



AUB

American University of Beirut
Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL
AND FOOD SCIENCES

Annual Report 2016-2017



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Contents

Preface	6
Office of the Dean	10
A. Non-Academic Personnel	10
B. Standing Committees	10
The Administrative Committee	10
The Advisory Committee	11
Academic and Curriculum Studies Committee (ACC)	12
The Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC)	14
Graduate Studies Committee	15
The Faculty Research Committee (FRC)	16
The Student Affairs Committee	18
The Faculty	22
A. Academic Matters	22
Faculty Recruitment and Count	22
Faculty Affairs	23
Outreach & Societal Impact	24
Research Grants and Service Contracts	24
Accreditation, Program Reviews and New Programs	25
New and Promoted Faculty	26
Recognitions	27
External Advisory Board	27
Fundraising and Donations	27
Space and Facilities	28
Faculty meetings	28
B. Student Statistics	31
Student Enrollment (2016-2017)	31
Historical Perspective (2016-2017)	32
Student Admissions (2016-2017)	33
Graduation (2016-2017)	36
Centers and Units	38
Agricultural Research and Education Center (AREC)	38
Support Staff	38
Highlights	40
Personnel	41
Teaching	42
Services	42
Strategic Challenges	42
Future Goals and Plans	43
Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU)	44
Personnel	44
Regional Networking	44
Capacity Building	45
Development	45
Academic programs	47

AUB 150 th Celebrations	47
Fundraising Event	47
Strategic Challenges	47
Rural Community Development MS Program	48
Highlights	48
Personnel	49
Teaching Activities	49
Non-thesis Research Activities – Dr. Martiniello	50
Services (Dr. Martiniello)	50
Thesis Supervision (Dr. Martiniello)	50
Conferences, Special Lectures, Workshops and Travel (Dr. Martiniello)	50
Strategic Challenges	51
Departmental Reports	54
Department of Agriculture (AGRI)	54
Highlights	55
Personnel	56
Teaching Activities	57
Completed Theses	60
Research Funding	60
Local, Regional and International Grants	61
Publications	62
Services	68
Participation in Workshops, Meetings and Conferences	71
Consultancies	73
Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (LDEM)	74
Highlights	75
Department academic activities	75
New and Visiting Faculty	77
Faculty activities	77
Public Lectures and Seminars	79
Involvement in interdisciplinary and interfaculty activities	80
Department outreach activities and community involvement	81
Space and Facilities	83
Student Activities	84
Faculty, Students and Alumni Recognition	84
Personnel	86
Teaching	88
Student Course Enrollment	89
Completed Theses and Thesis Advising	91
Completed theses (MSc)	91
Theses In progress	92
Research Funding	93
Publications	95
International Refereed Journals	95
Articles or Chapters in Books	96
Abstracts and Conference Proceedings	96
Other publications	97
Technical reports	98

Services	98
Consultancies.....	109
Strategic Challenges	109
Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences (NFSC)	110
Highlights	111
Personnel.....	112
Teaching	115
Completed Theses	118
Research Funding	118
Publications	121
Services	124
Participation in Workshops and Conferences	130
Consultancies	136
Strategic Challenges	136
Future plans	136



Preface



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Preface

Dear Reader,

It is a great honor to write this message for the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences' (FAFS) Annual Report. As you know, the 2016-2017 academic year marked a decade of outstanding Faculty achievements in all areas of teaching, research and service under the tenure of Dean Nahla Hwalla, to whom we at FAFS are deeply indebted for her leadership, commitment, and dedication throughout the period of her tenure. We look forward to continued excellence as we embark on new strategic initiatives and priorities in the coming years under the leadership of the new Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Rabi Mohtar.

During the past year, the Faculty made unprecedented progress on many fronts, most notable of which was in fund raising to support the Faculty and its students and academic programs. The Faculty secured re-accreditation of its Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program; launched new graduate programs; completed undergraduate program revisions in alignment with the guidelines of professional accrediting agencies; and engaged in research and outreach activities that promoted the impact and visibility of FAFS. Additionally, in September 2016, FAFS celebrated AUB's 150th Anniversary by organizing three conferences under the theme *Together towards a Sustainable Community: 1) **Nutrition and Food: Ongoing Journey for Better Health**, 2) **Celebration of Food and Nutrition Security in the MENA**, and 3) **Arab Women: Keepers of the Land***.

Academic programs contributed an important part of FAFS' achievements this year. The Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program (NDCP) received full re-accreditation by the US based ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics), under the International Dietitian Education (IDE) program standards, after a rigorous review and a site visit by the ACEND external review team. The program was commended for its 100% pass rate on the US RD exam and since receiving the original accreditation in 2013. The NDCP remains the only program in Lebanon and the region, and the third outside the USA, to achieve this prominent recognition. The AGRI department completed its revision of the undergraduate Agriculture curriculum in alignment with ABET guidelines and requirements; the LDEM department members were engaged in the completion of a self-study on the BLA program in preparation for an external review expected to take place during AY 2017-2018 for the program's re-registration at NYSED and for the intended application for ASLA (American Society of Landscape Architects) accreditation.

FAFS faculty continued their outstanding research efforts, maintaining their leading role as experts in Lebanon and the region. Several members were recognized for noteworthy contributions to advances in scientific research: Dr. Hadi Jaafar won the **CA and CC Rebeiz Award for Agricultural Research** for his paper entitled Impact of the Syrian conflict on irrigated agriculture in the Orontes Basin, published in the International Journal of Water Resources Development. The ENPI Medalgae project,

conducted in Lebanon by FAFS (Dr. Yusuf Abou Jawdah) and ALMEE (Lebanese Association for Energy Saving and for the Environment), won the national **Energy Globe** award for establishing a delivery chain for microalgae to ensure its use for the production of biodiesel. Dr. Nahla Hwalla was also honored among women leaders in Lebanese Universities and research pioneers by the **National Initiative for the Centennial of Greater Lebanon** to mark the 96th anniversary of the declaration of the State of Greater Lebanon in September 1920. Dr. Yaser Abunnasr received the **AUB's Teaching Excellence Award** in May 2017.

The Faculty, in line with its strategy to strengthen communication and promote interaction with the professional community and stakeholders, was honored with an additional member of its External Advisory Board (EAB): Mr. Khaled Sinno (founder of Karma Lebanon), who joined other current members: Dr. Lamya Tannous Khuri, (Professor of Nutrition), Mr. Michel Bayyoud (Founder and CEO, Boecker Group), Mr. Khaled Miqdadi (Director of Agrimatco) and Mr. Nabil De Freij (Minister), Dr. Khalil Melki (Partner and General Manager, Unifert Company, SAL), Mr. Musa Freiji (Owner and President of TANMIA Agricultural Development Company) and Mr. Rapheal Debbane (Chairman, Debbane Saikali Group).

This is but a snapshot of the busy, productive academic year of 2016-2017. On the following pages, you will find detailed information about each of these activities, as well as much more regarding additional initiatives and activities.

I offer a special thank you to all our faculty and staff for their hard work in support of academic excellence, to all our students for their outstanding efforts, and to each of you, members of the FAFS family of friends and alumni, for your continued support.

Ammar Olabi
Acting Dean



Office of the Dean



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Office of the Dean

A. Non-Academic Personnel

Ten non-academic employees serve the Dean's office (Table1)

Table 1: Non-Academic Personnel

Name	Title
Al Ashi, Dania	System Administrator
Alameddine, Alia	Career Services Officer
Chediac, Rola	Communications Officer
Haddad, Tharwat	Students Record Officer
Haidar, Imad	Junior Clerk
Houri, Laila	Financial and Facilities Officer
Khoury, Wafa	Executive Officer
Koubayssi, Rabia	Assistant for Student Services
Ghassan Afram	Assistant to the Dean (until Feb 2017)
Nakib, Nisrine	Administrative Officer
Nabhani, Maya	Director of Continuous Academic Improvement

B. Standing Committees

The Administrative Committee

Prepared by: Ms. Laila Houri, Financial and Facilities Officer

Membership

Nahla Hwalla	Chairperson
Laila Houri	Secretary
Yusuf	Abou Jawdah
Imad Toufeili	
Rami Zurayk	
Mustafa Haidar	Ex-Officio
Maya Nabhani	Ex-Officio

Actions: The Committee held 10 meetings during 2016-2017. The following actions were taken:

- 1) Capital Budget: Approved priority requests from FAFS Departments and AREC for the 2017-2018 capital budget.
- 2) Graduate Assistants: Approved the appointment of graduate assistants in various FAFS Departments for Fall, Spring and Summer terms. The committee

stressed that there may be financial repercussions for offering full graduate assistantships to the graduate students of certain programs.

- 3) **Space:** The committee approved plans for renovation of the Metabolic Kitchen Lab, room 408. The committee also approved the layout and design of the AREC Cafeteria, generously donated by the President's club. The committee approved the relocation of the part-timers of AGRI and NFSC to room 306 and of the graduate assistants of AGRI and NFSC to room 206. The committee also approved: expanding the size of conference room 325 to that of 310; converting the available space of studio 329 into 6 offices; relocating ESDU to room 306; converting offices 308A, 308B and 308C into a conference room similar to 310 and with a moveable separator between conference rooms to offer flexibility to become conference room with the capacity for more than 50 people at a given time.
- 4) **AREC meals:** In response to student complaints about AREC meal plans, AREC administration and the committee members agreed to dismiss the AREC meal fees and allow students to provide meals for themselves.
- 5) **AGRI Vacant Faculty Lines:** The Committee recommended that AGRI reconsider the current five vacant lines in favor of a new departmental strategy that parallels the ABET requirements.
- 6) **Teaching Load and student enrollment:** The underload of certain faculty members was discussed and recognized as financially unsustainable. As this is considered to be directly related to the dropping enrollment figures, FAFS administration will actively develop student recruitment efforts.
- 7) **FAFS Students and Alumni Conference:** The committee agreed to launch a FAFS Students alumni conference, honoring alumni and encouraging students to present projects and papers.

The Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Ms. Laila Houry, Financial and Facilities Officer

Membership:

Nahla Hwalla	Chairperson
Laila Houry	Secretary
Salma Talhouk	
Shady Hamadeh	
Omar Obeid	
Ammar Olabi	
Imad Toufeili	
Issam Bashour	
Maya Nabhani	Ex-Officio

Actions: The Committee held 10 meetings throughout 2016-2017 and acted on the following:

- 1) Approved special leaves with pay, short term and long term faculty development grants, and junior paid research leaves
- 2) Approved Departmental recommendations for the appointment of part-time instructors and lecturers during the fall, spring and summer terms.
- 3) Approved Departmental recommendations for renewal of appointments of full time instructors and lecturers.
- 4) Approved multiple summer contracts for faculty across different departments.
- 5) Approved the reappointment of the LDEM Chairperson and the proposed promotion, tenure, and reappointment criteria and procedures of the LDEM department. The committee also approved the renewal of appointment of an Associate to the department.
- 6) Conducted skype interviews for the agroecology, horticulture, animal physiology, plant breeding, and biotechnology vacancies.
- 7) Approved the recommendation to appoint Mr. Khaled Sinno to the FAFS EAB.

Academic and Curriculum Studies Committee (ACC)

Prepared by: Ms. Rabia Koubayssi, Assistant for Student Services

Membership

Nahla Hwalla	Chairperson
Mohamad Farran	Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies
Yusuf Abou Jawdah	(Chairperson from November 2016 – August 2017)
Yaser Abunnasr	
Ali Chalak	
Shady Hamadeh	(Chairperson upto October 2016)
Salma Talhouk	
Imad Toufeili	
Rami Zurayk	
Maya Nabhani Zeidan	Director of Continuous Academic Improvement
Registrar's Representative	
Student Representative	
Rabia Koubayssi	Secretary

Actions: Several committee meetings were held during the academic year 2016-2017; the following actions were taken:

1) Course offerings and introduction of new courses

The Committee reviewed and approved the course offerings submitted by the respective departments for spring 2016-17, summer 2016-17 and fall 2017-18. The committee also approved the following new courses in Agriculture and Nutrition:

AGSC 334	Remote Sensing of the Environment	(3 cr.)
AGSC 263	The Fruitful Branches: Grapevine and Olive	(3 cr.)
AGSC 273	The Food-Water and Energy Nexus	(3 cr.)
AGSC 283	Precision Farming and Agricultural Technology	(3 cr.)
NFSC 223	Nutrition and Physical Activity	(3 cr.)

2) Eligible students to go to AREC

Nineteen Agriculture program students were deemed eligible by the ACC to go to AREC during the spring semester of 2016-17; classes began, as scheduled, on February 27, 2017.

3) New Agriculture Curriculum for ABET Accreditation

The Committee approved the Agriculture curriculum for ABET accreditation and recommended that the faculty change the name from “BS in Agriculture and Diploma of *Ingenieur Agricole*” to “BS in Agricultural Engineering”.

4) Academic status

Based on AUB probation rules and regulations, the Committee acted to drop 4 students during academic year 2016-17. Four students were placed on strict probation, and six were removed from probation.

5) Awarding BS degrees

The Committee recommended awarding the BS degree to 134 students, distributed as follows: 40 in Nutrition and Dietetics, 14 in Nutrition and Dietetics – Coordinated Program, 15 in Food Science and Management, 36 in Landscape Architecture and Diploma of *Ingenieur Agricole*, 30 in Agriculture and Diploma of *Ingenieur Agricole*, and 14 in Agribusiness.

The Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC)

Prepared by: Ms. Tharwat Haddad, Student Records Officer

Membership

Nahla Hwalla	Chairperson
Yusuf Abou Jawdah	
Yaser Abunnasr	
Isam Bashour	(Faculty representative on University Admissions Committee)
Ammar Olabi	
Salma Talhouk	
Admission's Representative	
Registrar's Representative	
Student Representative	
Tharwat Haddad	Secretary

Actions: The Committee held two meetings during academic year 2016-2017, and took these actions:

1) Acceptance of Transfer Students

The committee accepted 154 transfer students from within AUB and from other universities:

- Spring 2017, 34 transfer students were accepted, 13 of which have registered.
- Fall 2017, 90 transfer students were accepted, 28 of which have registered.

2) Enrollment Target and Strategy

The committee voted to approve the recommendations of the departmental chairs regarding composite scores and enrollment targets for the academic year 2017-2018:

	AGRI	AGBU	LDAR*	FSMT	NTDT
Number of new incoming undergraduate students departments can accommodate	50	50	25	35	40
Number of transfers (from within and outside of AUB)	15	15	5	15	15
Total number of new and transfer students departments that can be accommodated during academic year 2017-18	65	65	30	50	55
Minimum cumulative average for transfer students	70	70	80	72	77

Graduate Studies Committee

Prepared by: Ms. Rabia Koubayssi, Assistant for Student Services

Membership

Nahla Hwalla	Chairperson
Isam Bashour	(Coordinator for Graduate Studies)
Hadi Jaafar	
Lamis Jomaa	(Dr. Madani to replace Dr. Jomaa during her maternity leave fall semester, 2016)
Susan Prattis	(Dr. Jaafar to replace Dr. Prattis during her junior paid for the fall semester 2016)
Salma Talhouk	
Maya Nabhani Zeidan	Director of Continuous Academic Improvement
Admission's Representative	
Registrar's Representative	
Student Representative	
Rabia Koubayssi	(Secretary)

Actions: The Committee met six times during the academic year 2016-2017, taking the following actions:

1) Program of study and thesis titles

The Committee reviewed and approved the program of study and thesis titles for 24 students, distributed as follows: 5 from NUTR, 7 from FTCH, 1 from ECOM, 1 from AGECE, 3 from IRRG, 3 from RCODE, 2 from ANML, 1 from FSEC and 1 from PLPT.

2) Acceptance of graduate students

The Committee accepted 124 students from among 173 applicants. 45 of the accepted candidates enrolled as follows: 8 Nutrition; 8 Food Technology; 4 Plant Protection; 2 Poultry Science; 4 Irrigation; 3 Agricultural Economics; 6 Food Security; 4 Ecosystem Management and 6 Rural Community Development.

3) Petitions

The Committee acted on 6 petitions from students, the majority of which involved changing status from prospective graduate to regular graduate, transferring from one major to the other, withdrawing from a course, transferring courses, and changing thesis title.

4) Awarding the MS degree

The Committee recommended awarding the MS degree to 20 students in their respective majors: 8 in Nutrition, 4 in Food Technology, 2 in Ecosystem Management, 1 in Animal Science, 1 in Plant Science, 1 in Poultry Science, 2 in Agricultural Economics and 1 in RCODE.

*The cut-off composite scores that LDEM Department would like to adopt for new sophomore acceptances: between 540 and 525 (a portfolio is required for students with composite score between 525-530)

The Faculty Research Committee (FRC)

Prepared by: Dr. Hadi Jaafar, Assistant Professor

Membership

Hadi Jaafar	Chairperson
Lamis Jomaa	
Mehran Madani	
Giuliano Martiniello	Secretary
Farah Naja	(Spring Semester 2017 to replace Dr. Madani)
Rami Zurayk	(Faculty Representative on the University Research Board)

Actions: During the academic year 2016-2017, the FRC held several meetings and acted as follows:

- Provided recommendations to the Dean for the 2016 CC and CA Rebeiz Research award
- Approved junior faculty leave requests for:
 - Dr. Lamis Jomaa, for Spring 2018
 - Dr. Giuliano Martiniello, for Spring 2018
- FRC Chairperson approved several external proposals and forwarded to the Dean for processing and submission procedures
- Reviewed the year's FAFS research proposals and submitted recommendations to the Dean: FRC received 5 renewal requests (Table 2) and 11 new proposals (Table 3)

Table 2: Renewed Grants

PI Full Name	Proposal Title
Mehran Madani	Pedestrian Safety And Struggles Over Older Adult's Accessibility: Case Of Beirut Landscape Infrastructure
Shady Hamadeh	Testing the resilience of small ruminant systems – case study of the West Bekaa
Yusuf Abou Jawdah	Development of serological methods for detection of almond witches broom phytoplasma
Samer Kharroubi	Bayesian estimations of health state utility values
Farah Naja	Validity and Reliability of a Food Frequency Questionnaire to Assess Dietary Intake among Lebanese adults

Table 3: New FAFS-research proposals for the Academic Year 2016-2017 (11 proposals)

PI Full Name	Proposal Title
Ammar Olabi	Cleansing Ability and Palatability of an Edible Bowel Preparation for Colonoscopy
Elie-Jacques Fares	Timing of meal and caffeine intake on substrate use and exercise efficiency
Hadi Jaafar	Modeling daily greenhouse reference evapotranspiration under ventilated and unventilated conditions from outdoor climate
Imad Toufeili	Identification of carob (<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i> L.) varieties for industrial food applications
Issmat Kassem	Quantification and Characterization of Antimicrobial Resistant Foodborne Bacterial Pathogens in Lebanese Broiler Chicken Meat
Lamis Jomaa	Perceptions and Experiences of Community Workers and Syrian Refugees towards Community Kitchens in Lebanon: A Qualitative Study
Lara Nasreddine	Association of short sleep duration with obesity, abdominal adiposity and dietary intake: A cross-sectional study among Lebanese adults
Mirella Aoun	Netting systems for sustainable Tree fruit production in Lebanon
Mohamad Ghassan Abiad	Assessing Post-Consumer Food Waste for Potential Use in Feeds
Nayla Al-Akl	Design Guidelines For Restorative Urban Streetscapes
Omar Obeid	The effect of bread fortification with phosphorus and lysine on postprandial glycaemia and thermogenesis

The Student Affairs Committee

Prepared by: Dr. Ali Chalak, Chairperson

Membership

Ali Chalak	Chairperson
Mohamad Abiad	
Mohamad Farran	
Mehran Madani	(Dr. Hadi Jaafar to replace Dr. Madani for the Spring Semester 2017)
Samer Kharroubi	
Student Affairs Office Representative	
Student Representative	
Tharwat Haddad	Secretary

The Committee met twice during the Academic year 2016 – 2017. Members discussed disciplinary actions and FAFS awards and recommended the following to the FAFS Dean:

- 1) Disciplinary Actions: The Committee recommended granting a Dean's Warning to one undergraduate student who violated the "Student Code of Conduct" by attempting to cheat in the AGSC 284 final exam during the spring semester.
- 2) FAFS Awards: The Committee recommended to the FAFS Dean and Faculty to award the following students and respective FAFS awards:
 - **Joana Haidar Award - Mr. Ghassan Al Salman**
 - **Edgcombe Award - Mr. Vicken Aknadibossian**
 - **Kashadurian Award - Mr. Omar Dahduli**
 - **The Dr. Musa Najib Nimah Endowed Award for Academic Excellence – Mr. Vicken Aknabossian**
 - **The Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture** - awarded to final year Landscape Architecture students whose final year project is selected by the Department as the most deserving. Per the committee's recommendation, the Chairman contacted the LDEM to request the selection criteria developed by the Department, which are:
 1. Clarity, strength of thought, and design strategy responsive to the mission statement: being responsive to place, culture, and the natural and ecological needs of the region (50%)
 2. Advancement of concept/ideas into a spatial, comprehensive and well developed overall design (35%)
 3. Strength of graphical skills and verbal communication (15%)

- **Abdul Hadi Debs Award - Mr. Mohammad Murtada**
- **Dean Thomas Thuserland Prize for Graduate Excellence - Mr. Mohammad Murtada**
- **The Dean Nuhad Dagher FAFS Graduate Student Award – Mr. Mohammad Murtada**
- **Penrose Award - The committee voted to endorse the nominations and to recommend three nominees for the Penrose Award. These will be presented during the Faculty meeting, to enable faculty members evaluate and select one recipient.**





The Faculty



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

The Faculty

A. Academic Matters

Faculty Recruitment and Count

The total Faculty Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for the academic year 2016/2017 (based on fall data) was 43.30, of which 30 were full-time faculty with professorial rank (12 professors, 6 associate professors, and 12 assistant professors of which 3 were visiting assistant professor).

The distribution of FTE's by department is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: FTE by Department

		AGRI	LDEM	NFSC	RCODE	FS	Total
Full-time	Professorial Rank	12	7	9	1	1	30
	Lecturer and Instructor	0.5	1	4		0.5	6
Part-Time		2.43	2.86	2.01			7.3
Total		14.93	10.86	15.01	1	1.50	43.30

During the academic year 2016/2017, FAFS advertised for five professorial positions: Agroecology, Plant Breeding and Biotechnology, Animal Biotechnology, Landscape Architecture, and Landscape Architecture History. The process was completed for the Landscape Architecture position; the search and the selection process for the remaining positions will be completed during the academic year 2017-2018.



