Departments:

**Letters**

**Inside the Gate**

Views from Campus  
Reports from the field: campus botanical gardens, cancer fighting plants, bettering Beirut air, understanding addiction, 4,000 year-old house cleaning; open book: what we’re reading on campus; 1,429 pages, 1,400 entries, an English-Arabic dictionary, and Professor Ramzi Baalbaki.

Reviews

**Beyond Bliss Street**

*MainGate Connections*  
Trailblazer: Salma Jayyusi (BA ’56)

*Alumni Profile*  
Brand Name: Tarek Atrissi (BA ’00) on branding Qatar and innovating contemporary Arabic design and typography.

*Legends and Legacies*  
Boutros Bustani, father of the Arabic renaissance

*Reflections*  
Engineering Change: Speaking with Ibrahim Hajj (BE ’64)

*Alumni Happenings*  
Reunion 2010; AUB relaunches the ring ceremony; WAAAUB 2010 election results

*Class Notes*  

*In Memoriam*  

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**Cover**  
Typography exercise with the word MainGate by AUB students.

**Printing**  
Lane Press
The SPC Man
Do you have what it takes to be an SPC man? The 100 year-old question.

Off the Wall
Political, personal, artistic and patriotic—Beirut’s graffiti has a new message.

Writ Large
A successful new literary festival at AUB and what inspires and drives alumni authors around the world.

Composing Thoughts
Writing makes a comeback on campus.

Adaptation
As part of the graphic design curriculum at AUB two typography courses are offered as core courses in the second year of study. The course objective is to learn typography as form and content, the anatomy of letterforms and how it is used. Typography constitutes a strong base to any graphic design program. At the end of the first semester, students learn the basic components of type and become more comfortable experimenting. At this point, we give an exercise called “adaptation”. Students are asked to choose a Latin font and create a word in Arabic; studying the forms of this given Latin font and finding the appropriate shapes to create the Arabic letters. This method is not new, as it is often used in logo adaptations; a company that has a logo created in a Latin font would use this adaptation exercise to translate it into Arabic. This method is also used to create a logo or image, which gives a certain flair to the logo; this is particularly true in TV credits in Lebanon and the Middle East.

We asked the students to write MainGate in Arabic using a Latin font, and the results are on the cover of this issue.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

One of the most valuable pieces of advice I received after becoming president of AUB in 2008 was to listen to our alumni and friends of the University. It’s something I have been doing a lot of—most recently at alumni events in Atlanta, Georgia and Boston, Massachusetts, Abu Dhabi, UAE and Kuwait; at Reunion last July; and of course through my conversations with the twenty alumni who serve on the University’s Board of Trustees. I have benefited enormously from these conversations and am deeply grateful that so many of you care enough about this institution to share with me not only your hopes and dreams, but your concerns as well.

AUB’s announcement of a new tuition policy in May 2010 prompted a swift reaction from some of our students on campus and from alumni as well. (See article on page 22.) Some of you wrote to tell me that you were worried that you would no longer be able to afford to send your child to AUB, others that you were concerned about the fairness and transparency of the financial aid process. We listened to you and made some changes to the policy that will go into effect in fall 2011—changes that you can read more about in this issue of the magazine and on-line and on the AUB website.

Because I know that alumni are always concerned about the quality of the University and that accreditation is one indicator of AUB’s standing, I’d like to congratulate the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture on its recent accreditation by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET, Inc. ABET, Inc. is one of the most respected accrediting agencies in the United States, and AUB is the first university in Lebanon to receive ABET accreditation. (Read more in MainGate on-line and on page 15.)

In my very first MainGate letter to you in summer 2008, I wrote that I was “acutely aware and deeply appreciative of the important role that AUB alumni play at the University, and...know of no other alumni group that feel as strongly about their alma mater.” I also noted that one of my highest priorities as president was “to meet AUB alumni, to hear their concerns, and to encourage them to become involved with their University at this critical moment in its history.” These words are as true today as they were then. Encouraging greater alumni involvement in the affairs of AUB remains one of my highest priorities. Our alumni are our ambassadors to the world, our greatest cheerleaders, and our trusted advisors. AUB is proud of its activists, artists, authors, engineers and doctors, business leaders, mothers and fathers, and sons and daughters.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to strengthen the ties that weave this family together in the pages of this magazine, at events on campus, through the website, and by working with WAAAUB to build a strong worldwide alumni network.

Peter Dorman
President
How do we define the written word? In this issue of the magazine, it encompasses language, literature, design, typography, a touch of graffiti, with a couple of blogs thrown in. You’ll also find some reading recommendations along the way (look throughout Views from Campus). My own summer reads included *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides, *Pig Earth* by John Berger, *Water* by Steven Solomon and several evenings a week, *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak.

Finally, a written word of thanks to W. Stephen Jeffrey who is retiring after nine years at AUB. He has been a fantastic advocate, visionaire, strategist, and source of creative ideas for this magazine.

Ada H. Porter
Editor, *MainGate*

Summer 2010 Vol. VIII, No. 4

I just opened a recent e-mail that said, “MainGate Summer 2010 is now on-line”. What a nice surprise! I have read about 25 pages on-line and loved it. It’s a thrill to flip, zoom in and out, go back and forward. The application being used is impressive. Thank you for making this easier on people like me who spend 10 hours a day looking at a computer and can use a break to see what is going on in their beloved alma mater!

Wafaa Safaoui (BEN ’88)
Laguna Hills, California

I’ve good news to share that pertains to the “collections” issue! Recently, New York University agreed to accept my collection of Arab images in American popular culture. The collection would be utilized by teachers and scholars world-wide, and would free-up two large rooms in our home. We’ll be donating more than 3,000 television shows and motion pictures with Arab characters dating from the late 1800s; motion picture posters and stills; toys and games; comic books, editorial cartoons, and books on stereotypes of other racial and ethnic groups; and original screenplays with comments on films such as “Three Kings” and “Syriana” where I served as consultant.

Jack Shaheen (Former faculty and Fulbright Scholar, 1974-75)
Hilton Head, South Carolina

Imagine my surprise at seeing this photo! I organized the group and am the one with the fez to the left of the drummer. To the right of the drummer is Isa Sihweil, next to me holding the goal sign is Raif Boulos, and to his left is Mohamed Nail (now deceased). On the far left is Hassan Smadi. I recognize most of the other faces too but unfortunately cannot remember the names!

Yusef Shalabi (BE ’63)
Dubai, UAE

I enjoyed every page of the summer magazine, especially those dedicated to various museum collections and other historical and natural history documents. Keep up the good work, it is much appreciated.

Dr. Paul Abou Nader (BS ’84)
Montreal, Canada

Spring 2010 Vol. VIII, No. 3,

Class Notes page 61

You mentioned that Ali Akilah (MD ’39) was the first Jordanian graduate of AUB’s medical school. In fact, Nicola Bulos el-Masri (PhM ’17, MD ’23) of Madaba, Jordan is one of the earliest medical pioneers in Jordan, and his wife Liza Farah (Nursing ’26) was also an early nursing pioneer in Jordan. Their four children are all graduates of AUB.

Nadeem Masri (BS ’55)
Damascus, Syria

Errata

*Midwest to Middle East*, page 51, *Summer 2010 Vol. VIII, No. 4*
Abby Bliss met Emily Dickinson while they were classmates at Amherst Academy, not Amherst College.

*Time Flies*, page 65, *Summer 2010 Vol. VIII, No. 4*
Dr. Bessos, whose picture appeared on page 60 “enjoying a panoramic view,” is not in the group of hikers on page 65.
Fast fieldwork: A team of AUB students and professors excavating a 5,000 year-old Bronze Age city discovered three tombs, one of them just 48 hours before the site was due to shut down for the year. (See article page 10.)
Excerpts from the Commencement Address Professor Walid Khalidi, June 2010

I do not dwell on the past to avoid the future, but to remind you that the Arrow of Time does indeed start in the past, before passing through the present on its flight into the future.

Some 145 years ago the American schooner Sultana anchored in Beirut harbor. On board was a remarkable group of men. They brought with them the quintessential best in the values of their country: probity of purpose, commitment to service, uprightness and decency in dealings, and inexhaustible energy and optimism.

The hillside behind you, recently recrowned with College Hall, was then a barren, uninhabited, windswept wilderness. But on it there arose, as if at a magician’s command, the first modern liberal university in the Arab world from which you are privileged to graduate today.

World War I left AUB intact. This is because the US had not declared war on the Ottoman Empire. Indeed, it had tried to detach it from Germany. I leave it to you to reflect on where we would all be, today, if the US had succeeded in this endeavor…

AUB’s future role cannot replicate the past. Towers that butt the skies can be built overnight—but not universities, not even with Ivy League support. Nowhere in the Arab world is there such indigenous talent as here. Like vintage wine, this talent has matured in its terraced terrain. In the convivencia of its discourse, this campus is second to none in the Arab world.

Lebanon is the natural habitat of AUB. There is reason for this: Lebanon is not just another Arab country. Its uniqueness derives from its diversity, but its diversity is unlike that of any other Arab country.

Time is the crucial commodity here… Robust, sustained, strong-willed presidential intervention in the peace process is not an act of American charity towards the Arabs or Islam. It is in the supreme national interest of the US itself and a giant contribution to global concord.

Clearly the incumbent of the Oval Office does not lack the best of intentions, but does he have the space amidst his other momentous priorities? And does he have the leverage over a Congress that is plus-royaliste-que-le-roi?

As I survey the luminous sea of youth before me, and try to compute the centuries of promise and fulfillment that it contains, I am filled with hope. Hope that you will not abandon your homeland, this Mashriq heartland that so desperately needs you. Hope that you will give your children and grandchildren every reason to be proud of you. And remember: Your foremost moral duty is to the disinherited and less privileged among our people.

May the bell of College Hall continue to ring and may its peals resonate with the clarity of Bliss, King and Crane on Pennsylvania Avenue and on Capitol Hill as well. God bless Lebanon, and good luck to each and every one of you.
Summer Program 2010

Twenty-eight participants from the US, Canada, Britain, Holland, Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico came "back" to Beirut last summer for the three-week Summer Program for AUB Alumni Children (SPAAC). The program helps students reconnect with their Lebanese heritage, get to know AUB, take Arabic, pursue creative electives and tour Lebanon.

More Online
From the Faculties

FAFS

Field Work
This summer Professor Salma Talhouk put the finishing touches on an Ibsar research project into a new approach to flora conservation. Working in cooperation with the Lebanese Department of Antiquities, AUB’s Department of History and Archaeology, and colleagues and students from the Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management, Talhouk is exploring ways to use the peripheries of protected archaeological sites for small native plant gardens. Such sites are widely distributed throughout Lebanon, and being protected and left largely undisturbed, they lend themselves to flora conservation including annuals, and herbaceous perennials, some woody plants and other naturally occurring native species. Consulting the literature, Talhouk expects to create localized, mini-botanical gardens which will provide a second layer of interest for those visiting archaeological sites, as well as preserving the local flora. Her proposition is, in essence, a hybrid of many different approaches to conservation with an emphasis on low cost and low maintenance and maximization of limited public spaces.

Similarly, she is investigating the feasibility of turning university campuses into semi-botanical gardens in the way that AUB has been planted and classified. “Land care is expensive and not a high priority,” Talhouk explains, “this is one way we can achieve land management with minimum output. With the right collections, management strategy and educational and outreach programs, university campuses can also serve as mini botanical gardens with minimum effort.” Supported by AUB’s University Research Board, Talhouk presented her paper at the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies, Barcelona in July.

Ronnie Chatah (former student) on founding Walk Beirut:

“I ran into several foreign backpackers lost in Beirut, not sure where certain icons like the old Holiday Inn and Martyr’s Square were located. Turns out they had walked right by them without actually knowing where they were. The touristy spots like Raouche rocks and the National Museum can be found without hassle, but this is a very simple and limited portion of Beirut’s past. I came up with an itinerary I thought was critical in grasping Beirut’s story.”

—The Wall Street Journal
City Produce
During the summer, Professor Shadi Hamadeh was busy coordinating the FAFS Environment and Sustainable Development Unit’s (ESDU) initiative to implement an innovative regional project aimed at improving the livelihoods of urban farmers in Amman, Jordan and Sana’a, Yemen. Known as “From Seed to Table” (FSTT) the two-year project, funded by the Resource Centers on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF), seeks to facilitate the development of sustainable urban farming systems in both countries by following a value chain approach—from pre-production to marketing. The first phase comprised a comprehensive analysis of the urban farming systems in both countries with two ESDU members working with local teams to evaluate potential production and carry out market analysis. This has led to the selection of the most promising options in each country: green onions in Amman, graded, packed, and labeled; and free-range eggs in Sana’a also packed and labeled. These products will become the core of FSTT activities. In the second phase, both cities have finished their business plans as well as their credit and finance studies. They are currently in the implementation phase, i.e. planting green onions and marketing them in Amman, and raising chickens in enhanced barns in Sana’a, to collect and market free-range eggs. Working in close cooperation with FSTT local teams, the urban producers will further develop their business and credit mechanisms, as well as the Urban Producers Field Schools where they learn new techniques and organisational practices in both production and marketing.

Natural Remedies
During her sophomore summer Gracie El Ayle worked under Professor Najat Saliba’s supervision in the Atmospheric and Analytical Laboratory (AAL) to “explore a taste of research in chemistry.” Her project on the extraction and identification of bioactive molecules from endemic medicinal plants comes under the auspices of Ibsar (Nature Conservation Center for Sustainable Futures). El Ayle writes: “Soon after being trained on extraction, separation, and purification techniques, I was asked to lead the project that compares the extracted amount of an anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer molecule Salograviolide A from the wild indigenous plant to the cultivated plant.”

"I was asked to lead the project that compares the extracted amount of an anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer molecule Salograviolide A from the wild indigenous plant to the cultivated plant."
studies because I acquired research skills and critical thinking, and mostly because I got to work with experienced people of various disciplines who helped me throughout.”

Air Quality Control
Postgraduate student Rawad Massoud joined the AUB Air Quality Research Unit after obtaining his MS in toxicology and environmental health in the Netherlands. He works with Professor Najat Saliba as part of a joint multi-disciplinary team of scientists from AUB and Université Saint Joseph (USJ), supported by the Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS). The team’s brief is to measure the levels of certain ambient pollutants (particulate matter—PM) in the air over Beirut, along with their distribution and source. Massoud writes: “Depending on their size, these PM are linked to a series of significant pulmonary and cardiovascular problems, as well as plant and building damage. Different health organizations, particularly the World Health Organization, have put standards for their levels. After a year in the field we have analyzed levels that are much higher than the advised ones, and there is probable difference between the three sites we are working on, however more investigation is needed. The importance of this research and the daily interaction between junior and highly skilled experienced scientists in the laboratory, as well as the combination of field and laboratory work, provides a lot of job satisfaction.”

Creating… a Precedent
As a continuation of her pioneering work in creative writing at AUB, this summer Assistant Professor Roseanne Khalaf introduced a creative writing workshop in cooperation with the prestigious International Writing Program at Iowa University and jointly supported by AUB and the English Speaking Union (ESU), Lebanon branch. Between June 21-July 2, some 30 students from AUB and across Lebanon (previously vetted and interviewed by Khalaf), attended sessions in two genres: fiction and poetry, delivered by renowned American writers novelist Claire Massud and poet Tom Sleigh. The idea of the program was conceived when Khalaf met Christopher Merrill, director of the Iowa program at a writers’ conference in Morocco. Merrill subsequently visited Beirut in March 2010 and with support from AUB Provost Ahmad Dallal and Youmna Assiely, president of ESU Lebanon, Khalaf’s dream became a reality. Massoud and Sleigh were both impressed by the level of competency exhibited by the student writers. They also appreciated their literary knowledge, which they considered to be as good as, if not superior to, that of their peers in the United States. Khalaf hopes that the workshop will be the first of many, at AUB and later in other universities in Lebanon.

