosion in collaboration with the Lebanese Army to define the magnitude of the explosive material weight, the structural response of the Wheat Silos and their protective role on November 22, 2020.
- The Research Unit Team from the Faculty led by Prof. 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 the Beirut Port explosion on September 21, 2020.
- The Research Unit Team from the Faculty of Engineering performed a Site visit to the explosion area in order to extract concrete core specimens and reinforce rebar of different diameters from Wheat Silos on September 16, 2020. The collected specimens were transmitted to the material laboratory at Debbieh Campus and were subjected to tests in order to define their mechanical properties which are an essential part of the third research phase of structural analysis.
- The Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment collaborated with national and international parties to provide community services after the Beirut Port explosion. Since the first day, the Dean of the Faculty Prof. Ibtihal El Bastawissi participated in a series of meetings with representatives of the parties working on sites.
- The Faculty of Architecture - Design and the Built Environment actively participated in the Beirut Urban Declaration led by the Order of Engineers and Architects (OEA) in Beirut in cooperation with the Lebanese Schools of Architecture through the participation of staff in organized meetings, workshops and webinars.
- Volunteers from the Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment were trained by UN-Habitat on how to conduct damage assessment in the Mar Mikhael Neighborhood.
- As a call to retain Beirut Built Heritage, the University formed groups of assistants (students as well as academic and non-academic staff) who participated in removing the rubble and surveying the damage to the port area, including the archaeological buildings in the old neighborhoods on October 1, 2020.
- The Faculty of Engineering always aims to serve the local community and to show support and cooperation by contacting the municipalities along with various civil society organizations. It plays an active role and contributes to positive change in the community by devoting its expertise to help solve the problems and issues facing the region:
  - A research team from the Faculty led by Prof. Yehya Temsah, conducted a Study Project for the Beirut Port explosion in collaboration with the Lebanese Army to define the magnitude of the explosive material weight, the structural response of the Wheat Silos and their protective role on November 22, 2020.
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A call for application for a training in Beirut entitled: The Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons International and National Obligations was announced by the Human Right Center for Law students to encourage the legal and human rights defenders and advocate for the implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and Law 105/2018 at the national level in August 2021.

A play was organized by the Human Rights Center as part of the activities related to the PBF Dealing with the Past Memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons Project, where students participated in the play that dealt with the legacy of the Civil War and the lessons learned from it.

The Human Rights Center participated in a round table discussion entitled Lebanon and Human Rights, which was held at the La Nau Cultural Center at the University of Valencia in Spain on June 30, 2021. (Photo 29)

The Language Center attended an online workshop entitled Morale 1st Training Replication – Module 1 on June 30, 2021.

The Human Rights Center launched a publication activity in which post graduate students from three different majors (Psychology, Law and Political Science) were asked to write academic papers on different topics. The topics related to the rights of the enforced disappeared persons in Lebanon, and aims to contribute to the resources of the legacy of the war in general and enforced disappeared specifically in June 2021.

The Human Rights Center signed an agreement of cooperation with Kreisau Initiative (a foundation established in summer 1989 to support the establishment and maintenance of an international youth meeting center) regarding a project funded by the European Union. The project aims to train students from different countries on topics related to the International Criminal Court (ICC), as the students participated in the Model International Criminal Court (MCC) at its headquarters in Poland in June 2021.

A call for application for a photography/painting competition entitled Eye-Remember, was announced on social media platforms. The activity is an artistic initiative open to the public engagement and deals directly with remembrance component, and held in June 2021.

The Human Rights Center organized a Campaign on the Occasion of the World Health Day with the support of the Lebanese National Commission. It aims to shed light on the role of youth and their participation in drawing attention to the importance of global health issues and how to reduce the impact of the epidemic, especially on the social and health levels. It also commends the young medical and healthcare staff/students by publishing a Digital Wall of Heroes and Heroines on BAU’s website and social media platforms and raises awareness about the COVID-19 pandemic from a social and educational perspective during the period from April to May 2021. (Photo 30)

An online workshop was organized by the Human Rights Center to raise students’ awareness on the role of the youth in promoting social cohesion during the outbreak of the pandemic in May 2021.

The Language Center attended a three-day online conference with a set of free education webinars organized by Cambridge University from March 23 to 25, 2021.