Faculty Affairs

Academic Appointments

The following Faculty served as Chairs of FAFS Departments:

- Dr. Shady Hamadeh; Agriculture Department (September 1, 2016 - October 31, 2016)
- Dr. Yusuf Abou Jawdah; Agriculture Department; Acting Chairperson (November 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017)
- Dr. Imad Toufeili ; Nutrition and Food Sciences Department
- Dr. Ramy Zurayk; Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management Department

*Faculty members from each department **were invited speakers at local (5), regional (12) and international (20) conferences.***

Highlights of other events follow:

- **FAFS Celebrated AUB's 150th Anniversary** in conferences and panel discussions on the theme **Together towards a Sustainable Community**, including: 1) **Nutrition and Food: Ongoing Journey for Better Health**, hosted by NFSC, 2) **Celebration of Food and Nutrition Security in the MENA**, and 3) **Arab Women: Keepers of the Land**, organised by ESDU
- Rebuilding Health Post-Conflict: A Dialogue for the Future FAFS organized a session within this forum titled Food Security Post-Conflict: A Foundation for Peace and Sustainable Development. The session was moderated by Dean Hwalla and featured guest speakers including Dr. Maurice Saade (FAO), Dr. Tony Colman (University of East Anglia, Columbia University, and University of Cape Town), Dr. Rami Zurayk (AUB), and Mr. Joaquín Cadario (Action Against Hunger)
- Together, NFSC, the Refugee Health Program, and the NORD program (under the Global Health Initiative at AUB), collaborated with the Food Security Center at the University of Hohenheim to conduct a training workshop: Towards Improving Nutrition among Refugees in Lebanon: A Capacity Building Workshop
- A roundtable discussion, Tackling the Health and Nutritional Status of Syrian Refugees: Comparisons between Lebanon and Germany, was hosted at FAFS. Participants included Dr. Veronika Scherbaum from the University of Hohenheim, faculty members from AUB, and invited representatives of the World Food Program, Action Against Hunger, International Orthodox Christian Charities, and Howard Karageuzian Commemoration Center
- FAFS hosted the lecture Agriculture and War: The Case of Yemen, offered by Dr. Martha Mundy, Professor of Anthropology at the London School of Economics.
- ESDU in collaboration with The Strategic Partnership Initiative (SPI) convened a workshop at AUB: Promoting rural development through access to finance, ICT and Technology. The workshop introduced stakeholders to the major initiatives promoting rural development (RD) in Lebanon, with the goals of developing an institutional framework for RD in Lebanon, and identifying the adequate tools and instruments to promote access to finance and access to ICT and technology

- Visiting URB Scholar Professor Tony Allan, King's College London and SOAS University of London, was welcomed by FAFS. Professor Allan, a leading expert in water use and resources in semi-arid regions and founder of the concept of virtual water, delivered a public lecture Food-water security in the Middle East

Outreach & Societal Impact

FAFS faculty were active in outreach and societal impact activities, highlights include:

- **Dr. Yusuf Abou Jawdah**, in collaboration with the University of Vermont and The Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture, organized the workshop: Greenhouse Integrated Pest Management in Lebanon: A Path to a Greener Future
- **Dr. Hadi Jaafar** cooperated with The International Institute for Environment and Development to organize a workshop AREC: Water Resources and Land use Dynamics within the Orontes and the Litani Basin
- **Dr. Mirella Aoun** organized Organic Month at AUB, featuring a workshop and presentations on organic agriculture and including both local and international experts (April 19-21, 2017, FAFS and AREC)
- **NFSC**, in collaboration with the Institute of Global Health (University College, London) organized an eleven-day course in Nutrition in Emergencies (NIE)
- **ESDU**, in collaboration with the Near East Foundation, held 5 workshops under the project Reducing Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees and Lebanese in Lebanon. Groups of Syrian and Lebanese women were trained in the development of home-based food production lines for sweets, cheeses, mouneh, etc
- The **Apiculture** class organized a Honey Sales and Awareness Day to promote the importance of honey bees and honey
- **AREC** organized a workshop Promoting Saffron as a Sustainable Rain Fed Crop in the Beqaa Plain for farmers and students from the Lebanese University

Research Grants and Service Contracts

Funding

During the fiscal year 2016-2017, FAFS Faculty members successfully attracted new research funding from internal, local, and international sources in the amount \$742K, follows:

Dr. Obeid	UNICEF	\$203.3K	UNRWA	(\$15.6K)
Dr. Abunnasr	UCD	\$105.5K		
Dr. Naja	FAO	\$100K		
Dr. Hamadeh	NEF	\$75K		
Dr. Jomaa	U Hohenheim	\$33K		
Dr. Farran	Elanco	\$23.5K		
Dr. Jaafar	ICARDA	\$15K		
Dr. Nasreddine	WHO	\$9K		
Dr. Abiad	CNRS	\$8.6K		
Dr. Abebe	CNRS	\$8.6K		

And 15 faculty received URB funding for a total of \$144K.

Published papers:

38 papers were published in international refereed journals with IF>1

26 in NFSC (10 FM); 8 in AGRI (7 FM); 2 in LDEM (3 FM); 2 in RCODE (1 FM)

The average number of publications per faculty member was 1.4; slightly less than last year (1.86).

Accreditation, Program Reviews and New Programs

Academic Program Accreditation and Review

- **Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program (NDCP)** received full re-accreditation by the USA ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics) under the International Dietitian Education (IDE) program standards and following rigorous review and a site visit by the ACEND external review team. The program was commended for its 100% pass rate on the US RD exam since receiving initial accreditation (2013). NDCP is proud unique at the national, regional and international levels; it is also the only program in Lebanon, in the region, and only the third outside the USA to achieve this prominent recognition
- **Agriculture Program:** (AGRI) completed a revision of its undergraduate Agriculture curriculum in alignment with ABET guidelines and requirements. The revised curriculum is currently awaiting faculty and upper administration approval
- **Bachelor of Landscape Architecture:** LDEM completed its self-study on the BLA program in preparation for an external review, expected during fall 2018 for the program's re-registration at NYSED, and to apply ASLA (American Society of Landscape Architects) accreditation



New Academic Programs and Departments

- **MS in Food Security:** the program successfully launched during fall 2016, with an enrollment of one visiting and five full-time students
- **MS in Public Health Nutrition** (joint with FHS) and **MS in Food Safety:** NFSC secured NYSED and MOEHE approval and registered two new graduate programs; both were launched during fall 2017

New and Promoted Faculty

- **New Faculty:** Drs. E. Fares and I. Kassem (NFSC) joined FAFS in spring 2017 as Assistant Professors of Clinical and Sports Nutrition, and Food Microbiology, respectively

Drs. G. Abebe and M. Keulertz were reappointed as Assistant Professors at the AGRI Department and Food Security Program, respectively, effective September 1, 2017

- **Promoted Faculty:** Dr. Y. Abunnasr was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the LDEM, effective September 2017
- **FAFS Chairpersons:** The President approved the appointments of Dr. Imad Toufeili as NFSC Chair for a period of three years effective September 1, 2016. Dr. Yusuf Abou Jawdah as Acting Chairperson, AGRI Department as of November 1, 2016

Awards:

- **Dr. Hadi Jaafar** won the CA and CC Rebeiz Award for Agricultural Research for his paper Impact of the Syrian conflict on irrigated agriculture in the Orontes Basin, published in the International Journal of Water Resources Development
- **Dr. Yaser Abunnasr** received the AUB's Teaching Excellence Award in May 2017
- **The ENPI Medalgae project**, conducted in Lebanon by FAFS (Dr. Abou Jawdah) and ALMEE (Lebanese Association for Energy Saving and for Environment), won the national Energy Globe award for establishing a delivery chain for microalgae to ensure its use for the production of biodiesel
- LDEM students (Joude Mabsout and Rim Hazimeh) with Dr. Trovato and part-time faculty B. El-Ariss received a special honorable mention at the **International Prize of University Projects in Schools of Architecture and Landscape** for their project entitled 'Sarafand Informal Settlement Landscape Project', aimed to facilitate community, children and youth interaction through the design of open spaces
- BLA second year student, Ms. Thea Maria Maroun, received the honor award at the International United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) **50th Anniversary Youth Competition**
- LDEM alumni Zeina Kronfol and Pamela Haydamous, won the Public Spaces category of the **2017 Lebanese Architect Awards** for their project entitled Karantina Play Garden: Space for Encounters

Recognitions

Dr. Nahla Hwalla was appointed as the Chair of the Advisory Board of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) on July 4, 2017. To mark the 96th anniversary of the declaration of the State of Greater Lebanon, September 1920, Dr. Hwalla was also honored by the National Initiative for the Centennial of Greater Lebanon as a women leader research pioneer in Lebanese universities.

External Advisory Board

The President approved the appointment of Mr. Khaled Sinno to the FAFS's External Advisory board (EAB).

Fundraising and Donations

The Faculty secured unprecedented support through donations, endowments and awards:

- **Raji and Fawzieh Sinno Scholarships in Agriculture:** Mr. Khaled Sinno, AUB alumnus and owner of Karma, Lebanon, donated 10 full scholarships to the Agriculture undergraduate program to benefit needy students from the northern areas of Lebanon. Mr. Sinno complemented this contribution with two endowments, one renaming the FAFS's Student Services office as the **Raji and Fawzieh Sinno Students Services Office**, and the second, named the **Raji & Fawzieh Sinno Promising Leader in Agriculture Awards**, is dedicated to public high school students from northern Lebanon. Annually, awards will be granted to the three best projects for improving agricultural practices in Lebanon
- **The Michel and Sherine Bayoud Lecture Hall:** FAFS Alumnus and member of the FAFS External Advisory Board, Mr. Michel Bayoud, made a generous donation towards naming FAFS's Lecture Hall 102 as the Michel and Sherine Bayoud Lecture Hall, dedicated on June 12
- **Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture:** Mr. Nehme Moujaees, FAFS Alumnus, established an annual award for the most deserving senior student in Landscape Architecture whose final year project aligns with FAFS vision and mission
- **Dr. Musa Nimah Endowed Award for Academic Excellence:** Dr. Musa Nimah's family established an annual award to the graduating BSc Agriculture Program student with the highest cumulative GPA
- **Rasha and Nouhad Daouk Student Development Fund:** Ms. Syma Daouk, FAFS alumna, established a fund to support the participation of FAFS's Food Science students in academic and professional conferences and workshops
- **Aana Prize:** Mr. Carlos Edde, FAFS External Advisory Board Member, continued his support of the Aana prizes, awarded to agribusiness students for outstanding achievement in the areas of benefit to community and innovation

- **ESDU scholarship/research fund:** Ms. Hala Masri, renowned movie director, donated the ticket sale proceeds from the screening of her award winning movie, 3000 Nights, toward the establishment of a fund to support Palestinian-Arab, female students enrolled in the Rural Community Development MSc. Program
- **ND Traffic Consulting LTD** donated one **village solar system** kit to AREC as a prototype for the promotion of new renewable energy systems in the MENA region to visitors, trainees, researchers and AREC students
- **Unifert** continues to supplement the Faculty with \$12,000 funds for hardship cases

Space and Facilities

The AUB Diet and Nutrition Clinic was launched at CHSC under the administration of NFSC.

FAFS space made available following relocation to Reynolds Building was used to satisfy part of FAFS faculty office space and classroom needs. Six new offices were created for new and incumbent faculty. FAFS unified the location for the NFSC/AGRI part-timers and the NFSC/AGRI graduate assistants. During the academic year, FAFS renovated and refurbished Lab 502, the feeds and feeding lab, and converted studio 210 into a state of the art computer lab, primarily for hands-on learning by NFSC students.

Faculty meetings

Prepared by: Dr. Samer Kharroubi, Associate Professor

Between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, eight regular faculty meetings were held and the following actions taken:

- I. **Elections to FAFS Standing & University Committees and Senate for AY 2016/2017**
- II. **Voting of Degrees:** unanimously awarded B.S. degrees in Agriculture and Diploma of Ingénieur Agricole, Agribusiness, Nutrition and Dietetics, Nutrition and Dietetics-Coordinated Program, Food Science and Management, Landscape Design and Eco-Management; Diploma of Ingenieur Agricole, Veterinary Sciences. Master of Sciences were awarded for students as recommended by the representatives from each department, effective September 2016, January 2017, and June 2017
- III. **FAFS Distinguished Awardees for AY 2016-2017:** the recommendations of the Student Affairs Committee were voted on, and the following FAFS Awards were granted:
 - 1) Edgecombe Memorial Prize: Mr Vicken Aknadibossian, AGRI IV (91.64)
 - 2) Kashadurian Award: Mr Omar Dahduli, AGRI IV (85.47)
 - 3) The Joana Haidar Award: Mr. Ghassan Al Salman, AGRI III (87)
 - 4) Dean Thomas Sutherland Prizes for graduate excellence: Mr Mohamad Murtada, MS Poultry Science (91.45)

- 5) Dean Nuhad Dagher FAFS Graduate Student Award: Mr Mohamad Murtada, MS Poultry Science (91.45)
- 6) Dr. Musa Najib Nimah Endowed Award for Academic Excellence: Mr Vicken Aknadibossian, AGRI IV (91.64)
- 7) The Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture: Ms Lara Karen Baitarian LDAR IV (83.70)
- 8) Abdul Hadi Debs Endowment Award for Academic Excellence: Mr Mohamad Murtada, MS Poultry Science (91.45)
- 9) Penrose Award: Ms. Nour Boutine, NDCP IV (87.19)

IV. **Presentations**

- 1) FAFS Laboratory Strategy by Dr. Houssam Shaib
- 2) The Writing Center and Writing in the Disciplines by Dr. Ira James Allen, Department of English
- 3) FAFS space by Mr. Bassem Barhoumi (Director of FPDU)
- 4) FAFS Space Re-allocations and renovations by Mrs. Laila Hour

V. **Approval of LDEM Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointment Criteria and Procedures:**

Prof. Zurayk, chairperson of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Ecosystem Management (LDEM), gave the Dean and the Faculty members a brief overview of the procedures and criteria for reappointment and promotion in LDEM, reflecting the mission and vision of the department. Faculty members voted to delay action on the matter pending further discussion

VI. **Approval of Faculty Strategic Plan:**

Dean Hwalla presented updates on the FAFS strategic plan (2012-2017), briefly describing FAFS strategic goals, accomplishments, and projections for the coming 5 years. The Dean also presented student enrollment trends for each program, the number of accredited programs, those programs that need to be accredited, and the number of recently proposed programs. Faculty members voted to delay action on the matter, pending further suggestions and comments

VII. **Approval of Name Change of Agriculture Program, with minor curricular changes:**

Following a brief presentation of the modifications and changes in the present Agriculture Program curriculum, Prof. Abou Jawadah, chairperson of the Agriculture department, proposed changing the name of the program to “Bachelor in Agriculture Engineering”. Prof. Abou Jawadah spoke in favor of the new name as improving the likelihood of ABET accreditation, given it contains the word “Engineering”. Faculty members decided to defer action on the name pending further clarification from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Order of Engineers and Architects, and AUB



B. Student Statistics

Student Enrollment (2016-2017)

The total FAFS undergraduate enrollment was 498, comprising: Nutrition and Dietetics (133), Nutrition and Dietetics-Coordinated Program (48), Food Science and Management (79), Landscape Architecture (90), Agriculture (85), and Agribusiness (63). Four undergraduate programs (NTDT, NDCP, AGRI and BLA) witnessed an average 10% decline in enrollment, due to a 29% drop in the overall enrollment of new students at the Faculty in all FAFS majors (AGRI, AGBU, FSMT, NTDT and LDAR).

The total graduate enrollment was 96, distributed as follows: NFSC (45), AGRI (23), LDEM (8), FSEC (6) new program, the interdisciplinary Rural Community Development (RCODE) program (12), and visiting students (2).

At the graduate level, enrollment improved from 77 in 2015-2016 to 96 in 2016-2017. This is attributed to the introduction of the new Food Security program and the increased enrollment in RCODE.

*Table 5: Total Student Enrollment in various FAFS programs during academic year 2016-2017**

Undergraduate Enrollment	AY 2016-2017
Nutrition and Dietetics (NTDT)	133
Nutrition and Dietetics – Coordinated Program (NTDT-CP)*	48
Food Science and Management (FSMT)	79
Agriculture (AGRI)*	85
Agribusiness (AGBU)	63
Landscape Architecture (LDAR)*	90
Total Undergraduate (UG)	498
Graduate Enrollment	
Nutrition (NUTR)	26
Food Technology (FTCH)	19
Agricultural Economics (AGEC)	6
Irrigation (IRRG)	6
Plant Protection (PLPT)	4
Plant Science (PLSC)	2
Animal Science (ANML)	3
Poultry Science (POSC)	2
Food Security (FSEC)	6
Rural & Community Development (RCOD)	12
Ecosystem Management (ECOM)	8
Visiting Students	2
Total Graduate (Gr)	96
Total (UG & Gr)	594

* Agriculture, Landscape Design & Eco-Management and Nutrition & Dietetics – Coordinated Programs are 4 year programs

Historical Perspective (2016-2017)

Academic Year 2014-2015 had the peak enrollment during the past 5 years. Undergraduate enrollment during the period is shown in Table 6. The considerable change in the undergraduate enrollment (498) compared to 2014-15 (547) is attributed to fewer newly enrolled students in AYs 2015-2016 (98) and 2016-17 (76), than in AY 2014-2015 (117). The decline is reflected primarily in AGRI, AGBU, FSMT and BLA.

Table 6: Number of Enrolled Undergraduate FAFS Students for the Last Five Academic Years

Program	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
NTDT	143	176	144	142	133
NTDT-CP	14	15	44	44	36
FSMT	73	74	85	77	79
AGRI (4 years)	118	100	88	88	85
AGBU	82	71	64	59	63
LDEM (4 years)	102	95	115	106	90
VTSC	3	0	0	0	0
NWAG	2	2	7	5	12
Total Undergraduate	537	533	547	521	498

Graduate enrollment decreased from 111 students in 2012-13 to 96 in 2016-17, however there has been tremendous improvement over the last three years with the introduction of the new Food Security program and the increase enrollment in RCODE. The graduate enrollment of the past 5 years is shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Number of Enrolled Graduate FAFS Students for the Last Five Academic Years

Program	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
NUTR	48	36	30	21	26
FTCH	30	18	15	19	19
AGEC	3	4	4	6	6
IRRG	3	2	2	4	6
PLPT	4	4	7	2	4
PLSC	6	6	3	4	2
ANML	2	3	4	3	3
POSC	4	4	3	1	2
RCOD	-	-	5	7	12
FSEC	-	-	4	-	6
ECOM	8	12	12	9	8
NWAG	3	3	-	1	2
Total Graduate	111	92	89	77	96

Student Admissions (2016-2017)

Undergraduate New Applicants

During AY 2016-2017, a total of 1706 new applications were received. Of these, 34% were accepted, and 14% of those actually enrolled. In the fall semester, the yield of admittance was 13% (69 enrolled among 542 accepted students). In the spring semester the yield of admittance was 38% (13 enrolled from 34 accepted students), representing a significant decrease in the number of enrolled undergraduate students (82 students) compared to the previous year (2015-2016: 98 students) and most noticeable within AGBU, AGRI and FSMT programs. Nonetheless, the yield of AY 2016-2017 (14%) was higher than the previous AY 2015-2016 (11%). Table 8 shows the numbers and percentages of new undergraduate students applying to FAFS programs, including those admitted and enrolled in fall and spring 2016-2017.

Table 8: Number of New Undergraduate Applicants, Admitted and Enrolled during AY 2016-17

First Semester 2016-2017				
Program	Applications	Admissions	Enrollment	% Yield
NTDT	560	206	25	12%
FSMT	348	86	11	13%
AGRI	206	59	6	10%
AGBU	250	93	14	15%
LDAR	243	98	13	13%
Total	1607	542	69	13%

Second Semester 2016-2017				
Program	Applications	Admissions	Enrollment	% Yield
NTDT	31	9	4	44%
FSMT	24	10	3	30%
AGRI	20	6	2	33%
AGBU	16	4	0	0%
LDAR	8	5	4	80%
Total	99	34	13	38%

Undergraduate Transfer Applicants

During AY 2016-2017, a total of 245 transfer applications were received and among these, 155 (63%) were accepted; 54 (35%) of whom enrolled. Table 9 shows the numbers and percentages of undergraduate transfer students applying to FAFS majors, those admitted and those enrolled in fall and Spring 2016-2017.

Table 9: Undergraduate (Second Degree and Transfer) Applicants: Admitted, Enrolled AY 2016-2017

First Semester 2016-2017				
Program	Applications	Admissions	Enrollment	% Yield
NTDT	40	24	10	42%
FSMT	28	24	3	13%
AGRI	25	22	10	45%
AGBU	32	20	6	30%
LDAR	29	6	3	50%
Total	154	96	32	33%

Second Semester 2016-2017				
Program	Applications	Admissions	Enrollment	% Yield
NTDT	22	9	6	67%
FSMT	13	10	3	30%
AGRI	12	9	3	33%
AGBU	31	28	8	29%
LDAR	13	3	2	67%
Total	91	59	22	37%

Graduate Applicants

During AY 2016-17, a total of 141 graduate applications were received and 103 (73%) were accepted. 41 (40%) of those accepted enrolled. The number of enrolled new graduate students grew from 29 in 2015-16 to 45 in 2016-17, due to the introduction of the new Food Security program and the increased enrollment in RCODE. Table 10 shows the numbers and percentages of graduate students who applied to FAFS, were admitted, and who enrolled.

Table 10: Number of Graduate Applications and Admissions

Fall, Spring 2015-2016					
Program	Applications	Admissions	% Admitted out of applicants	Enrollment	% Yield
NUTR	57	41	72%	13	32%
FTCH	21	14	67%	6	43%
AGEC	3	1	33%	0	0%
ANML	2	1	50%	0	0%
IRRG	4	3	75%	2	67%
PLPT	8	7	88%	2	29%
PLSC	6	5	83%	2	40%
POSC	2	1	50%	1	100%
ECOM	10	9	90%	4	44%
RCOD	14	10	71%	5	50%
FSEC	14	11	79%	6	55%
Total	141	103	73%	45	40%



Graduation (2016-2017)

FAFS graduated 134 undergraduate students in 2016-2017. These were distributed over the majors as follows: Nutrition and Dietetics (38), Nutrition and Dietetics–Coordinated Program (14), Food Science and Management (16), Landscape Architecture (21), Agriculture (30), and Agribusiness (15). The number of undergraduate graduates increased over the last five years.

FAFS also graduated 20 students in its graduate programs as follows: Nutrition (8), Food Technology (4), Ecosystem Management (2), Agricultural Economics (2), Plant Science (1), Animal Science (1), Poultry Science (1) and Rural Community and Development (1). The average number of M.S. graduates over the last five years was 27. Tables 11 and 12 show the distribution of graduated students in the FAFS disciplines and during the past five years.

Table 11: Number of Graduated FAFS Undergraduate Students for the Last Five Academic Years

Major	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
NTDT	24	27	28	38	38
NTDT-CP	14	15	14	17	14
FSMT	18	23	17	15	16
AGRI	10	13	19	21	30
AGBU	17	16	18	13	15
LDAR	24	21	21	25	21
VTSC	3	0	0	0	0
Total Undergraduate	110	115	117	129	134

Table 12: Number of Graduated FAFS Graduate Students for the Last Five Academic Years

Major	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
NUTR	12	13	15	6	8
FTCH	11	9	5	6	4
AGEC	0	1	1	1	2
ANML	1	1	1	1	1
IRRG	1	1	0	1	0
PLPT	3	1	1	1	0
PLSC	1	2	0	3	1
POSC	1	1	2	0	1
ECOM	2	4	2	4	2
RCOD					1
Total Graduate	32	33	27	23	20

Centers and Units



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Centers and Units

Agricultural Research and Education Center (AREC)

Prepared by: Mr. Nicolas El Haddad, AREC Farm & Facilities Manager

Support Staff

AREC Administration

Haidar, Mustapha – Ph.D.	Director
El-Haddad, Nicolas	Farm & Facilities Manager
Yazbeck, Mirna	Secretary
Hajj Hasan, Hussein	Sales Attendant/Store Keeper
Yazbeck, Bilal	Superintendent
Sleiman, Samar	Library Assistant II

AREC Physical Plant

Ghosn, Hisham	Gateman/Watchman
Haidar, Naji	Mechanical and Maintenance Foreman
Hajj Hasan, Ali G.	Head of Watchman
Hajj Hasan, Khayrieh	Maid
Hajj Hasan, Mohamad	Gateman/Watchman
Hamiyeh, Walid	Field Foreman
Masri, Ali	Gateman/Watchman
Mussawi, Kuzhayyah	Gateman/Watchman
Nasser, Haidar	Custodian
Rumeh, Abdel-Karim	Farm Attendant
Shukr, Khalil	Food Service Worker
Sindian, Ali	Head Mechanic
Zein, Bassam	Mason

AREC Production

El Ali, Ibrahim	Animal Attendant
Hajj Hasan, Ahmad Kassem	Livestock Production Head
Hajj Hasan, Ahmad Khalil	Creamery Operator
Hajj Hasan, Ali T.	Gardener
Harb, Mohamad	Animal Attendant
Mussawi, Abbas	Machine Operator
Safar, Shady	Livestock & Poultry Production Supervisor

Takesh, Nayef	Machine Operator
Yazbeck, Ali	Assistant Agronomy Foreman
Yazbeck, Hussein	Animal Attendant
Zureik, Mohamad	Poultry Production Head