Digging into the Past
This summer, four graduate archaeology students joined Associate Professor Hermann Genz and an international excavation team exploring a small Bronze Age city contemporaneous with Byblos at Kfarabida, two kilometers south of Batroun. Fortuitously discovered in 2004 by an AUB graduate student who was riding by it on his motorcycle, the site has been excavated each summer for the last four years. It has yielded remarkable results in terms of its architectural preservation and evidence of domestic life: food preparation, storage and consumption, household utensils, and pottery trade items. “We are lucky,” explains Genz, “the site was deserted at the beginning of the second millennium BC and never resettled.” Excavation revealed several almost complete rooms filled with the detritus of domestic life, dating to the Early Bronze Age III (early third millennium BC). “It looked like they left in a hurry,” Genz says, “there were complete vessels left intact, the remains of sheep, stone jewelry, and bone tools.” In a later phase, dating to the Early Bronze Age III (middle of the third millennium BC), among other things, an impressive two story “public”
dwelling was partly uncovered. The last phase of activity is represented by three tombs with human remains and funerary items from the Middle Bronze Age (early second millennium BC)—one of them discovered just 48 hours before the excavation was due to close for the year. MS student Marshall Woodworth was working in a race against the clock to excavate the skeleton and funerary vessels while conservator May Haider (BA ’04), on loan from Italy, waited patiently to retrieve the pottery bowls. Apart from the exciting archaeological discoveries, the site has proven fertile ground for inter-faculty research including a project for landscape design students; an area of study for Ibsar botanists; cooperation with the Chemistry Department in analyzing food and other residues in the
pottery vessels and with the Geology Department using geo-magnetics and geo-electrics to map the site without excavation. Interestingly the botanical analysis reveals evidence of deforestation even in such ancient times.

FM

Help in Sight

FM post-graduate student Khaled Moussawi writes from the Medical University of South Carolina where he is conducting cutting edge research into the mechanisms of addiction:

“My research focuses on the neurobiology of cocaine addiction, characterized by vulnerability to relapse and compulsive drug seeking. Every time an addict has to make a choice between seeking the drug or engaging in some other behavioral activity, he/she will choose to seek the drug despite their insights into the adverse consequences. In our research, we use a rat animal model for cocaine addiction where rats are trained to self-administer cocaine in operant chambers.

A few weeks after the last cocaine exposure, we compare the brains of cocaine rats to controls (non-cocaine rats) using different approaches including microdialysis, electrophysiology, molecular biology, and imaging techniques. We also test potential therapeutic drugs using behavioral pharmacology to measure their impact on ameliorating cocaine related behaviors.

Our research team has identified key changes in the brain responsible for compulsive drug seeking and vulnerability to relapse. We found that repeated cocaine exposure disrupts the balance of excitatory activity in specific brain circuits involved normally in cognitive control, reward processing, and regulation of goal-directed behaviors. Crucially, we discovered that reversing cocaine-induced changes in these circuits provides enduring protection against relapse to cocaine seeking in the rat animal model, as well as in human addicts.

Our work provides a new therapeutic strategy to treat cocaine addiction. Further work is ongoing to examine the effectiveness of this approach in treating addiction to other substances like heroin and amphetamine, as well as behavioral addictions like pathological gambling.”

In Search of the Missing Link

Also in South Carolina, FM graduate Adnan Al-Ayoubi was working furiously through the summer writing his thesis which has exciting implications for future therapies. The importance of Al-Ayoubi’s research into cell signal transduction lies in its ability to recognize new targets for pharmacological and genetic intervention, and to provide promising paths for cancer therapies. It concentrates on identifying the
In 2006-07, just 1 percent of new FM students came from outside AUB. In 2010-11, 27 percent are entering FM from outside the University (17 from outside Lebanon, four from within Lebanon.)

**Outside track...**

Twenty percent of incoming FM students in 2010-11 are non-Lebanese. They include...

Fadi El-Jardali is reading: Small World by David Lodge.
For Mary McEwen it is: “historical fiction by Pearl Buck, nonfiction by Malcom Gladwell, and, just for fun, Harry Potter in French (with Le Petit Robert close at hand).”
Saned Raouf hopes to finish Orhan Pamuk’s Snow and The Mahabharata.

This is critical given the fact that many health policies are developed without any supporting evidence attesting to their need. McEwen was working on the project “Exploring the Problem of Scarcity of Nurses in Underserved Areas in the Middle East: Factors, Reasons and Incentives for Recruitment and Retention.” Her work focuses on exploring the interface between international mobility of the nursing workforce in Lebanon and Jordan and the challenges of adequate staffing to address the population health needs in underserved areas, including retention strategies for the health workforce in those areas. This work is funded by the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research.

**FEA**

**The Air We Breathe**

Rawad Saleh, a doctoral student at Duke University, spent his summer working with Professor Alan Shihadeh measuring airborne particles in search of answers to a controversial question facing the global climate and regional air quality modeling community: how to achieve accurate air quality measurements. He writes:

“Particles in the air, referred to as ambient/atmospheric aerosols, pose significant health hazards, including respiratory and cardiopulmonary...
diseases, and cancer. They also impact the earth’s climate by absorbing or scattering light. Scientists rely on air quality models to predict how these particles evolve, and thus assess their impact on the environment; for these models to work, we have to measure the thermodynamic properties of the compounds comprising the aerosol particles (how these compounds partition between the particle and gas phase as ambient temperature, humidity, and gas concentrations). We assess these properties through direct ambient measurements of the atmospheric aerosols and laboratory experiments. Unfortunately, due to the limitations of the measuring techniques, so far scientists have been forced to assume “ideal kinetics” when taking measurements, which compromises the validity of the thermodynamic properties we’re looking to measure. In my current work with the Department of Environmental Engineering at Duke University and the Aerosol Research Lab at AUB, we are developing a new technique that allows us, for the first time, to measure the kinetic properties of the aerosols in order to be able to relax the “ideal kinetics” assumption and obtain better estimates of the thermodynamic properties.

Also working with Professor Shihadeh (and Chemistry Professor Najat Saliba), FEA student Marc Helou’s task focused on a problem very close to Lebanese hearts: Effect of Diesel Electrical Generators on Household Exposure to Airborne Carcinogens. Marc writes:

In many developing countries where the capacity for power generation is limited, governments install rotating power shortage systems. The aim is to reduce pollution and electricity production costs, but is that what is actually happening? In many countries, governments install rotating power shortage systems, cutting supplies between two and 16 hours a day. The aim is to reduce pollution and electricity production costs, but is that what is actually happening? In Lebanon, for example, electricity shortages have forced people to tap into local power production facilities in the form of building generators or by buying into a shared supply from nearby diesel-powered electric generators. In this potent combination of weak environmental regulations and densely packed high-rise buildings we believe there is a serious possibility of high levels of human exposure to airborne carcinogens in the vicinity of the generators.

To determine whether this is the case, we monitor hazardous diesel combustion emissions known as particle-bound polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and ultrafine particulate matter (UFPM) on balconies of apartments located in the vicinity of one or more diesel-powered electricity generators. At every site we record electricity shortage times and variations in PAH and UFPM levels over a 10-day period. By using a real time monitoring approach, we can establish a relationship between pollutant levels and the time of day when the diesel generator was operating.

Our preliminary data indicates that depending on the weather conditions and location, households may experience an elevated daily exposure of up to seven times the normal urban background level due to the operation of a nearby generator.

In many countries, governments install rotating power shortage systems. The aim is to reduce pollution and electricity production costs, but is that what is actually happening?
**OSB**

**Bumper Crop**
Executive MBA (EMBA) professors worked harder than usual last summer teaching a bumper crop of new students. Thanks to the growing reputation of the program and judicious marketing on the part of EMBA Director Riad Dimechkie, some 28 executives (in sectors including finance, healthcare, construction and IT/telecom) from six countries in the MENA region have signed up for the 22-month course. After systematically lobbying big companies and conducting public information sessions in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan and Syria, Dimechkie is confident that the OSB EMBA program has a high enough profile to face down the new competition from the Abu-Dhabi based London Business School and the upcoming French INSEAD. “Our program and case studies focus on the MENA region,” he explains, “And the feedback we get from our students in response has endorsed our reputation tremendously.”

**Public Lesson**
OSB student Nael Halwani felt a certain sense of foreboding when he embarked on his summer internship, but reality turned out to be far more positive than theory. Halwani writes: “Day one of my internship at the Ministry of Economy, I did not know what to expect. After all, I was going to the ‘notorious public sector’. After seven weeks I can say that working in the public sector is not that bad after all. In fact this summer I have had experience with the people who create opportunities for the private sector by launching Kafalat [commercial assistance for small and medium enterprises] and Business Development Centers such as Berytech [incubator/accelerator for new businesses]. I have also worked in the quality unit where the mission is to reach the highest quality norms in Lebanon, and encourage systematic management. I can summarize my experience at the Ministry of Economy by saying that I have learned to look at a whole new perspective: the macro level.”

**EMBA incoming class:** 50% are referred by former students; 70% reside outside Lebanon and commute to AUB 15 times a year.
This year’s Penrose winners already have a clear idea of where they are going on their next steps towards a successful future.

Diana Darwich
"I am happy to say that in the upcoming year I will be launched to Mars (not the planet, but the chocolate company!) in Dubai where I will be working in the R and D department." (FAFS)

Paul Ramia
"I’ll be continuing my education here in AUB as a medical student. I’ve always considered AUB to be home and I’m looking forward to spending another 4 years on this lovely campus... I am glad to have the opportunity to continue being active in university life and working alongside my friends to make these upcoming years truly memorable." (FAS)

Georges El Nache
"For next year, I will be going to the United States to continue my graduate studies. I have received a fully funded scholarship from the University of Alabama in Huntsville for a five year master’s/PhD program. I will be focusing on the structural domain of my civil engineering field." (FEA)

Bashayer Madi
“My hopes and dreams became bigger and due to this award all the doors are wide open. In the meantime, I will continue to concentrate on my master’s in Environmental Health at AUB.” (FHS)

Eliane Irani
“ I’ve submitted my application and CV to AUBMC, passed the entrance exam and had the job interview. I’ll be working at AUBMC as a Registered Nurse where I’ll be enhancing my skills to better serve my community. For the future, I’m longing to expand my nursing education in parallel to working for my music/piano degree at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique. (HSON)

Zahi Mitri
“I am going to be at Emory University in Atlanta, completing my Internal Medicine Residency. I actually started the program on Thursday (July 1).” (FM)

Farah Fulayhan
“My short-term plan is to gain experience for two years and to continue my education to acquire a master’s degree. I am still applying, since I want to widen my opportunities and chances of getting the best offer available (in Lebanon).” (OSB)

BCG Award
Najla Khatib, winner of the prestigious BCG Promising Leader Award, created last year by AUB and the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), says, “I was extremely proud, happy and a little surprised when I found out I had won. I was not expecting to have distinguished myself from the other shortlisted applicants whose backgrounds are very impressive!” She describes the second phase of the award application—an interview which included a business study case—as “the most challenging part for me as I come...
Elias Yaacoub has the distinction of becoming the first ever PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering in AUB’s history. Speaking to MainGate about setting such a precedent Yaacoub said, “It feels great. Obtaining a PhD degree from a newly launched PhD program is a very challenging task. Being the first to graduate from such a program implies that I have to significantly contribute towards building the program’s reputation, while constituting a sort of bridgehead for the PhD graduates in the coming years to find a place in the research and teaching community.”

Two years before the PhD was initiated Yaacoub had been forced for personal reasons to turn down a scholarship to the Technical University of Munich (TUM) and begin a non academic career. The opening of the program at AUB provided him with the opportunity he longed for. “The high standard of courses offered at the ECE Department and the availability of well-equipped laboratories make it possible to conduct quality research [at] a level that can be compared to top institutions worldwide,” he says. With 32 published articles in refereed journals and conference proceedings, and another eight under review, Yaacoub has much to show for his hard work.

First PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Elias Yaacoub receiving his PhD degree.
After considering several prestigious options, he has accepted a position to work as a research scientist at the Qatar University Wireless Innovations Center (QUWIC).

Two new engineering awards, both made possible by Nahed Agha Salam were presented for the first time this summer.

Rawan Hijazi, first recipient of the Youssef M. Salam Civil Engineering Excellence Award, told MainGate, "I feel lucky to be the first to receive this new award; no feeling is better than being awarded for my hard work and the achievement of graduating at the top of my class. I thank God and my family who were always there for me, supporting me all the way and of course I thank Mrs. Salam for founding this award."

Youssef M. Salam graduated from AUB with a BE in Civil Engineering in 1965 with the Penrose Award. He obtained his MS and PhD in Civil Engineering ('67, '71) from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a founding managing partner of Team International, Engineering and Management Consultants.

Since 1975 the firm has provided consultancy services to the private and public sectors, including major ministries in Lebanon and most Arab countries.

Imad El Fay, first recipient of the Farouk Agha Engineering Excellence Award told MainGate, "Receiving the award is a great honor. As an award that distinguishes the hard work I’ve put into these great four years at AUB, the Farouk Agha Award admirably closed my final chapter at AUB. The day I received it was unforgettable, I will always cherish it."

Farouk Agha was an FEA student at AUB before receiving a Fulbright scholarship to study at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduation he founded a successful contracting and industrial group in the Gulf and was a co-founder of the Center for Lebanese Studies associated with St. Anthony's College Oxford.

Reviews

Byung Chan Eu and Mazen Al-Ghoul (BS ‘92).

In a recent newspaper article, you described this book as “an attempt to bridge the gap between the ideal and the natural [world] by approaching the problem in a different manner.” Can you tell us a little more about the “different manner” that you have adopted in this book?

Everyday phenomena are irreversible; only ideal processes are reversible. Traditionally, the study of chemical thermodynamics has focused on reversible processes because it is very difficult to study those that are irreversible. This has presented a major conceptual difficulty to students and researchers. We approach the topic of chemical thermodynamics in a different manner by using a new thermodynamic function called calortropy (heat evolution) that enables us to bridge the gap between reversible and irreversible phenomena.
just the specific objects that catch one’s attention.”

And that is exactly what she did. Computer whiz Awad set herself the task of inventing a system of picture recognition through smart phones. A year later, a novel system was born thanks to the sponsorship of the Lebanese National Center for Scientific Research (LNCSR) and two students (ECE master’s student Ayman El Mobacher and ECE undergraduate Rudy Zeinoun). Searching the web for relevant information about particular landmarks generally requires a key word. “Our system allows visual search instead of traditional key word search,” Awad explains. Assume I am intrigued by the OSB building in front of me but I don’t know its name. With our system, I would simply snap its picture and send it to a remote server to get an acknowledgement that this is OSB and that it was inaugurated in 2009 for instance. With the widespread use of smart phones that integrate a camera and internet connection, no additional equipment is needed for this visual search.

“As a validation measure, we collected pictures for some selected AUB and downtown buildings from varying angles and in different illumination conditions. Building recognition accuracy was very good and the results were very promising.”