The Language Center attended a webinar on Tools for Online Teaching organized by the Higher Education Capacity Development (HECD) Program and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on February 11, 2021.

The Center for Entrepreneurship participated in WATERMEDYIN Project, financed by the Italian Cooperation and implemented by CIHEAM Ibari in 2021. The project aims to contribute to sustainable development in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting youth entrepreneurship, youth integration, and socio-economic opportunities in the water, marine and coastal sectors in the Mediterranean region.

A two-week Awareness Workshop, was organized by the Human Rights Center for the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women, in collaboration with the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO (LNUC) and Internal Security Forces (ISF) in the village of Khrab El Hayatt- Akkar on December 4, 2020.

Coursera Conference: Building the University of the Future, was attended by the Dean of Academic Development and Quality Center Prof. Maha Aboul Ela on October 20, 2021. (Photo 32)


The Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED) pursued its efforts to study and monitor the Quality of Litani Watershed, where laboratory analyzes of water quality standards were launched at the Litani River Authority station in Kirbat Kanfar for a full hydrological year of October 2020 to September 2021. In parallel and in cooperation with Litani River Authority, monitoring activities were launched using TROLL multi parameter probes of two sites Litani River along with monitoring wells of in the basin. (Photo 33)

The Center for Consultation and Studies helped the University to contribute expertise to the sustainable development of the local community, with a focus on finding solutions to community problems. The Center provided technical advisory in cooperation with various Lebanese sectors (individuals, institutions, companies, as well as ministries).

The Center for Consultation and Studies served the Lebanese community to ensure the quality of various products that could affect its safety through two main laboratories in the Debibeh campus:

- The Material Properties Laboratory at the Faculty of Engineering served the research and industrial needs, under the supervision of specialized academics using equipments that are periodically calibrated to perform tests of various materials including iron, concrete, hollow blocks, tiles and asphalt. The laboratory conducted tests for 16 Lebanese companies and parties with a total number of 198 samples.
- The Water and Soil Analysis Laboratory conducted tests for two Lebanese companies and entities with a total sample of 34 samples during the entire academic year.

The Drug Quality Control Laboratory (DQCC) ISO 9001:2015 at the Faculty of Pharmacy was assigned to provide services, consultations and problem solving for the surrounding community in the field of pharmacy. The laboratory owned advanced instrumentation and technical facilities as well as DQCC scope of well-qualified human resources. It conducted an analysis of 32 Lebanese companies and destinations with a total of 354 samples.

- The Laboratory of Drug Quality Control (DQCC) signed a collaboration agreement under the theme of patient safety with:
  - Ministry of Public Health to conduct all quality control analysis of raw materials and pharmaceutical products imported from abroad. In addition, to carrying out the detection of some unauthorized products especially stimulant drugs, sexual drugs and anorexia drugs, in all food supplements, herbal products and energy drinks imported from abroad.
  - Ministry of Agriculture to apply all quality control procedures for all veterinary medicines imported from abroad.
  - Pharmaceutical Companies for consultation and method development.
  - UNWRA (The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine)
  - Community pharmacies

The Center of Applied Statistics (CAS) has provided quality services that promote and contribute to high standards in research by assisting and supporting academic staff, students, and the community at large to conduct high-level and ethical researches in a formal and appropriate manner. During this academic year, the center did not stop offering these services neither during the pandemic nor during the summer semester. The total number of students who served during this academic year was 23 students, of whom 18 were master students working on their theses, four are PhD students working on their dissertations, and one undergraduate student working on a project.

The Center for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) provided educational and training services through offering specialized courses for students and professionals in support of the University’s strategic plan. As a result, 33 professional courses were held virtually with 2,682 participants who attended throughout the academic year. The content areas focus on Engineering software training (Revit, 3DsMAx, Photoshop, ETABS, SAFE, Vb.net, Android, Microsoft Office, etc.), soft skills programs, and multiple IT certificate programs (CISCO, K3, CEH).

The Center for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) has cooperated with a variety of academic departments and signed agreements with a number of reputable educational institutions such as:

- Certport, the exclusive accredited agent for the Microsoft exams in Lebanon.
- Ayreson University, Canada, for providing professional certificate programs.
- Coursera, for providing professional certificate programs.