AREC Library

Sleiman, Samar	Library Assistant II
----------------	----------------------

AREC Clinic

Sayyed Ahmad, Mariam	Staff Nurse
Yazbek, Mona	Clinical Assistant

Student Affairs

Hamieh, Yussuf	Entrance Monitor
----------------	------------------



Highlights

- The AUB community, faculty members, and students gathered at the Annual AREC DAY on its 61st Anniversary on April 23, 2017
- Dr. Haidar, AREC Director, invited AG professors and staff and AREC students to a Field Day on the afternoon of Thursday July 20, 2017, to observe student's projects. The session was followed by a BBQ lunch in a Bedouin tent on the AREC green turf
- As part of AREC's mission, and to provide agricultural and experiential support to the community, Dr. Haidar, AREC director, invited the heads of the Union of Municipalities of Western Baalbeck to lunch on May 24, 2017. They were briefed on AREC's role in agricultural development in the region and on current major research and projects at the center
- The department of Nutrition and Food Sciences at AUB, in collaboration with the Institute of Global Health in London, conducted the Nutrition in Emergencies (NIE) training course in May 2016. More than 35 participants (23 from Lebanon) from across the region attended the NIE course. Local NGOs, the Federal Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs also participated
- During May and June, the first group of 70 economically disadvantaged Syrian and Lebanese young adults aged 15-30 years was trained at AREC in basic digital literacy, internet literacy, MS office programs, Photoshop, and English. The program is provided through a partnership between the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) and the World Food Program (WFP)
- The collaboration agreement between the American University of Beirut (AUB) and the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) was updated
- The collaboration agreement between AUB and UNIFERT Company was updated
- The contractual agreement with Al Rabih Company, for casual workers at AREC, was renewed
- An agreement of collaboration was established between AUB and ND Traffic Consulting LTD. ND will donate to AREC one village solar kit system to be used as a prototype for visitors, trainees, researchers, and AREC students for the purpose of promoting renewable energy systems in the MENA region
- Dr. Martin Keulertz, Dr. Tony Allan (Leading international water expert - London), Dr. Gerhard Lichtenthailer (Adaptation to climate change in the water sector in the MENA region, ACCWaM Advisor), and Dr. Ioannis N. Savvaidis (Food Microbiology – FAFS visiting professor) visited AREC on November 24, 2016, witness the latest achievements of the conservation agriculture demo plots
- Dr. Hadi Jaafar, Department of Agriculture, AUB, held a one day reflection workshop at AREC in collaboration with the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) (Friday October 26, 2016)
- Two saffron field days were held at AREC in November 2016 with the goal of familiarizing the AUB community with the techniques and cultural practices of this recently introduced crop

- The workshop Promoting Saffron as a Sustainable Rain Fed Crop in the Beqaa Plain was held at AREC on Monday November 21, 2016. Around 40 farmers and students from the Lebanese University attended
- UNIFERT field day took place on August 2, 2017. Agricultural Engineers and farmers from different countries participated
- Mr. George Bitar conducted a 2 hour workshop in Arabic for AREC employees: Awareness of AUB's Policy Against Harassment and Discrimination, May 17, 2017
- 25 international ICARDA trainees participating in the course Farm Operation Management were hosted and toured AREC's farm operations and machinery with Mr. Nicolas El Haddad, AREC Farm and Facilities Manager
- AREC staff were invited to a Ramadan Iftar (June 14, 2017) at LAKKIS farm restaurant in Baalbek
- More than 25 international ICARDA trainees visited AREC and ICARDA seed processing facilities and experimental plots
- Establishing around 2 hectare vineyard in which 7 red and white wine grape varieties purchased from a French reliable nursery were planted by AREC students and staff. The students also participated efficiently in the installation of the drip irrigation system
- Establishing a new apple orchard with 3 newly introduced varieties grafted on a semi-dwarf rootstock. The trees were transplanted by the students and a drip irrigation system was installed too
- Establishing a new stone fruit orchard with 5 newly introduced and high yield varieties. The planting operations were done by AREC students and staff
- Raising 1,000 broilers at the controlled environment poultry house to train students on broiler production and management
- Planting more than 100 trees of Pomegranate, 50 fig trees, 12 cypress shrubs and 15 cactus plants at AREC in July 2017
- Completing the inventory of capital and non-capital items available at AREC
- Producing 5,950 gr of dried saffron
- Maintaining the farm such as orchards, gardens, olives, ciders, pine, and saffron
- Renewing support agreement with OMEGA
- Supplying all the hot water solar panels with anti-freeze to avoid frost damage

Personnel

- Mr. Nicolas El Haddad, AREC Farm and Facilities Manager, attended a training on "Ex Situ Conservation Techniques" held at the Mediterranean Plant Conservation Unit (MPCU) of CIHEAM - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICH) in Crete (Greece) from July 10 to July 23, 2017

Teaching

- Nineteen AGR III students continued their spring and summer semesters at AREC
- Acquainting the students with different practical farm operations on daily basis
- Preparing the necessary tools for different labs
- Demonstrating the different systems of engines and the use of farm machinery
- Providing assistance to the students in the implementation of their projects
- Providing accommodation and teaching facilities to AUB visiting-professors and students
- Helping the students in their undergraduate and graduate projects
- Helping students in opening their own business in vegetable production
- Purchasing 3 cows for teaching purpose as recommended by AG department in order to acquaint the students with different disease/cure and management

Services

- Providing assistance to Drs. Haidar, Farran, Abou Jawdah, Saoud and Jaafar to carry on their research trials
- Preparing the necessary tools for Dr. Isam Bashour's lab on soil texture and serving lunch for 19 students on September 24, 2016
- Providing assistance to ICARDA in various field cultural practices and in the maintenance of the allocated facilities
- Providing assistance to Unifert in their seed trials
- Installing a cooling system at the conventional poultry house 2
- Repairing the multi-span greenhouse and installing a polyethylene pool for the aquaponics project
- Long-term taking care of 12 lambs for the experiment conducted by Dr. Bassam Youssef (Department of Radiation Oncology, Medical Center)
- Performing various operations at the conservation agriculture plots such as land preparation, chemical application, planting, and controlling pests
- Supplying AUB community with super sweet corn and apples
- Various faculty, staff and visitors have visited and slept at AREC

Strategic Challenges

- AREC's financial sustainability
- Water scarcity and drought
- Looking for more alternative energy production systems in order to reduce AREC's generated power
- Operating the newly rehabilitated and remodeled conventional poultry house using alternative energy
- Security situation in the Beqaa

Future Goals and Plans

- Widening the partnership base with NGOs and the private sector
- Transforming AREC into a financially stable center of excellence
- Converting AREC to a complete green energy center so as to become a showcase of various renewable energy applications
- Reopening the creamery facility in order to resume the production due to the high demand of AUB community
- Resuming egg production due to the high demand of AUB community
- Increasing sweet corn production due to the high demand of AUB community
- Becoming a platform for rural development
- Enhancing Ecotourism



Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU)

Prepared by: Ms. Mabelle Chedid, Research Assistant & Dr. Shadi Hamadeh, Chairperson and Professor

Personnel

Shadi Hamadeh	ESDU Director
Diana Marroush Abi-Said	Administrative-Financial Officer
Mabelle Chedid	Executive Officer
Dominique Anid	Health & Nutrition Officer
Nadim Rawda	Field and Training Officer
Marwa Soubra	Health & Nutrition Officer

ESDU Associates

Salwa Tohmé Tawk	Knowledge Management Officer/ Training and Organizational Development Specialist
Mounir Abi-Said	Training and Organizational Development Specialist
Ziad Moussa	Capacity Development and Outreach Officer
Yaser Abunnasr	EcoMENA coordinator
Giuliano Martinello	RCODE coordinator

Highlights on ESDU Activities from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017:

During the AY 2016–17, ESDU continued several on-going projects and implemented new projects with a total budget of \$280,078 (US) from multiple international donor agencies.

Regional Networking

“KariaNet” Knowledge Access for Rural Inter-connected Areas Network is a regional network funded by IDRC and IFAD for the management and sharing of knowledge, information and experience in agriculture and rural development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. ESDU has hosted the network since 2015, and designed and launched a new portal in March 2016, that is accessible to all users. ESDU is aligning KariaNet activities with Local Food Systems while contextualizing success cases and partnering with regional and international networks and centers in the region. In collaboration with The Strategic Partnership Initiative (SPI), ESDU held (July 5, 2017) a workshop at AUB entitled *Promoting rural development through access to finance, ICT and Technology*.

Capacity Building

Reducing Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees and the Lebanese in Lebanon - in collaboration with the Near East Foundation, ESDU conducted a series of capacity building workshops for about 170 Syrian refugees and Lebanese, in support of the development of home-based productive activities and small businesses related to agricultural production and food processing. The areas of intervention are spread between (1) Minieh and Berqayel (North Governorate); and (2) Taanayel (Bekaa Governorate). A set of interactive training workshops were delivered between May and September 2017, covering topics including food safety, production of soft cheeses, catering services, sun drying vegetables, fruits & herbs, and recipe standardization & labeling. A total of 5 workshops were conducted to date in Berqayel, Akkar, and Taanayel, Bekkaa where enthusiastic groups of Syrian & Lebanese women were trained in developing home-based production lines of sweets, cheeses, mounneh etc.



Development

GHATA: Bringing Education to Informal Tented Settlements -This project, implemented in partnership with Kayany Foundation and the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) and funded by Reach Out to Asia – Qatar Foundation, aims to scale up AUB-CCECS GHATA intervention to assemble two school campuses. The goal is to provide Community Based Education (CBE) for refugee children, including

child protection services and nutritional assistance. The ESDU team consulted on the establishment of 2 school kitchenettes within the campuses and led a capacity building program for the female cooks in each school. Topics included food safety, healthy nutrition, and menu development. Throughout the year, students received a variety of healthy snacks that improved their dietary diversity and access to nutritious food.

Building the Food Security and Economic Resilience of Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Members of their Host Communities in Beirut and Lebanon The program aims to build food security and economic resilience of Syrian refugees and vulnerable members of their host communities, enhancing survival skills and prosperity in the face of decreasing international assistance. The project is in collaboration with NEF and YMCA; ESDU is responsible for the implementation of the urban agriculture component of the project. To date, urban agricultural kits were designed by ESDU and provided to 40 of the 150 families in Bourj Hammoud, Dawra and Nabaa areas. Capacity building sessions were delivered to project beneficiaries, enabling them to produce healthy food on their balconies, windows and roofs.

Souk aal Souk – Farmers’ Market held monthly in FAFS, gathers small-scale farmers and food producers from around the country.



Academic programs

RCODE Master of Sciences Program in Rural Community Development - ESDU continues to host and support RCODE in the practicum course, providing graduate students with internships in various ESDU projects (see details in the RCODE report).

AUB 150th Celebrations

Arab Women: Keepers of the Land: ESDU 15th Anniversary celebrations - ESDU celebrated its 15th anniversary, paying tribute to partners and friends who have left their marks in the field of rural development world by advancing the role of women to preserve their lands and heritage.

Fundraising Event

ESDU organized its first fund raising event, screening the film *3000 Nights*, by Ms. Mai Mari, on March 31, 2017, in celebration of Land Day and in collaboration with the Palestinian Culture Club at AUB and ULYP (Unite Lebanon Youth Project). Over 150 people attended, contributing to the support of a Palestinian /Arab graduate student enrolled in the RCODE program.

Strategic Challenges

Fundraising for endowment, scholarship and entrepreneurship

Rural Community Development MS Program

Prepared by: Dr. Giuliano Martiniello, RCODE Coordinator & Mrs. Diana M. Abi-Said, RCODE, RA

Highlights

RCODE committee approved the appointment of Dr. Martiniello as RCODE coordinator, starting Spring Term 2017.

RCODE committee approved name changes and descriptions for two core RCODE courses:

RCOD 341: Rural Development: Theories and Policies

RCOD 342: Qualitative Research Methods in Rural Development

During the reporting period, RCODE offered five core graduate courses and received a total of 20 new applications. Three new graduate students became beneficiaries of the Master Card Foundation Scholarship program: two from Sub-Saharan Africa, one from Lebanon. Sixteen graduate students are enrolled in the program (15 thesis and one non-thesis). Ms. Farah AbiMosleh was the first student to graduate from the RCODE program - spring 2017.



Personnel

Full-time Faculty / RCODE committee members

Giuliano Martiniello	Assistant Professor/ RCODE coordinator
Shady Hamadeh	Professor
Rami Zurayk	Professor
Ali Chalak	Associate Professor
Lamis Jomaa	Assistant Professor

Instructor

Dominique Anid	Research Assistant
----------------	--------------------

RCODE Officer

Diana Marroush Abi-Said	Research Assistant
-------------------------	--------------------

Graduate Assistants

Alam Jeanbein	Fall 2016
Nour El Korek	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Nadiya Ibrahim	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Rami Assaf	Fall 2016
Elias Arja	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Sarah Karam	Fall 2016, spring 2017
Nour Zeidan	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Shalimar Sinno	Fall 2016, spring 2017
Brett Helmes	Fall 2017-2018
Lamisse Khairallah	Fall 2017-2018

Teaching Activities

Fall 2016–17

Course	Credits		Instructor
RCOD	343	3	Hamadeh/Chalak
RCOD	342	4	Martiniello
RCOD	305	1	Martiniello

Spring 2016-17

Course	Credits		Instructor
RCOD	343	3	Hamadeh/Chalak
RCOD	341	3	Martiniello
RCOD	344	4	Martiniello/Anid

Non-thesis Research Activities – Dr. Martiniello

Project title	Funding Agency	Amount (USD)
Smallholders' integration in global value chains and the implications for food security in Lebanon: evidence-based research for policy formulation	AUB	8,000

Services (Dr. Martiniello)

AUB
Member of FAFS Research Committee
Member of FAFS Library Committee
Working Committee on the New Social Sciences Department.
Working in close collaboration with the librarians at FAFS, to expand and develop the library collections on rural development references, particularly with regard to the MENA region
Working on extending scholarship opportunities provided by the Master Card Foundation to African Students

Thesis Supervision (Dr. Martiniello)

Student Name	Major	Thesis Title
Rami Assaf	Msc Rural Community Development	The Waste Management Value Chain in the West Beqaa: Contributions to Labor Markets and Rural Development"
Alam Janbein	Msc Rural Community Development	Assessing the impact of access to post-harvest cold-handling on small scale farmers in Baalbeck
Nour Al-Korek	Msc Rural Community Development	"Impact of Syrian conflict on water issues in Akkar, Lebanon".
Nadiya Ibrahim	Msc Rural Community Development	Perceptions and Experiences of Syrian Refugees and Community Workers towards Community Kitchens in Lebanon: A Qualitative Study

Conferences, Special Lectures, Workshops and Travel (Dr. Martiniello)

Activity	Date
Participated at the Agrarian Summer School 2017, organized by the African Institute of Agrarian Studies (AIAS) and partners. Dr. Martiniello presented his research and abstract title: <i>Don't Stop the Mill: South African capital and agrarian change in Tanzania</i> , published in Third World Thematic, [http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23802014.2016.1243017].	January 15 - 21, 2017
Participated in the International Conference titled: <i>Capitalist Development in Hostile Environments</i> , organized by the Arrighi Centre for Global Studies, John Hopkins University, and University of Calabria. Dr. Martiniello presented the paper <i>Trajectories of Agrarian Change in Uganda's rural peripheries: the salience of Giovanni Arrighi's scholarship</i> .	June 6-8, 2017

Strategic Challenges

- RCODE needs to develop a strategy for an exchange program with international universities working in the field of rural development
- RCODE, through its coordinator, implemented and will continue work on a strategy to secure scholarship options for graduate students in partnership with private and public stakeholders
- Given the increase in student enrollment in RCODE over the last 2 years, a full-time officer (RA) for the program is recommended
- The program would benefit from the participation of external experts and leading scholars in the rural development field. This should be accomplished in the coming academic years, with an increase in the operating budget
- The program would also benefit from an increase in funding for student fieldwork activities that will also be used as the initial documentation of rural development challenges and case studies in Lebanon



Departmental Reports



HEALTHY EARTH



HEALTHY FOOD



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Departmental Reports

Department of Agriculture (AGRI)

Prepared by: Dr. Shadi Hamadeh, AGRI Chairman & Dr. Lina Jaber, Lecturer



Highlights

- AGRI finalized the revision of the new BS in Agriculture program to conform with ABET requirements in collaboration with an expert consultant recruited for this purpose
- AGRI reviewed applicants and took preliminary decisions on 5 vacant positions at the professorial rank in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology, Agroecology, Animal Biotechnology, Horticulture and Animal Physiology. The final decisions will be taken following interviews, in person and via skype
- Dr. Abou Jawdah served as acting chairman during the Spring and Summer 2017; Dr. Hamadeh was chairman during the Fall 2016 semester
- Dr. Gumataw Abebe joined the Department as Assistant Professor in Agribusiness Marketing and Management
- Dr. Susan Prattis was on Junior Research Leave during the Fall 2016, leaving the Department at the beginning of Spring 2017
- Dr. Hamadeh was on Long Term Faculty Development leave between July 14 and August 16, 2017. His leave targeted participation in collaborative research and publications with colleagues at the University of Montreal, and included a presentation (August 14) to explore collaborative options with McGill University
- Dr. Jaafar received the 2015 CA and CC Rebeiz Award for Agricultural Research for his paper *Impact of the Syrian conflict on irrigated agriculture in the Orontes Basin*
- Dr. Hamadeh was appointed MENA representative on the International Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition Advisory Board, jointly organized by FAO and WHO
- Dr. Farran was appointed Advisor to Minister of Agriculture effective February 1, 2017
- Two laboratory rooms were approved for renovation: the oil and water graduate research laboratory and the animal feed analysis laboratory. Work on the latter has already started; the offices of the many faculty members and staff were relocated
- AGRI had 35 scientific manuscripts accepted in peer-reviewed journals or scientific series; 3 book chapters and many additional publications received high visibility in various media outlets
- AGRI offered 53 undergraduate and 32 graduate courses during the reporting period

Personnel

Full-time Faculty

Shady Hamadeh	Chairman
Yusuf Abou Jawdah	Professor
Isam Bashour	Professor
Mustapha Haidar	Professor/ AREC Director
Elie Barbour	Professor
Mohamad Farran	Professor
Jad Chaaban	Associate Professor
Ali Chalak	Associate Professor
Hadi Jaafar	Assistant Professor
Susan Prattis	Assistant Professor (Fall only)
Gumataw Abebe	Assistant Professor
Mirella Aoun	Visiting Professor
Rachel Bahn	Instructor

Part-time Faculty

Nabil Nemer	Instructor	Fall
Hashem El Hussein	Instructor	Fall, Spring
Rami Ollaik	Instructor	Fall, Spring, Summer
Rawan Nassar	Instructor	Fall, Spring
Amer Najm	Instructor	Summer
Sami Saad	Instructor	Fall
Hania Chahal	Instructor	Spring
George Battikha	Lecturer	Fall
Arlette Lteif	Lecturer	Spring
Makram Bou Nassar	Lecturer	Spring, Summer
Mazen El Tamer	Lecturer	Fall
Fabienne Gebara Maalouf	Lecturer	Spring
Marie-Thérèse Abi Saab	Lecturer	Spring
Youssef El Khalil	Senior Lecturer	Fall, Spring

Research Assistants

Lina Jaber	Research Associate/ Lecturer (Spring 2017)
Hana Sobh	Senior Research Assistant
Rami El Hussein	Departmental Research Assistant
Alexandra Irani	Research Assistant (on grant)
Tala Ismail	Research Assistant (on grant)
Jana Mourad	Research Assistant (on grant)
Rima Mokdad	Research Assistant (on grant)

Graduate Assistants

Mira Yehya	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Aya Haidar	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Nour Ramadan	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Majd Kais	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Aleel Sleiman Haidar	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Chafik Abdallah	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
André Abou Haidar	Fall 2016, Spring and Summer 2016
Lara El Gemayel	Fall 2016, Spring and Summer 2016
Karen Manja	Fall 2016, Spring and Summer 2016
Vicken Aknadibossian	Spring 2017
Chibli Abou Assi	Summer 2017

Teaching Activities

Fall 2016–17 Undergraduate

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 201	2	27	Jaber
AGSC 204	3	22	El Tamer
AGBU 211	3	20	Abebe
AGSC 212	3	30	Khalil, Nassar
AGSC 212	3	30	Chaaban, Nassar
AGBU 213	3	12	El Housseini
AGSC 215	3	19	Bashour
AGSC 219	3	27	Ollaik
AGSC 220	3	23	El Tamer
AGSC 221	3	15	Nemer
AGSC 232	3	28	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 235	2	24	Martiniello
AGBU 236	3	5	Bahn
AGBU 239	0	13	Bahn
AGBU 240	0	1	Bou Nassar
AGSC 241	3	22	Khalil, Saad
AGSC 278	3	18	Battikha
AGSC 295	3	12	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 296	1	18	Jaber
AVSC 220	3	30	Farran, Jaber
AVSC 243	3	18	Hamadeh
AVSC 271	3	20	Farran
AVSC 275	3	22	Barbour
AVSC 281	3	27	Farran

Fall 2016-17 Graduates

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 301	3	9	Hamadeh/Chalak
AGSC 395	1	1	Chalak
AVSC 304	3	2	Barbour
AGSC 310	3	4	Jaafar
AGSC 319	3	4	Aoun
AGSC 328	3	4	Jaafar
AGSC 388	3	4	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 396	0	1	Chaaban
AGSC 396	0	1	Jaafar
AGSC 399B	9	1	Chalak
AGSC 399C	9	2	Jaafar
AVSC 399A & C	9	1	Barbour

Spring 2016-17 Undergraduate

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 201	2	30	Jaber
AGSC 202	3	17	Jaafar/Lteif
AGSC 203	3	26	Abou Jawdah, Gebara/Sobh
AGBU 210	3	9	Abebe
AGSC 212	3	30	Khalil, Nassar
AGSC 212	3	30	Chalak, Nassar
AGBU 213	3	12	El Housseini
AGSC 219	3	28	Ollaik
AGSC 222	1	19	Haidar
AGSC 224	3	19	Aoun
AGSC 225	3	19	Martiniello/Keulertz
AGSC 228	3	19	Jaafar
AGSC 231	3	19	Abi Saab
AGBU 240	0	10	Bou Nassar
AGBU 248	3	9	Abebe
AGSC 250	3	5	Aoun
AGSC 253	3	13	Aoun, Chahal
AGBU 255	3	14	Chaaban
AGSC 265	3	19	Bashour
AGSC 284	3	19	Haidar
AGSC 292	5	10	Abebe, Bahn
AVSC 220	3	34	Farran/Jaber
AVSC 222	3	19	Barbour/ShaiB
AVSC 224	3	19	Barbour

Spring 2016-17 Graduates

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 300B	2	1	Chaaban
AGSC 300B	2	1	Jaafar
AGSC 300C	3	1	Bashour
AGSC 301	3	6	Hamadeh, Chalak
AGSC 312	3	6	Bashour
AGSC 323	3	4	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 334	3	4	Jaafar
AVSC 334	3	2	Farran
AGSC 384	3	7	Chaaban
AGSC 376	3	2	Chalak
AGSC 395	1	6	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 396	0	1	Jaafar
AGSC 396	0	1	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 399A & D	9	1	Jaafar
AVSC 300B	2	2	Hamadeh
AVSC 396	0	1	Hamadeh
AVSC 395	1	2	Abou Jawdah

Summer 2016-17 Undergraduate

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 219	3	12	Ollaik
AGSC 223	2	16	Haidar
AGSC 226	3	17	Najm
AGBU 229	3	17	Bou Nassar
AGBU 236	3	1	Chaaban
AGBU 256	1	11	Bou Nassar
AVSC 226	3	17	Farran
AVSC 299	2	1	Farran

Summer 2016-17 Graduate

Course	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor
AGSC 396	1	1	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 399	9	2	Abou Jawdah
AGSC 399	9	1	Bashour
AGSC 399A	9	2	Jaafar
AGSC 399B	9	1	Jaafar
AGSC 399E	9	1	Jaafar
AVSC 399	9	1	Barbour

Completed Theses

Sandra Youssef, Sept. 2016. *Uptake of gentamicin, tylosin and oxytetracycline by lettuce and radish plants*, Plant Science. Advisor: Dr. Isam Bashour

Masahiro MOrta, Jan. 2017. *Impact of cooperation in irrigation water management on technical efficiency and irrigation water efficiency of smallholders in Lebanon*, Agricultural Economics. Advisor: Dr. Ali Chalak

Ghassan Mahmoud, Jan. 2017. *A new genetic approach in prediction of prolificacy in newly born ewes and goats*, Animal Science. Dr. Elie Barbour

Mohammad Murtada, Jan. 2017. *Development of a vaccine against Newcastle Disease and antimicrobials for Salmonella*, Poultry Science. Dr. Elie Barbour

Farah Abi Mosleh 2017. *Challenges and opportunities in the value chain of kishek: the case of rural women producers in Chouf Caza, Lebanon*, RCODE. Dr. Shady Hamadeh

Research Funding

Internal Grants: University Research Board (URB)

Dr. Abou Jawdah

- 2016-2018 Development of serological methods for detection of almond witches broom phytoplasma. URB \$20,000 (10,000/year)

Dr. Aoun

- Establishing a netting system for sustainable Tree fruit production at AREC FAFS \$5000

Dr. Chalak

- Household Food Waste Generation in Urban Lebanon: Behavioral Patterns, Economic Costs and Policy Options (PI) URB \$30,000

Dr. Hamadeh

- Testing the resilience of small ruminant systems – case study of the West Bekaa (Year 2) AUB-URB 2017- 2018 \$8,000
- Testing the resilience of small ruminant systems - case study of the West Bekaa (Year 1) AUB-URB 2016- 2017 \$7,800
- Adaptation Strategies of Small Ruminants Production Systems to Environmental Constraints in Semi-Arid Areas of Lebanon-Shouf and West Bekaa, URB 2014-16 \$18,800