Though the trigger was tourism, Awad is acutely aware of the impact her proposed concept could have on environmental activism and non intrusive advertisement. “For example, you can promote stores and sales events without having to print flyers, and what is most important is that advertisement would be of the pull and not the push type that we dislike for its invading spam nature,” she says. With time, banking and other commercial institutions would be interested by picture recognition as it positions them for on demand e-advancements. This visual search supposedly would make going around a city easier, more interactive and less paper dependent.

What’s the next step? As an ex-IBM employee with many patents to her name, Awad is used to the fast moving business world and is now looking into other challenges and inventions, hoping that this novel visual search can be adopted in Beirut, which she describes as “this Mediterranean city that charms your spirits with its vibrant present and historical past.”
Mastering Arabic

Professor Ramzi Baalbaki (BA ’73, MA ’75), professor of Arabic since 1978, is only the second Lebanese citizen to have been awarded the King Faisal International Prize in Arabic Language and Literature since it was established in 1977. He speaks with MainGate about publishing al-Mawrid al-Akbar, Arabic grammar and whether or not Arabic will survive globalization.

On winning the King Faisal International Prize in Arabic Language and Literature for 2010:
Ramzi Baalbaki: This is the most prestigious prize in the Arab world and among the most prestigious international awards in the fields of Arabic, Islamic studies, medicine and science. Much of the credit goes to AUB, not only for having nominated me but also for being my alma mater and the place in which I have established my academic career for thirty-two years now.

On publishing the 2,100 page al-Mawrid English-Arabic dictionary:
My late father, Munir Baalbaki, published in 1967 the first edition of al-Mawrid, which became the standard English-Arabic dictionary and a household name in the Arabic [speaking] world. He later spent 15 years updating and enlarging his dictionary before he passed away in 1999. Having learnt much about lexicography from my father and having published my own Dictionary of Linguistic Terms: English-Arabic, I took it upon myself to continue this unfinished project, which appeared in 2005. This co-authored dictionary is appropriately called al-Mawrid al-Akbar since it is the most comprehensive English-Arabic dictionary to date. In more than 2,100 pages, its features include a detailed etymology of each entry, the arrangement of entries according to history of usage, the inclusion of synonyms, antonyms and encyclopedic material.
Above all, it is rife with examples that illustrate usage and with technical terms in various fields of knowledge.

About the power of grammar and the word:
In my published work I have tried to highlight the central position which Arabic grammar occupies within the gamut of the Arabic and Islamic scholarly tradition, and to demonstrate, mainly by examining early terminology and concepts, that Arabic grammar is a genuine intellectual product of Arabs and Muslims, rather than the result of borrowing from other nations. In the field of Arabic dictionaries, other than my work on theoretical aspects of lexicography, my co-authorship of al-Mawrid opened the door wide for me to suggest Arabic equivalents to technical terms in various fields, with the hope that these gain currency throughout the Arab world due to the considerable influence al-Mawrid has on users of Arabic.

Future challenges:
The Department of Arabic, like other Humanities Departments at AUB, suffers from a shortage of majoring students particularly at the undergraduate level. Many students tell us that they would like to major in Arabic, but choose other fields of study in the hope of better pay after graduation. Some students, after obtaining BS degrees under pressure from their parents, pursue their “old dream” of a graduate degree in Arabic. It is unfortunate that our secondary schools deeply impress in the minds of the students that disciplines in Humanities, to the exclusion of other disciplines, are open to underachievers. Unless such mentality at the level of schools and society at large changes, we are likely to face a shortage in qualified students who aspire to specialize in Humanities.

Can Arabic survive globalization?
Arabic is unique because of the huge literary and religious heritage that it carries and in the sense that its grammatical rules and even its vocabulary have changed little over a millennium and half. In this sense, it is not in danger of being replaced by another language. What is worrying, however, is that its native speakers, mainly due to our teaching system, regard the use of English or French as socially preferable to Arabic. The remedy largely resides in how we teach students, very early in their school years, to appreciate their language and use it as a vehicle of communication to the exclusion of other languages.

Read the full interview on-line.
Dialogue Pays

When AUB’s new tuition and financial aid policies were announced last spring, it led to student protests and, in true AUB form, a call to strike. What happens next?

Although the announcement came as a surprise to some people, it was consistent with the University’s commitment to expand its financial aid budget as part of an effort to achieve a more diverse student body. The initiative had been discussed on several occasions including during focus groups with students and faculty members throughout the year.

During the course of the week that followed the May 17 announcement, there were a few student protests and several incidents of intimidation, harassment, and vandalism on campus. President Dorman deplored these instances. So too did the University Student Faculty Committee (USFC).

Throughout the week, administrators and students met frequently—both formally and informally—to explain and discuss their positions in what turned out to be a successful effort to resolve their differences: the USFC suspended its class boycott on May 21.

So, what is this new policy—and what does it mean to current and prospective AUB students and their families?

What is the new tuition policy and how is it different from the old policy?

Beginning with the undergraduate class entering AUB in fall 2011, the University will charge a flat rate for tuition based on 15 credit hours—instead of 12 credit hours—per semester. Students who wish to enroll for more than 15 credit hours will be able to do so at no additional charge.

AUB also announced that it would freeze tuition increases at 4 percent for the next three years—through 2012-13.

I am an AUB student this year (2010-11). How will I be affected by this new policy?

Current undergraduate students (those enrolled in 2010-11) will be charged tuition based on the old 12 credit hours tuition policy until they graduate. The new tuition policy will go into effect in fall 2011 and will affect only those students entering AUB beginning in fall 2011.

My husband and I are worried that we won’t be able to afford to send our child to AUB because of this new policy. What is the University doing to make an AUB education affordable for all students?

As a result of this new tuition policy, AUB expects to double its financial aid budget during the next five years. This increase comes on top of the growth that has already taken place in AUB’s financial aid program: from $7 million in 2003-04 to $13.2 million in 2009-10. These additional monies will be made available to all students who need assistance. Currently, 40 percent of AUB students receive financial assistance.

In addition, AUB has partnered with local banks to sponsor a student loan program that offers fixed rate 3 percent loans. These optional subsidized student loans are available to all AUB students, regardless of major, and do not need to be repaid until ten years after the student graduates.

Why has AUB changed its tuition policy?

The primary goal of the new policy is to generate additional funds that will be used to expand AUB’s need-based financial aid program, strengthen academic programs, and help the University cover the rising costs of education.
Nametag: Walid Ghandour, PhD, Electrical and Computer Engineering, projected 2011.

Life before PhD: I had a wonderful childhood and adolescence. I used to play soccer, basketball, and ping pong, in addition to biking. I enjoy taking care of the garden and getting involved in social activities that I missed when I was overseas. I enjoy reading technical and non-technical articles and books including literature and poetry—in Arabic, French, and English. I have a special interest in mathematics.

I earned my BE in electrical engineering from AUB in 1999 and my master’s of science from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. I joined IBM for five years and enrolled in a computer engineering PhD program at the University of Texas at Austin. I then decided to return to Lebanon and complete my PhD at AUB.

What matters most: My research is important because it will help computer designers design new computers that can perform tasks more quickly. This will enable computers to execute new and useful tasks that are too demanding to be performed by the current generation of computers.

Research: I am using dynamic information flow analysis (DIFA) to investigate a new method that would make computers faster by enabling computer processors to guess values more accurately. Existing value prediction techniques are local, which means that they use previous executions of the same instruction to predict future outputs. This technique obviously imposes certain limitations. What I’m trying to do is use DIFA to introduce global value prediction techniques that would use more than one previous instruction to predict the value of a future output thus increasing the speed of computers.

10 am Tuesday, 10 am Saturday: I’m pretty much always working on my PhD—focused on fulfilling the requirements as quickly as possible so that I can return to work.

Most admires: I have admired several persons—especially my mother and dad to whom I owe everything.

Why this topic interests me: I find this topic intellectually very challenging and am also intrigued because of its many real-world applications. Computers are such an integral part of our lives these days—and will play an even greater role in the future. I feel that by working to speed up computers, I am involved in a topic that is on the cutting edge.
One day in April, the identical twins that form the Lebanese rap and graffiti crew Ashekman called out instructions as a group of AUB students took aim with cans of spray paint. Press the spray head with a finger for detail work, but use your thumb to fill in color, Mohamed and Omar Kabbani advised in a mix of Arabic and English, looking more urban cute than cool in their matching blue jeans, Ashekman-branded white lab coats, and dark sunglasses.

Leila Musfy, a professor in the University’s Department of Architecture and Design and her co-instructor Lara Captan (BA Graphic Design ’06) looked on as the duo told the group—mostly graphic design students—to move quickly and deliberately for minimum drip. Musfy and Captan had invited Ashekman to take over their typography course for a day following student interest in the brothers’ work.

Omar Kabbani summed up the aim of the workshop: “You can learn how to be a vandal, but in a good way.”

In modern times, graffiti has come to be associated with vandalism. According to Captan, however, the term emerged in antiquity—the Italian word graffio means “a scratch”—and was coined to describe any mark on a public wall, including now-prized Roman inscriptions.

What we call graffiti has come to encompass anything from an illegible scrawl on bathroom walls to street art. “In the men's bathrooms [at AUB], I’m told, they write about politics, and in the women’s bathrooms,
they write about sex,” Roseanne Saad Khalaf, an assistant professor of English and creative writing, commented during a recent discussion of the topic in one of her writing classes.

Graffiti that falls under the heading of street art generally breaks down into three categories: freestyle, stencils, and murals. These distinctions attempt to capture the degree of preparation the artist undertakes before approaching the wall and raising the spray paint can.

Artistry aside, graffiti is officially illegal in most places, including Beirut. Refusing to seek permission and evading the authorities is part of the contemporary culture of graffiti, which is, by definition, an anti-establishment art form, an intervention (albeit temporary) into public space.

What the typography students labored over that day certainly looked like Arabic-style street art—their “tag,” or initials, inscribed in eye-popping colors, veered toward bubbly or edgy style, the options of the day—but their designs decorated wooden boards, not standing walls, and the painting itself took place in broad daylight. There was no need to alert campus security. Everyone did exactly as they were told.

This spectacle of enthusiastic obedience, while clearly contrary to the popular image of graffiti, reflects current trends in the art world and in the role of street art in Beirut.

The figurative wall that once cut off the academy and the gallery from the street has fallen, and graffiti
crews at large—with the famed British street artist Bansky
leading the way—have become respectable so long as
their work aspires to some sort of artistic standard and
targets appropriate blank space (e.g. a city wall) and not
landmarks (e.g. the Grand Serail, Ottoman-era barracks,
now the headquarters of the Lebanese Prime Minister).

In Beirut and its environs, AUB instructors have
encouraged students to use graffiti in community
projects, and a handful of Lebanese graffiti artists, now
local celebrities, have attracted international interest.
That group includes Ashekman and the electronic music
organization Acoustamatik, as well as AUB architecture
graduate and Mashrou’ Leila vocalist Hamed Sinno. (It's
common across cultures for graffiti artists to also be
musicians, spreading their messages through multiple
media.) These crews often respond graphically to each
other’s work, adding what Sinno calls a “second-layer of
authorship,” but they don't otherwise collaborate. “We
don’t have, like, a ‘scene,’” he says.

Locally, graffiti is gradually taking on new functions
in post-war Beirut. Before the Doha Accords paved the
way for an unprecedented regulation of the capital’s
public space, “Beirut’s graffiti, old or new, was used to
divide the city into its many politically affiliated areas,”
writes alumna Tala F. Saleh (BA Graphic Design ’07)
in her recently published book *Marking Beirut: A City
Revealed Through its Graffiti*.

Saleh is Saudi, but her fascination with graffiti
led her to focus her final graphic design project on the
surfaces of Beirut’s walls and the messages they held
about Lebanese culture and politics. She documented
how the walls showcased the dominant affiliations of
each neighborhood in the form of stenciled logos—the
Communist Party’s hammer and sickle, the Lebanese
Forces’ signature cross, the Syrian Social Nationalist
Party’s red hurricane, and many others.

Here Beirut graffiti splits off from its counterparts,
whether artistic or vandalistic. In wartime Beirut,
graffiti was anything but anti-establishment. Stencilers didn’t need to avoid security. Their work served as an extension of the security apparatus watching over each party-affiliated neighborhood, a reminder to insiders and a warning to outsiders. In 2008, an agreement by the main political factions of Sunni and Shiite Muslims to remove their posters and symbols from Beirut streets, dramatically reduced the once pervasive stenciled party symbols, and changed everything. “This resulted in a redirection of graffiti towards the artistic and patriotic context,” says Saleh in Marking Beirut.

Saleh has noted this new trend. “I wish it was there when I was [doing the research],” she says. “The work that Ashekman does is very creative and it takes a lot of skill. I mean not anyone can take Arab letter forms…and sketch them out on such a huge surface. I think it teaches students how to think out of the box and how to think fast…if your skill in actually sketching [forms] out on the wall is not as strong, then it won’t come out the same.”

When the director of the University’s Neighborhood Initiative, Cynthia Myntti (MA Anthropology ’74), decided to include graffiti as part of a student workday organized in January 2009, she confronted the difficulty of creating true street art. “The sort of frescoes that groups do on walls, in fact, have a certain limited appeal, but many people don’t like the artwork that’s done,” Myntti explains. “So we decided…to think about text and the ways that words could be painted on walls to make people think about those walls in a fresh way.”

The project that emerged, Al-Hitaan in Hakit (The Walls in Conversation) enlisted dozens of students to clean posters off the walls of Abdul Aziz Street, repaint them, and then decorate them with verses by Fairuz, Nizar Kabbani, Adonis, Lamartine, and Khaled el Haber, among others.

“We saw this as sort of a temporary intervention at best, that anything you put on a public wall will sort of be responded to or reacted to,” Myntti says. And that’s exactly what happened. Less than a day passed before the swirling calligraphy took on that second layer of authorship, Acoustamatik’s geometric owls perched
on each letter of a Fairuz verse: “Min Qalbi la-Beirut” (From My Heart to Beirut).

A year and a half later, the words and images are still visible because no one has yet painted or posterred over them. There are signs elsewhere on the same wall that political posters are making a comeback, but AUB’s project is typical of a new wave of graffiti that falls into a category Saleh loosely dubbs “social stencils.”

Among the most remarked upon are the owls; Sinno’s portrayal of Egyptian diva Om Koulthoum singing Lebanese pop star Haifa Wehbe’s lyrics, “Bous al-Wawa” (Kiss the Boo-Boo), and Mickey Mouse’s head with the words “Nahna ma’a’ak” (We are With You).

According to Sinno, the curving wall that branches down from AUB’s Medical Gate onto John F. Kennedy Street is particularly popular for a reason. “You don’t get a lot of security there, so it’s really safe,” he says.

The old markings blanketed neighborhoods by category, but the new ones tend to congregate in specific areas of the city. Those on Abdul Aziz and John F. Kennedy Streets in Hamra and on the stairs leading through Ain al-Mreisseh to the Corniche are generally less elaborate than the mural-like designs that pop up under the bridge in Karantina or along the walls flanking the Beirut River.

It has become far less acceptable to promote purely sectarian sentiments on public property, but
that’s not to say the new markings aren’t political, says Sinno, who started experimenting with wall art about three years ago. “It’s not just sectarian politics here; there’s also class politics, racial politics, sexual politics,” Sinno says. What’s on the wall may end up being political, but it typically starts as something personal, he explains. “I mean, stuff will happen and I’ll react to something that someone else spray painted or someone will react to something that I sprayed and then I’ll answer that.”