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Several initiatives and measures have been taken aimed at serving the CAS’s mission and improving its quality, performance and administrative functions, including appointing and appointing an administrative official and training them, and designing and implementing the online application with the help of the IT department to organize, manage and monitor the provision of services in the center, and new forms, materials and templates were created.

Highly qualified and skilled students from the Master of Applied Statistics program have been selected for training at the Center for Applied Statistics. Technical assistants are trained and monitored to assist with routine tasks that include data entry, basic descriptive techniques, and repetitive data analysis methods and techniques using software packages.

The Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) organized and participated in various conferences, courses, seminars and competitions and applied to different entrepreneurial calls for funding, with the aim of promoting the culture of entrepreneurship.

The Center for Entrepreneurship, represented by Engineer Reem Dernaika, participated in four seminars titled:
- Mediterranean Innovation Partnership (IMP)
- Agile Entrepreneur Designing Innovative Products and Services, Incorporating Design Thinking in the Development Processes
- The Quantitative and Monetary Measurements of the Social and Environmental Impact of the ISO/Startup Initiatives
- Agri-food Transition

BAU Entrepreneurship Hub – Tripoli Campus organized a workshop in February 2021 entitled “Skill-Up, Match-Up” for the Computer Science, Communication, and Business students. This workshop was funded by Spark (an NGO located in Netherlands) and moderated by Al Moltaqa in cooperation with Microsoft as a technology partner for Software Developer Expert program. It aims to provide postgraduate students with all the skills, methodologies and experience needed to easily fit into vacant positions and start new businesses.

The duration of the workshop was 14 weeks, and all lectures were given by specialized lecturers and employers.

The Center for Entrepreneurship worked on three fund proposals:
- The USAID fund for Avocado research lab,
- Social Entrepreneurship collaboration in Safir Project (Fund for incubator, and social entrepreneurship courses), and
- The AMIDEAST invention lab.

The Center for Entrepreneurship collaborated with a wide variety of academic departments and signed agreements with a number of reputable educational institutions, such as CIHEAM Bari, COSV, and AMIDEAST.

The Language Center adopted new online teaching strategies for all intensive English courses due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, by conducting virtual classes on Zoom twice a week for each class, recording the lesson explanation in the form of a PPT, and uploading all PPTs, worksheets, and activities on Moodle.

The Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED) has redoubled its efforts to contribute to the University's educational and development mission, despite all the repeated closures that Lebanon implemented during the 2020-2021 academic year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED) participated in school forums for public and private secondary school students in the Bekaa region in coordination with the Dean of Student Affairs and the Director of the Admissions Department. During the forum, students were provided with detailed information about the degree programs offered by the University, admission requirements, as well as financial aid and scholarships.

The annual activities of the Human Rights Center faced several delays and cancellations due to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other political and economic issues. However, the center has maintained a flow of key activities and communications with whatever tools are available and feasible.

The Human Rights Center received a grant from the United Nations Peace Building Fund jointly implemented with OHCHR on (PBF) which deals with the Past Memories for Future Rights of Enforced Disappeared Persons project. The project aims to direct the human rights efforts to address the root causes of past conflict and current social tensions.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The University has engaged in many extra-curricular activities to help students to learn about themselves, acquire new skills and knowledge, and enhance academic performance and broader social skills.