Dr. Jaafar

- Response and water requirements of *Origanum syriacum* using smart-irrigation II. URB \$10,000
- The state of the Water-Energy-Food-Nexus in the Akkar basin URB \$2,000

Local, Regional and International Grants

Dr. Abou Jawdah

- Tomato resistance to TYLCV and abiotic stress, AlBalqaa Univ., \$ 128,168.00
- Almond witches' broom phytoplasma: epidemiology, detection and management, LNCRS, 2014-2016 \$6,600
- Integrated Pest management in Greenhouse vegetables as Co-PI and main researcher
 - Antagro Co 2016/2017 Integrated Pest Management in Greenhouse crops \$ 3000
 - RobinsonAgri 2016/2017 Biological control in greenhouse vegetables \$ 4300 (in kind)
 - Unifert 2016/2017 Integrated Pest Management in Greenhouse crops \$ 3000

Dr. Abebe

- Exploring the adoption and implementation of Food Quality and Safety Management Systems in the Lebanese food supply chain (Funded) (PI) LNCRS \$8,666
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as a Waste Management System for the Lebanese Agro-Food Industry: Effectiveness, Challenges and Opportunities (Part I) (Co-PI). LNCRS \$8,666

Dr. Bashour

- Uptake of antibiotics by plants, CNRS L.L 9,000,000

Dr. Chaaban

- Socio-economic Survey of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon. UNRWA 67,000 \$
- Rapid Poverty Assessment in Lebanon, UNDP 70,000 \$
- Syrian Refugees Household Profiling, UNRWA 19,500 \$

Dr. Chalakh

- MEDRESET. A comprehensive, integrated, and bottom-up approach to reset our understanding of the Mediterranean space, remap the region, and reconstruct inclusive, responsive, and flexible EU policies in it. (Co-PI) European Commission, Horizon 2020 – Research and Innovation Framework Programme €133,840
- Exploring the adoption and implementation of Food Quality and Safety Management Systems in the Lebanese food supply chain (Co-I) Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), LBP13,000,000
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as a Waste Management System for the Lebanese Agro-Food Industry: Effectiveness, Challenges and Opportunities (Co-I) Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) LBP26,000,000
- Informal Systems and Mechanisms in Cities in Lebanon for Policy Lessons (Co-I) Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) \$54,000
- Alcohol control and harm policies in Lebanon: The industry, the market and the young consumer (Co-I) IDRC \$262,500

Dr. Farran

- Evaluation of Sustainable Concrete Produced with Industrial Hemp and Recycled Aggregates Using Multi-scale Testing and Life Cycle Analysis. American University of Beirut, Beirut – Lebanon, 2017-2019, Co-PI \$34,400
- Effective Treatment of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* in Broiler Breeder Chickens by Pulmotil AC and Denagard, March 8, 2016 – December 31, 2016, ELANCO, \$48,360
- Effect of dietary Hemicell on reproductive performance of broiler breeders under commercial settings and the early livability of their progeny, Eli Lilly, \$4800

Dr. Hamadeh

- Near East Foundation 2017 Reducing Economic and Social Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees and Lebanese in Lebanon 75,050
- Near East Foundation 2016 Building the Food Security and economic resilience of Syrian refugees and vulnerable members of their host communities in Beirut, Lebanon 15,600
- Reach Out to Asia – Qatar Foundation 2015- 2016 Bringing Education to Informal Tented Settlements – Establishment of School Kitchen 50,000
- IDRC 2015- 2018 Hosting the Regional Knowledge Management and Knowledge Sharing Network KariaNet Project 163,000

Dr. Jaafar

- Modeling response of groundwater levels to increased irrigation in the Qaa using NASA GRACE data, ICARDA- WLI, \$5000
- Precision Irrigation -a hybrid ET based and Soil Moisture based Irrigation Scheduling System Optimization of Sensor Use, ICARDA- WLI, \$5000
- Mapping Evapotranspiration in Lebanon in the using Landsat and local weather Data, LNCSR, \$6000

Publications

Books and Book Chapters

- 1) **Abebe, G.K.**, Bijman, J., Pascucci, S., Omta, S.W.F., Tsegaye, A., 2016. Diverging quality preferences along the supply chain: implications for variety choice by potato growers in Ethiopia. In: Bijman, J., Bitzer, V. (Eds.), *Quality and innovation in food chains*. Wageningen Academic Publishers, pp. 119-140. (DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.3920/978-90-8686-825-4_6)
- 2) **Bashour, I (2017) Chapter 13, Soils and Food Security in the Arab World.** In *Water, Energy and food sustainability in the Middle East— the sustainability triangle*. Springer (20 pages).
- 3) **Youssef, S. and I. Bashour (Corr. Author) (2017) Chapter 12. Uptake of Antibiotics by Plants.** in *Antibiotics and Antibiotics Resistance Genes in Soils*. Springer (18 pages).

International Refereed Journals

- 1) **Abebe, G.K., Chalak, A.** and Abiad, M.G., 2016. The effect of governance mechanisms on food safety in the supply chain: Evidence from the Lebanese dairy sector. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*
- 2) Abou Fakhr Hammad E., M. Akkary, N. Saliba, **M. Farran**, and S. Talhouk. 2017 Bioactivity of Indigenous Medicinal Plants against the Two-Spotted Spider Mite, *Tetranychus urticae*. *J. Agric. Sci* 9(7):123-134
- 3) Al-Malki, A.L., **Barbour, E.K.**, Abulnaja, K.O., Moselhy, S.S., Kumosani, T.A. and Choudhry, H., 2016. *Balanites aegyptiaca* protection against proliferation of different cancer cell line. *African Journal of Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicines*, 13(2), pp.25-30
- 4) Al-Malki, A.L., **Barbour, E.K.**, Huwait, E.A., Moselhy, S.S., ALZahrani, A.H.S. and Kumosani, T.A., 2017. Signaling pathways regulated by Brassicaceae extract inhibit the formation of advanced glycated end products in rat brain. *African Journal of Traditional, Complementary, and Alternative Medicines*, 14(2), p.234
- 5) **Aoun, M.** (2017). Host defense mechanisms during fungal pathogenesis and how these are overcome in susceptible plants. *International Journal of Botany*, DOI: 10.3923/ijb.2017
- 6) **Bahn, R. A., & Abebe, G. K.** (2017). Analysis of food retail patterns in urban, peri-urban and rural settings: A case study from Lebanon. *Applied Geography*, 87, 28-44. (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2017.07.010>) (**Corresponding Author**)
- 7) **Barbour EK**, Murtada M, **Shaib HA**, **Abou Jawdah Y**, Abulnaja KO, Moselhy SS2, Iyer A, Harakeh S, Al-Malki AL and Kumosani T (2016) Protection by Classical and Vectored Vaccines against Endemic Velogenic Newcastle Disease in broiler Farms and Evaluation of a Developed Autogenous Vaccine against Predominant Genotype VI. *Int J Vaccines Vaccin* 4(2): 00075. DOI: 10.15406/ijvv.2017.04.00075
- 8) **Barbour, E.K.**, Mahmoud, G., **Shaib, H.**, Kumosani, T., Abualnaja, K.O., Moselhy, S.S., Harakeh, S., Abi-Said, M.R., Murtada, M., Jaroush, O. and Iyer, A., 2016. Solving the amplification complexity of prolificacy genes in local ewes and does. *Octa Journal of Biosciences*, 4(2)



- 9) Barbour, G.W., N.N. Usayran, S.K. Yau, S.K. Murr, **H.A. Shaib**, N.N. Abi Nader, G.M. Salameh, and **M.T. Farran** (corresponding author) 2016. The effect of safflower meal substitution in a lysine fortified corn-soybean meal diet on performance, egg quality, and yolk fat profile of laying hens. *J Appl. Poult. Res.* 25: 256-265
- 10) **Bashour I**, AL-Ouda A., Kassam A, Bachour R, Jouni K, Hansmann B, Estephan C (2016) An overview of Conservation Agriculture in the dry Mediterranean environments with a special focus on Syria and Lebanon. *AIMS Agriculture and Food*, 1 (1): 67-84
- 11) Casati P., Quaglini F., **Abou Jawdah Y.**, Picciau L., Cominetti A., Tedeschi R., Jawhari M, Choueiri E., **Sobh H.**, Molino Lova M., Beyrouthy M., Alma A., Bianco P.A. 2016. Wild plants could play a role in the spread of diseases associated with phytoplasmas of pigeon pea witches' broom group (16SrIX). *Journal of Plant Pathology* 98: 71-81
- 12) **Chaaban, J.**, Irani, A. and Khoury, A., 2016. The Composite Global Well-Being Index (CGWBI): A new multi-dimensional measure of human development. *Social Indicators Research*, 129(1), pp.465-487
- 13) **Chalak, A.**, Abiad, M. and Balcombe, K., 2016. Joint use of attribute importance rankings and non-attendance data in choice experiments. *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, 43(5), pp.737-760
- 14) **Chalak, A.**, Abou-Daher, C., **Chaaban, J.** and Abiad, M.G., 2016. The global economic and regulatory determinants of household food waste generation: A cross-country analysis. *Waste Management*, 48, pp.418-422
- 15) **Chalak, A.**, Al-Naghi, H., Irani, A. and Abou-Zeid, M., 2016. Commuters' behavior towards upgraded bus services in Greater Beirut: Implications for greenhouse gas emissions, social welfare and transport policy. *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 88, pp.265-285
- 16) **Chalak, A.**, Irani, A., **Chaaban, J.**, **Bashour, I.**, Seyfert, K., Smoot, K. and **Abebe, G.K.**, 2017. Farmers' Willingness to Adopt Conservation Agriculture: New Evidence from Lebanon. *Environmental Management*, pp.1-12
- 17) El-Asmar, J., **Jaafar, H.**, **Bashour, I.**, **Farran, M. T.**, & Saoud, I. P. (2017). Hydrogel Banding Improves Plant Growth, Survival, and Water Use Efficiency in Two Calcareous Soils. *CLEAN—Soil, Air, Water*. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/clen.201700251/full>
- 18) **Farran M. T**, H. A. Akilian, A. M. Hamoud, G.W. Barbour, and I. P. Saoud. 2017. Lignocellulose improves protein and amino acid digestibility and egg hatchability in broiler breeders. *J. Poult. Sci.* 54: 197-204
- 19) Ghandour, L., **Chalak, A.**, El-Aily, A., Yassin, N., Nakkash, R., Tauk, M., El Salibi, N., Heffron, M. and Afifi, R., 2016. Alcohol consumption in the Arab region: What do we know, why does it matter, and what are the policy implications for youth harm reduction?. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 28, pp.10-33

- 20) Hamati S., Abdel-Kader O., Babikian J., Jawhari M., Tzovenis I., Mouneimne Y., Economou-Amilli A. **Abou Jawdah Y.** 2016. Effect of nitrogen and phosphorus amendment on the yield of a *Chlorella* sp. strain isolated off the Lebanese coast. *International Journal of Environmental & Agriculture Research (IJOEAR)* 2 (8): 106-116
- 21) **Jaafar, H*** and King, C. 2016. Water resources within the Orontes and Litani Basins: a balance, demand and supply analysis amidst Syrian refugees crisis. IIED Working Paper. IIED, London. <http://pubs.iied.org/10174IIED>. ISBN 978-1-78431-422-4
- 22) **Jaafar, H. H.***, & Woertz, E. (2016) "Agriculture as a Funding Source of ISIS: A GIS and remote sensing analysis". *Food Policy*. Volume 64, October 2016, Pages 14–25. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2016.09.002>
- 23) **Jaafar, H. H.***, F. Al - Awar, and F. Ahmad. (2016) "Effect of Inflow Class Selection on Multi-Objective Reservoir Operation Using Stochastic Dynamic Programming." *Arabian Journal for Science and Engineering*, 41: 4911, 1-16. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13369-016-2185-4>
- 24) **Jaafar, H. H.***, Khraizat, Z., Bashour, I., & Haidar, M. (2017) "Determining water requirements of biblical hyssop using an ET-based drip irrigation system" *Agricultural Water Management*, Volume 140 Part A, January 2017, Pages 107-117. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.agwat.2016.11.008>
- 25) **Jaafar, H. J Abou Jawdah, I. Bashour, and M. T. Farran.** 2017. Hydrogel Banding improves Plant Growth, Survival, and water use efficiency in two calcareous Soils. *Clean CSAWAC* 45 (7). e201700251. doi:10.1002/clen.201700251
- 26) **Jaber, L.S.**, Diehl, K.E., **Hamadeh, S.K.** 2016. Livestock and food security in the Arab region: Policy framework. *Food Security*, 8:899-908
- 27) Khan, I., Azhar, E.I., Abbas, A.T., Kumosani, T., **Barbour, E.K.**, Raoult, D. and Yasir, M., 2016. Metagenomic analysis of antibiotic-induced changes in gut microbiota in a pregnant rat model. *Frontiers in pharmacology*, 7
- 28) Khan, I., Yasir, M., Kumosani, T., Abbas, A.T., **Barbour, E.K.**, Jiman-Fatani, A.A. and Azhar, E.I., 2016. Assessment of Bacterial Density, Diversity, and Antibiotic Resistance-Dissemination from Multidrug-Resistant *Escherichia coli* to Rat's Gut Microbiota in Presence and Absence of Antibiotic Treatment: a Useful Animal Model for Future Investigations. *International Journal of Applied Research in Veterinary Medicine*, 14(2)
- 29) King-Okumu, C, **Jaafar H** and Archer D (2016) Balancing water stress and human crises under a changing climate: Integrating international policy agendas in the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. December 2016, Issue Paper. IIED <http://pubs.iied.org/10175IIED>. London
- 30) Kumosani, T., **Barbour, E.K., Shaib, H.**, Mahmoud, G., Mazloun, R., Assi, C.A., Iyer, A., Yaghmoor, S., Al Yahiby, A., Al Turkstani, W. and Azhar, E., 2016. Susceptibility of *Salmonella* Serovars Recovered from Hospitalized Saudis to Commercial Drugs and to a Chemically and Safety-Characterized Essential Oil Blend

- 31) Moledor, S., **Chalak, A.**, Fabian, M. and Talhouk, S.N., 2016. Socioeconomic dynamics of vermicomposting systems in Lebanon. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 6(4), pp.145-168
- 32) Royer, A., Bijman, J., & **Abebe, G. K.** (2017). Cooperatives, partnerships and the challenges of quality upgrading: A case study from Ethiopia. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*, 5 (1), 48-55. (DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcom.2017.04.001>)
- 33) Said, M., Abou-Zeid, M. and **Chalak, A.**, 2017. Investigating the impact of satisfaction indicators on the efficiency of choice models: New evidence from Lebanon. *Journal of choice modelling*, 22, pp.1-12
- 34) Shehata, M.M., Chu, D.K., Gomaa, M.R., AbiSaid, M., El Shesheny, R., Kandeil, A., Bagato, O., Chan, S.M., **Barbour, E.K.**, **Shaib, H.S.** and McKenzie, P.P., 2016. Surveillance for coronaviruses in bats, Lebanon and Egypt, 2013–2015. *Emerging infectious diseases*, 22(1), p.148
- 35) Sisco, Laura, Samer Mounzer, Nadim Farajallah, **Isam Bashour**, Patric Saud (2017). Roof top gardens as a means to use recycled water and A/C condensate and reduce temperature variation in buildings. *Building and Environment* Vol. 117:127-134

Abstracts and Conference Proceedings

- Diehl, K., Lentzsch, P., Chedid, M., Kimengsi, J.N., Mahgoub, E., **Hamadeh, S.K.** 2016. Strategies for risk management in farm systems with limited production capacities. Presented at the EcoSummit 2016, Ecological Sustainability: Engineering Change, in Montpellier, France, **Chalak, A.**, Ghandour, L., Yassin, N., Nakkash, R., Anouti, S. & Afifi, R. (2016). *Modeling youths' demand and ethanol intake responsiveness to alcohol taxes: The case of Lebanon*. Oral presentation. Lebanese Epidemiological Association (LEA) 21st Annual Conference: Epidemiology in Health Policy and Practices, Beirut, Lebanon, December 2-3, 2016
- Ryley, T., Zanni, A. M. & **Chalak, A.** (2016). *Modal choice for long distance travel: coping with extreme weather uncertainty as part of a social network*. Oral presentation. Annual International Conference 2016, Royal Geographical Society, London, UK, August 30 – September 2
- Quaglino F., Abou Jawdah Y., Molino Lova M., Al Achi R., Choueiri E., Tedeschi R., Casati P., Alma A., & Bianco 2016 P.A. 2016. *Could 16SrIX phytoplasmas associated with almond witches'-broom disease represent an actual risk for Euro-Mediterranean countries?* Proceedings, 10th Annual Meeting of the International Pest Risk Research Group, August 23-26, 2016. Parma, Italy. page 20
- Abou Jawdah Y., Jawhari M., Tawidian P., Choueiri E., Quaglino F., Bianco P A. Alma A., Molino-Lova M. 2016. An invasive lethal phytoplasma disease threatening stone fruit production: detection, epidemiology and management. Book of Abstracts, 2016 annual meeting, American Phytopathological Society, Tampa, Florida, USA. *Phytopathology* 106:S4.1. page 120. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PHYTO-106-12-S4.1>

- **Prattis S.,** Shaib H., Makki B.E., Fawwaz M., Kassem S., Morkos S., Tanios J., Tarner M. and Majed H. Combined Inapparent Zoonotic Diseases in an Awassi Ewe: Implications for Health and Biosecurity Management American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. Conference, October 2016, Charlotte, NC, USA
- Chedid, M., Tourrand, J-F., Bousquet, F., Hamadeh, S. 2016. Resilience indicators of small-ruminants systems – case study from semi-arid Lebanon. EcoSummit 2016, Ecological Sustainability: Engineering Change, August 29- September 1, 2016
- **Jaafar, H.** (2017). *GIS-based technologies to assess the impact of conflict on agricultural production and agricultural communities*. Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA), Sciences, Paris, France. March 1 - March 4th, 2017
- **Jaafar, H.** (2016). *Water resources and Land Use Dynamics within the Upper Orontes and Upper Litani Basins*. Dryland resilience-building under a difficult and changing climate - The Beqaa Valley, Lebanon. Stakeholder Reflection Workshop, IIED. October 26, 2016, AREC
- **Jaafar, H.** (2016). *Water resources and Landuse Dynamics within the Upper Orontes and Upper Litani Basins - Water Balance, Demand and Supply Analysis*. Dryland resilience-building under a difficult and changing climate - The Beqaa Valley, Lebanon, Stakeholder Reflection Workshop, IIED. October 26, 2016, AREC

Others

- 1) **Chaaban, J.** (2016, October). I've Got the Power: Mapping Connections between Lebanon's Banking Sector and the Ruling Class. Economic Research Forum Working Papers (No. 1059)
- 2) **Abou Jawdah, Y.** 2016. Pamphlet on natural enemies used in vegetable and ornamental crops in Lebanon (English and Arabic versions) 2016
- 3) Using Treated Sewage Water for Irrigation in Lebanon – 2016 الكتاب السنوي لمؤسسة عبد العال للتنمية المستدامة
- 4) Woertz, E. & **Jaafar Hadi.** 2016. Its not just funded by oil and looting: how the Islamic state uses agriculture, Washington Post, September 27. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/09/27/its-not-just-funded-by-oil-and-looting-how-the-islamic-state-uses-agriculture/>
- 5) King, C, **Jaafar, H.,** and Archer, D. 2016. Balancing water stress and human crises in the Bekaa Valley. IIED Reflect and Act publication. Project: Dryland resilience building under a difficult and changing climate — the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. <http://pubs.iied.org/17383IIED/>
- 6) **Jaafar, H** and King, C. 2016. Water resources within the Orontes and Litani Basins: a balance, demand and supply analysis amidst Syrian refugees crisis. IIED Working Paper. IIED, London. <http://pubs.iied.org/10174IIED>. ISBN 978-1-78431-422-4

In the News

- 7) Jaafar, H. <https://www.newsdeeply.com/syria/community/2016/10/20/green-gold-how-isis-is-making-as-much-money-from-wheat-as-from-oil>
- 8) Jaafar, H. <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/food-matters/cash-crops-how-the-islamic-state-profits-from-agriculture/>
- 9) Jaafar, H. <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/views/news/middle-east/2016/09/16/DNP-Agriculture-as-the-new-oil-for-ISIS.html>

Services

Dr. Abebe

AUB

- Member, FAFS Graduate Studies Committee

Dr. Abou Jawdah

AUB

- Acting Chairman of AGRI (Spring-Summer, 2017)
- Member, undergraduate curriculum committee
- Member, undergraduate admissions committee
- FAFS representative, University Publications committee

Others

- Member, Pesticide Legislation committee, Ministry of Agriculture
- Member, Pesticide Scientific Committee, Ministry of Agriculture
- Member, American Phytopathological Society APS MN. USA
- Member, Arab Society for Plant Protection, Beirut, Lebanon
- Member, international working group on Legume and Vegetable Viruses (IWGLVV)

Dr. Aoun

Others

- Organic agriculture committee -MoA
- Floriculture committee-MoA

Dr. Bashour

AUB

- Member, FAFS Advisory committee
- Member, FAFS Admissions committee
- Coordinator, Graduate student program

- Represents FAFS in Graduate open house committee
- Represents FAFS at Univ. United Admission committee
- Represents FAFS at the Graduate student committee

Others

- Follow up on conservation agriculture activities in Lebanon
- Member of the Fertilizer committee at the Ministry of agriculture and Water. Lebanon

Dr. Chaaban

AUB

- Member, AUB Waste Management Task Force Member
- FAFS Senate representative
- FAFS representative, University Student Faculty Committee

Others

- Member, Reference Group (RG) for the concept note for the new Danish Arab Partnership Programme (DAPP) 2017-2021, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- President, AUB Faculty United
- Board Member, Lebanese Economic Association
- Advisory Board Member, Co-Opinion <http://www.co-opinion.org/assoc-prof-jad-chaaban-joins-our-advisory-board/>

Dr. Chalakh

AUB

- Search Committee for the position of Administrative Assistant, Agriculture Department
- Coordinator, Agricultural Economics Working Group
- Faculty Undergraduate Coordinator, Agribusiness Program
- Ad Hoc Interdepartmental Committee to oversee the M.Sc. in Rural and Community Development (RCODE)
- Chairperson, FAFS Student Affairs Committee
- Undergraduate Curriculum & Undergraduate Student Academic Affairs Committee
- University Committee on Students Affairs
- University Senate committee
- Senate Committee for Faculty Affairs (SCFA)
- Curriculum Committee for the AUB-EARTH Global Master's Program (GMP) in Health and Sustainable Development
- AUB-FAFS, Economy and Marketing Committee, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon

Others

- Reviewer, international peer reviewed journals
- Judge and Advisor, Agribusiness section of the Innovative Projects Awards 2016

*Dr. Farran***AUB**

- Coordinator, undergraduate studies at FAFS.
- FAFS Representative, Poultry Committee, Ministry of Agriculture
- FAFS Representative, National Feedstuffs Committee, Ministry of Agriculture
- Member, FAFS Student Affairs Committee,
- Member, Disciplinary Committee
- Member, OSB extended Advisory Committee

Others

- Member, Board of Administration, Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research
- Member, Scientific Committee, 5th Mediterranean World Poultry Science Association Summit
- Member, Lebanese Association for Advancement of Sciences
- Advisor, Parliamentary Committee for Agriculture and Tourism, Republic of Lebanon
- Reviewer, national research proposals and refereed journals
- Helping several animal farmers and crop growers individually or through NGOs and UN organizations in Lebanon

*Dr. Haidar***AUB**

- Director, AREC
- Undergraduate Agriculture Coordinator, AREC
- Member, Administrative Committee
- Member, FAFS Graduate Committee

Others

- Chairman, National Committee for Conservation Agriculture in Lebanon, Ministry of Agriculture
- Board member, Lebanese Autism Society
- Member, National Organic Agriculture committee, Ministry of Agriculture
- Meeting Farmers in Beqaa Plain

*Dr. Hamadeh***AUB**

- Acting Chair, Agriculture Department (Fall 2016-17)
- Member, inter-faculty food security program
- Member, Advisory Committee
- Chairman, RCODE committee
- Director, Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU)
- Member, AUB Task Force for DVM development
- Member, Inter-Faculty Food Security Committee

Others

- Executive Board, RUAF
- Coordinator, National Training Unit under the NEMTA project, supported by IFAD
- MENA representative, Advisory Board, International Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition, jointly organized by FAO and WHO, Rome, December 1-2, 2016

*Dr. Jaafar***AUB**

- Graduate Studies Committee
- Chair, Research Committee
- University Board of Graduate Studies
- Representative, Steering Committee

Others

- Committee on Climate Change and Combatting Desertification, Ministry of Agriculture
- Member, Scientific Committee of Ibrahim Abdel-Al foundation

Participation in Workshops, Meetings and Conferences

Dr. Abebe

- Participated, First Consultation Meeting, component I of the food and water security project, Cairo, Egypt. organized by UN-ESCWA in cooperation with the FAO, May 29-30, 2016
- Presented, Expert Group Meeting on the Scope and Setting up of an Arab – Good Agricultural Practices (Arab – GAP) Framework Cairo, Egypt, organized by UN-ESCWA in cooperation with the FAO, May 31-June 1, 2016

Dr. Abou Jawdah

- Invited participant, European Expert meeting organized by the Mediterranean and European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), December 6-9, 2016 Paris, France.