Sinno searches for a way to explain the back-and-forth that takes place in graffiti, the odd conversation that isn’t because who really knows what it’s actually saying—today’s owls are yesterday’s hieroglyphics. The solution Sinno seizes upon points to what may be the final frontier of graffiti, perhaps even its graveyard: “It’s kind of, like, you know, how people post comments on YouTube and they reply to each other. It’s like that—it’s a wall.” Graffiti is no longer graffiti and, ultimately, even a wall isn’t what it used to be.

—S.M.
The SPC Man

As the Syrian Protestant College grew from a class of 16 students to an established university, students struggled to define exactly who the “SPC man” was—or should be. They expounded their ideas in their early publications; as the number of publications grew, so did the extent of the debate, which can be explored by flipping through some of the early issues of their magazines.

Between 1899 and 1932, students at the Syrian Protestant College (SPC)—individually, in small groups, through the venue of student societies, and for class assignments—issued 63 handwritten and later typewritten magazines. In 1906 alone, 16 different papers were published, the largest single year output in the history of the school. The longest running magazine of this era was the Students’ Union Gazette, published by the elected Students’ Union, and issued irregularly between 1912 and 1932. The earliest papers were in Arabic, but soon thereafter students wrote in English, French, and Armenian as well. *Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa* (1923-30) was the most important Arabic-language paper in this era. Because of the time required to publish each issue, students typically produced just two copies, leaving one at the library and distributing the
other among the student body. Jafet Library’s Special Collections contains very few complete runs of these early publications because many have been lost to time; however, there are still enough issues to provide a picture of the main themes they covered. Although the majority of the articles in these magazines are devoted to issues of character, civilization, religion, science, history, and models for individual success, above all else, these early papers read as self-help manuals that lay out the characteristics students require to be the “SPC man.”

In their articles, students highlighted the character traits of hard work, perseverance, honesty, and loyalty they wanted to instill in their colleagues. Pioneers of SPC (1906) reports “the great inventions and discoveries were not made by accident, as some idle people pretend, but they were simply the result of many years’ patient labor and perseverance.” Additionally, “strong will is the quality which one must necessarily possess in order to succeed” for “it is will or force of purpose that enables a man to be or do whatever he sets his mind on being or doing. The proverb ‘Where there is a will, there is a way’, was not said in vain; but it was the expression of the real fact that men had realized when seeing that, by will, great obstacles were surmounted and glorious triumphs achieved.” Light (1906) concurs, saying, “the master-key, by which all the doors of success can be opened, is Determination.” The same author clarifies his point in a later issue of Light (1906), writing, “to determine to do a thing is to do that thing earnestly and enthusiastically, and to do a thing earnestly and enthusiastically means faith in himself and the thing. But faith in oneself and the thing means Success.”

The Students’ Union Gazette (1913) declares “education is the training of the entire man, body, mind and character, and the first of all education is physical education” and “persistent, intelligent effort will win.” The article ends with the command, “DO NOT WORRY, WORK!” In affirmation of this simple doctrine, the Commercial S.P.C. Editor (1907) states, “the great men of affairs and those who are crowned in every age with brilliant prosperity have not been those who try to grasp more than one subject at one time, but they have been those personages who knocked at the door of cheerful hope with the hand of diligence and
Beyond Bliss Street

In our history

persistance [sic], and whose lives have been continually spell-bound by the beauty of work and the satisfaction which is rewarded by toil.”

Just about every issue of every magazine contained articles detailing the successful men of literature, politics, and war that students should emulate. For example, students repeatedly exalted English writers like William Shakespeare, John Milton, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge for their eloquence and successful military men for adherence to the concepts of freedom and liberty. The students’ favorite politician was Abraham Lincoln because he embodied all the characteristics of the modern man they sought to acquire. University (1927) praises Lincoln because “this man left many everlasting traces and sayings that will never die in so far as they stand for the principles of liberty and the rights of man.” The Review Organ of the Freshman School (1927) says Abraham Lincoln “longed to better his country”; “his ambition was good, a blessing to him and to his country.” The author calls on his fellow students to follow the path of Lincoln, for “the ambition we need is one actuated by a noble sentiment whose aim is the ultimate good of the country. Let us then covet for our country that ambition which springs from true patriotism so that we may be freed not from the yoke of a tyrant, nor from the incubus of slavery, but from the stony fetters of ignorance.” In another American example, a student writes in The Miltonian (1903), “I take my pen to celebrate the immortal glory of Daniel Webster, the father of American oratory and the example of those who by their perseverance and industry and a gift from above, rise from poverty and low ranks, until they attain the pinnacle of glory.”

A 1916 issue of the Students’ Union Gazette put all these characteristics together, asking “Who Is the True Gentlemen of the S.P.C.? In answering this question, the author lists the traits that epitomize that man. “In the first place, he is polite and kind,” and has a “love of work.” For this latter trait, this gentleman recognizes that “he does not depend upon others to do his work. He is not ashamed to carry his valise from the train to his house—an act which many think is disgracing [sic]. A gentleman is not ashamed to do any kind of honest work because he knows that work is an object of life.” Furthermore, “with many things around him to interest him and occupy his time he is never lonely or lazy. He is always in good spirits, no matter where he is or what he is doing.” Furthermore, for the author, “Service, or,
in other words, the good, useful work one accomplishes for his community, is the measure of his worth. The man whose services are necessary to his community is the person who is the true Gentleman of the S.P.C. because we come to this college to learn how to serve our community, country and the world but the Gentlemen of the S.P.C. are those who serve for the sake of humanity, for the sake of the welfare of their community. Therefore the Gentleman of this college is the man whose motto is, ‘I serve.’”

The author ends the article by saying, “I believe that the true Gentleman of the S.P.C. is a warm, sincere friend; a hard working man; an efficient member of his community; and an embodiment of all that is noble and true in manhood.” In a later article in the same magazine in 1926, a student summed up the main qualities AUB students must acquire. “Self-respect, ladies and gentlemen, self-confidence, self-reliance, self-control, self-government, the spirit of cooperation and of brotherhood are some of the very important factors that control, direct, and shape the progress and development of any country or nation. These are as important to the state as food is to mankind, to sustain them and help them to carry out their every day work; and without them the nation simply dies out of existence and is never heard of.”

As the world changed in the 1930s, so too did the style of student writing: the pages of al-Kulliyah Review (1933-46) and the second iteration of al-‘Urwa al-Wuthqa (1936-54) reveal the dramatic changes that occurred in the content of the school’s student publications. The Arab world moved to independence during this period; after World War II events such as those associated with the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the Algerian Revolution dominated the pages of AUB’s new student newspaper, Outlook. Henceforth, student newspapers reported events in a more factually-based fashion as the political world outside the Main Gate grabbed student attention.

Written before this shift in student interest, the first generation of student magazines provides a fascinating look at the goals and aspirations of SPC and AUB’s early students; their primary goal was to prepare their fellow students to become the modern leaders that Arab society required.

—Betty S. Anderson
When UNESCO named Beirut World Book Capital, 2009, AUB had an “a-ha!” moment: it was the perfect occasion to inaugurate an event celebrating hundreds of alumni authors. And thus the inaugural AUB Alumni Literary Festival came into being.

There could have been few more appropriate occasions for AUB to celebrate its alumni authors than as a coda to the year in which UNESCO named Beirut World Book Capital, 2009. At the outset though, the task looked quite daunting.

“We had nothing as a launch pad,” says Ghada Rihani, programs committee chair of the Worldwide Alumni Association of AUB (WAAAUB). Rihani worked with her committee members and the AUB staff, relying on emails, Google, Wikipedia, and word of mouth to connect them with graduates who’d picked up the proverbial pen and fashioned something of merit. Their labors were not in vain, between producing the festival itself (which is intended to be an annual event), and compiling a database of alumni authors who might be enticed to play a greater role on campus.

In addition to recognizing all of the alumni who had published books and convening several related panels, the festival committee chose to honor eleven extraordinary men and women who have shaped literature. Not surprising, it is the alumni authors themselves who captured the event’s true significance in their remarks at the honoring ceremony.

Ameen Albert Rihani paid tribute to the intimate connections that AUB forged between himself and his teachers, two of whom—Sami Makarem and Sadik al-Azm—were among those honored. “Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to remind myself today that I’m the student of great professors at this University,” he said.

Emily Nasrallah reflected on the University’s influence on her writing: “I believe that every letter I wrote…has been an attempt to move beyond and affirm all that AUB first planted in my thoughts and my being.”

AUB Sociology Professor Samir Khalaf took pains to describe the precise joy that writing evoked in his life: “A good day of writing makes me feel alive, makes me feel spirited, focused, even at times invincible. It is not only my Prozac, but…also my Viagra.”

Khalaf’s wife Roseanne Saad Khalaf, a professor of English at AUB as well as a festival presenter and panel moderator, praised the event’s potential to contribute to a stronger writing culture on campus. “I think it’s really important that [students] hear what writers have to say about the craft,” she said.

To that end, we at MainGate decided to ask some of the honored authors about their craft, why they write, which of their books holds the greatest personal significance, and the source of their ideas. May these answers be the beginning of an ongoing conversation.
Sadik al-Azm on writing about the Other and defying taboo...

My writing process thrives on intellectual friction with the Other and on the provocations of the Other through educated critique, debate, controversy, polemic, dialogue, and exchange in addition to clear-headed, accurate scholarship, and rigorous thinking.

Out of my own works in Arabic, *Critique of Religious Thought* and *Of Love and Arabic Courtly Love* remain the most meaningful to me because they critically engaged the forbidden trinity of contemporary Arab culture: sex, religion, and politics. For this reason they never went out of print, although first published in the late 1960s and banned almost everywhere in the Arab world (while available almost everywhere in the same Arab world). I certainly owe all that to Lebanon and Beirut in particular.

My favorite English publication is the widely reproduced essay, “The Importance of Being Earnest About Salman Rushdie,” my critically timed defense of a fellow transgressing and demythologizing author condemned to death on television and inadequately supported by the republic of letters in the West.

Sami Makarem on mysticism and dissimulation...

Of the 25 books that I have written, maybe my last book, *Al-'Irfan fi Maslak at-Tawhid* (“Mysticism and the Druze Faith,” Druze Heritage Foundation, 2006) about the Druze sheikhs is most useful. The Druze faith is an esoteric faith so it was difficult to write about it. I was asked by the Druze religious authorities to write this book and I wrote it without hiding anything. For the first time, this Islamic sect has been explained without any dissimulation. It is in Arabic, but I have translated it into English and it will be published soon.

I’ve also written poetry on the impact of philosophy in the Druze faith. One of those poetry books is *Mir‘at ‘ala Jabal Qaf* (“A Mirror on Mount Qaf,” Dar Sader, 1996). The Mount of Qaf is a mythological mountain and has been used in the theology of Sufi Islam. I also consider this book to be a spiritual autobiography. It’s very mystical and Sufi.
Emily Nasrallah on the dual gifts of observation and distraction...

Writing for me is love. I call it in Arabic howa and not a duty or a job. In my childhood as well as now, I am shy. I like to live in corners…to listen or observe, and this really helped me a lot in describing the characters of my novels. This ability to be away, to be in shadow, but at the same time to be sensing and feeling the mood of the moment, all this goes into writing.

What made me write for children was what happened to us during the war. I had published three novels by then and I felt all I had done was worthless, nothing. I stopped writing and I was taking care of my children. They were very young, they were afraid. So whenever we sat down, I started writing short stories for them, asking them to illustrate, to make them get busy and forget what was going on outside the house. And one fruit of this hobby became my first novel for children, *Al-Bahira* (Dar Naufal) and it was published in 1978.

Ameen Albert Rihani on imagining the written word...

Writing to me is a cry, a laugh, an ecstasy, a pain, and an excitement. It is a journey, a return, a stop, a revisit. Writing is an action, a performance, an aspiration, a desire, an association, a confrontation. It is, as well, an excavation in the mine of language, painting on white canvas, haunting tunes we hear behind the echo of silence. Writing is a song beyond any expected melody, a drawing away from any other sketch, and a chisel outside any other carving tool. Writing is the guard of the temple or the destroyer. It is discovering truth or ignoring it. It is a call for the birds to convene or disperse.

_S.M._

The Festival honored the following eleven alumni authors for their contributions to the literary world.

Sadiq Jalal El Azm (BA ’57) is professor emeritus of modern European philosophy at the University of Damascus in Syria. The recipient of the Erasmus Prize and the Dr. Leopold-Lucas-Preis of the Evangelical-Theological Faculty of the University of Tubingen in 2004, El Azm became a Dr. Honoris Causa at Hamburg University in 2005. He has written many books and articles including *The Origins of Kant’s Arguments in the Antinomies* (1972), *Four Philosophical Essays* (1980), and “Islam, Terrorism, and the West” in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* (2005).

Elias Khoury (former student) is a prolific author whose widely acclaimed works include The Little Mountain, The Journey of Little Ghandhi, and Gate of the Sun. Currently a global distinguished professor at New York University, Khoury has also held academic appointments at Columbia University, AUB, and the Lebanese American University. A major figure on the Arab literary scene dating back to the early 1970s when he was a member of the editorial board of the journal Mawaqif, Khoury was also editor of Shu‘un Filastin (1975-79), editorial director of Al-Karmel (1981-82), editorial director of the cultural section of As-Safir (1983-90), and editor of Al-Mulhaq, the cultural supplement of An-Nahar, (1992-2009).

Raymond Khoury (MA ’83) is internationally known as the author of The Last Templar, the 2006 New York Times bestseller that has been translated into 38 languages and published in more than 40 countries. Khoury, who trained and worked as an architect and later in investment banking, is also know for his screenplays, including his work on the BAFTA award-winning BBC shows “Spooks” (known as “MI.5” in the United States) and “Waking the Dead.” Khoury is also the author of two other international bestsellers, The Sanctuary (2007), and The Sign (2009). The Templar Salvation, the sequel to The Last Templar, is due out in October 2010.

Sami Makarem (BA ’54, MA ’57) is a Lebanese scholar, writer, poet, and artist who has made important academic contributions to the fields of Islamic studies, Sufism, and Islamic history. He taught Arabic language specializing in Islamic Batini Studies at the University of Michigan and has written many books and articles on Islamic history and studies, Lebanese history, and the Druze faith. Among his publications are: The Druze Faith (1974), Al-'Irfan fi Maslak at-Tawhid (Mysticism in the Druze Faith, 2006), and Qasa'ed Hubb 'ala shati' Mir'at (Love Poems on the Shores of a Mirror, 2004). He has been professor of Arabic at AUB since 1964.

Marwan Muasher (former student) is senior vice president, external affairs at the World Bank and the author of The Arab Center. Muasher, who is a member of the AUB Board of Trustees, was previously a member of the Jordanian Senate (2006), deputy prime minister (2005) and foreign minister (2002-04) of Jordan, and Jordan’s ambassador to the United States (1997-2002). He was awarded Jordan’s Independence Medal, First Order in 1994 for his role in peace negotiations between Jordan and Israel, and Jordan’s Kawkab Medal, First Order in 2000 for his role in concluding the free trade agreement between Jordan and the United States.

Emily Nasrallah’s (BA ’58) first novel, Birds of September, which she published in 1962, earned her instant praise and three Arabic literary prizes. It is now in its thirteenth edition. She is a prolific writer, publishing many novels, children's stories, and short story collections touching on family, village life, war, emigration, and women's rights. Four of her novels, Birds of September, Flight Against Time, Fantastic Strokes of Imagination, and A House Not Her Own, have been published in English. Nasrallah has also been a frequent panelist and participated
in the 1988 International Olympics Authors Festival in Calgary (Canada), and the 1989 PEN International Congress in Toronto and Montreal.