- Be Sportive, a digital event where BAU alumni Mazen Abdullah and Sami El Shoum discussed the history and the rules of their respective sport. (Photo 33)
- Be Successful, a short video featuring Wissam Sabbagh one of BAU successful alumni. Quick Chat focuses on his best memories at BAU and the tips/advice he gave current students that will help them excel in their careers. (Photo 34)
- **Fakkir Sah**, interactive videos providing tips and general knowledge on topics of interest to BAU students. Each video highlights the usual myths and traditions seeks to correct misinformation.
- **This or That**, an infographic poll that collects data from students after they choose their preference between two topics.
- **Ramadan Trivia**, a daily trivia questions during the holy month of Ramadan targeting the general knowledge of students on various topics.
- **BAU Social Entrepreneurship Hub** organized a series of five-week workshops targeting school and university students in Tripoli which were presented using modern communication technologies, particularly the Zoom application.
  - **Leadership skills**, presented by Mr. Yazbek Wehbe, the Journalist and News presenter on LBC, to improve leadership skills on May 27, 2021.
  - **Entrepreneurial skills**, to develop students’ entrepreneurial skills through topics related to self-confidence, time management, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills on May 21-22, 2021.
  - **Computer Latency**, to build Microsoft Office 360 skills on May 7-8, 2021.
  - **Communication Skills**, to strengthen students’ communication skills in topics related to personal branding, nonverbal communication, public speaking, presentation skills, emotional intelligence and growth mindset on April 30 and May 1, 2021.
  - **Career Guidance**, to provide students with insights into different careers, the skills needed to succeed in each field, and a description of the nature of work in each field on April 23-24, 2021.
  - **Virtual Fun Day**, a creative activity held to boost students’ moods after the successive shocks that hit Lebanon by the Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment on March 22, 2021.
- **Sustainable Fish Farm in Lebanon**, a startup competition attended by students from the Faculty of Engineering.
- **Notebook Planner**, an initiative launched to be sold to raise funds for the needy by Tania Abdel-Khalek, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy who initiated the idea of providing these people with the medication they needed as well as other necessities.
- **Ask the Expert**, an online program created to empower young people who transform global challenges into a passion by Maria Saaan, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy and JCI Member. The program helps foster an educated, informed and diverse civil society by supporting high-quality content and services that are created, developed, and implemented by different talents at all levels and abilities.
- **Hope Foundation**, an initiative to help those affected economically and mentally by Beirut Port Explosion, launched by Zaynab El Bourji, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy, who also participated in much extracurricular and volunteer work, such as spreading awareness with the Ministry of Public Health in municipalities and schools, and helping to organize blood donations after the explosion.
- **Tania Abdelkhalek, Haya Shmaitelly, Dana Hallak, and Lynn Shmaitelly** as well as **Club Service Director, Engineer Amina Ashi** and **student Mohammad Khaled Flay, from the Faculty of Pharmacy, who also participated in much extracurricular and volunteer work, such as spreading awareness with the Ministry of Public Health in municipalities and schools, and helping to organize blood donations after the explosion.**
- **A Panel Discussion** with the Children’s Cancer Center of Lebanon, was organized by Rayan Al-Hajj, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy. She invited Mr. Wissam Braidy, the Lebanese TV talk show presenter, to host the session.

### STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

BAU students participated in research competitions, creative activities, and the President’s Medal Awards, in addition to extra-curricular activities in multiple fields:

- **Engineer Amina Ashi** and student **Mohammad Khaled Flay**, from the Faculty of Engineering, participated in the **Eighth Undergraduate Research Competition** on June 8, 2021. (Photo 35)
- **Ghadir Mustapha, Shadi Osta, Mohamad Azhari, and Rayan Zankar**, students from the Faculty of Architecture - Design & Built Environment, participated in the **Prestigious RIBA President’s Medals Awards 2020 by Submitting Four Projects** on November 5, 2020.
- **Lama Al Kurdi**, a student from the Faculty of Architecture - Design and Built Environment, participated in Stars of Science season 13 by presenting her project, where she focused on the use of stone waste as raw materials for the production of tiles. (Photo 36)
- **Khreidine Baaazini**, a student from the Faculty of Engineering - Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, has been selected for a one month internship in a telecom company in Egypt according to the collaboration between BAU and the Lebanese-Egyptian Business Council.
- A group of ten student groups from the Computer Science Program at the Faculty of Science participated in the Game Academy, organized by Khaldii Beirii Association.
- **Mohamad Yamout and Omar Mabsout**, students from the Faculty of Pharmacy, attended 40 hours of training with **International Pharmaceutical Students Federation (IPSF)** in an Online Training Development Campaign and they are now considered as IPSF Trainers.
- **Omar Mabsout**, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy was nominated and elected as **President of Lebanese Pharmacy Students’ Association (LPSA)** board and as **Head of Professional Development and Recruitment Committee**, while Rayan El-Hage was elected **Secretary General, and Joulana Jalloul as Pharmacy Education Chairperson. Their main challenge was to bring the association’s events and activities online.**
- **Rayan El-Hage**, a student from the Faculty of Pharmacy joined a three month summer program with the **United Nations to pitch a business plan for solving one or more Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**
- Rayan’s project focused on **SDG 3 on the mental health of patients with cancer. Throughout the three months, the trainers taught the participants essential skills such as design thinking, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement.**
AWARDS AND HONORS