Dr. Bashour

- Several local and regional workshops on Conservation Agriculture

Dr. Chaaban

- Invited presenter, the Arab Human Development Report, Brown University and Harvard University, January 29- February 3, 2017
- Participant, MEDRESET Academic Workshop and Policy Conference, Barcelona, April 19-21, 2017

Dr. Chalak

- Presenter, Lebanese Epidemiological Association (LEA) 21st Annual Conference: Epidemiology in Health Policy and Practices, December 2-3, 2016
- Participant, MEDRESET Academic Workshop and Policy Conference, Barcelona, April 19-21, 2017

Dr. Jaafar

- Invited speaker, GIS studies: methodological approaches to detect effect of conflict on Agriculture (book chapter), March 1-3, 2017, Paris.
- Workshop organizer, Water Resources and Land use Dynamics within the Orontes and the Litani Basin, in cooperation with The International Institute for Environment and Development, AREC

Dr. Farran

- Keynote speaker, recent research on selected Middle East feedstuffs for poultry. 5th Mediterranean Poultry Summit. October 20 – 25, 2016. (cruise navigating through Italy, Spain and France)
- Keynote speaker, *Nutritional manipulations and management adjustments for poultry grown in hot climates*, ELANCO Nutrition Symposium, Nov 2-3, 2016, Tunis
- Keynote speaker, Basics of Animal Nutrition 1: Beef Fattening, Beef Growers in Lebanon workshop: Technical Notes for Better Performance in Feedlots. Organized by Libanvet and MSD, March 6, 2017. Rotana-Rawsheh, Beirut, Lebanon
- Keynote speaker, Amino acids in feed formulation for poultry: actual vs. tabulated and total vs. digestible values. Elanco Intestinal Integrity and Best Feed Mill Practices symposium. Elanco, April 17-19, 2017. Le Royal, Dbayeh, Lebanon
- Presentation, Hemicellulose use in breeders, a recent study. The Poultry Satellite Symposium, May 8-9, 2017. Salou, Spain. The title of his presentation was: Hemicell use on breeders: a recent study. Guest speaker at the 2017 Poultry Satellite symposium organized by Elanco on May 8-9, 2017. in Salou, Spain
- Keynote speaker, Intestinal Integrity and Best Feed Mill Practices symposium, Elanco, April 17-19, 2017. Le Royal, Dbayeh, Lebanon

- Presentation, Poultry Nutrition 2020. Guest speaker at a symposium organized by Elanco on July 26, 2017, at Lancaster Hotel, Hazmiyeh, Lebanon and including around 40 large poultry growers from Pakistan
- Invited speaker, Poultry production: impediments and solutions. Municipality of Aytaroun, around 50 poultry growers from the South of Lebanon

Dr. Haidar

- Participant, Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America, Arizona, February 6-10, 2017

Dr. Hamadeh

- Long Term Faculty Development leave, July 14-August 16, 2017. Targeted to participate in collaborative research and publications with colleagues at the University of Montreal, including a presentation on August 14, 2017, and to explore collaboration options with the University of McGill
- MENA representative, Advisory Board, International Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition, FAO and WHO, Rome, December 1-2, 2016
- Invited to TRANSNUT- University of Montreal. Presented and developed a joint publication and research collaboration plan, Montreal, Canada, July 14-August 18, 2017
- Invited to visit ZALF to develop a joint proposal for EU funding. Berlin, May 24-26 23, 2017
- Invited to visit IFAD to discuss collaboration between KARIANET and the ESDU and the near East program, Rome, May 22-23, 2017
- Invited to visit FAO to discuss collaboration with KARIANET and the ESDU, Rome, May 22-23, 2017

Dr. Prattis

- Junior Faculty Paid Research Leave, Fall 2016, Copenhagen Denmark and Raleigh, North Carolina August-December, 2016

Consultancies

Dr. Bashour: Conducted consultancies in several Arab and African countries

Strategic Challenges

- move forward in preparation for ABET accreditation
- complete recruitment effort, in accordance with the recruitment strategy.
- complete renovation of facilities, in accordance with the developed floor plan for Wing B
- develop strategic partnerships with donors, alumni and private sector to secure scholarships for Agriculture students

Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (LDEM)

Prepared by: Dr. Rami Zurayk, Professor and Chairperson and Ms. Nadine Modad, LDEM Administrative Officer



Highlights

The department's vision is to be a leading academic institution, offering graduate and undergraduate degrees in Landscape Architecture and related fields in the Arab World; to graduate socially responsible landscape architects who are responsive to place, culture, and the natural and ecological needs of the region.

LDEM Department has eight full-time faculty members and offers two programs: Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) with a Diploma of Ingenieur Agricole, and Masters of Sciences in Ecosystem Management (ECOM), part of the Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program (IGESP). In 2016-2017, 87 BLA undergraduate students and 7 MSc ECOM students were registered; LDEM graduated 21 BLA students and 1 MSc student.

Department academic activities

Achievements during AY 2016-2017:

- **Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program:** The department, through M. G. Trovato (Chair of committee) revised and is finalizing the draft document for an MLA proposal to be submitted to the Faculty's Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) during AY 2017-2018
- **Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) assessment:** the master list of the PLO/CLO for the program was reviewed in December 2015, and identified short-comings in the program that led to program revisions, expected to be finalized during AY 2017-2018. Direct and indirect assessment of programs and course learning outcomes were conducted in December 2016 - January 2017, and during April - May 2017. These assessments were led by R. Zurayk and assisted by departmental research assistant S. Youssef
- **Curriculum adjustments:** LDEM was engaged in a process of curricular adjustment following the program review and assessment results. On April 13, 2016, BLA curriculum adjustments were voted on by LDEM and approved by the FAFS Academic Curriculum Committee (ACC). Changes became effective Fall 2016 for new incoming students at that time. The changes were mostly organizational and do not include any radical modifications
- **Preparation for BLA program review in AY 2017-2018, Self Study report:** LDEM started preparations for an external program review of BLA in Spring 2017 upon graduation of the first cohort of the program. The review is necessary to obtain final approval and registration at NYSED. A copy of the external review and the University's response to the review will be submitted to NYSED once completed. This effort is led by Y. Abunnasr, assisted by consultant B. Ibrahim and significant contributions by all LDEM members and administrative staff. The program reviewers' visit to the department is expected in Spring 2018
- **LDEM Student/Faculty Meeting:** LDEM held (October 13, 2016) its first student/faculty meeting (led by R. Zurayk and N. Al-Akl) for AY 2016-2017. The latest updates to the facility and the curriculum were discussed and an opportunity provided for students and faculty to discuss issues of interest

- Promotion and Reappointment Criteria for LDEM faculty:** The department's final proposal (approved by LDEM, November 25, 2016) regarding *Promotion, Tenure and Reappointment Criteria and Procedures* was sent to the FAFS Dean for review in January 2017. The document is the outcome of a long, painstaking process in response to various issues around the evaluation of research and teaching in design specialties such as landscape architecture. These issues were highlighted in the external program review. Every member of LDEM played a crucial role in developing the document, under the leadership of Dr. Maya Nabhani, Director of Continuous Academic Improvement at FAFS. Seven drafts were produced; criteria are detailed and result from a benchmarking process to which seven universities from USA, Canada and Australia were compared. The proposal was approved by the FAFS Advisory Committee on January 11, 2017. The document was presented, in a faculty meeting, for review and approval on January 23, 2017, and comments and feedback were received. Since then, a FAFS faculty committee for tenure and promotion is following up on behalf of all FAFS departments
- Nehme Moujaess Landscape Architecture Award:** FAFS faculty members and staff gathered (March 24, 2017) to honor and thank alumnus Nehme Moujaess for his generous pledge to establish the *Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture* (\$ 25,000 US). FAFS Dean Hwalla expressed her gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Moujaess for his support of the faculty and LDEM, noting that this was the first time that LDEM students have received such an opportunity. LDEM chairperson R. Zurayk also recognized Mr. Moujaess' generosity and support, noting that Mr. Moujaess received an MS in Soils and Mechanization (1995) and a BS in Agriculture (1992). He has provided LDEM students a unique opportunity for a paid internship at Terraverde Landscaping Company in Dubai, UAE, which he co-owns. The *Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture* will be granted annually, in a formal ceremony to the most deserving senior Landscape Architecture students, as selected by the Department and based on their final year project, to be aligned with FAFS vision and mission. Awardees may also be granted a "first look" placement and recruitment consideration at Terraverde. The department, with approval of Mr. Moujaess, determined the criteria for the selection of the best project effective May 2017. The jury of committee members included: R. Zurayk (representing N. Moujaess, a voting member), Y. Abunnasr (representing LDEM and a voting member), Abdel Halim Jabr (representing the landscape profession and a voting member), and N. Al-Akl (final year project instructor and FYP coordinator, a non-voting member). The jury assisted in clarifying any matters pertaining to the shortlisted projects
- Lara Karen Baitarian, first LDEM student to receive the Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture, established in 2017.** Final year LDEM student, Ms. Lara Karen Baitarian, was selected as the most deserving senior Landscape Architecture student based on her final year project, aligned with FAFS vision and mission. Ms. Baitarian was also granted the "first look" placement and recruitment consideration at Terraverde, Dubai. The department, with the approval of Mr. Moujaess, set the criteria for selection of the best project of 2017. Four candidates were shortlisted and presented with certificates of recognition; these

were (alphabetical order) Mariam Bazzi, Rani Chamseddine, Loubna Saksouk Dit Sasso and Jawad Souaid. Mr. Moujaess and Dean Hwalla (FAFS) presented the Nehme Moujaess Student Award in Landscape Architecture to Ms. Baitarian during the annual FAFS Graduate Reception (May 22, 2017) at Le Bristol Hotel. FAFS used the occasion to celebrate the achievements of all its graduating students and awardees

New and Visiting Faculty

- **Renewal of Chairperson:** R. Zurayk was appointed as Chair of the Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (LDEM) for an additional three-year term beginning January 27, 2017
- **Visiting Scholar:** The Food Security Program at FAFS and LDEM invited Professor John Anthony (Tony) Allan as URB visiting scholar for the term fall 2016. Professor Allan is a leading water expert, globally. Allan heads the London Water Research Group at King's College London (KCL) and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London. On November 23, 2016, Professor Allan spoke to FAFS about food-water security in the Middle East, addressing more than 60 external guests, students, faculty, staff, and experts in related fields. Professor Allan shed light on water and food security challenges in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and analyzed the current and future status and role of water in the region. Sharing his global perspective, Professor Allan highlighted the role of the agri-food sector in achieving water security in the 21st century
- **New Faculty:** Ms. Beata Dreksler joined the department as a visiting assistant professor of landscape architecture (focus: landscape design and site construction) effective August 2016 for a the period August 2016 to August 2018. Dr. Dreksler successfully defended her PhD dissertation in July 2017. On August 28, 2017, LDEM voted (4:0:0) to extend the appointment of visiting assistant professor Beata Dreksler for an additional year
- **Faculty Promotions:** Y. Abunnasr submitted his file for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor to the FAFS Dean's office in January 2017. LDEM's recommendation and vote on his promotion file was submitted to the Dean's Office on February 27, 2017. In June 2017 the BOT approved the promotion of Dr. Yaser Abunnasr to the rank of Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture

Faculty activities

- **Faculty on Research Leave:** M. Madani was granted a junior research leave during the Spring term 2017, and became a visiting scholar at the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) and the Center for Technology and Aging (CTA) at UC Berkeley, USA. His research agenda included enhancing research productivity, learning new, cutting edge science in relevant fields, and developing scholarly collaboration between AUB and UC-Berkeley. Madani's research activities include cutting edge landscape design interventions for older adults in prevention of outdoor falls; which will underpin interdisciplinary

aging and urban landscape studies in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), contextualizing neighborhood accessibility measures and landscape design solutions for the prevention of falls in older adults

- **Long Term Faculty Development Grant:** Y. Abunnasr received a long term faculty development grant to conduct research and develop sections of the book *Planning for Climate Change: A Reader in Green Infrastructure for Resilient Cities*. Abunnasr was hosted by University of Massachusetts - Amherst, USA between June 10 and July 2, 2017. The deadline to submit the book with Routledge was August 1, 2017: three weeks of collaborative work with his co-authors provided the opportunity of close coordination for finalizing sections of the book; they are continuing the work remotely. The book extends Abunnasr's research focus and supports his teaching (LDEM 302) to provide a synthesis of the literature to date. Completing the work was very significant: it will solidify his expertise and visibility in the field and through its application will document his teaching and service activities
- **Short-Term Faculty Development Grants awarded:**
 - **N. Al-Akl** was awarded a short-term faculty development grant to attend and actively participate in the International Conference *Landscape Futures – UNISCAPE 2017*. Dr. Al-Akl presented her abstract, *The Potential of Urban Cemeteries in Sustainable Landscape and Urban Planning: The Case of Beirut*. The conference was held at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark (June 19-21, 2017)
 - **S. Talhouk** was awarded a short-term faculty development grant to attend the '6th Global Botanic Garden Congress' and present her accepted abstract entitled 'Ancillary Gardens, Local Botanic Gardens for Education and Outreach' under the Theme 'The future role of Botanic Gardens in the Middle East and SW Asia'. The Conference was held at the Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva, Switzerland from June 26 to June 30, 2017



Public Lectures and Seminars

Presenter	Affiliation	Lecture/Seminar Title	Date and location
Y. Abunnasr	Assoc. Prof. LDEM	Green Infrastructure: A landscape Approach to Urban Revitalization	Feb 6, 2017, URDS 601 Planning and design Workshop, FEA
Y. Abunnasr	Assoc. Professor LDEM	FAFS ECO-UNIT: An opportunity for hands-on learning	Jan 26, 2017, LDEM 248 Site Engineering II: Construction Material
Y. Abunnasr	Assoc. Professor LDEM	Landscape Architecture	Oct 15, 2016, AGSC 201, Orientation to Agriculture and Food Systems, FAFS
Y. Abunnasr	Assoc. Professor LDEM	Reading the Landscape: the Ecological Dimension	Sept 28, 2016, ARCH 304 Architecture Design IV - Environmentally Responsive Architecture, FEA
N.Al-Akl	Assist. Prof. LDEM	A Sustainable Vision for the Bikfaya Municipal Garden; part of a larger framework for the town's landscape development	April 30, 2017 Invited speaker, yearly municipal event at Nahr El Kalb, Lebanon
M. Madani	Assist. Prof. LDEM	Invisible Design Thinking	Oct 18, 2016 Workshop for Seniors, AUB
M. G. Trovato	Assist. Prof. LDEM	Beirut, The Lebanese Coastal Zone	2017, Invited speaker at workshop, ALBA University
M. G. Trovato	Assist. Prof. LDEM	Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Tools	2017, Invited speaker, Forest & Landscape Restoration Mechanism Activities, FAO, Lebanese MoA
M. G. Trovato	Assist. Prof. LDEM	The Homat Al Hima Park and Butterfly Garden	2017, Invited speaker, Homat Al Hima – The Way of Life, for Sustainable Development, West Bekaa, Lebanon
R. Zurayk	Professor & Chair, LDEM	Food Security in Conflicts and Protracted Crises'	Sept 27, 2016, Invited speaker, Conference on Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of Agenda 2030, Hockenheim University, Germany
Agence Taktyk*	(organized by M.G. Trovato)	MARCH ATLAS	March 31, 2017 (FAFS)
Tammy Kaser	Global Education Liaison, College of Architecture & Environ. Design (CAED), Kent State University, USA	Kent State University Education Abroad Programs.	March 23, 2017 (FAFS) Presentation to LDEM students about Postgraduate and Education Abroad programs at CAED, USA

* A transnational multidisciplinary practice that engages in city building through practice, research, design studios, editing, and art installations. Agence Taktyk responds to heterogeneous and complex challenges at the intersection of landscape, infrastructure and the city, the practice acts as a mediator of complex transformation processes.

Involvement in interdisciplinary and interfaculty activities

Active involvement in university wide centers, programs, and activities by faculty

- **Lebanese Landscape Association (LELA):** two full time LDEM faculty members (N. Al-Akl and M. Trovato) continue to be part of LELA activities lead by Associate Faculty J. Makhzoumi
- **Initiative for Green Roof Research Group:** S. Talhouk continues to lead the initiative to launch a research group focused on urban and sustainable greening, to turn AUB into a showcase in this field. M. Fabian is also involved in this research
- **Initiative for AUB Botanic Garden:** the department and S. Talhouk continue to lead this university wide initiative. Launched in May 2016 as part of AUB's 150th anniversary celebrations, the committee includes 25 additional members from multiple faculties and units at AUB and AUB friends
- **Presidential tree planting:** AUB botanics, led by S. Talhouk and AUB's Neighborhood Initiative, organized a presidential tree planting event on March 27, 2017. President Fadlo Khuri and COO Ramin Sedehi marked AUB 150th anniversary and reaffirmed the university's responsibility as a custodian of its natural environment by planting a large oak tree next to Assembly Hall. The ceremony was attended by VP for Advancement Dr. Imad Baalbaki, senior administrators, faculty members, staff, and students. First grade students from six nearby schools joined President Khuri, each planting a cedar seed in a pot to take home. In an unique, interactive learning experience, the students toured the campus and learned about its flora. The schools participating were International College, American Community School, Saint Mary's Orthodox College, College Protestant Francais, the National Protestant College, and Jaber Ahmad El Sabbah public school. Chaired by S. Talhouk, AUBotanic assumes an advisory role to the President and supervisory and planning roles in the development and implementation of projects aligned with the campus master plan directives and in coordination with the COO. Talhouk explained that a botanical garden provides both leisure and learning. Each plant on campus has been identified and AUBotanic expects to open the campus as a space in which people can come to enjoy the greenery
- **AUB Botanical Garden Reception:** S. Talhouk organized a reception at the AUB botanical garden (May 18, 2017) under the Banyan tree next to AUB's Observatory to experience the essence of nature and learn how the AUB campus is becoming a botanical garden. The event ended with a walk through AUB's first woodland trail

Department outreach activities and community involvement

- **Parking Day:** AUB Landscape Architecture Society (coordinator: N. Al-Akl) organized the yearly event on September 16, 2016 in Hamra, Main Street. PARK(ing) Day is an annual open-source, global event where citizens, artists and activists collaborate to temporarily transform metered parking spaces into “PARK(ing)” spaces: temporary public spaces and with the goal of calling attention to the need for more open spaces in urban areas. The event attempts to generate critical debate around how public space is created and allocated, and to improve the quality of urban human habitats
- **Annual Plant Sale:** S. Talhouk, M. Fabian and LDEM I students organized, as part of an experiential learning session in the introductory horticulture course (LDEM 211), the department’s annual plant sale in front of AUB’s West Hall on April 7, 2017. Sales generated will be added to the department’s revolving fund to sustain experiential learning activities
- **Gardening Allotment for faculty:** AUB community had the opportunity to produce their own vegetables on campus, in allotments prepared for them in the greenhouse area, during the Fall term 2016
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AUB and Sin El Fil Municipality:** in March 2016, an MOU was drafted between AUB and Sin El Fil municipality with the common understanding and broad objective of promoting a mutually beneficial collaboration in matters of mutual interest related to urban landscape and implementation of public spaces. The MOU was finalized during March 2017, signed by the FAFS Dean and AUB Provost, and sent to the Sin El Fil municipality for signature. The initiative, led by M.G. Trovato, is now in effect
- **LDEM Students Win First Prize in the Arts and Humanities Category at IBDA 2017:** On April 27, 2017, LDEM students Ghida Sbeity, Hussein Ghazi, and Farah Bou Ghanem, supervised by LDEM Faculty S. Talhouk, won 1st place in the Arts and Humanities category of the annual international biodiversity Day at IBDA event, marking the 4th consecutive year that LDEM students have taken first place in the category. The students received the Innovative Design Award for implementing creative solutions for the visually impaired. The event, organized by the Nature Conservation Center (NCC) at AUB, offers students the opportunity to participate in an academic poster forum and to be evaluated by experts in the field. This year, the NCC commemorated biological diversity in the theme “Sustainable Solutions to Our Environmental Problems”
- **AUB’s Off Campus Smoking Areas Design Competition:** The Tobacco-Free Task Force, in collaboration with the AUB Neighborhood Initiative, launched a student competition in which 15 groups registered to participate in the Off Campus Smoking Areas Design Competition. A total of 37 students, in majors including architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, graphic design, and nutrition competed. Students developed sustainable eco-design solutions for real life problems, including cigarette recycling points off campus that are intended to

help keep the sidewalks clean and the environment green as AUB transforms into Tobacco-free AUB in 2018. Target users include the AUB community (students, faculty, staff, visitors, neighbors, and the general public). A prize of \$500 was awarded to each of three winning projects on September 15, 2017. M. Trovato was among the jury members of the design competition; Marwa Darazi, LDEM III, won first prize. The group winners for second and third place included students from LDEM II

- **Garden show 2017:** LDEM students designed and implemented the departmental stand at the 14th annual Beirut garden show spring festival, *Colors in the Garden*. Under the supervision and coordination of LDEM faculty members M. Fabian and B. Dreksler, the annual event took place May 23-27, 2017 at the Beirut Hippodrome. The department's stand was very popular with both adults and children, and was the most popular stand among the three participating universities
- **School visits to the department:** as part of their outreach activities, a campus tree tour was organized by M. Fabian (greenhouse supervisor) for around 40 school students from the International College (IC) and their accompanying administrative staff. 160 students visited the greenhouse area to learn about plants and planting practices. In addition, M. Fabian and Louis Wegman (Khaldeh) were invited to ACS in April 2017, offering sessions on urban agriculture and green roofs, respectively
- **Heritage Watch Day - Dalieh of Raouche and Heneine Palace:** A group of selected projects developed by LDEM students in the Cultural Landscape Design studio course (LDEM 204), were exhibited in the Glass Hall of the Ministry of Tourism, as part of the Heritage Watch Day activities
- **LDEM holiday potluck at Reynolds Hall:** LDEM department invited its full- and part-time faculty and staff and the FAFS Dean's office staff to a potluck reception on December 21, 2016 in celebration of the holiday season



Space and Facilities

- **LDEM students' relocation to Reynolds Hall:** LDEM completed the relocation of students to the Building in September 2016 under the supervision of Y. Abunnasr and allowing it to meet ASLA (American Society of Landscape Architects) accreditation requirements and in compliance with NYSED registration
- **FAFS Dean holds Coffee break at Reynolds Hall:** Dean N. Hwalla hosted a special coffee break for FAFS faculty and staff on September 23, 2016, at Reynolds Hall. The event welcomed new FAFS faculty members Dr. Martin Keulertz, visiting professor at Food Security and Ms. Beata Dreksler, Visiting Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, and celebrated the materialization of space allocations for LDEM, as requested by NYSED, and the relocation of the RCODE, FSP and AGBU programs to Reynolds
- **LDEM student printing facilities improvement:** During Fall 2016, a proposal to advance student printing facilities and options at the department was prepared and presented by N. Al-Akl and N. Modad. The proposal was based on student requests. After investigation, it was determined to install a paid quota, network, color, multi-functional printer at Reynolds LDEM Student Lounge. The FAFS Dean's office purchased the printer and LDeM student plotter, previously located at AREC, was placed, temporarily, in the fourth year studio (its used is restricted to LDEM III and LDEM IV to avoid disturbance to final year students and studio classes). LDEM received approval from the Provost and FPDU to use part of an outdoor room at Reynolds, currently undergoing renovation into an outdoor model room for students. Once ready, the plotter and other student equipment will be relocated there
- **Capital budget equipment:** In July 2017, the department received approval for AUB funding in the amount of 43,000USD to purchase a laser cutting and engraving machine for model making. Delivery is expected in Fall 2017, for installation in the newly acquired and renovated outdoor model room at Reynolds Hall
- **Capital budget renovations:** In July 2016, the department requested and received approval that the Dean's office reallocate the previously approved capital budget for rehabilitating part of the greenhouse to the education fund of LDEM. The reason for this request was that the bid prices exceeded the LDEM allocated budget. The reallocation to the educational fund meets two primary objectives: 1) rehabilitation of part of the greenhouse area per the original scope of work, and 2) provide a student hands-on educational experience directly connected to their course work. The end date of the project was extended by the comptroller's office to end of June 2018. Y. Abunnasr completed the project design in 2015 and the first phase went to bid via FPDU with prices beyond the allocated budget. The project was rebid via the Physical Plant, and prices offered were more reasonable: the winning bid totaled of \$47,000 including VAT. The available budget, secured from the original project capital budget and LDEM maintenance budget, was \$42,920. The Chair requested FAFS Dean Hwalla to cover the remaining \$4,100 necessary for project implementation. Current Acting Dean A. Olabi approved the request and provided the amount to allow project implementation

Student Activities

Organized by LDEM students through classes or the Landscape Architecture Student Society (advisor N. Al-Akl):

- **Student community & visibility events:** students participated in community events including the Dahlieh preservation campaign launch and exhibition
- **Workshops:** Rami Al Outa, Platform Configuration Engineer at ESRI and former LDEM student, offered a GIS workshop on October 2, 2016. The workshop introduced new methods to create accurate maps of student field sites using cellular phones. It introduced techniques for the collection of 'non-physical data' and taught how to search for readily available online info relating to landscape layers of Lebanon (organized by N. Al-Akl)
- **Christmas and Valentines' day event:** Social activities highlighting the presence of the Landscape Architecture Student Society within the larger AUB student community aimed at enhancing visibility at AUB included, as part of its annual Christmas events, a gingerbread cookie sale, November 30 to December 2, 2016. The society also organized flower and cookie sales for Valentines' day
- **First year students welcoming event:** The idea of an acquaintance party was re-introduced in an effort encourage first year students to become involved in department life and student interact with and receive support from students across the different years

Faculty, Students and Alumni Recognition

- **LDEM Students and Faculty Receive Honorable Mention:** Two LDEM alumni, Joude Mabsout and Rim Hazimeh, LDEM faculty M. G. Trovato, and part-time faculty B. El-Ariss received a special honorable mention at the *International Prize of University Projects in Schools of Architecture and Landscape* for their 3rd year project (LDEM 228) 'Sarafand Informal Settlement Landscape project', aimed to facilitate community, children, and youth interaction through the design of open spaces. At a second activity, the International Operative Landscape Workshop 'E-Scape: Refugee settlement,' (May 2015) included the Al Tyliani Informal Settlement Landscape project, in which 15 students and 10 international professors spent eight days creating public spaces. LDEM received a special mention for dealing with current conflicts and seeking convenient solutions. The International Exhibition of University Projects in Schools of Architecture and Landscape is part of the International Biennial of Landscape Barcelona, Spain, which has always expressed its desire to intently study and discuss landscape interventions. The jury made several selection based on project originality, methodological rigor, and potential work. On September 28, 2016, the jury met at the School of Architecture of Barcelona and discussed the 12 finalist projects. LDEM, led by M. G. Trovato, presented the results of the two projects conducted during the 2014-2015 academic year, under the topic *Landscape in Emergency*
- **LDEM Alumnus and Faculty Receive 3rd place in CIU Habitat International Competition (sponsored by HABITAT III):** Team co-leaders Dr. Yaser Abunnasr, Dr.