**Ameen Albert Rihani** (BA ’65, MA ’71) is the winner of the Suda as-Subah 2003 first literary award for *Forgotten Springs*. He earned his PhD in literature from the Lebanese University in 1996. He joined Notre Dame University, where he is currently provost, in 1997 and has served in several positions. Rihani has published 16 books and several articles and was recognized by the Suad as-Subah Literary Award Committee in 2006 as a distinguished author for *A Train and No Station*. He is also the author of *The Neigh of Wondering Songs* (2009), *Multiculturalism and Arab-American Literature* (2007), *Cities’ Grass* (2002), and *Water Rituals, Letters to Serene* (1999).


**Ghada Samman** (MA ’65) is a Syrian-Lebanese writer, journalist, and novelist and the owner Ghada Samman Publications, which she founded in 1977. The author of six collections of short stories focused primarily on Arab women and Arab nationalism, Samman wrote *Beirut 75* (1974), *The Eve of Billion* (1976), *The Impossible Novel: Damascus Mosaic* (1997), and *A Costume Party for the Dead* (2003), all in Arabic. In addition to a literary legacy that includes 40 books (some of which have been translated into 15 languages), she is a columnist for *Al-Hawadith*.

**Ghassan Tueni** (BA ’45) is a former Lebanese politician and publisher of An-Nahar and cofounder and president (1970-82) of the Board of Directors of the French daily, L’Orient-Le Jour. A passionate defender of the freedom of the press, he has held many political and diplomatic positions including deputy prime minister, head of several Lebanese ministries, emissary and personal counsel of presidents of the republic, and as Lebanon’s UN ambassador. A former member of AUB’s Board of Trustees and current trustee emeritus, Tueni received an honorary doctoral degree from AUB in 2005.

The inaugural AUB Alumni Literary Festival which was held March 25 and 26 brought alumni together for an honoring ceremony and book exhibit showcasing works by over 72 alumni authors. The weekend also featured several panel discussions lead by alumni and a poetry reading moderated by Assad Khairallah of AUB’s Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages.

Are you an alumni author who would like to be contacted regarding the 2011 festival? If so, email: alumni@aub.edu.lb
At AUB, 2,980 students received financial aid in 2009–10. Can you help one more?

Architecture graduate Haig Papazian credits his department with encouraging its students to explore “outside” interests. In addition to being a skilled, award-winning architect, Haig has helped to organize Talk20, an informal interactive gathering of local artists from different disciplines. He is also a gifted musician and a member of Mashrou’ Leila, a popular Beirut band of AUB architecture and graphic design graduates that has performed at the Byblos International Festival and toured in Brazil, Europe, and the MENA region in summer 2010. Although Haig received full scholarships in his last two years at AUB, he says that his first three years were “very tough.” After graduation, he decided to stay in Lebanon to practice architecture and gain experience at DW5 Bernard Khoury Architects while continuing to compose music. Beirut, he says, allows for such flexibility. Looking back, he describes AUB on balance as “an incredible experience that allowed me to achieve a lot academically and in different creative disciplines. I owe a lot to AUB.”

Hear more: www.aub.edu/development/scholarship_initiative

To speak to someone about supporting financial aid, contact us at giving@aub.edu.lb

Supporting Students
Of Today and Tomorrow

Can you help support an AUB student?
Here’s one of their stories.
There has been an explosion of interest in writing at AUB. You can see it in what Visiting Professor of English Carol Haviland describes as the “prolific output of texts on campus bulletin boards,” the growing number of student publications, the steady stream of students and faculty members beating a path to the Writing Center, and in the overwhelming demand for creative writing courses. Why this sudden interest in writing?

Well, it turns out that it’s not actually that “sudden” but has been building gradually in recent years as AUB keeps pace with changes that are being implemented at many US universities. These changes reflect a recognition that writing—not just essay writing, but many forms of formal and informal writing—promotes active learning. When students write, they integrate the material that they are learning in a way that significantly enhances their understanding of the concepts they are writing about.

In addition to the importance of writing as an essential part of learning, another reason for the increased focus on writing at AUB is that it is an essential communication skill. Somewhat surprisingly, it was not always appreciated as such. For many years, some students—and even some faculty members—especially in the hard sciences, business, and engineering were convinced that requiring students to write was a waste of time that could be better spent mastering technical skills. After all, engineers don’t have to write—or do they?

“Engineers need technical skills—of course, but they need communication and management skills as well. They need to be able to write in order to sell their ideas,” says Engineering Professor Ali El Hajj. A number of accrediting bodies such as the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) and the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) agree with El Hajj and now require that schools and faculties seeking accreditation include writing as part of their curricula.

To encourage all of its students to develop confidence and competence as writers, AUB revised its general education requirements in 2008 to include two writing intensive courses. These courses must be in a student’s major, use writing to enhance the learning process, and address the formal expectations for writing in their discipline. As chair of the Senate Committee on General Education, El Hajj is playing a leading role in a university-wide writing-across-the-curriculum (WAC) initiative that AUB is launching with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. So too is Haviland, who is working closely with AUB faculty to embed writing within existing courses. Seventeen such courses involving more than 1,000 students will be offered in 2010-11.

Writing Center Acting Director Natalie Honein and her team of tutors, which includes both students and faculty members, is gearing up for what they expect to be an even greater demand for their services going forward. Although she has some concerns that she will not have the resources (in terms of space, a sufficient number of tutors, etc.) to meet the increased demand, Honein embraces the challenge and is working hard to

“The rich multi-lingual experience of many AUB students is a strength, not a weakness.”
spread the word about the types of assistance that the center can—and cannot—offer. “We do occasionally get students who expect us to write their papers for them. This is not what we do. I tell all our tutors that ‘the pen must stay in the student’s hand at all times,’” says Honein. Tutors Emma Moghabghab, Marwa Mehr, and Anita Moutchayan all report that although students are sometimes disappointed when they discover that tutors won’t actually write their papers for them, they are appreciative of the assistance that the center provides.

You might think that because AUB students are writing in what is often their second, third, or even fourth language, these writing-rich courses would be difficult for them. Haviland says, however, that this is not the case: “The rich multi-lingual experience of many AUB students is a strength, not a weakness: students come with a great deal of knowledge about language acquisition and about the intersections of language, meaning, and culture.” Education Professor Saouma BouJaoude agrees and goes on to explain that it is not whether students are writing in their first, second, or third language that determines how well they write, but rather how much writing they have done. “Because of the strong emphasis on writing in the French educational system,” he says, “we find that students coming from good French schools often write better—even in English—than students coming from English language schools.”

Although a mastery of grammar and a rich vocabulary are, of course, relevant, being able to think critically and understand the topic that you want to write about is the key. As BouJaoude says, “In order to be able to write well, you need to be able to think well.” It makes sense then that AUB, which has enshrined in its mission statement its goal to graduate “individuals committed to creative and critical thinking,” is putting so much emphasis on a skill that promotes creativity and critical thought.

**MEPS**
The Issam Fares Institute published Middle East Policy and Society (MEPS) is a student-led academic web-based journal that consists of research and argumentative papers, and book reports. The theme of this year’s journal is youth, but all non-fiction academic papers pertaining to culture, health and society are considered for publication. Volume I, published in 2009, included papers on water strategies in the Jordan River Basin, coalition-based fiscal policies of aid and investment, and the Lebanese Army’s impact on institutional statehood, among other topics.

[http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/ifi_saj/Pages/saj_home.aspx](http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/ifi_saj/Pages/saj_home.aspx)

**OUTLOOK**
OUTLOOK is an independent publication which has been the official student newspaper of AUB since 1949. It features articles across the spectrum of student concerns from the intricacies of academic issues and changes on campus, to the impact of student movements and protests, and the mundane needs of daily life—good food, culture and entertainment.

**Alloy**
Alloy is a publication of the AUB student organization The Insight Club whose mission is to provide mixed perspectives on living a well-rounded, moral life focused on charity, and cultural, intellectual, and recreational enrichment. Personal reflections are presented on a wide range of subjects, such as self-esteem, loss, competition, individuality, and responsibility for the environment.

**The Banyan Tree**
A literary journal of short stories, poems, plays and interviews that encompasses “all voices and styles,” The Banyan Tree is an impressive anthology of student creative writing. The duality of desire with its creative and destructive impulses is the theme of The Banyan Tree’s Winter 2010 inaugural issue.
Editor’s note: More than 50 years after they graduated, Ann Kerr-Adams has interviewed six of her AUB classmates to discover the lives they have built in the Middle East.

I was immediately drawn to Salma when I first saw her in the women’s hostel in fall 1954, shortly after I arrived at AUB. She was a tall, graceful young woman with a reserved demeanor who lived down the hall from my four roommates and me. Behind Salma’s reserve was a person of great intelligence and candor, with a passionate concern for her Palestinian homeland and the old, conservative Muslim family from which she came. “I am from the most conservative family in the most conservative town in Palestine,” she told me with a laugh. “The Jayyusi family has lived in the village of Kur for centuries and only married Jayyusis, but that custom no longer exists. My goal was to study at AUB, and I am thankful that I was able to attain that goal.”

Salma was my source of learning about an old way of life in the Middle East that was quite different from that of my other friends in the hostel. When she went home to her family in the town of Tul Karm for school holidays, she covered her hair out of respect for her father’s traditional views, a custom no longer followed at that time in the families of other Muslim classmates. Salma’s father, Hashem, was a highly educated and respected man who had served as a minister in the governments of the first three kings of Jordan and was a dedicated activist for Palestine. Only six years earlier in 1948, her family’s life had been altered forever by the British withdrawal from Palestine.

Imprinted in Salma’s memory were the dawn bombings on Tul Karm and the day all the inhabitants fled, except for her family, with only their...
neighbors and a small volunteer army to defend them against the Zionist forces. She recounted this story to me last year as if it had just happened. “My father gathered us together and told us he had eight bullets in his pistol and that if the Jews were to enter the city he would shoot each one of us and then himself rather than let us face the likely atrocities of the invaders. The city was spared when an armistice was declared, but the result of this catastrophe was the annexation of the portion of Palestine to the west of the Jordan River to ‘East Jordan’ under the name of the ‘West Bank of Jordan’. We were told it was a temporary act, but it never reopened.”

The prongs of Salma’s life have been formed by these childhood memories of political turmoil, her devotion to family and her yearning for education for herself and the people of the Middle East. After graduating from AUB, she taught in secondary and post-secondary schools in Jordan and then won a scholarship from the United States Information Service (USIS) to study for a master’s degree in teaching of English as a second language (TESL) at Teachers’ College, Columbia University. She passed her comprehensive exam in 1960 with honors and returned to teach in Ramallah Teachers’ Training College for five years. In 1965, she switched careers to work at the Arab Bank head office in Amman in charge of foreign relations.

Tempted by an offer from Saudi Arabia to head a new private school for girls, Salma left the Arab Bank and tried life in a more restricted environment than she was used to. After a year, she decided to return to Amman where she accepted a job with the Ministry of Education heading the English language section of the Curricula Department.

In 1974 my friendship with Salma was renewed when she came to study for a PhD at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) on a scholarship she had won through the Jordanian Ministry of Education and American Friends of the Middle East, the organization that helps Arab students apply to study in the United States. Although we had kept in touch before, it was during those three years when Salma studied at UCLA that we cemented our friendship as adults. We met on campus frequently and she became a part of our family, joining us for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and summer barbecues.

After she returned to Amman, we visited her each time our family went to Jordan. She continued her work with the Ministry of Education, chairing a committee that revised the entire English language teaching curriculum and then was appointed executive head of the Shoman Foundation which was founded and sponsored by the Arab Bank for the development of science, arts, and research in the Arab world. She was also an assistant professor at the University of Jordan.

Salma has balanced her professional and family life, being of great support to her two older sisters with whom she lived until the end of their lives. Throughout her life she has dedicated herself to improving conditions for Palestinian refugees. She is a key member in groups that support care of the elderly and disabled and find ways to help students go to university, both at home and abroad. “Our lives as Palestinians have made us very sensitive,” she told me, reminding me of her more and articulate statements a few years ago during the American invasion of Iraq War, “I am so disillusioned—can’t they feel the anger, the fury, the injustice they are doing? Islam is so distorted and misunderstood. America is actually murdering the values it taught us.”

The election of President Obama brought hope to Salma and many others in the Middle East for a fair solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. They are still waiting—but Salma continues her work for the Palestinian people, feeling the injustice deeply but knowing that education is the best pathway we have to maintain hope for the future. She remains grateful for her education at AUB.

—A.K.A.
Tarek Atrissi (BA ’00) has established an international reputation as a graphic and typographic designer running a highly successful studio in the Netherlands. He teaches design all over the world and readily shares his ideas through his website and blog (www.atrissi.com).
MainGate: What attracted you to Arab graphics and typographic design in the first place?

Atrissi: It was mainly my education at AUB that created the strong interest in Arabic graphic design and typography. I carried on this interest in Holland—where I focused on Arabic design and typography in digital media—and later in New York where I focused specifically on type design.

AUB emphasized the Arabic side of typography and bilingual communication and encouraged us to create a unique contemporary Arabic design language that reflects the social, economic, and political environment of the Middle East today.

There was, however, relatively less done with Arabic typography, which was frustrating to see. This eventually became the core philosophy of my studio: starting from a specific focus on developing a contemporary Arabic design language that reflects the social, economic, and political environment of the Middle East today.

MainGate: What have been the main advantages and disadvantages of living and working in Holland?

Being based in Holland—with its long and rich tradition in visual arts and graphic design—nourishes my studio's cross-cultural design approach. Although I travel extensively to Lebanon and the Middle East, because we live outside the Arab world, we are able to look objectively at the region in our research on aesthetic trends and design conventions.

What is your philosophy in confronting these challenges?

To stand out you need to have a specific vision and approach. The challenge is to juggle between your own personality in design while being flexible enough so that it doesn’t become an obstacle to efficient visual communication.

What inspires you?

In the past I have drawn a lot of my inspiration from my teachers, and today I find myself always inspired by my students—the upcoming design generation—who see things with fresh eyes. I am lucky to have the chance to work with students from different backgrounds through the various workshops and short courses I give in universities around the world. I am obsessed with documenting street signs, graffiti, and popular and political graphic street manifestations—which I always bring back into my design work in one way or another.

What are the particular challenges facing an Arab graphic designer today?

The not-so-well documented history of Arabic design makes it harder for practicing designers to find references for inspiration and a clearly defined timeline of the profession's progress. The Arabic script is also complicated and poses more difficulties to work with in some aspects of design.

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Which project, to date, has given you the most satisfaction?

If I had to choose, it would be designing the logo of Al-Ghad daily newspaper in Jordan in 2004. The newspaper was a newcomer then and I never anticipated that it would grow to become one of the most established brands in Jordan. The philosophy behind the design was to create contemporary, simple Arabic lettering that is bold and confident, and the opposite of the rather traditional calligraphic approach other newspapers adopt on their mastheads. The client accepted a daring,
different design proposal, and that helped Al-Ghad’s identity.

**What has been the main personal challenge so far?**
The fact that, at the end of the day, graphic design is a business. So actually it is the non-design aspect that is the most challenging.