The University takes pride in its academic staff and students who have achieved distinguished feats and brought home awards and honors:

- Dr. Nabil Mohaeeb, from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment (Tripoli Branch), awarded the first virtual fellowship organized by the University of Liverpool (UK) entitled Virtual Fellowship in Heritage 2021.
- Dr. Mostafa Khalifa from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment (Tripoli Branch), won the Architectural Competition in 2020 and became the curator and commissioner of the Pavilion of Egypt at Venice international Biennale of Architecture 2021, and officially represented the Arab Republic of Egypt during May 2021. (Photo 37)
- Dr. Sameer El-Sayary, from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment won the FOCUS Prize - The Lunar Village (PRIX FOCUS Le Village Lunaire), for his project IRIS, granted by the Jaques Rougerie Foundation - Institute de France as part of the Winners of the 2020 International Architecture and Art Prizes, Architecture and Innovation for Space in December 2020.

- Dr. Mostafa Rabea Abdelbaset with his design team from Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment (Tripoli Branch), won the first prize in the competition 17th International Architecture Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia to design the Egyptian Pavilion. Their project entitled The Blessed Fragments has been on display at the Giardini from May 22 until November 21, 2021.
- Dr. Ali Seki and Dr. Mostafa Khalifa, from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment (Tripoli Branch), won the 1st Place Award in the International Global Competition Cool Abu Dhabi Competition organized by the Department of Municipalities and Transportation of Abu Dhabi - United Arab Emirates for their project “Salt & Shades” on October 9, 2021.
- Dr. Jean El Achkir, Assistant Professor at the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering department, from the Faculty of Engineering, received the prestigious AUDI Environmental Foundation Award. He is one of the 16 AUDI laureates, and the only one from Lebanon, the Arab World and the Middle East Region.
- Dr. Alaa Daher, from the Faculty of Engineering, received the first place award for the development of a postural stability assessment using a stabilometric platform presented by Lebanese Biomedical Student Competition LBSC2021, Beirut.

- Nisrine Kamouneh, a student from the Mass Communication Department at the Faculty of Human Sciences, was chosen for the 2021 study of the US Institutes (SUSI) Women’s Leadership Program, among 87 other women from 23 different countries on an empowering, inspiring and educational women’s leadership program on July 12-19, 2021.
- The Physical Therapy Department at the Faculty of the Health Sciences, harvested the first prize at the Eighth Undergraduate Virtual Research Competition across their category Clinical Science on June 23, 2021.
- Layyan Azzam, Nour Souheil, Claudine Rahal, Nancy Hussien, and Rube Kaaleiat, students from Interior Design won the Design for Industry (Furniture design Challenge) among 8 other teams, on their project entitled: Pupa Bedrooms Concept that was held by the Business Club at the Faculty of Business Administration in cooperation with BLOM Invest Stock Exchange National.
- Razi Faisal Aman El-Din, a graduate from the Faculty of Law and Political Science, class of 2019/2020, won first place out of 936 contestants in the Entrance Exam to the Beirut Bar Association. (Photo 38)
- Moatassem Fathallah, Jamil El Masy, Ali Kamdan, Mohamed Al Daoud, Haissam Sakr from the SPE Chapter at the Faculty of Engineering won under the supervision of Assistant Professor Rami Haroukss, the Second Rank at ADIPEC2020 in Abu Dhabi on November 13, 2020.
- Dr. Alanne Salaymeh, a graduate student from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment won the Gaudi Architecture Prize 2021-Sports & Recreational Building Category for his graduation project entitled Breathing New Life for Abandoned Airstrip.
- Rani Faisal Aman El-Din, a graduate from the Faculty of Law and Political Science, class of 2019/2020, won first place out of 936 contestants in the Entrance Exam to the Beirut Bar Association. (Photo 38)
- Salem Shatila, a student from the Faculty of Business Administration won BLOM Invest Stock Exchange National Competition that was held by the Business Club at the Faculty of Business Administration in cooperation with BLOM Invest for the third consecutive year. (Photo 39)
- Aya Sifoni, Dana Al Kousb, Eman Darwish, Hadeel El Youssuf, Lama Jarjour, Sami Ghanem, and Moussa Zeidawi, students from the Physical Therapy Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences, won the first place across their category “Clinical Science” in the 8th Undergraduate Virtual Research Competition.
- Louay Ghizzawy, Haidar Al-Moqdad, and Eman Najar, students from the Faculty of Architecture – Design & Built Environment with their colleague from the Faculty of Engineering, Jana Shami under the supervision of Ms. Tahia Sukkarieh, won the Development de L’Entrepreneur etudiant au Liban (DEEL) competition, where they obtained a patent for their project, authorized by the Lebanese Ministry of Economy and Trade.
Facts and Figures