Mona Fawaz and Habib Debs (Practicing Architect/Urban Designer, URBI) responded to the competition theme *Challenges of Marginal Habitat in the Contemporary Southern Globe: Resilient Communities* with their project titled 'Flood Pulse: From Threat to Opportunity: Capitalizing on Water Flows in Guasmo Sur,' winning 3rd third place. Their project responded to the need to resettle informal settlements dwellers in the city of Guasmo Sur (Ecuador), where vulnerable communities, living in mangrove swamps experiences regular flooding. AUB student team members included MUPP/MUD students Israa Darwish and Diala Makki, LDEM alumna Nour Farhat, and fifth year architecture student Louai Kaakani

- **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) 50th Anniversary Time Capsule Competition - Top 5 Honorary distinction:** Thea Maroun (2nd year student, studio LDEM 246), received the UNIDO certificate of appreciation at the UNIDO 50th Anniversary Youth Competition *Envisaging Our Sustainable Future*. Her video was designated by the Review Committee as one of the five best in the international sustainable design competition. The event, organized by UNIDO in cooperation with AIESEC (Activating the leadership potential of young people) took place in Vienna, during November, 2016
- **LDEM Alumni Project Wins Public Spaces Category, Lebanese Architect Awards:** FAFS LDEM alumn Zeina Kronfol (2006) and Pamela Haydamous (2010), won the Public Spaces category of the 2017 Lebanese Architect Awards for their project *Karantina Play Garden: Space for Encounters*. The Federation of Lebanese Engineers organized the Lebanese Architectural Awards festival February 16, 17, 18 at Biel in Beirut. The event was endorsed by International Union of Architects, Federation of Arab Engineers, Organization of Arab Architects and the Union of Mediterranean Architects. Its aim was to promote the exchange of ideas, know-how and relations, and to stimulate new and profitable business opportunities. 36 leading Lebanese architectural practices from around the world participated in the prestigious competition, representing some of the most significant projects in the international architectural scene. Through their valuable project, Kronfol and Haydamous regained, for Karantina, its long lost value in terms of space and promoting encounters between communities, cultures, and generations under the theme of reconciliation
- **LDEM Student Shortlisted for WLA Award:** the Final Year Project of LDEM student, Loubna Sasso, was shortlisted for the World Landscape Architecture (WLA) Award, a prestigious international award that includes students from all over the world. Loubna, through her project *Tyre's Interactive Waterfront*, successfully made it to the top 11 projects (Primary advisor: part-time lecturer S. Frem; Secondary advisors: N. Al-Akl and B. Dreksler)
- **Archiprix 2017:** the graduation project of Tamar Sarkissian (LDEM, May 2015, advised by Y. Abunnasr) was selected for Archiprix 2017, a biennial, international event presenting the worlds' best graduation projects, as selected by universities and colleges teaching architecture, urban design and landscape architecture across the world. All projects are included in a major exhibition and a catalogue of the projects is published. The workshop was held at CEPT University, Ahmedabad, India, in February

- **LDEM Student Honored at AUB's Annual Athletes Night Ceremony:** During its annual Athletes Night ceremony, AUB University Sports honored 45 top athletes of 2016-2017. 2nd year Landscape Architecture student Tara Kanj, holder of the Lebanese record for the 300m-indoor race, was recognized in the New Record Awards category
- **LDEM Professor Receives Teaching Excellence Award:** Y. Abunnasr and N. Al-Akl were nominated for this year's AUB's Teaching Excellence Award, announced in May 2017 ceremony celebrating the awardees and in the presence of President Fadlo Khuri, FAFS Dean Nahla Hwalla, and other prominent AUB leaders. The committee presented this significant award to Dr. Yaser Abunnasr, FAFS assistant professor at LDEM. Dr. Abunnasr, the first FAFS professor to win the prestigious Teaching Excellence Award, competed with an extremely strong pool of accomplished contestants.
- **Lebanese Architects Awards:** N. Al-Akl served as the landscape architecture consultant on the award winning project *Byblos Town Hall*, lead by Hashim Sarkis Studios. The project won the award for best mixed-use project during the ceremony at BIEL on February 16-18, 2017

Personnel

LDEM includes 8 faculty, 15 part-time faculty (5.0 FTE) and 15 research assistants, of whom 13 were appointed on grants. 7 graduate assistants were appointed for AY 2016-2017. The department has two support staff. Below the personnel in the Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management department are identified

Full Time Faculty

Rami Zurayk	Professor and Chair (January 2014- present)
Yaser Abunnasr	Assistant Professor (promoted to Associate Professor August 2017)
Nayla Al-Akl	Assistant Professor
Beata Dreksler	Visiting Assistant Professor (effective August 15, 2016)
Monika Fabian	Instructor/ Greenhouse supervisor
Mehran Madani	Assistant Professor
Jala Makhzoumi	Associate to the Faculty (July 1, 2012 – present)
Salma N. Talhouk	Professor
Maria Gabriella Trovato	Assistant Professor

Part Time Faculty

Rania Abboud Melhem	Lecturer (Fall 2016)
Balsam Al-Ariss	Lecturer (Fall and Spring 2016/2017)
Noura Badran	Lecturer (Spring 2017)
George Battikha	Senior Lecturer (Fall and Spring 2016/2017)
Hala Chmaitelly	Lecturer (Fall 2016)
Mohamad El-Zein	Lecturer (Fall 2016)
Nadim Farajalla	Research Associate, Director, Climate Change & Environmental Prog, Issam Fares Institute (Fall & Spring 2016/2017)

Sandra Frem	Lecturer (Fall and Spring 2016/2017)
Sara Hage	Lecturer (Fall 2016/2017)
Basma Ibrahim	Lecturer (Fall 2016/2017)
Nahida Khalil	Lecturer (Spring 2016/2017)
Wissam Melhem	Lecturer (Fall, Spring, Summer 2016/2017)
Ramzi Mezher	Lecturer (Spring 2017)
Halim Nader	Lecturer (Spring 2017)
Gregoire Serof	Senior Lecturer (Spring 2017)

Research Assistants

Departmental	
Elias Abdel Sater	Research assistant (April 1, 2014 – Nov. 15, 2016)
Sandra Youssef	Research assistant (March 1, 2017 – present)
On grants	
Sarine Agopian	Part-time Research Assistant (Y. Abunnasr; March 1 - July 31, 2017)
Gretta Al-Asmar	GRA (on grant; M. Madani; Fall 2016 - Spring 2017)
Ziad Ballouli	Part-time Research Assistant (Y. Abunnasr; June 20 - August 20, 2017)
Dana Ali	GRA (on grant; M. G. Trovato; Spring 2016/2017)
Najat Chehab	Full-time Research Assistant (M. G. Trovato; March 1 - June 30, 2017)
Ammar El Halabi	Full-time Research Assistant (M. G. Trovato; February 15 - June 30, 2017)
Rim Hazimeh	Full-time Research Assistant (M. Madani; February 1, -May 31, 2017)
Basma Ibrahim	Part-time Research Assistant (Y. Abunnasr; May 16 - August 16, 2017)
Elias Karaan	Full-time Research Assistant (N. Al-Akl; March 1 - June 30, 2017)
Jessika Nicolas	Full-time Research Assistant (M. G. Trovato; October 1, 2016 - January 30, 2017)
Rami Salam	Full-time Research Assistant (M. G. Trovato; October 16, 2016 - February 15, 2017)
Sarah Meoushe	Full-time Research Assistant (M. G. Trovato; April 1 - June 30, 2017)
Petra Samaha	Part-time Research Assistant (Y. Abunnasr; September 1, 2016 - May 31, 2017)

Graduate Assistants

Salma Ajour	Ecosystem Management
Hamza Denny	Ecosystem Management
Asma El-Hajal	Ecosystem Management
Maya Melhem	Ecosystem Management
Chafic Abdallah	PLPT
Dana Ali	Urban Design (FEA)
Gretta Al-Asmar	Urban Design (FEA)

Support Staff

Elias Abi Samra	Greenhouse Technician
Nadine Modad	Administrative Officer (August 25, 2016 – present)

Consultants

Basma Ibrahim	Consultant, LDEM self-study report (February 15 - June 15, 2017); under the supervision of Y. Abunnasr
---------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Teaching

Courses Offered

During AY 2016-17 the Department offered: 15 undergraduate courses, 1 graduate course during the Fall, 15 undergraduate courses and 2 graduate courses during the Spring, and 5 undergraduate courses and one internship course during the Summer.

One new, required undergraduate course, *Landscape and Geomorphology* (LDEM 214, 3cr.) was introduced to BLA and will be taught in-house effective Fall 2016, replacing *Geomorphology* (GEOL 210) previously offered by the Geology department but addressing the specific needs of LDEM students. The course was taught by R. Zurayk and is offered to first year students.

One new graduate elective course was offered beginning Fall 2016. The course, proposed and taught by Y. Abunnasr is *Green Infrastructure for resilient Landscapes and Cities* (LDEM 302, 3cr.) and is offered to graduates and senior undergraduates.



Student Course Enrollment

Student Enrollment - Fall 2016/2017

LDEM Course	Course Title	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor(s)
200	Landscape Technical Drawing	4	16	M. Trovato (P) /W. Melhem ^P
202	Studio I: Landscape Design Fundamentals I	4	16	Y. Abunnasr (P)/ S. Hage ^P
207	Landscape Architecture History I	3	21	N. Al-Akl
210	Introductory Botany and Plant Ecology for Landscape Architecture	3	22	S. Talhouk
214	Landscape & Geomorphology	3	17	R. Zurayk
218	Landscape Ecology	3	25	M. Al Zein ^P
219	Plant Material I	1	21	M. Fabian
222	Landscape Planting Design	4	22	M. Trovato (P) / H. Chmaitelly ^P
230	Water and The Environment	3	57	N. Farajalla (P)
241	Landscape Capstone Project	4	21	N. Al-Akl (P)/ B. Dreksler/ S. Frem ^P
246	Site Design I	6	25	M. Madani (P) / B. Ibrahim ^P
247	Site Engineering I	3	20	B. Dreksler
251	Geographic Information System	3	24	Rania Abboud Melhem ^P
260	Contemporary Issues in Landscape Architecture (Core course and GE Humanities)	3	22	M. Madani
262	Healing Gardens: Theoretical Perspectives & Applications (FAFS elective and GE Social Sciences)	3	15	S. Talhouk
302	Green Infrastructure for resilient Landscapes and Cities (Graduate/Senior undergraduate elective)	3	8	Y. Abunnasr

^P Part-time faculty; (P) Principal instructor

Student Enrollment - Spring 2017

LDEM Course	Course Title	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor(s)
201	Landscape Descriptive Drawing	4	19	N. Badran ^P / G. Serof ^P (P)
204	Site Design II	6	23	M. Trovato (P)/ N. Khalil ^P
208	Landscape Architecture History II (Core course and GE Humanities)	3	33	G. Battikha (P)
211	Landscape Horticulture	3	21	S.Talhok
216	Studio II: Landscape Garden Design	4	15	B. Dreksler (P)/ R. Mezher ^P
217	Soils in the landscape	3	15	R. Zurayk
220	Plant Material II	1	22	M. Fabian
228	Site Design in the Urban Context	6	22	Y. Abunnasr (P)/ B. Al-Ariss ^P
230	Water & the Environment	3	65	N. Farajalla (P)
242	Advanced Design	6	21	N. Al-Akl (P)/ B. Dreksler/ S. Frem ^P
248	Site Engineering II: Construction Material	3	22	B. Dreksler
263	Landscape Appreciation and Site Analysis	3	19	M. G. Trovato
264	Interior Landscaping (FAFS Elective)	3	17	G. Battikha ^P
290	Professional Practice	3	22	N. Al-Akl
291	Surveying and Base Plan Development	3	21	H. Nader (P) ^P / W. Melhem ^P
301	Urban Greening (Graduate elective)	3	14	S. Talhouk
630	Natural Resources Management (Graduate core course)	3	13	R. Zurayk

Student Enrollment - Summer 2017

LDEM Course	Course title	Credits	Enrollment	Instructor(s)
219	Plant Material I	2	20	M. Fabian
221	Plant Material III	1	24	M. Fabian
231	Sustainable Water Management Techniques	3	25	H. Jaafar (AGRI dept.)
249	Site Engineering III: Design Implementation	4	25	B. Dreksler (P)/ W. Melhem ^P
252	Computer Aided Design	3	20	W. Melhem ^P
292	Internship	2	22	N. Al-Akl

^P Part-time faculty; (P) Principal instructor

Completed Theses and Thesis Advising

Eight students were enrolled in the ECOM program in AY 2016-2017. In addition to serving as advisors and/or committee members to ECOM students, LDEM faculty also served as advisors or committee members to other AUB or non-AUB Masters and PhD students as follows:

R. Zurayk: committee member to one Environmental Technology Masters student, two RCODE Masters students, and three PhD students in Environmental engineering at AUB

Y. Abunnasr: committee member to two AUB students (PSPA and Agriculture), co-advisor to one PhD student from University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; committee member to one PhD student from University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA

M. G. Trovato: committee member to three Urban Design Masters students at AUB, external member to three Master thesis students at Victoria University of Wellington, School of Architecture, New Zealand

M. Madani: committee member to three Urban Design Masters students at AUB

S. Talhouk: co-advisor to one PhD student in Bangor University, Wales (UK)

M. G. Trovato: co-advisor to one PhD student at the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Italy

Completed theses (MSc)

	Student	Thesis / Project Title	Advisor/ Co-advisor	Date of Defense
1.	Elias Karaan (ECOM)	Design Guidelines for Therapeutic Roof Gardens: The Case of AUBMC Oncology Courtyard	N. Al-Akl	Nov 30, 2016
2.	Alison Baker	Out of Place: Rewriting a landscape signature (MLA; Victoria University of Wellington, School of Architecture, New Zealand)	M. G. Trovato (External Examiner)	Spring 2017
3.	Richard Abdallah	The Agency of Experience. An experiential technique for the design of the rural floodplain of Otaki (MLA; Victoria University of Wellington, School of Architecture, New Zealand)	M. G. Trovato (External Examiner)	Summer 2017
4.	Lucy Stronach	Rainwater's well-come: Resettling Former Refugees in New Zealand (MLA; Victoria University of Wellington, School of Architecture, New Zealand)	M. G. Trovato (External Examiner)	Summer 2017
5.	William Thomson (ECOM)	Agriculture as a tool of settlement : a political ecology and economy analysis of Israeli agricultural development	R. Zurayk	Sept 6, 2016
6.	Alia Dirani	Exploring the determinants of an agricultural anomaly: The case of the Damask Rose (<i>Rosa damascena</i>) value chain in Qsarnaba, Lebanon	R. Zurayk (2 nd reader); S. Talhouk (3 rd reader)	2016

Theses In progress

MSc student	Advisor/ Co-advisor	Expected Defense
1. Ziad Ballouli (FEA)	Y. Abunnasr (Co-Advisor)	Spring 2018
2. Asma El-Hajal	S. Talhouk (Advisor)	Summer 2018
3. Rabab Hammoud (FEA)	Y. Abunnasr (Advisor)	Spring 2018
4. Ranim Koleilat (ECOM)	S. Talhouk (Advisor)	Fall 2018
5. Shalimar Sinno (RCODE)	Y. Abunnasr (Advisor)	Spring 2018
6. Rona Koobaysi (FEA)	Y. Abunnasr (Advisor)	Spring 2018
7. Rabab Hammoud (FEA)	Y. Abunnasr (Advisor)	Spring 2018
8. Sarah Shaito	Y. Abunnasr (Co-Advisor With Karim Makdessi)	Fall 2018
9. Cara Weber (Food Security)	R. Zurayk	Summer 2018
10. Hamza Denny	R. Zurayk	Summer 2018
11. Thurraa Abu Merhi	N. Al-Akl	2019
12. Gretta El-Asmar (FEA)	M. Madani (Advisor)	Spring 2018
13. Najmeh Viki (FEA)	M. Madani (Advisor)	Spring 2018

PhD Theses advising/ Co-advising

Student	Title of Research	Advisor Co-advisor Member	Completion
Yared Girma	Green Infrastructure Development and Management System for the Emerging towns of Oromia Special Zone Surrounding Finfine, Ethiopia (Addis Ababa U, Ethiopian Inst. Architecture, Building Construction, and City Development)	Y. Abunnasr (Co-Chair)	2018
Sean O'Donnell	Roots in Transition: contribution of urban agriculture to livelihoods in temporary settlements (U Mass, Amherst, Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning)	Y. Abunnasr (member)	2018
Anne Gough	Rephotography and Historical Landscape Analysis (working title) (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden)	R. Zurayk (Co-advisor)	2018
Rola Quba'a	A Positive Apportionment Framework for Transboundary Water Management: Energy as a catalyst along the Jordan River Basin (AUB)	R. Zurayk (member)	2017
Eliza Deutsch	Assessing Eutrophication in Qaraoun Reservoir (AUB)	R. Zurayk (member)	2018
Renalda El Samra	A dynamic downscaling approach for climate change impact assessment on agriculture and water resources at a river basin scale: Adaptation and socio-economic implications (AUB)	R. Zurayk (member)	2016



Research Funding

Local, Regional and International Grants

LDEM faculty, under the umbrella of FAFS, launched new research and development projects supported by external and internal funding, receiving in all: 7 new grants (3 from international or external funding and 4 from AUB); and 3 continuing grants (from international or external funding). The total awarded was were 459,002USD (international/external grants) and 44,600USD (local funding).

Title	Funded by	Year	PI	Amount	Academic Umbrella
New grants					
Mapping cemeteries in Beirut: A step towards better understanding the potential of urban cemeteries in sustainable landscape planning	FAFS Research Seed grant	Spring 2017	N. Al-Akl	\$5,000	FAFS
Design Guidelines for Restorative Urban Streetscapes	URB	2017-2018	N.Al-Akl (PI) S.Talhounk (Co-PI)	\$9,600	FAFS

Title	Funded by	Year	PI	Amount	Academic Umbrella
New grants					
Greener Cities are Cooler Cities: Using Vegetated Green Infrastructure to Mitigate Urban Micro-climates in Desert Urban Landscapes	SRTP ¹ Diamond Developers, Dubai UC Davis (CA)	2016-2018	Y. Abunnasr (PI)S. Wheeler (Co-PI, UC Davis)	\$159,972 AUB: 105,510 UC Davis: 54,462	FAFS
Designing climate responsive Buildings in Beirut: learning from the vernacular buildings	URB	July 2016 - June 2018	A. Yeretdzian (PI)Y. Abunnasr (Co-PI)	\$20,000	FEA
Pedestrian safety and struggles over older adult's accessibility: Case of Beirut Landscape Infrastructure	URB	July 2016 - June 2017	M. Madani (PI) Y. Abunnasr (Co-PI)	\$10,000	FAFS
Conserving Wild Plants and Habitats for People in the South and East Mediterranean	IUCN ²	2016-2017	S. Talhouk	\$74,970	NCC
Seed Germination Protocols and National Nursery Book Development	(LRI) ³	2016-2017	S. Talhouk	\$34,500	NCC
Continuing grants					
Developing skills in the field of integrated energy planning in Med Landscapes	ERASMUS ⁺	2015-2018	Y. Abunnasr (PI)	€ 80,850	FAFS
Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism in Lebanon	FAO	June 2016- July 2017	M. G. Trovato (PI) R. Zurayk (Co-PI)	\$40,000	FAFS
Catalysing Open and Collaborative Science to Address Global Development Challenges (OCSNet)	iHUB LIMITED	2015-2017	N. A. Saliba (PI) S. Talhouk (Co-PI)	\$60,188	FAS

¹ Sustainability Research and Training Program

² International Union for Conservation of Nature

³ Lebanon Reforestation Initiative

Publications

In line with the department mission, the research agenda and the broad research themes listed below, a total of 7 refereed articles were published by LDEM faculty. Research themes include:

- Relationship between rural landscapes and livelihood
- Landscape planning approach to nature and rural heritage conservation
- Conservation and sustainable use of native flora
- Relationship between landscape design, education and human behavior
- Water conservation, climate change and their impact on urban and rural landscapes

International Refereed Journals

- **Madani, M.*** and A. Mehio-Sibai. 2017. 'Assisted Living Facilities' Accessibility Challenge in the Beirut Urban Area'. The International Journal of Architectonic, Spatial, and Environmental Design. 11 (3), p1-14. (ISSN: 2325-1662 (Print), ISSN: 2325-1670 (Online); <http://doi.org/10.18848/2325-1662/CGP/v11i03/1-14>)
- **Madani, M.***, Williams, J., and G. Kharfan. 2016. 'Reclaiming a Virtual Sense of Place'. The International Journal of Design Management and Professional Practice. 11 (1), pp. 1-7. Article: Print (Spiral Bound). Published Online: January 4, 2017.
- Mattouk, M., **S.N. Talhouk***. 2017. 'A content analysis of nature photographs taken by Lebanese rural youth.' PLoS ONE 12(5): e0177079. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0177079>
- Hammad, EA*, M Akkary, N Saliba, M Farran, and **S.N. Talhouk**. 2017. 'Bioactivity of Indigenous Medicinal Plants against the Two-Spotted Spider Mite, Tetranychus urticae'. Journal of Agricultural Science 9 (7), 123
- Sarkissian, A. J., R. M. Brook, **S. N. Talhouk**, N. J. Hockley. 2017. Asset-building payments for ecosystem services: assessing landowner perceptions of reforestation incentives in Lebanon. Forest Systems. Vol 26, No 2. DOI: 10.5424/fs/2017262-10325
- Moledor, S., Chalak, A., Fabian, M., and S.N. Talhouk*. 2016. 'Socioeconomic dynamics of vermicomposting systems in Lebanon'. Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2016.064.007>
- Tomaszewicz, M., Abou Najm*, M., **Zurayk, R.** and M. El-Fadel. 2016. 'Dew as an adaptation measure to meet water demand in agriculture and reforestation'. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology, 232, 411–421. DOI:10.1016/j.agrformet.2016.09.009