**What is on the drawing board at the moment?**
A lot of exciting projects! We are branding a small museum in Amsterdam with an interesting Saudi art collection; designing a customized Arabic and Latin font for a new TV channel; and developing a complete visual identity for two new restaurants, in Beirut and Utah, as well as other interesting projects, some of them for the non-profit sector.

**What would be your dream project?**
To create the full corporate identity, visual language, and branding for the Olympic games when they take place in the Arab world for the first time. It will be such a challenging task to conceptualize and visualize the identity for such an international and historic event but still give it a local flavor—to create an iconic visual identity from the Arab world that is as unique and as localized as that of the Mexico 1968 Olympics, designed half a century ago by the legendary Lance Wyman.

**Inevitably I have to ask you how it felt to “design a nation”?**
[Qatar] was a very exciting commission: branding an entire country! It is a country that holds onto its Arab roots but needed to express them visually to a western audience. Nation branding is so rare an occurrence for any designer to experience, and there is not much training or research done on the subject. I looked at what other countries have done in terms of nation branding during the last 30 years, and carefully analyzed why some were more successful than others. The logo of Spain, developed by Joan Miró, was certainly one of the examples. One thing I read that I found to be true is that specific things come to mind when mentioning a country—some negative and some positive. Take Colombia, for example, you think coffee, drugs, jungle, kidnapping—a mix of positive and negative images. It will always be debatable if a logo can reflect an entire culture of a country, but it should present its positive image. I lived in Qatar for the entire project, just under a year, which helped me experience and understand the city and country both as a foreigner and a local, which resulted in the final, simple calligraphic approach that was adopted behind the branding of Qatar.

**What is the most exciting part of your day?**
The part which involves the core of the creative process, and that is mainly the time I spend with my sketchbook: conceptualizing ideas, scribbling thoughts, and experimenting with shapes and forms. They are honest and natural case studies that you can keep referring to and learning from. In reality they are much deeper and more meaningful portfolio pieces than any finished product.

—M.A.
Often described as the “Father of the Arabic Renaissance,” Boutros Bustani was an Arab writer, scholar, and educator who knew and worked with the American Protestant missionaries who went on to establish the Syrian Protestant College (SPC) in 1866. In addition to teaching many of them Arabic, Bustani collaborated with Dr. Cornelius Van Dyck, who he met in 1841, on a translation of the Bible. He also published two Arabic dictionaries (including Muhit al Muhit or Ocean of Oceans), founded several journals and literary magazines, and began—but did not complete—a widely acclaimed Arabic encyclopedia (Da’irat al Maaref or Circle of Knowledge).

Bustani believed passionately that ignorance was “the source of discord and religious fanaticism, which made the citizens of a country ‘easy playthings’ in the hands of foreigners who sought to divide the nation so as insidiously to rule it.” His lifelong commitment to secularism and the power of education to combat ignorance and unite a disparate people led him to found the National School in 1863: a place that welcomed “students from all religions and all races without distinction. It respects their beliefs and compels no one to embrace a religion other than that of his parents.” (Interestingly enough, Daniel Bliss echoed some of the same sentiments at the laying of the cornerstone of College Hall in 1871: “This College is for all conditions and classes of men, without regard to color, nationality, race or religion. A man, white, black, or yellow; Christian, Jew, Muhammedan or heathen, may enter and enjoy all the advantages of this institution.... and go out believing in one God, in many Gods, or in no God...”) The founders of the SPC were originally planning to use Bustani’s school as the College’s preparatory department, but “after two years of slowly developing friction, the plan of cooperation was given up.” Despite the friction that existed especially between Daniel Bliss and Bustani, there is also overwhelming evidence that relations between the two men were—at least initially and for a period of time—quite good. After all, the College welcomed its first class of 16 students in rooms that it rented from Bustani.

Although AUB has both a Laura Bustani Hall (one of the women’s dorms) and also an Emile Bustani Hall (also known as “the Physics Building”), there is no Boutros Bustani building. It seems, however, that Emile and Boutros Bustani were related as they were from the same village of Debbieh. In her book, A Marriage Out of Time, Laura Bustani, who is the widow of Lebanese businessman, philanthropist, and politician Emile Bustani (BE ’28) and the mother of current AUB trustee Myrna Bustani, states that Emile’s father was a “kinsman” of Boutros Bustani.

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5. In Letters from a New Campus, page 55, Daniel Bliss complains about the “selfishness, pride and excessive vanity of Butros and all like him.”
Faculty of Engineering and Architecture Dean Ibrahim Hajj first touched down on the AUB campus 50 years ago. Freshly retired from the deanship, today he talks about the effects of more students, more faculty, and more buildings.

MainGate: When did you first arrive at AUB, and what were your first impressions?

Ibrahim Hajj: I went to AUB directly from International College in 1960, so moving across to AUB was no big change. The courses were more focused, and it was exciting to be in engineering.

After my MS in New Mexico I went to California to do my PhD because I thought Berkeley would be more exciting. Berkeley was never too violent. We had the National Guard on campus—and tear gas. But those years full of new ideas really transformed my life—teaching me that social issues are more important than technology. Teaching me humility and respect for other people.

What were your impressions when you returned to AUB as dean?

I had visited Lebanon throughout my years in the United States and Canada, but it was exciting to come back to AUB as dean, especially since I had started as an AUB student almost 40 years earlier.

Maybe I was idealistic, but I wanted to do something for Lebanon and AUB, although I was established at the University of Illinois, where I’d been teaching for 22 years. Leaving the United States was a big move for my wife and me, especially leaving three of our five sons behind.

How was AUB different from the AUB of your undergraduate years?

When I was a student we had block programs [in engineering], and when I returned they were still in place. Students took specific courses in specific semesters: they could not select. If they failed two courses they had to repeat the whole year. So the first thing we did was change to a credit system. Certain courses are still required, but students can elect courses, and if they fail, they repeat only that course—not the entire year. We introduced new courses and retired obsolete ones.

What were the effects of the changes?

Parents and students were happy
because students no longer lost time repeating years—and could take electives. We also introduced minors. Faculty members were happy, too. We now have about 80 full-time professorial rank faculty members [in engineering], but even that’s not enough for our almost 1,800 undergraduate students, 200 master’s, and 36 PhD students. Our accomplished faculty members make our programs very strong.

As dean, do you teach?
I used to teach a graduate course occasionally, but lately I’ve been too busy with administrative work. But I miss the teaching—I like to teach.

What do you think students will remember about you as a teacher and as a dean?
Well, you’d really have to ask them. I hope they’d say I was a good teacher, because although I taught theoretical topics, I always insisted on projects. In applying computer programming to implement theoretical results, they learned something practical.

I wish I’d had more time to interact with students. When I was a student, the dean used to meet with us every week, but then we were only 300 students. I’ve tried to meet with students whenever possible. I walk around and talk with them, and I get positive feedback. They complain, of course, but what I hear [back from them] is that [they know] I listen to them. As a dean you really have to listen to, and nurture both students and faculty.

How do you nurture faculty members?
I’ve never had a top-down style of management. I like to consult. I make the decisions, of course, but people need to feel part of the process. When we were establishing the PhD programs, the faculty had to write the proposals and believe they could succeed. I could not do it on my own. When we prepared for accreditation, I tried to make sure every faculty member was involved.

Are there any particular programs you are especially proud of?
The PhD programs. We now offer PhDs in all engineering disciplines. The PhD programs have attracted excellent faculty members who feel they can come here and establish careers. A strong graduate program strengthens the undergraduate program as well. This year we started new undergraduate programs in construction engineering and in chemical engineering, which will develop into a new department.

We have attracted more funding—eight million dollars in endowed funds to support research and PhD programs and another eight million for four endowed chairs/professorships—three in engineering and one in architecture. We have received many other donations to support undergraduate scholarships and graduate research, as well as donations for lab equipment and state-of-the-art computer labs.

What major changes have taken place at AUB and in FEA while you were dean?
Everything is much bigger now—more students, more faculty, and more buildings, especially on the lower campus. When I was a student the different faculties were like islands, but now there is more communication across the whole campus. Before, professors came from Arts and Sciences to teach courses in this building. [Bechtel Engineering Building]. As dean, I have insisted that our students take these courses on upper campus where they can interact with non-engineering students. This is healthier.

What has been most fulfilling about being dean?
To see things happening. Really. You plan and work for years. And you don’t know if things will happen. Right now we have a new building [the Ray R. Irani Oxy Engineering Complex] going up. I thought these dreams would never happen. This is enormously fulfilling.

In 2001 we set up an Information Technology Unit to handle all our IT. Now we don’t spend much time on paperwork. Everything is automated, from student and faculty records to student petitions.

Our students have to do internships as part of their education. When I started as dean students often did their internships here in Lebanon, because they had to find the internships themselves. We were taking care of them while they were studying, but not when they graduated.

In 2002 we established the Career Development Center in FEA, and hired a career development officer. The center helps students find internships as well as permanent jobs when they graduate, and even finds some jobs for alumni. About 800 companies are members of the center. One hundred percent of our graduates find jobs.

We held our first annual Student Conference in May 2002, and today it brings alumni to give talks and receive Outstanding Alumni Awards. Students
give papers and poster presentations, and a student music concert ends the conference. Since 2008 non-AUB students have been invited to submit papers.

We have improved the physical facilities too. When I became dean, we had two buildings for laboratories, Wing B and Wing C—the very same buildings that I, as a student, had done experiments in—same labs, same space, and even the same equipment—almost 50 years earlier.

We first began to renovate, but then we began planning a replacement building. In November 2003 we spent weekends writing specifications. [The late] Trustee Kamal Shair asked architects from Dar Al-Handasah to work with us over the winter holiday. After studying all the buildings—Bechtel, Ghosn, the labs—we came up with a master plan for the interior of all the buildings. The new CCC Scientific Research Building was built to give us a place for the labs so we could tear down the old lab buildings. Now there’s a big hole where the new Irani Oxy Engineering Complex, funded by Trustee Ray Irani and the Occidental Petroleum Company, will be built. We’ve moved the labs frequently just to keep the programs going.

Actual construction of the complex should begin this summer and take around three years to complete. Every square meter of the building is occupied on paper. New buildings, new labs, new equipment—all are necessary for the programs to stay healthy. After the Irani Oxy building is finished, the Bechtel Engineering Building will be renovated from the inside, and we plan to renovate the Architecture Building, which is now called the Dar Al-Handasah Shair and Partners Architecture Building, and the Raymond S. Ghosn Building, too.

Why are you stepping down now? Well, this is my tenth year as dean, and I think it’s time for someone else to contribute to the faculty with new ideas. I’m definitely not retiring. I’m going on leave for one year, and will then come back to teach and do research.

What will you do during your year’s leave? I want to get back to research in computer aided design of integrated circuits (chips), circuits used in electronics—in cell phones, computers, and I also want to finish a textbook I started. I will be working in the lab at the University of Illinois, and I will travel to participate in a number of professional meetings and conferences.

What has been the impact of AUB on your life? AUB really set my life’s path. If I hadn’t come to AUB I don’t know what I would have been. AUB gave me the basic knowledge and training, so I had no problem coping with graduate studies.

What do you see as the future for engineering and architecture at AUB? I am confident that engineering, architecture, and graphic design are now up-to-date and moving forward. I am positive about the future. We are on the cutting edge in teaching and research. We hire excellent faculty from top universities around the world. When we advertise we receive tens of applications from the best universities—MIT, Princeton, Michigan, Berkeley, Stanford—and these faculty members drive our research and teaching ahead. We have also been receiving funding from the European Union—four or five grants each worth four or five hundred thousand Euros. And recently we received three high performance computing labs—one from Intel, one from Fujitsu-Siemens, and one from Apple—that are heavily used by both engineering students and faculty, and also by faculty members across campus. We recently received funding from Intel to do research in low energy chip design. I think the future looks bright for AUB’s Faculty of Engineering and Architecture.

—I.M.C.
The crowds gather for the results of the 1965 Miss AUB elections. Sociology freshman Aida Mansour was elected Miss AUB. (Outlook vol. 21, no. 14, 1966)
Each year, alumni come back to Reunion to relive the AUB experience; this year, many actually graduated for the first time.

On July 2, over 200 graduates from the classes of 1975 and 1985 closed an unfinished chapter of their lives at AUB when they received their degrees from President Peter Dorman in an official commencement ceremony at Assembly Hall. Proud spouses, parents, children, and relatives of the celebrating alumni packed the hall to watch at long last their mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, parade in their caps and gowns. The classes had waited 35 and 25 years, respectively, for their official commencement ceremonies since the events had been cancelled during the war.

Class of 1975 keynote speaker Flare Majali noted: “The Milk Bar, Nicely Hall, Faisal, Fisk, Speaker’s Corner, the Oval, the dorms, Bliss Street, Yum-Yum: some names have changed, but the spirit remains: visions emerge and take shape here...Today we are back, and, in the spirit we began in, let us pretend for tonight that we have been given the chance to start again...Let’s begin here again.”

Speaking for the class of 1985, Kamel Abdallah shared his reminiscences of the AUB experience and offered his classmates this advice: “This is the time to look in the mirror and to have an honest conversation with one-self...to live the values that AUB stands for...That, as Gibran said, we combine passion with reason...” Event proceedings were conducted by Ghada Rihani, chair of WAAAUB’s Programs Committee, and WAAAUB treasurer, Karam Doumet.

The special evening continued with a gala dinner at Le Particulier, one of Beirut’s premier French restaurants and featured musical performances and much dancing by alumni and guests into the late hours. Saturday was occupied by brunch on the terraces of the Charles W. Hostler Student Center, reminiscing with deans, music by student band Madjam, and an honoring ceremony for the class of 1960.

The Class of 1960 celebrated their 50th reunion in the Hostler Center auditorium. A record number of seventy alumni from around the world received a special commemorative gift from President Dorman and WAAAUB Vice President Genane Maalouf. Classmate Mahmoud Abdul Baki offered words of welcome and keynote speaker Haralambos “Harry” Harris shared his thoughts on the time spent on campus 50 years ago.

World Cup fever was in full swing on Saturday evening when the Reunion class of 2005 held their “Football Euphoria” on the roof terrace of the Hostler Center. Giant screens broadcast the Spain versus Paraguay match while an overflowing barbeque buffet kept the fans full but not distracted from the game.

On Sunday morning, three busloads of Reunion celebrants and their families set off from Beirut for the family outing that began with a traditional Lebanese breakfast and tour of the AUB farm in the Beqa’a. The next stop was a wine tasting and tour of the winery Clos St. Thomas, owned and operated by AUB alumnus Fadlo Touma. After sampling the wines and touring the caves where the wines are kept, alumni and guests motored on to Touma’s nearby residence where he generously treated 150 guests to an abundant luncheon under the shady green arbors of his property, with traditional entertainment provided by local musicians.

All told, over 700 alumni from celebrating classes came back to campus to participate in Reunion 2010 and relive their AUB years together.
“In our last year we came to understand that this bliss was more than the name of a street: it was our AUB experience.”

—Flare Majali
“The walls, the old trees, the green benches...touched me as a student...”
—Kamel Abdallah

Clockwise from top right: Class of 2005 graduates view a World Cup soccer match on the roof of the Charles W. Hostler Student Center; Harry Harouboulos (BE ’60) and friends enjoying luncheon at the residence of Fadlo Touma (BEN ’66, MEN ’69); family outing at the AUB farm; touring the Clos St Thomas vineyard; enjoying dinner at Le Particuler.
The **Northern California** Chapter organized the first of two events in the area on June 12. North Bay alumni gathered at BJ’s restaurant and sports bar in Walnut Creek to watch the US team play its first match of the World Cup. The second gathering was south of San Francisco at the Elephant Bar and Restaurant in Burlingame where alumni enjoyed good food and drinks and a view of the bay on Saturday, July 24.