The facts and figures section aims at revealing Beirut Arab University in numbers through precise and trustful numerical values. This occurs by implementing an important technique, which allows BAU to monitor its performance to reach an accurate evaluation, which widens its scopes for improvements. This can be achieved by collecting periodic information about staff, students, and operations to track needs, opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses in the University’s pillars. The data obtained demonstrates an incredible increase of about 23% in the freshmen students’ enrollment. Also, women’s participation in both academic and non-academic fields is also revealed through these numbers which reflects the University’s valuation. This allows BAU to occupy and encompass an extraordinary rank of exploration, variety, multiplicity, and prosperity along with high standards.

The various areas related to the University are presented in a well-structured manner through data and graphs that facilitate and simplify reading the numbers of graduates, undergraduates, academic and non-academic staff, financial aid, scholarships and enrollment statuses in each faculty in addition to other valuable data. Regardless of the challenges this year, BAU is also proud to have offered scholarships and financial aid to 5397 of its students, a number that has grown steadily over the years, due
**Chart 1: The Number of Academic Staff Distributed by Gender**

- Female: 143
- Male: 82
- Total: 225

**Chart 2: The Number of Academic Staff Distributed by Nationality**

- Lebanese: 69
- International: 156
- Total: 225

**Chart 3: The Number of Non-Academic Staff Distributed by Gender**

- Female: 192
- Male: 184
- Total: 376

**Chart 4: The Number of Enrolled Students by Faculty in the Academic Year 2020-2021**

- Business Administration: 401
- Architecture: 527
- Science: 2404
- Health Sciences: 566
- Pharmacy: 741
- Medicine: 401
- Dentistry: 205
- Engineering: 1107
- Law and Political Science: 511
- Human Sciences: 850
- Business Administration: 159
- Total: 7,616

**Chart 5: The Number of Graduated Students by Faculty in the Academic Year 2020-2021**

- Business Administration: 88
- Architecture: 129
- Science: 576
- Health Sciences: 169
- Pharmacy: 40
- Dentistry: 35
- Engineering: 267
- Law and Political Science: 169
- Human Sciences: 81
- Total: 1,608
CHART 6: THE NUMBER OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE LAST FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS
TOTAL: 39,302

2016 - 2017
2017 - 2018
2018 - 2019
2019 - 2020
2020 - 2021

CHART 8: THE NUMBER OF MASTERS’ DEGREES GRANTED BY FACULTY IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 - 2021
TOTAL: 285

Human Sciences
Law and Political Science
Business Administration
Architecture
Engineering
Science
Pharmacy
Dentistry

CHART 7: THE NUMBER OF BAU SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID BY CATEGORY
TOTAL: 5,397

- Financial Aid
- Staff Exemptions
- 10% to 100% Scholarships
- Third Party Scholarships
- Ranking Scholarships
- Siblings
- Outstanding Students

CHART 9: THE NUMBER OF MASTERS’ DEGREES GRANTED IN THE LAST FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS
TOTAL: 285

2016 - 2017
2017 - 2018
2018 - 2019
2019 - 2020
2020 - 2021

CHART 10: THE NUMBER OF PH.D. DEGREES GRANTED BY FACULTY IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021
TOTAL: 70

Human Sciences
Law and Political Science
Business Administration
Architecture
Engineering
Science
Pharmacy
Dentistry

CHART 11: THE NUMBER OF PH.D. DEGREES GRANTED IN THE LAST FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS
TOTAL: 260

2016 - 2017
2017 - 2018
2018 - 2019
2019 - 2020
2020 - 2021