Articles or Chapters in Books*

Books

- Hamin, E.M., **Abunnasr, Y.** and Ryan, R.L. (forthcoming 2018) 'A Reader in Planning and Green Infrastructure for Climate Change'. Contract signed and deadline for final manuscript submission to Routledge Publishing House was August 2017 (expected publication 2018)
- **Makhzoumi, J.*** 2016. "From urban beautification to a holistic approach: the discourse of 'landscape' in the Arab Middle East". *Landscape Research* 2, (10), pp. 1-10
- **Makhzoumi, J.*** 2017. "Future scenarios for traditional Mediterranean rural landscapes in the island of Cyprus". In G. Pungetti (ed.) *Island Landscapes: An Expression of European Culture*. London, Routledge, (225-240)
- **Makhzoumi, J.*** 2017. "Landscape architecture and the discourse on democracy in the Middle East". In S. Egoz, K. Jorgensen and D Ruggeri (eds.) *Defining Landscape Democracy: Perspectives on Spatial Justice*. London, Edgar Publishers (in print)
- **M. G. Trovato.** 2017. Landscape and displacement condition. A practical intervention on a Syrian Informal Settlement in Lebanon, in *Scenario Journal* n. 6 'Migration', Penn University Press

Abstracts and Conference Proceedings**

- **Al-Akl, N*.** and M. El Zein. (2017). 'The Potential of Urban Cemeteries in Sustainable Landscape and Urban Planning: The Case of Beirut'. The International Conference titled 'Landscape Futures – UNISCAPE 2017. June 19 to June 21, 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Al-Zein, M., Itani, M., **Al-Akl, N.**, Yazbeck, M., "Assessing the Potential of Native Plant Species as Ornamentals: Lebanon as a Case Study"; Future Conference: International Symposium on Survey of Uses of Plant Genetic Resources to the Benefit of Local Populations. September 18, 2017. Madagascar (in-progress)
- **Abunnasr, Y, Fabian. M.**, Forrest A., Miller. T., and **S.N. Talhouk***. (2017). 'Ancillary Botanic Gardens, Local Botanic Gardens for Education and Outreach'. The 6th Global Botanic Garden Congress'. June 26-30, 2017, Geneva, Switzerland
- **Trovato, M.G.** (2016). 'Contaminated Landscape and Unspoilt Landscape', in Conference proceedings 53rd IFLA World Congress Tasting the Landscape
- **Zurayk, R.** 2016. Livelihoods and Food Security in Post-Conflict Situations: Lessons Learned from Grassroots Action. "Food Security Post-conflict: A Foundation for Peace and Sustainable Development". Beirut, Lebanon. December 8, 2016

* Associate to the LDEM department

** Corresponding or Senior Author

Other publications

- **M. Madani.** 2017. Older Adults Ease of Access to the Urban Landscape Infrastructure. Manuscript in progress related to recent research in Ras Beirut neighborhood
- **M. Madani.** 2016. Making Virtual Sense of Place (Manuscript)
- **M.G. Trovato.** 2017. Land Special Issue on “EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPES” (Co-editor)
- **M.G. Trovato,** D. Ali, J. Nicolas, A. El Halabi, S. Meouche. 2017. (Forthcoming, 2018) Landscape Risk Assessment Model and Decision Support System for the Protection of the Natural and Cultural Heritage in the Eastern Mediterranean Area, in Land Special Issue on “Easter Mediterranean Landscapes” (Accepted manuscript)
- **M.G. Trovato.** 2017. Geographies of migration and new landscapes: Syrian refugees in Lebanon, in *Architettura del paesaggio* n.34
- **M.G. Trovato.** 2016. Gentrification versus Territorialization: The Periurban Agriculture Area in Beirut. In *Balanced Urban Development: Options and Strategies for Liveable Cities*, Basant Maheshwari, Vijay P. Singh and Bhadrani Thoradeniya (Editors), Springer ISBN 978-3-319-28110-0
- **R. Zurayk,** E. Woertz, & R. Bahn (Eds.) (Forthcoming, 2018) *Crisis and Conflict in Agriculture*. Wallingford, UK: CABI (Accepted manuscript)
- Dirar, A. and **Zurayk, R.** (Forthcoming 2018). Managing Agricultural Water: What Role for Farmer-led Water User Associations? In: Bromwich, Allan, Colman and Keulertz (eds) *Oxford University Press Handbook on Food, Water, and Society*; OUP Oxford, UK (Accepted manuscript)
- Bahn, R. and **Zurayk, R.** (Forthcoming 2018) “Agriculture, Conflict and the Agrarian Question in the 21st Century.” In R. Zurayk, E. Woertz, & R. Bahn (Eds.), *Crisis and Conflict in Agriculture*. Wallingford, UK: CABI



Technical reports

- **M.G. Trovato.** 2016. Final Technical Report on Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Risk Model and Landscape Decision Support System. Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism project, funded by FAO in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture

Services

Yaser Abunnasr

AUB

- Member, Regional External Programs (REP) Steering Committee, faculty (college) representative (2016- present)
- Member, Academic Campus Master Planning 2030 Steering Committee, faculty (college) representative (2016- present)
- Member, Advisory Committee to the Center for Teaching and Learning, faculty (college) representative (2015- present)
- Member, AUBotanic Planning Committee (2015- present)
- Member, AUBotanic university wide Steering Committee (2014- present)
- Elected Chair FAFS Library Committee (2015- present)
- Member of FAFS Undergraduate Curriculum and the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
- Member of FAFS Undergraduate Admissions Committee
- Founding member – Green Roof Research Group at LDEM
- Founding member – Invented Landscapes- A research group dedicated to conceptualizing alternatives to urban landscape on slopes adjacent to major urban conglomeration – joint collaboration between the department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management and Department of Architecture and Design – Web link: <http://inventedlandscapes.wordpress.com/>
- Associate to the Sustainable Adaptive Gradients in the Coastal Environment (SAGE): Conceptualizing the Role of Coastal Infrastructure in Resilience
- The ECOMENA Project – Integrated Resilient and Sustainable models for small scale development across the Middle East and North Africa; ongoing first application on a site within the American University campus, Beirut.
- Member of AUB botanical garden committee. During Summer 2016/2017, I also worked as senior designer on a preliminary landscape plan for the spaces around AUB's Assembly Hall.
- Member, University Architect Committee, serving under the Facilities Planning and design Unit (FPDU) providing advice and direction to architectural projects and master plan initiatives across university projects. Reports to head of FPDU and COO (2016 – present)

- Member, Regional External Programs (REP) Steering Committee, faculty (college) representative (2016- present)
- Member, Academic Campus Master Planning 2030 Steering Committee, faculty (college) representative (2016- present)
- Lead Faculty Member, LDEM Self-Study Report 2017, to be submitted to the NYSED for program registration (2016-2017)

Other

- Interview: An integrated ecological and place-based landscape approach to zoning in mountain towns in Lebanon: Interview by the USA/ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) with Y. Abunnasr on research completed with Roger Naimeh (Urban design Masters Student) on rethinking zoning in rural towns in Lebanon. Web Link to interview and support material: <http://www.usicomos.org/an-integrated-ecological-and-place-based-landscape-approach-to-zoning-in-mountain-towns-in-lebanon/>
- Academic Area Specialist, Program Accreditation Services by the Ministry of Education, Republic of Lebanon (2017)
- Journal editor, Heritage and Society, invited in July 2016 to start as co-editor (2016-present)
- Journal reviewer, Landscape and Urban Planning 2016-present Landscape Journal (2014-present)

Nayla Al-Akl

AUB

- Member, University Task Force on Lives and Careers of Women Faculty at AUB – AUB
- Member of FAFS Dean's Search Committee (2016-2017)
- Member, AUB Strategic Planning Committee – AUB (2016- present)
- Member, AUBotanic University Committee–AUB
- Member, Green Roof Research Group - LDEM (2014- present)
- Chair, Faculty Student Committee – LDEM (2013- present)
- Academic Advisor to the Landscape Student Society –LDEM
- Student Internship coordinator - LDEM
- In charge of LDEM student orientation - LDEM
- Member, Committee on Faculty Promotion Criteria – LDEM (2015- present)
- Member, Program Review Committee
- Design, supervision and coordination: FAFS teaching facilities (Wing A classrooms 205, 211, Nutrition Lab) as well as FAFS Dean's office expansion and restructuring – FAFS

- Proposal Reviewer, Seventh International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, organized by the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), the Office of Information Technology, and the Communication Skills Program - American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- Design, supervision and coordination of AREC cafeteria; FAFS Dean's office renovation, extension and restructuring; Nutrition Lab and Computer Lab, Room 209 (2016-present)

Other

- Co-founding member of the Lebanese Landscape Association (LELA), NGO
- Member of the Administrative Committee, Accountant – LELA, NGO
- Design consultant on landscape architecture, landscape planning and architecture projects locally and internationally
- Member; Invented Landscapes; web link: <http://inventedlandscapes.wordpress.com/>
- Member, Garden Show Spring Festival Planning Committee (2016-Present)

Monika Fabian

AUB

- Coordinate school students visits to the greenhouse area and offer miscellaneous horticultural activities
- Member of the Initiative for AUB as Botanic Garden
- Member of the Greenroof research group
- Advising landscape architecture and architecture students on plants and trees used in their projects
- Manage the continuous updating of the landscape plant database

Mehran Madani

AUB

- Member of FAFS Student Affairs Committee
- Member of the FAFS Research Committee

Other

- Journal reviewer, Reviewer of Springer, Euro-Mediterranean Journal for Environmental Integration (2016- present)
- Reviewer of Population Health Metrics Journal (2016- present)
- Reviewer of Sage Publishing, Urban Studies Journal (Started in 2016)
- Reviewer of Common Ground Publishing LLC., Design Principles, Constructed Environment, & Aging and Society Journals (2012-present)

Jala Makhzoumi

AUB

- Associate to the LDEM department
- Advisory Board Member at the Nature Conservation Center (NCC)

Other

- Main founder and president of the Lebanese Landscape Association (LELA), NGO as the Lebanese Chapter of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) (2015-present)
- Timimoun Accommodation Camp, Algeria Landscape Design for Implementation Collaboration with BUTEC, Lebanon (2017)
- Madina Welcoming Center, Madina, KSA. Landscape Design, Implementation Documents. Collaboration Dar al Omran, Jordan (2017)
- Emir Zaid bin Shaker Estate, Amman, Jordan. Landscape Design, management, Supervision of Implementation (2016-2017)
- Editorial Board Member, Landscape Research, Taylor and Francis, London (2014-present)

Salma Talhouk

AUB

- Member of university strategic planning committee, communities
- Member of the Executive Committee of NCC (AUB's Nature Conservation Center), 2010-present.
- Member of FAFS Advisory committee
- Member of FAFS Undergraduate Curriculum and the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
- Faculty representative of University Academic Development Committee
- Member of FAFS Undergraduate Admissions Committee
- Member of FAFS Graduate Studies Committee
- Founding Chairperson of AUBotanic committee (2014- present)
- Member of the Medicinal Plant Graduate Program Planning Committee.
- Founding member of the Greenroof research group
- Member of the committee working on the development of the graduate interdisciplinary program on Integrative Health

Maria Gabriella Trovato

AUB

- Member of the Graduate Studies Committee (FAFS)
- Chair of the ad hoc committee for the MLA program development
- Member of the AUB Botanic Garden committee
- Member of the AUB4refugee working group on Syrian Refugee Crisis (2016-present)
- Member of the Committee for the Development of Tenure and Promotion Criteria at FAFS (2017)
- Member of the 'AUB Tobacco Free Campus Task Force' to write and launch a student design competition (2017)
- Chair of the LDEM ad hoc Committee to revise the new Promotion and Reappointment Criteria and Procedures (2017)
- Jury member of the 'AUB Tobacco Free Campus' students competition
- Main founder and responsible of the East Mediterranean Landscape Observatory, founded during the MedScapes EU Project and hosted at AUB/FAFS
- Founding member of the landscape research group 'Landscape in Emergency'

Others

- Member of the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools (ECLAS)
- Member of Order of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators, Province of Messina, Italy
- Member of the editorial department of the 'RIVISTA' journal of the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators, Province of Messina, Italy.
- Co-founding member and secretary of the Lebanese Landscape Association (LELA), NGO
- Chair of the IFLA Landscape Architecture Without Borders working group, under the Professional Practice IFLA Committee
- Responsible of the CIVILSCAPE's Task Force for Landscape in Emergency
- Landscape designer for Homat Al Hima International International Park and Butterflies garden (2017)
- Landscape Designer Advisor for Al Burj-Beit Mirsim-Al Bireh, Palestine Landscape Character Assessment and Action Plan (2016)
- Member of a research group on 'Mediterranean Landscape in Emergency'

Rami Zurayk

AUB

- Chairperson, Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (LDEM), January 2014 – present
- Acting Director of the Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program (IGESP) until August 2017
- Member in Interfaculty Committee on Capacity Building in Food Security
- Member of FAFS Research Committee
- Faculty representative on University Research Board
- Member of FAFS Administrative Committee
- Member of the FAFS Undergraduate Curriculum and the Undergraduate Student Academic Affairs Committee
- Served as due process monitor during the voting on the promotion of three faculty members from Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine at AUBMC (February 2017)

Others

- Reviewer in: African Journal of Agricultural Research Journal of Peasant Studies
- Advisory Board Member and Columnist, Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development
- RGP Selection Committee Member: evaluating the proposals of the fourth cycle (2017-2018) of the Arab Council for Social Sciences (ACSS) Research Grants Program and participated at the Selection Committee Meeting held on January 18-19, 2017 (Beirut, Lebanon)
- Member of the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) (Two terms: 2015-2017 and 2017-2019). The steering committee is composed of 15 internationally recognized experts in a variety of food security and nutrition related fields. <http://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe/hlpe-steering-committee/en/>
- Commissioner. EAT-Lancet Commission on Health Diets for Sustainable Food Systems. The commission is composed of 20 top global experts in health, nutrition and sustainability. <https://foodplanethealth.org/the-commission/>
- Member of the Research Review Board, Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS-Cycle 2017-2018)
- Member of the Steering Committee of the PhD program in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the Arabian Gulf University



Faculty Participation in Workshops and Forums:

Name of presenter(s)	About the event	Title	Date & location
Y. Abunnasr	Peer reviewer of data developed for Vulnerability Assessment Task Force on Sensitivity and Adaptive Capacity indicators for the Middle East and North Africa	The Regional initiative for the Assessment of the Impact of Climate Change on Water resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region	December 6-9, 2016 (United Nations House, Beirut, Lebanon)
Y. Abunnasr	Participated and contributed to the second thematic workshop held in Universidad Pablo de Olavide, European Union, ERASMUS+ Program	For the project titled “Developing skills in the field of integrated energy planning in Mediterranean Landscapes (ENEPLAN)”	December 12-17, 2016 (Seville, Spain)
Y. Abunnasr	Participated and contributed to the first thematic workshop held at the University Roma Tre European Union, ERASMUS+ Program	For the project titled “Developing skills in the field of integrated energy planning in Mediterranean Landscapes (ENEPLAN)”	September 5-9, 2017 (Rome, Italy)
Y. Abunnasr	Member of the Experts Consultation Meeting	For the research project titled ‘Informal Systems in Lebanon and the MENA Region’	Co-organized by the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB
R. Zurayk	Participated in a forum organized by the Office of Strategic health Initiative (SHI) at AUB entitled ‘Rebuilding Health Post-Conflict Forum’ as a panelist and gave a presentation entitled ‘Livelihoods and Food Security in Post-Conflict Situations: Lessons Learned from Grassroots Action’	‘The Food Security Post-conflict: A Foundation for Peace and Sustainable Development panel discussion’	December 8, 2016 (West Hall, AUB)

Faculty Participation in Local and International Workshops/ Conferences:

Presenter	About the event	Title	Date / location
Y. Abunnasr	2 nd Erasmus+ Grant meeting at the Roma 3 University	Erasmus+ research grant	September 5-9, 2016 Rome, Italy
Y. Abunnasr	The First Regional Conference on Ecosystem Services in the MENA GIZ (The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)	Panelist and Presenter: <i>Re-conceptualizing Green Infrastructure: Challenges for Middle Eastern Landscapes</i>	October 10-12, 2016 Dead Sea, Jordan
Y. Abunnasr	COP22 Conference and parallel event, . The Transformative power of Cities in the MENA Region	Frederich Ebert Foundation lecture: <i>Green Infrastructure for climate Adaptation</i>	Nov 19-22, 2016 Casablanca, Morocco
Y. Abunnasr	The First Fulbright Alumni Regional Conference on Natural Resources, Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt	Panelist, Presenter: <i>Green Infrastructure for Climate Change Adaptation: Challenges in the MENA Region</i>	December 4-7, 2016 Cairo, Egypt
Y. Abunnasr	3 rd Erasmus+ Grant thematic workshop and meeting	Part of the Erasmus+ grant	December 12-17, 2017, Seville, Spain
Y. Abunnasr	Attended the 4 th Erasmus+ Grant meeting	Part of the Erasmus+ grant	May 2-6, 2017, Gzira-Sliema, Malta
N. Al-Akl	International Conference Landscape Futures organized by Uniscape, U Copenhagen and the Center for Landscape Democracy of the Norwegian U of Life Sciences. Short-term faculty development grant	Participant and presenter <i>The Potential of urban Cemeteries in Sustainable Landscape and Urban Planning: The Case of Beirut'</i>	June 18-24, 2017 U Copenhagen (Denmark)
B. Dreksler	2 nd International Seminar: <i>Natural, Cultural and Social Heritage of Africa</i> Organized by Aleksandras Stulginskis University (Lithuania) and University of Warmia and Mazury (Poland)	Member, Scientific Committee; Presenter: <i>Revitalization, Recycling or Re-invisioning of Urban States in Africa? Lessons Learned from African Cities</i>	November 21-23, 2016 Kaunas, Lithuania
S. Talhouk	6th Global Botanic Garden Congress <i>The future role of Botanic Gardens in the Middle East and SW Asia</i>	Short-term faculty development grant, Participant, Presenter: <i>Ancillary Gardens, Local Botanic Gardens for Education and Outreach</i>	June 26 30, 2017 Geneva, Switzerland

Presenter	About the event	Title	Date / location
M.G. Trovato	Homat Al Hima – The Way of Life, for Sustainable Development	Presenter <i>The Homat Al Hima Park and Butterflies Garden</i>	2017 West Bekaa, Lebanon
M.G. Trovato	FLRM project Mapping initiatives related to Forests and Landscapes in Lebanon, FAO and Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture	Participant Presenter	December 5, 2016 Beirut
M.G. Trovato	Mediterranean Landscape in Emergency	Participant and contributor	Dec 22-23, 2016 Reggio Calabria, Italy
M.G. Trovato	FLRM project, FAO and Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture	Participant, contributor <i>Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Tools in Lebanon</i>	February 15, 2017 Beirut
M.G. Trovato	MAJAL, Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts, University of Balamand; Marine and Coastal Resources Program, Inst. Environment, U Balamand, Conservatoire du Littoral (http://www.conservatoire-du-littoral.fr/) en France	Participant and contributor <i>Towards a conservation of the Lebanese coastal zone: challenges and perspectives</i>	March 16, 2017 ALBA University, Beirut
M.G. Trovato	LAND 2016 Conference - Landscape Architecture as Necessity' (U Southern California)	Participant <i>Geographies of Migration and New Landscapes: Syrian Refugees in Lebanon'</i>	2016 Los Angeles, USA
M. G. Trovato	Associazione Italiana Architettura del Paesaggio (AIAPP) Conference II Paesaggio Mediterraneo oltre la crisi	Invited Keynote speaker <i>BORDERSCAPE: forced migration and new spatial practices</i>	May 19-23, 2017 Giarre, Italy
M. Madani	United nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban development (Habitat III) Panelist	<i>Pedestrian Safety and Struggles over Older Adults' Accessibility: Case of Beirut Landscape Infrastructure</i>	Oct 16–20, 2016 Quito, Ecuador
M. Madani	International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE) conference Isfahan University of Technology	<i>Social Conurbation As Justifiable Urban Sprawl Repercussion."</i>	Oct 25–27, 2016 Isfahan, Iran
M. Madani	Urban Landscape in Between, (Department of Architecture and Design, College of Architecture, Politecnico di Torino)		2017 Torino, Italy

Presenter	About the event	Title	Date / location
M. Madani	Research Design and Methodology (Dept. Architecture and Design, College of Architecture, Politecnico di Italy)		2017 Italy
M. Madani	7th Int'l Conference on Urban Planning and Management Ferdowsi U Mashhad	Keynote Speaker & Panelist	2017 Mashhad, Iran
J. Makhzoumi	Participated in the International Federation of Landscape Architects Americas conference, (Panama City, Panama)	Invited keynote speaker, <i>Landscape Architect as 'Mediator' in the design of Middle Eastern Cities: Integrating environmental health, social betterment and heritage conservation</i>	October 25-27, 2016
S. Talhouk	6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress: Conservation International. Conservatory and Botanical Garden, City of Geneva	Speaker. <i>Ancillary botanic gardens—Local botanic gardens for education and outreach.</i>	June 26-30, 2017 Switzerland
M. G. Trovato	9th International Biennial of Landscape Architecture, Organized by the Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC) and the Polytechnic U Catalonia (Master's Program in Landscape Architecture and ETSAB),	Keynote speaker, gave a presentation entitled <i>'Landscape planning and displacement phenomena'</i>	September 2016 Barcelona, Spain
M. G. Trovato	AIAPP 2017 International Conference 'Il Paesaggio Mediterraneo oltre la crisi'	Keynote speaker: <i>Borderscape: forced migration and new spatial practices</i>	May 2017, Radicepura, Giarre, Italy
M. G. Trovato	The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and the UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the Municipality of Bourj Hammoud. Funded by the Italian Government and implemented by UN Habitat	Launching event: <i>Nabaa Neighborhood Profile and Strategy'</i> in the framework of the project <i>Promoting national and local urban systems approaches</i>	March 31, 2017, Boghossian Hall, Bourj Hammoud; Lebanon
R. Zurayk	Conference on Food Security and Nutrition in the context of the Agenda 2030. co-organized by U Hohenheim and the	Invited, member of Steering Committee, High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE)	September 26-27, 2016 Stuttgart, German

Presenter	About the event	Title	Date / location
R. Zurayk	2 nd EAT-Lancet Commissioner's meeting <i>Eating Well Within Our Means: a healthy sustainable diet strategy for the UK</i> to develop consensus and mobilize support for the key actions required to support a shift towards healthy sustainable diets in the UK. Organized by the UK Health Forum	R. Zurayk participated as a EAT-Lancet Commissioner	September 29 -October 1, 2016 Wellcome Trust offices (London, UK
R. Zurayk	14 th meeting of the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) organized by FAO and hosted by CIRAD	Invited member of Steering Committee	November 28 to December 1, 2016 Montpellier, France
R. Zurayk	3 rd EAT-Lancet Commissioner's meeting to review and discuss zero drafts from each Working Group for the Lancet Paper on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food System	Participated as a EAT-Lancet Commissioner	February 6-7, 2017 Wellcome Trust London, UK
R. Zurayk	Crisis and Conflict in the Agrarian World: An Evolving Dialectic. Organized by the Kuwait Program at Sciences Po, and co-sponsored by AUB and Barcelona Center for International Affairs (CIDOB)	Lead author, with Eckart Woertz and Rachel Bah, n on a book <i>Crisis and Conflict in Agriculture</i> ; Contract signed with CABI	March 1-3, 2017 Paris, France
R. Zurayk	EAT-Lancet Commissioner's working group meeting	Participated as a EAT-Lancet Commissioner	April 17 - 18, 2017 Stockholm Sweden
R. Zurayk	EAT-Lancet Commission full group meeting, in conjunction with the EAT Stockholm Food Forum	Participated as a EAT-Lancet Commissioner	June 12 - 14, 2017 Stockholm, Sweden

Consultancies

Nayla Al-Akl, Landscape consultant, Bikfaya Municipal Garden, Municipality of Bikfaya-Mhaidthe (2017-present)