A group of AUB alumni, family and their friends from Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati gathered on June 13 at a picnic organized by the **Ohio Valley** Chapter. The picnic was held at Possum Creek MetroPark in Dayton, Ohio. The chapter extends their many thanks to everyone who made the picnic a fun and enjoyable event.

About 40 members of the **South Florida** Chapter got together for dinner at the Maroosh Mediterranean Restaurant in Coral Gables on June 10. Although they were a diverse group that transcended generations, they shared a love of Mediterranean cuisine, an appreciation for the raffle made possible by **Rima Otrakji** (BA ’84 donations, and fond memories of AUB—more than enough to ensure a good time for all. Among the attendees were former chapter presidents Dr. **Walid Mnaymneh** (BA ’51, MD ’55) and Dr. **Fuad Ashkar** (BS ’58, MD ’62), current president Dr. **Alex Zakharia** (BS ’58, MD ’62) and treasurer Dr. **Mohammad Masri** (BS ’70). Many thanks to Vice President Dr. **Ziad Khatib** (BS ’83, MD ’86) who organized and emceed the event.

On May 30, **Ottawa**-based alumni and friends got together to spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon together. After drinking copious amounts of coffee and enjoying the nargileh, they got down to the serious business of playing games. There was Tarnib, Tawleh, a nail-biting round of Arba’a-miyya (400), Mahbouseh, and Scrabble. Although the pace was fast and furious and the competition was fierce, everyone had a great time. The Scrabble trophy went to **Lina Esber** (BS ’02) for her score of 186; other trophies were awarded to Salah Merhi and Fadi Gebeily (Arba’a-miyya), **Nazik Bitar** and Salwa Hafez (Tarnib), and George Absi in Mahbouseh.

The Ottawa Chapter “got physical” during their outdoor picnic on June 27 at Vincent Massey Park in Ottawa with frisbee, football, and badminton. Alumni and friends from as far away as Montreal took part in the afternoon event that featured games for young amateurs and the young-at-heart, scrumptious food for everyone, and the bubbling whispers of a few nargilehs. Not even a few drops of rain could dampen the mood that day was made possible...
by generous volunteers, Chin radio and Lebanesefoodottawa.com, and CLIC Foods that donated refreshments.

People are still talking about the film and discussion that took place at the Phillips Lounge in Montreal on July 22. Organized by the Montreal Chapter, this was the fourth event in the Seminar Series Project (SSP) launched last year by the chapter to introduce the community to accomplished individuals from diverse fields. The focus of this Café Littéraire was a screening of the 10-minute film entitled “June” followed by a lively discussion with the film’s director, Karim B. Haroun (BS ’04).

More than ninety AUB alumni, friends and families gathered for a brunch organized by the newly elected executive committee of the Toronto chapter on July 25 at Zanobia Restaurant and Lounge. After introducing the committee members, Rana El-Mogharbel (BA ’97, MA ’99), president of the Toronto Chapter, presented the committee’s vision and goals for this year and urged continuous participation from all members and friends in an upcoming series of networking events and cultural projects. In addition to meeting old friends, making new ones, and reviving College Hall memories, everyone enjoyed a wide selection of Middle-Eastern delicacies as well as the lovely tunes of live oud playing on a relaxed Torontonian Sunday.

AUB alumni and friends who gathered on June 18 at the Intercontinental Park Lane Hotel for the WAAAUB UK alumni gala dinner enjoyed the opportunity to hear Central Bank of Lebanon Governor Riad Salame (BA ’73) discuss the Lebanese economy.

Rings True

AUB first held class ring ceremonies in 1968, but the tradition was lost for years until it was revived this June. Initiated by the University Student Faculty Committee (USFC) and supported by WAAAUB and its Programs Committee, the class ring ceremony took place on the Green Field. One thousand, three hundred freshly minted alumni received a silver band engraved with two cedar trees between the words “American University of Beirut Class of 2010.” As they received their rings, the recent graduates pronounced the new oath that officially welcomed them to the alumni community: “With this ring we salute you, our alma mater. We promise to be faithful and committed to our beloved AUB.” Forty-five-year-old alumna Nadine Yared (MS ’10), who graduated for the fifth time, this time with a master’s degree, was excited about receiving her first ring.

“I wanted my children to see this so that it would make them want to graduate too,” she said.
and the country’s robust banking system. Samba dancing, comedy by Pierre Chamassian, raffles, and auctions were also on the menu on Friday evening combining to make this year’s gala dinner a very successful and enjoyable occasion for everyone.

More than 150 alumni and friends gathered at the Diplomatic Club on June 9 for the Qatar Chapter’s Quiz Night. Despite the friendly competition among the 10-person tables, the overwhelming feeling in the room that evening was one of belonging and good cheer—that feeling that unites all AUB alumni and friends. Folks are already looking forward to their next meeting, which will be the chapter’s annual gala dinner on November 4.
1950s
Leila Abou Nimeh
Frangie
(SON diploma ’59, School of Public Health Nursing certificate ’60) earned a BS in 1979 from Indiana State University, and is a 2001 graduate of the University of Florida’s Master Gardener Program. Now retired from nursing, Frangie is an active member of the Sarasota Case Managers Association. As a master gardener, she volunteers several hours a month gardening for Sarasota County and has helped establish a community garden. [frangie(at)verizon.net]

1960s
Harry G. Harris
(BE ’60) earned his master’s degree at the University of Illinois in 1970. He works for Exelon Corporation and lives in Northbrook, Illinois. Lubbat is married to Maha Tarazi (BA ’68, MA ’72). Their sons, Ramsey who lives in San Francisco, and Mark who lives in Chicago, both got married in summer 2009. [lubbat1@comcast.net]

Cesar Nammour
(BBA ’61), art critic and publisher, has been producing books on Lebanese artists ever since he founded Fine Arts Publishing in 1990. In March 2010, Nammour and Gabriela Schaub inaugurated Recto Verso in Beirut, which is both a library, a bookshop, and an archive for art appraisers, collectors, researchers, and those who are interested in Lebanese painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, and graphic design. This unique space is an offshoot of the Beirut World Book Capital Festival of Lebanese Art Books which was held in October 2009 at UNESCO Palace. [aalitatown(at)yahoo.com]

Silva Karayan
(BA ’63, MA ’66), professor of education and director of Special Education, has recently become emerita faculty at California Lutheran University (CLU). She was founding director of CLU’s Center for Academic Service-Learning for Research and Development and was the first chair of the Center for Teaching and Learning for Faculty Development. Karayan’s scholarly activities have included frequent presentations at national and international conferences and many publications in peer-reviewed professional journals. She is the author of Faculty Guide to Academic Service-Learning Pedagogy and was a founding member of the California Department of Education’s Service-Learning Advisory Committee. Karayan completed her doctorate at University of California, Santa Barbara.

Leila Kassantini Bibi
(BBA ’69) has lived in London, England with her husband Bassel since 1980. Her two daughters, who work in communications for the music and fashion industry, are graduates of City Business School and the London School of Economics. In addition to being an avid painter and yoga practitioner, Bibi was recently featured as a model in a two-month “Silk Window” campaign for Hermès, the French luxury goods house where she appeared in a series of photographs in the
class notes

vitrines of the Hermès boutique on Sloane Street in London.

1970s

Jean Grant Fraga

(MA ’70) After earning her master’s degree, Fraga taught communication skills at AUB until May 1976. After leaving Beirut, she and her husband, Bob Fraga, who taught in the Math Department, went to Saudi Arabia where he taught at the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran and she worked as a reporter for Arab News. On their return to the United States, Fraga worked in college relations for Ripon College where Bob taught math. In May she published The Burning Veil, a story of love and colliding cultures, loosely based on her experience living in Saudi Arabia and Beirut. The AUB campus also appears in the novel, which is available on Amazon. [jeanflies(at)sbcglobal.net]

Hovik Nersessian

(BA ’79) writes: “Please keep us always as your permanent students...whether we are in Lebanon or abroad.” He says that he can never, ever forget his good old days within the great walls of AUB—a refuge from the politically charged civil war. Nersessian works in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia as a training manager in a leading contracting firm full of Lebanese and AUBites. He has also worked in freelance media for almost 15 years. [onerissian(at)hotmail.com]

1980s

Nadine Knesevitch

(BA ’80) is assistant to the librarian at Jafet Library, Archives and Special Collections Department. She enjoys working with students and researchers. [nk20(at)aub.edu.lb]

Hayat Kai Bikhazi

(BA ’85) is working as a coordinator in AUBMC’s Quality Management Program. [hk14(at)aub.edu.lb]

Sana Elache

(BA ’85, MA ’88) is a training facilitator, educator, and business entrepreneur. Prior to becoming the executive director for Leadership Wood Buffalo, she worked as a young adult and adult educator for 15 years teaching college level courses. She has managed student services in higher education institutions in Dubai, consulted with the Dubai Ministry of Labor, designed professional development programs for adults and established work placement programs for college students. Upon arriving in Canada, Elache established Sila Link, a consulting, training, and publishing company that provides world class outsourcing and train-

Nadia Jaroush de Massud

(BS ’85) writes: “AREC class of 1985 was supposed to give us students a hands-on experience in agricultural applications while building student solidarity through the hard work of heavy farm chores, but war politics intervened. What should have been a great bonding experience instead separated students into different niches in Jordan and the Beqa’a. I remember the nights at the Bustani dorms where we had to sleep with our blood type written on our wrists ‘just in case.’ Our dean, Thomas Southerland, was kidnapped, and our graduation ceremony day was postponed until just last summer (2010) because of the chaos of the summer of...
Tarek Ammar (BBA ’90, MBA ’93) is a regional director for Ara Research and Consultancy in Lebanon (www.ararac.com) [t_ammar(at)ararac.com]

Ziad Jeha (BS ’90) After earning his degree in geology and completing some postgraduate courses at AUB, Jeha joined Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners) for six months where he worked as a geophysics supervisor in Yemen. He then joined Schlumberger seismic services where he worked for many years in oil and gas exploration. Jeha has held a number of managerial positions in Schlumberger’s WesternGeco Division, where he is currently the Kuwait country manager. [zJeha(at)sib.com]

Samer Harb (BS ’95, MS ’97) and his wife Mona Osta are happy to announce the birth of their second child, Farah, on June 7, 2010. In May 2009, Harb and his family moved to Kuwait where he joined Gloria Jean’s Coffees Franchise, Aqar International Co. as a business development manager. [mrsam66(at)hotmail.com]

Mohamad Koubeissi (BS ’95, MD ’99) completed his clinical training in neurology at New York University in New York and his clinical and research epilepsy fellowship at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He then joined the faculty of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Koubeissi has lectured widely on the medical and surgical treatment of intractable epilepsy and published papers in prestigious medical journals. He is currently editing a book on epilepsy surgery. He is also a reviewer for a number of major journals, is on the review committee for master’s and PhD students, and is the program director of the epilepsy fellowship program at University Hospitals Case Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Koubeissi is married to Maha Haddad; they have two boys. [Koubeissi(at)gmail.com]

Ragha Mogharbil al Zein (BA ’95) earned a master’s in journalism and mass communications from Iowa State University in 1998. She is an instructor at The American University of Science and Technology, Ashrafieh, where she teaches journal-
ism and public relations. Al Zein also freelances for magazines and newspapers. The daughter of Usama Mugharbil (BS '63, MS '65), Al Zein has two daughters. [rmugharb(at)hotmail.com]

Rola Chbaklo

(BA '96, MS '00) is happy to announce the birth of her first child, Rhea Zein, born on January 23, 2010. Chbaklo married Rami Zein in 2009 and is currently working at the Social Welfare Institutions as director of the Support and Development Division. Chbaklo completed her university studies at AUB earning a BA in political studies and a master’s in population studies. In 2001, she moved to Abu Dhabi where she worked for three years as a population specialist. In 2006 she received a master’s degree from the University of Turin (Italy) in management of development. She lives in Beirut. [Rolachbaklo(at)gmail.com]

Jasmin Masri

(BS '98, MA '00) completed a PhD in cultural theory and comparative literature at Cambridge University in 2004. She works in London as a change management consultant, specializing in leadership mobilization and communication of change. [jasmin_masri(at)hotmail.com]

Zena el Khalil

(BGD '99) presented her exhibition “Ou Ali Mama3ou Khabar... (And Ali Has No Idea...)” based on the July 2006 Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the present condition of Palestine at Espace Kettaneh Kunigk in Beirut June 30-August 13, and at the Galerie Tanit in Munich, Germany as part of the Open Art Weekend in early September. The work included five large-scale mixed media paintings, a thematic series of smaller hand-sown fabric collages, and a multi-media rotating sculpture. Khalil uses irony and humor to transform images of propaganda and warfare into Support and Development.

Al Zein also freelances for magazines and newspapers. The daughter of Usama Mugharbil (BS '63, MS '65), Al Zein has two daughters. [rmugharb(at)hotmail.com]

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Far From the Madding Crowd

As one walks through the Main Gate of AUB, one is overwhelmed by a sense of serenity; the striking contrast between the hustle and bustle of the city, the traffic, the honking, the construction madness, the noise, and air pollution…and the calm of the campus. Indeed, AUB is a refuge in Beirut. The sparkling blue Mediterranean, the lush green of nature, these are always one’s companions on campus; they soothe the nerves. The faces of alumni are always present, ambling about campus, recalling faded memories perhaps, suffused in sweet nostalgia.

On a more personal note, I myself feel a certain soul-satisfying comfort whenever I set foot on campus as one member of four generations of AUB graduates. There is a certain kind of metaphysical calm that hovers over me in the knowledge of my connection to AUB, a kind of continuity that somehow offsets mortality. My great-grandfather, Asad Rahhal (MD 1883) and grandfather Adib Rahhal (MD 1909) graduated when AUB was known as the Syrian Protestant College. Then it was my father’s turn: Asad Rahhal (BA ’55, MA ’56), my uncle Nabil Rahhal (BA ’60, MA ’66), my uncle Salam Rahhal (BA ’72), and finally, myself, my sister Dina Rahhal (MD ’98), and my cousins Samar (BS ’97, MD ’01) and Nabila Rahhal (BA ’08).

The city has metamorphosed, the streets have changed, buildings have gone up and come down, shops have appeared and disappeared; indeed, almost everything has been replaced. There is only that one green patch that has remained sincere, enduring….AUB. Of course, it has expanded, there have been modifications, but its essence has abided throughout the decades; a constant, fixed in time, surrounded by the mind-boggling transformations of a city barely recognizable since even 20 years ago, let alone well over a century. AUB, then...a sea of tranquility, “far from the madding crowd.”

– Adib Rahhal (BA ’99)
cultural insight, healing, and harmony. “In the 2006 war, thousands of pink flyers [were dropped] all over Beirut...I was fascinated by the caricature drawings on these flyers which I collected even though a friend’s mother tried to convince me that they might be laced with poison. I often thought about my neighbor across the border who drew this flyer. Re-appropriating it has been an essential healing process for me. The characters now find themselves in a new scenario; where love, music, and tranquility replace violence, fear, and despair.”

2000s
Nadim Issa
(BA ’00) After five years in journalism with Zawya, Dow Jones and Bloomberg News, Issa established a furniture company called Alinad (www.alinad.com), wrote a children’s book in Arabic called Hide & Seek Game, translated a book from English to Arabic on the history of Turkish cinema, and edited an Arabic book on strategic consulting. He is currently enjoying life in Lebanon with his wife Habiba Fathallah (BA ’01, MA ’07) and their daughter. [nadim.issa(at)alinad.com]

Lisa Bilal
(BS ’05, MPH ’10) received her master’s degree in public health from AUB with a concentration in health management and policy. She currently lives in Beirut and is an administrative assistant at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. [lb16(at)aub.edu.lb]

Seif El Din Abou Aly
(BS ’05) After graduating with his degree in agriculture and minors in business administration and food science, Abou Aly travelled to South Africa for five months for further training in the agricultural field. He currently resides in Egypt and works with his family managing some of their farms. He is also in charge of product and market development at Magrabi Agriculture, which is a leading global producer of horticultural fresh produce that exports to major supermarkets in over 38 countries. Abou Aly is pursuing his on-line master’s degree from SOAS-University of London. He has also been learning Spanish and is planning a six-month tour of South America in early 2011. [seldin(at)hotmail.com]

Laila Houri
(BS ’05, ME ’08) has worked as a data analyst in AUB’s Registrar’s Office, toured the world—Thailand, Malaysia, Turkey, Italy, Jordan, Dubai—("the best was Thailand with all the yummy sushi and fascinating temples"), and earned a master's degree in engineering management with a concentration in financial engineering. She is currently working as a financial officer in FAFS, while she pursues an MBA. [laila.houri(at)gmail.com]

Zeina Kabbara
(BBA ’05) After graduation, Kabbara worked as an auditor for three years in the Beirut office of Deloitte. In 2007, she became a certified public accountant. Kabbara recently moved to Dubai to work for Galileo by TravelPort as a financial reporting analyst. [kabbara_zena(at)hotmail.com]

Silva Kouyoumdjian
(BS ’05) currently lives in Zalka, Lebanon. With her degree in nutrition and dietetics, she began her career as a dietetic intern at Saint Georges Hospital, then joined Abela Frères Pharmaceuticals SAL as a medical representative, attending nutritional supplement conferences in Bangkok, Thailand and Hammamet, Tunisia sponsored by Nutricia Middle East. In 2009, Kouyoumdjian rejoined AUB as a fulltime graduate student to pursue a master’s in population health in the Faculty of Health Sciences. She’d be glad to hear from friends and former classmates. [spk01(at)aub.edu.lb] [Onersissian(at)hotmail.com]

Looking for old friends and classmates!

Mansour Albert
(MA ’05) is pursuing an MBA at the Harvard Business School. Previously he worked
The letters of an alphabet are born from the relation between the mind, the hand, and the tool of expression [drawing]. Every movement of the hand generates a unique form that constitutes either one part or the entire body of a letter [dance]. If the hand should find beauty in a rhythm of writing [music], then it will record that rhythm and repeat it until the end of time [perseverance] tuning its forms to becoming more and more delicate following the rise and set of every sun [sensibility].

The alphabet incorporates concepts of construction and sets of proportions, invented or inspired by the environment [nature, mathematics] that are subject to change or growth with the passing of time [history]. However, one element remains quintessential in this constellation: the alphabet is the symbol of an entire civilization [culture], it is one of the only links between the hearts and minds of human beings sharing a common geographic space, a linguistic space; for that, great attention ought to be given to the visual aspect of an alphabet [respect]—whatever language it may represent—for its forms are the guardians of knowledge [humility] and of the education of generations [generosity].

Drawing, dance, music, nature, mathematics, history, culture; also respect, humility, perseverance, sensibility, and generosity - all my passions and values, that very luckily for me, find themselves grouped in the microcosm of alphabets. I aspire for my work to bear these passions and values so that I can return to the world what my mentors have given to me.

– Lara Captan (GD '06)
in strategic and management consulting for Booz & Company based in the Middle East. He currently lives in Boston, Massachusetts. [mmansour(at)mbs2011.hbs.edu]

**Maya Rizk**

(BSN '05) lives in Khobar, Saudi Arabia where she works for the Dhahran Health Center, Saudi Aramco. [mayarizk(at)hotmail.com]

**Rashid Saad**

(BE '05) is currently a project engineer at Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners). He earned an MBA in 2009 from the Lebanese American University. Saad lives in Beirut. [rashidjsaad(at)hotmail.com]

**Elie Salloum**

(BBA '05) has an MBA from HEC International Business School (2008) and has studied at the Harvard Business School. He is currently a project manager for Eli Lilly's MENA Call Center in Beirut. [eliesalloum(at)gmail.com]

**Sandy Salloum**

(BBA '05) holds an MBA from the Hellenic American University in Athens, Greece. She is a certified human resources professional (PHR) and currently works as a recruitment consultant for The Top Talent. [sandysalloum(at)gmail.com]

**Wissam Tawfic Doudar**

(MPH '09) After earning a master's in health management and policy, Doudar resumed his duties with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency as a field laboratory services officer with special duties related to health reforms in Lebanon. [w.doudar(at)unrwa.org]

**Tony Haddad**

(BE '75) After graduation, Haddad worked at the Indevco Group for eight years as a maintenance and project manager maintaining and installing equipment and conveyors that were imported from the USA and Europe. His dream was to design and build this equipment in Lebanon. In 1982, he started his own company Technica International, which after 30 years is firmly established in the region with a staff of 140 selling and handling large scale equipment and turnkey projects throughout the Middle East. In 2010, Technica was honored with the "Lebanese Excellence Award" awarded by the chamber of commerce and the European Union under the patronage of Lebanon's President Michel Suleiman. Haddad writes, "A dream come true. I wish the

**RECENTLY HONORED**

At the Ninth FEA Student Conference on May 19, Dean Ibrahim Hajj presented the FEA Distinguished Alumni Awards to six recipients: Ziad Boustany (BE '87), Rafic Mansour (BE '64), Samir Moujaes (BE '72, MS '75), Walid Najjar (BE '79), and Sami Sidawi (BE '64).

Mira Kaddoura (BGD '00) was the recipient of the FEA Distinguished Young Alumnus award, which was established two years ago to recognize the exceptional achievements of FEA alumni who have graduated within the last 15 years. Boustany was cited for his distinctly Lebanese contribution to industrial controls and power electronics; Mansour and Sidawi as successful contractors and entrepreneurs; Moujaes for his pioneering work in energy conservation and for promoting the profession of engineering; Najjar for his contributions to computer architecture and compiler optimization; and Kaddoura for her stunning achievements and recognition in the competitive field of advertising.
same for all AUB graduates. Follow your dream and your passion." [Tony.Haddad(at)technicaintl.com]

Abbas El-Zein

(BE ’86) has won Australia’s 2010 New South Wales (NSW) Premier Community Relations Commission Award for his memoir Leave to Remain published in 2009 by the University of Queensland Press. El-Zein explores issues of identity as he journeys from Najaf, Baghdad, and Palestine, to Europe, America, and Australia. His narrative includes generation-al reflections on his ancestors fleeing Ottoman armies during the Napoleonic wars, the transnational world of Islamic scholarship in which his grandfathers lived, the Iraq war, and the post-Sep- tember 11 world of today. Leave to Remain is a story of a troubled homeland, of the costs of physical and psychological dislocations, and of the Arab world and its relationship to the west.

Judges for the NSW Premier Literary Award wrote that Leave to Remain is, “…exquisitely realised in its narrative playfulness, [as it] ... captures the complexities of identity and politics, history and religion across time and space.” El-Zein earned an MS in civil engineering (with distinction) at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom, an MS in environmental science and technology (DEA) at the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Université Paris XII, Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts, Paris, France, and a PhD in computational mechanics at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom.

Rana El-Chemaitelly

(BE ’93, ME ’08) El-Chemaitelly received first place in the MIT Arab Business Plan Competition for 2009-10 for her project The Little Engineer, Lifetime Education for Kids and Teens with Hands-On Learning Activities. In partnership with Abdul Latif Jameel (ALJ), the MIT Arab Business Plan Competition encourages entrepreneurs in the Arab world to start their own companies, particularly in the energy, engineering, healthcare, internet, software, and telecom sectors. Awarded $50,000 as start-up capital, The Little Engineer is an after-school “edutainment” center that introduces kids and teens (ages 4-16+) to pre-engineering courses such as robotics, physics, electricity, electronics, and renewable energy. It offers activities that are unique, creative, technologically innovative, educational, and affordable. The Little Engineer also provides job opportunities for undergraduate students who work as tutors.

A mother of three, El-Chemaitelly was inspired to create The Little Engineer to protect her three children and future generations from being over-exposed to television, the internet, and electronic and computer games and media. “I believe that I can at least distract my kids for a few hours a week, away from electronic games, by entertaining them positively with some educational and environmental activities to prepare them to meet the challenges of the future. Today they can be students in the center, and tomorrow, as teenagers, they can join The Little Engineer as facilitators to younger students. There’s nothing to lose, as long as I have the will, the funds, the leadership, and the initiative to convert a dream to a reality. I always say together we are strong. Let’s give Lebanese kids and teens the chance to express themselves and show their hidden talents, and prepare them to compete in a global world.”

El-Chemaitelly was the recipient of the 1993 FEA Penrose Award. [rana(at)the-littleengineer.com]

Jad Hussein Yaghi

(BE ’99) won the prestigious TiEQuest business venture competition, an international entrepreneurial prize organized by the Canadian networking group The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE). Yaghi is the founder and chief executive officer of Verold Inc., a company that is helping to make it easy, quick, and inexpensive to create 3D content for media consumption. Yaghi, whose father, Hussein Yaghi, was an associate professor in the Department of Education at AUB until 2006, received an MBA from the University of Toronto.
Azmi Hanna, emeritus professor of mathematics, died in May 2010 in Los Angeles after a long illness. A dedicated professor at AUB for over 40 years, his research interests were in homological algebra and algebraic topology. Even after his retirement in 2005, Hanna continued to deliver public lectures on selected topics. Mathematics Department Chair Hazar Abu-Khuzam writes, “Dr. Hanna taught many of us when we were students here at AUB. We will miss him as a teacher, colleague, and friend. On behalf of AUB’s Department of Mathematics, I extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to his family. May his soul rest in peace.”

Hanna is survived by his wife Samira, and a son and a daughter.

Timothy Harrison passed away on July 21. As chairman of the Department of Surgery at AUBMC from 1968 to 1971, Harrison trained a significant number of AUB’s surgical staff and was a valued colleague. A surgeon and endocrinologist, he received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1953. He was professor of surgery at the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor from 1962 to 1975, and professor of surgery and molecular physiology at Pennsylvania State University’s Milton S. Hershey Medical Center from 1975 to 1994.

Harrison is survived by his wife of 49 years, Eliza Middleton Cope, two daughters and two sons-in-law, and a grand-daughter, all of Rumford, Rhode Island. He will be missed by the AUB community.

MEMORIALS

Dr. Fouad M. Al-Akl (MD ’24) was a surgeon, scholar, author, humanitario, poet, and collector who contributed to the fields of research and medical literature. He wrote several books including his autobiography From the Faded Album of Yesteryear (1939), Until Summer Comes (1945), and Surgical Technigrams (1954). He was a collector who donated a nineteenth century Turkoman Yomud rug to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Al-Akl and his three brothers: Youssef (former student), Farid (BC ’28), and Philip (BS ’29), were all AUB graduates and co-sponsored AUB’s Murad Al-Akl Award, a competition for debaters on the theme, “How I Can Best Serve My Fellow Men.”

Al-Akl’s niece, Loulou Al-Akl Khoury, PhD, has sent us selections from her uncle’s autobiography.

Below is one of Al-Akl’s poems:

More On-line

Religion

Go to church and bow your head,
If you please;
Fold your arms and move your lips,
Or bend your knees.
You may fast and you may pray,
Light the candle till doomsday;
This is not religion.

You can count the rosary beads,
Yet, what counts are your good deeds;
Not bribing God
By dropping coppers in the pan:
Religion is the way you treat
Your fellow man.

—Fouad M. Al-Akl
time, and my grandfather was well known as he oversaw the health care of his people in Jdaidet Marjeyoun and in villages far and near in north Palestine and eastern Syria. He was often seen riding his horse to check on his patients or to perform lifesaving surgeries. He became a household name in the farthest reaches of Lebanon and the Arab world. Born in 1869, three years after the completion of the Suez Canal linking the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, Jabara studied in private elementary schools in Jdaidet Marjeyoun and its vicinity, then went to AUB (known at the time as the Syrian Protestant College) to study medicine. He graduated as a physician with distinction in 1892 at the age of 23. At the time Lebanon was under Ottoman rule and he had to go all the way to Istanbul on horseback to get his colloquium degree in order to be able to practice medicine. He returned to Jdaidet Marjeyoun and expanded his practice into Egypt. This expansion compelled him to buy an automobile, a rare commodity in 1926. During World War I, the Ottoman Empire imposed martial law on all countries under its control, including Lebanon, and compulsory military service forced my grandfather to become a physician in the Ottoman army with officer’s rank until he found an opportunity to escape. Apart from treating casualties, physicians were needed to witness and issue death certificates at the executions of political dissidents. Jabara wanted to delay his attendance to forestall executions, but since this was untenable, there was nothing for him to do but escape. After his escape, my grandfather kept moving on his horse from place to place, and he told many tales of what happened to him during his incognito travels.

I am proud that my family’s village of Jdaidet Marjeyoun gave Lebanon its first physicians in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

ALUMNI

Rhonda J. Crane (BA ’67) passed away in May 2010 after a struggle with overlapping illnesses. Crane, who earned her master’s in sociology from George Washington University and a doctorate in political science from MIT, was a long-time senior executive of AT&T and an internationally recognized and published expert on transnational telecommunications policy. She was also a founding member of the board of directors of the US International Telecommunications Union Association. As an American Electronics Association fellow (1989–91), a distinction she earned for her work on high definition television, she assisted with legislation to enhance the competitiveness of American industry. She was later appointed senior advisor for science, technology, and investment affairs to the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). After she retired, she devoted herself to the preservation of the Watergate complex in Washington, DC, where she lived. She is survived by her brother, Myles Crane, of Ft. Collins, Colorado.

Mansour Kadi (BA ’50) Born in 1926, Kadi passed away in November 2009 after an accidental fall. He worked at the Jafet Library (1953–58) and also at the Armenian Evangelical College as a teacher (1967–84) and as a secretary (1984–2005). In 1999, he was honored with a medal by the college board for his long years of loyal service. Kadi was the father of three children and a proud grandparent.

We Remember

J. Earle Edwards, Jr.
Friend of AUB
Abdullah O. Adra
(BBA ’29)
Fakher Akil
(BA ’41, MA ’42)
George S. Bayoud
(BA ’42, MD ’48)
Ramez Said Samaha
(BA ’45)
Fadeel F. Salti
(BA ’48)
Fouad Salim Haddad
(BA ’49)
Afaf Rustum Shalhub
(BA ’50, MA ’64)
Mohammed N. Azmeh
(BS ’55)
Francois N. Boueiri
(BE ’56)
Stanley N. Khouri
(General Certificate ’56)
Wadad W. Schandlbauer
(BA ’60)
Michel E. Khoury
(BS ’70)
Siham Darub
(BA ’84)
In 2010, AUB relaunched the traditional class ring ceremony for 1,300 graduates. More page 57.
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Contact the editor: maingate@aub.edu.lb