Yaser Abunnasr, Lead Consultant, 'Reinvisioning Bliss Street: Vibrant, Sustainable, Equitable, and creative', Bliss Street Association, Beirut, Lebanon (2016-2017); Lead Consultant, Redesign of Assembly hall Landscape, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon (2017)

Jala Makhzoumi, Mecca Techno Valley, Landscape Master Plan and development guidelines, Client Um al Qura University, KSA (June 2015 –Ongoing)

Maria Gabriella Trovato, Al Burj-Beit Mirsim-Al Bireh, Palestine Landscape Character Assessment and Action Plan (2016); Homat Al Hima International, Landscape Master plan for the Park and development of the Butterflies garden, Client SPNL (March 2017 - Ongoing)

Rami Zurayk, Expert on Food Security Monitoring for the Arab Region (2017); Food Security Senior Expert, UN-ESCWA, Booz Allen Hamilton (2016-2017)

Strategic Challenges

to be addressed this year include:

- Conduct program review for the BLA program in 2017
- Finalize the new graduate Masters of Landscape Architecture program
- Lack of a fixed budget for departmental lecture / workshop series is an obstacle for establishing an interdisciplinary discourse among the local and international scholars



Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences (NFSC)

Prepared by: Dr. Imad Toufeili, Chairman



Highlights

Between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017 the Nutrition and Food Sciences Department conducted several activities as summarized below:

- Dr. Lara Nasreddine was on *Research Leave* during the fall semester AY 2016-2017
- Dr. Lamis Jomaa was on *Maternity Leave* during the fall semester AY 2016-2017
- The NFSC Department organized a one day *150th Anniversary celebration*, Nutrition and Food: Ongoing Journey for Better Health, at which a number of activities took place. (Sept 29, 2016)
- NFSC submitted its self-study of the NDCP to ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics) and completed a site visit at The Sage Colleges (TSC), Albany, NY, for program re-accreditation
- NFSC signed an affiliation agreement, securing the placement of future NDCP students in The Sage Colleges (TSC) Dietetic Practicum, in support of fulfilling the ACEND requirement of 900 hours of practicum in the US for students pursuing the IDE (International Dietetic Education) track
- NFSC succeeded in full re-accreditation for the Nutrition and Dietetics program by the US-Based ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics)
- NFSC reconstructed the Animal Science computer lab (Wing B) into two NFSC offices
- Dr. Issmat Kassem joined NFSC as a full-time Assistant Professor of Food Microbiology and Food Safety in spring AY 2016-2017
- Dr. Elie-Jacques Fares joined NFSC as a full-time Assistant Professor of Clinical and Sports Nutrition in spring AY 2016-2017
- In observance of National Nutrition Month (March), the Nutrition Student Society conducted a series of events revolving around nutrition and well-being:
 - Breakfast is always a Good idea event (March 9, 2017)
 - Nutrition and Physical Activity event (March 16, 2017)
 - Participated in the Health Fair organized by the International College (IC) for high school students. (March 20, 2017)
 - The Nutrition Society, in collaboration with the AUBMC Wellness Center, conducted an awareness activity about “Disordered Eating”(March 23, 2017)
- The Department received approval for the new graduate program in Food Safety from NYSED and program registration by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (Lebanon). The new program will launch in spring of AY 2017-2018
- The Department received approval for the new graduate program in Public Health Nutrition from NYSED and program registration by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (Lebanon). The program will launch in fall AY 2017-2018

Personnel

NFSC has sixteen full-time faculty members, four part-time faculty members, two Departmental Research Assistants and seventeen research assistants. Seventeen graduate assistants were appointed for the first semester (Fall) of AY 2016-2017, twenty graduate assistants for the second semester (Spring, AY 2016-2017), and two for the summer session (AY 2016-2017). The Department has five support staff. The tables below provide detailed lists of personnel, GAs, and RAs in the Nutrition and Food Sciences Department.

Full-time Faculty

Nahla Hwalla	Dean, Professor
Imad Toufeili	Professor and Chairman
Omar Obeid	Professor
Ammar Olabi	Professor
Ioannis Savvaidis	Visiting Professor
Lara Nasreddine	Associate Professor
Samer Kharroubi	Associate Professor
Mohammad Abiad	Associate Professor
Farah Naja	Associate Professor Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies in Nutrition & Dietetics
Issmat Kassem	Assistant Professor
Lamis Jomaa	Assistant Professor
Elie-Jacques Fares	Assistant Professor
Marie-Claire Chamieh	Lecturer
Basma Hamadeh	Instructor
Dima El Halabi	Instructor
Yara Gholmie	Instructor

Part-time Faculty

Carla Habib Mourad	Lecturer
Youssef Mouneimneh	Part-time Lecturer/Research Associate & Director (Central Research Science Laboratory)
Adib Charafeddine	Part-time Lecturer
Hamza Daroub	Part-time Instructor
Krystel Ouaijan	Part-time Instructor
Linda Shaker Berbari	Part-time Lecturer
Marie-Rose Samaha	Part-time Instructor
Pascale Karam	Part-time Lecturer/ Associate Professor of Clinical Specialty
Abir Barhoumi	Part-time Instructor/ Assistant Director- Dept. Clinical Nutrition

Departmental Research Assistants

Batoul Zaiter	Administrative Departmental RA
Ghada Ziadeh	Laboratory Departmental RA

Support Staff

Samson Atamian	Pilot Plant Supervisor
Tsolair Sourenian	Laboratory Technician
Sibelle El Labban	Executive Assistant
Tania Ghannam	Secretary

Research Assistants

Jennifer Ayoub	Carla El Mallah
Lina Abdouni	Massar Dabbous
Dana Haddad	Jennifer Ayoub
Romy Abi Fadel	Camile Georges
Mohamad Diab	Yara Beyh
Marie-Elizabeth Ragi	Hiba Shatila
Maria El Hajj	Line Koleilat
Marwa Diab El-Harake	Mandy Taktouk
Rana Chehab	

Graduate Assistants

Fall 2016-2017

Baalbaki, Rim	NUTR
Diab El Harake, Marwa	NUTR
Faraj, Suzan	NUTR
Hamamji, Samer	NUTR
Haber, Sally	NUTR
Sleem, Waed	NUTR
Baba, Wajiha	FTCH
Chamata, Yara	FTCH
Nasser, Nivin	FTCH
Samaha, Elisa	FTCH
Sibaie, Sireen	FTCH
Amini, Amir Hassan	NUTR
El Sayed Ahmad, Raeda	NUTR
Al Bissani, Nour	NUTR
Garabedian, Talar	NUTR
Nasreddine, Sara	FTCH
Salibi, Joanna	FTCH

Spring 2016-2017

Al Bissani, Nour	NUTR
Amini, Amir Hassan	NUTR
Baalbaki, Rim	NUTR
Diab El Harake, Marwa	NUTR
El Sayed Ahmad, Raeda	NUTR

Spring 2016-2017

Faraj, Suzan	NUTR
Garabedian, Talar	NUTR
Harb, Zeinab	FTCH
Sleem, Waed	NUTR
Wehbe, Nour	NUTR
Nasser, Nivin	FTCH
Nasseredine, Sara	FTCH
Salibi, Joanna	FTCH
Sibaie, Sireen	FTCH
El Masri, Fidele	NUTR
Mohsen, Mira	NUTR
Aoun, Rita	NUTR
Khattar, Maroun	NUTR
Rajeh, Caroline	FTCH
Zantout, Sara	FTCH

Summer 2016-2017

Baalbaki, Rim	NUTR
Haber, Sally	NUTR



Teaching

Fall Term 2016-2017

Course No.	R	L	C	Title	Inst/Coord
NFSC 210	2	3	3	Statistics in Nutrition and Food Sciences	S. Kharroubi
NFSC 220	3	0	3	Food and Nutrition Awareness	C. Mourad
NFSC 221	3	0	3	Basic Nutrition	M. Chamieh
NFSC 222	3	0	3	Community Nutrition	L. Shaker (L. Jomaa)
NFSC 252	3	0	3	Food Processing (for Agribusiness stud)	H. Daroub
NFSC 261	3	0	3	Introductory Biochemistry	A. Charafeddine (I. Toufeili)
NFSC 265	3	0	3	Food Chemistry	I. Toufeili
NFSC 267	1	3	2	Food Analysis	B. Hamadeh/H. Daroub
NFSC 277	3	0	3	Food Microbiology I	I. Savvaidis
NFSC 279	0	3	1	Medical Nutrition lab I for NDCP	M.R Samaha
NFSC 282	3	0	3	Food Quality Management	I. Savvaidis
NFSC 283	3	0	3	Nutrition, Education and Communication	L. Jomaa
NFSC 284a	-	-	1	Seminar in Clinical Dietetics	D. El-Halabi
NFSC 281	0	3	1	Nutrition in The Life Cycle Lab for ND	Y. Gholmie
NFSC 285	2	0	2	Nutrition in The Life Cycle	F. Naja
NFSC 286	0	3	1	Nutrition in The Life Cycle Lab for NDCP	Y. Gholmie
NFSC 287	2	0	2	Food Processing	M. Abiad
NFSC 288	2	3	3	Technology of Food Products	A. Olabi/B. Hamadeh/H. Daroub
NFSC 290	2	3	3	Food Service Management	D. El-Halabi
NFSC 292	3	0	3	Medical Nutrition Therapy I	P. Karam/A. Barhoumi
NFSC 294	0	3	1	Medical Nutrition Therapy Lab I	M.R Samaha
NFSC 296	1	0	1	Seminar Presentation in Food Sciences and Nutrition	D. El-Halabi
NFSC 298F	-	-	-	Dietetic Practicum	M.C. Chamieh
NFSC 299	-	-	2	Special Topics in Nutrition and Food Sciences	S. Kharroubi
NFSC 300A	-	-	1	Graduate Tutorial	Staff
NFSC 300B	-	-	2	Graduate Tutorial	Staff
NFSC 300C	-	-	3	Graduate Tutorial	Staff
NFSC 305	3	0	3	Sensory Evaluation	Olabi
NFSC 307	3	0	3	Nutritional Epidemiology	F. Naja
NFSC 314	3	0	3	Advanced Nutrition: Minerals Elements	O. Obeid
NFSC 377	3	0	3	Food Packaging	M. Abiad
NFSC 391	1	6	3	Research Technique	Y. Mouneimne
NFSC 395	1	0	1	Graduate Seminar	M. Abiad
NFSC 396	0	0	0	Comprehensive Exam	Staff
NFSC 399	-	-	T	M.S. Thesis	Staff

Spring Term 2016-2017

Course No.	R	L	C	Title	Inst / Coord
NFSC 210	2	3	3	Statistics in Nutrition and Food Sciences	S. Kharroubi
NFSC 220	3	0	3	Food and Nutrition Awareness	C. Murad
NFSC 221	3	0	3	Basic Nutrition	F. Naja
NFSC 224	0	3	1	Advanced Nutrition Principles and Practices	Krystel Ouaijan
NFSC 229	0	3	1	Menu Planning	MC. Chamieh
NFSC 240	1	3	2	Nutritional Status Assessment	MC. Chamieh/ Y. Gholmie
NFSC 252	3	0	3	Food Processing (for Agribusiness stud)	Staff
NFSC 261	3	0	3	Introductory Biochemistry	A. Charafeddine
NFSC 265	3	0	3	Food Chemistry	I. Toufeili
NFSC 267	1	3	2	Food Analysis	B. Hamadeh & H. Daroub
NFSC 272	1	3	2	Introduction to Food Service and Industries	A. Olabi
NFSC 274	3	0	3	Human Nutrition and Metabolism	O. Obeid
NFSC 275	1	3	2	Quantity Food Production	D. El-Halabi/ Chef-I. Daouk
NFSC 278	2	3	3	Food Microbiology II	L. Karam
NFSC 284b	-	-	1	Seminar in Clinical Dietetics	D. El-Halabi
NFSC 287	2	0	2	Food Processing	M. Abiad
NFSC 289	0	3	1	Food Processing Laboratory (4 sections)	B. Hamadeh & H. Daroub
NFSC 290	2	3	3	Food Service Management	D. El-Halabi
NFSC 291	3	0	3	Elements of Food Engineering	M. Abiad
NFSC 293	3	0	3	Medical Nutrition Therapy II	L. Nasreddine
NFSC 295	0	3	1	Medical Nutrition Therapy Lab II for NTDT	M. R. Samaha
NFSC 297	0	3	1	Medical Nutrition Therapy Lab II for NDCP	M. R. Samaha
NFSC 296	-	-	1	Seminar Presentations in Nutrition and Food Science	Section 1: Y. Gholmie Section 2: A. Olabi
NFSC 298 S	-	-	14	Dietetic Practicum	MC. Chamieh
NFSC 299	-	-	2	Special Topics in Nutrition and Food Science	L. Nasreddine
NFSC 300 A	-	-	1	Graduate Tutorial in Nutrition and Food Science	NFSC Staff
NFSC 300 B	-	-	2	Graduate Tutorial in Nutrition and Food Science	NFSC Staff
NFSC 300 C	-	-	3	Graduate Tutorial in Nutrition and Food Science	NFSC Staff
NFSC 301	2	3	3	Statistical Methods for Nutrition and Food Science	S. Kharroubi
NFSC 312	3	0	3	Sports Nutrition	E.J. Fares
NFSC 315	3	0	3	Advanced Nutrition: Vitamins	O. Obeid

Course No.	R	L	C	Title	Inst / Coord
NFSC 351	3	0	3	Food Safety: Contaminants & Toxins.	I. Kassem
NFSC 391	1	6	3	Research Techniques	Y. Mouneimne
NFSC 395	1	0	1	Graduate Seminar in Nutrition and Food Science	M. Abiad
NFSC 399	-	-	T	M.S. Thesis	NFSC Staff

Summer Term 2016-2017

Course No.	R	L	C	Title	Inst /Coord	Restriction
NFSC 210	2	3	3	Statistics in Nutrition and Food Sciences	S.Kharroubi	
NFSC 221	3	0	3	Basic Nutrition	O. Obeid	
NFSC 225A	0	0	0	Job Shadowing	Y. Gholmieh	For NDCP II
NFSC 225B	0	0	0	Job Shadowing	D. El-Halabi	For NDCP III
NFSC 252	3	0	3	The making of food: Introduction to Food Processing	A.Olabi	
NFSC 261	3	0	3	Introductory Biochemistry	I.Toufeili	
NFSC 274	3	0	3	Human Nutrition & Metabolism	O.Obeid	
NFSC 280	-	-	1	Summer Training in Food Establishments	A. Olabi M. Abiad	
NFSC 296	1	0	1	Seminar Presentation in Food Science & Nutrition	Staff	Restricted graduating students only
NFSC 298SU	-	-	28	Dietetic Practicum	M.C. Chamieh	For NDCP
NFSC 299	-	-	2	Special Topics in Nutrition and Food Sciences	Staff	graduating students only
NFSC 300A	-	-	1	Graduate Tutorial	Staff	
NFSC 300B	-	-	2	Graduate Tutorial	Staff	
NFSC 300C	-	-	3	Graduate Tutorial	Staff	
NFSC 395	1	0	1	Graduate Seminar	Staff	
NFSC 399	-	-	T	M.S. Thesis	Staff	

Completed Theses

A total of seven theses were completed in 2016-2017 as below:

Student Name	Date Completed	Advisor	Major	Thesis Topic
Sara Daher	Sept 2016	Lamis Jomaa	Nutrition	Food and Nutrition Security Status of Syrian Refugees and their Host Communities in Lebanon: The case of Akkar.
Marie Elisabeth Ragi	Sept 2016	Omar Obeid	Nutrition	Phosphorus effect on weight gain in rats fed wheat gluten diets
Lina Abdouni	Jan. 2017	Omar Obeid	Nutrition	The role of phosphorous in diet induced thermogenesis of lean male subjects.
Karina Merhi	Jan 2017	Omar Obeid	Nutrition	Urinary sodium and potassium status of Lebanese school aged children.
Line Koleilat	Jan 2017	Mohamad Abiad	Food Technology	The effect of dipotassium phosphate and sodium chloride on the pasting properties of cereal flours.
Yara Beyh	May 2017	Omar Obeid	Nutrition	Acute effect of phosphorus on postprandial partitioning of energy.
Suzan Faraj	May 2017	Lamis Jomaa	Nutrition	Physical activity among a representative sample of Lebanese adolescents aged 12-18 years: Findings from a national cross-sectional study.
Marwa Diab El Harake	May 2017	Lamis Jomaa	Nutrition	Impact of a pilot school-based nutrition intervention on the dietary knowledge, attitude, and behavior of Syrian refugee children in West Bekaa, Lebanon.

Research Funding

University Research Board (URB)

6 members of the Department received funds from University Research Board (URB)

- Dr. Kharroubi received funding for the project titled: "Bayesian estimations of health state utility values", from URB. (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 6,000 USD, Co-Investigator: Dr. Nahla Hwalla)
- Dr. Lamis Jomaa received funding from URB for the project entitled: "Comparison of the Food and Nutrition Security Status of Syrian refugees and their Lebanese Host Communities: the Case of Akkar". (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 10,000 USD)

- Dr. Lara Nasreddine received funding from URB for the project entitled: “Analysis of nutrient content and marketing strategies of food advertisements during children television programs in Lebanon”. (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 10,000 USD, PI)
- Dr. Farah Naja received funding from URB for the project entitled: “Validation of A food Frequency Questionnaire for the assessment of dietary intake among Lebanese adults”. (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 10,000 USD, PI)
- Dr. Olabi received funding for the project titled: “Effect of food acceptability on appetite hormones’ response in normal weight vs. obese male subjects”, from URB. (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 10,000 USD)
- Dr. Obeid received funding for the project titled: “Acute Effect of Phosphorus on Postprandial Partitioning of Energy”, from URB. (Duration: July 2016-June 2017, award amount: 8,850 USD)

Local, Regional and International Grants

7 members of the Department successfully attracted national and international grants as below:

Internal

- Dr. Mohamad Abiad received funding from the Collaborative Research Stimulus at AUB for project entitled: “Evaluation of Sustainable Concrete Produced with Industrial Hemp and Recycled Aggregates Using-scale Testing and Life Cycle Analysis. (Duration: January 4, 2017-March 31, 2019, award amount: 34,400 USD, Co-PI)
- Dr. Elie-Jacques Fares received funding from the New Faculty Research Startup Funds. (Duration: spring semester, award amount: 5,000 USD)
- Dr. Elie-Jacques Fares received funding from the ILSI North America Committee on “Balancing Food & Activity for Health. (Duration: 2017-2018, award amount: 50,000 USD)
- Dr. Issmat Kassem received funding from the New Faculty Research Startup Funds, for the project entitled: “Microbiological quality of broiler meat in Lebanon. (Duration: Feb 21–June 30, 2017, award amount: 5,000 USD)
- Dr. Lamis Jomaa received funding from the Competitive Stimulus Research Grant (CSR) for project entitled: “‘Informal’ Provision of Health Services for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon” (role: Co-PI). (Duration: April 1-March 31, 2019, award amount: 34,350 USD)
- Dr. Lamis Jomaa received funding for the project entitled: “Developing a School-Based Nutrition Education Intervention and Assessing its Impact on the Nutrition Security Status and Dietary Intake of Syrian Refugee Children: A Case Study From the Bekaa Region in Lebanon” as part of the larger project entitled “Bringing Education to Informal Tented Settlements” in collaboration with CCECS, ESDU, Education Department, and Kayany Foundation. Funding agency: Reach Out to Asia (ROTA project); Two year project 2015-2017 (end date is April 15, 2017), budget = 50,000 USD for nutrition component, Role (Co-PI).

External

- Dr. Jomaa received funding from the University of Hohenheim and DAAD, Germany for project entitled: “Nutrition Training Workshops to Improve the Nutrition Security of Syrian Refugee Children in Lebanon”. (Duration: January 11-February 15, 2017, award amount: 31,252.80 Euros)
- Dr. Kharroubi and in collaboration with Dr. Nasreddine received funding for the project titled: “Impact of feeding patterns on adiposity and cardiometabolic markers in baby and mother: a prospective cohort study”. Al-Jalila Foundation. (Duration: 2016-2018, award amount: IT-Academic Services Department 211,176 AED, Co-PI)
- Dr. Naja received funding for the project titled: “Mother and Child cohort: Towards Curbing the NCD epidemic in Qatar and Lebanon”. Qatar National research Fund (QNRF). (Duration: 2015-2018, award amount: 1,041,000 USD, lead PI)
- Dr. Naja received funding for the project titled: “Feeding Patterns and Adiposity in Sharjah City, United Arab Emirates: A Mother and Baby Cohort Study”. University of Sharjah. (Duration: 2015-2018, award amount: 133,324 AED, Co-PI)
- Dr. Naja received funding for the project entitled: “Use of biochemical markers for the validation of a food frequency questionnaire among Lebanese adults”. Purdue University, Chicago, USA. (Duration: 2016-2018, award amount: 23,000 USD, PI)
- Dr. Naja received funding for the project entitled: “Towards the Enhancement of the Mediterranean Diet”. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Rome, Italy. (Duration: 2016-2018, award amount: 100,000 USD, PI)
- Dr. Naja received funding for the project entitled: “Impact of feeding patterns on adiposity and cardiometabolic markers in baby and mother: a prospective cohort study”. Al-Jalila Foundation, UAE. (Duration: 2016-2018, award amount: 211,176 AED, Co-PI)
- Dr. Nasreddine received funding from the World Health Organization (WHO) for the project entitled: “Intakes and sources of fat, free sugars and salt amongst Lebanese children and adolescents”. (Duration: 2017-2018, award amount: 9,000 USD, PI -Dr. Kharroubi)
- Dr. Obeid received funding from UNICEF for the project entitled: “Provision of technical support to release optimal salt iodization in Lebanon”. (Duration: 2016, award amount: 23,400 USD)
- Dr. Obeid received funding for the project entitled: “Urinary electrolyte excretion and associated health outcomes in primary school children in the UAE”. (Duration: 2016-2018, award amount: 15,531 USD)



Publications

The following articles were published in international referred journals:

*International Refereed Journals**

- 1) Abou-Rizk J, Alameddine A, **Naja F.** Prevalence and Characteristics of CAM Use among People Living with HIV and AIDS in Lebanon: Implications for Patient Care. Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine. 2016 Nov. vol. 2016, Article ID 5013132, 11 pages, 2016. doi:10.1155/2016/5013132 (Naja F is the corresponding author)
- 2) Alameddine Mohamad, Baroud Maysa, Kharroubi Samer, Hamadeh Randa, Ammar Walid, Shoaib Hikma, Khodr Hiba. Investigating the job satisfaction of human resources for health at primary health care centers in Lebanon: A national cross-sectional study". *Health & Social Care in the Community*
- 3) Chandrashekhara, K., **Kassem, I.** and Rajashekhara, G., 2017. Campylobacter jejuni transducer like proteins: Chemotaxis and Beyond. Gut Microbes. 1-12. doi: 10.1080/19490976.2017.1279380
- 4) El Labban, S., Safadi, B. and **A. Olabi.** 2016. The effect of roux-en-y gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy surgery on taste acuity and sweetness acceptability in post-surgical extremely obese subjects. Nutrition 32:11-14. (**A. Olabi** and B. Safadi as corresponding authors)

* Corresponding/Senior author

- 5) Farah Naja, Nitin Shivappa, Lara Nasreddine, Samer Kharroubi, L. Itani, Nahla Hwalla, Abla Sibai and James R. Hébert. "Role of inflammation in the association between the western dietary pattern and metabolic syndrome among Lebanese adults". *International Journal of Food Sciences and Nutrition*
- 6) Fares, E. J., et al. (2017). "Reliability of low-power cycling efficiency in energy expenditure phenotyping of inactive men and women." *Physiological reports* 5(9): e13233
- 7) Helmy YA, Kassem I, Kumar A and Rajashekara G (2017) In Vitro Evaluation of the Impact of the Probiotic *E. coli* Nissle 1917 on *Campylobacter jejuni*'s Invasion and Intracellular Survival in Human Colonic Cells. *Front. Microbiol.* 8:1588. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2017.01588 *International Journal of Health Preference Research*; 1:1 <http://dx.doi.org/10.21965/IJHPR.2017.E>
- 8) Jomaa L, Hwalla N, Constant F, **Naja F**, Nasreddine L. Water and Beverage Consumption among Children Aged 4-13 Years in Lebanon: Findings from a National Cross-Sectional Study. *Nutrients*. 2016 Sep 8; 8(9). (Naja F co corresponding author)
- 9) Jomaa L, Naja F, Cheaib R, Hwalla N. Household food insecurity is associated with a higher burden of obesity and risk of dietary inadequacies among mothers in Beirut, Lebanon. *BMC Public Health*. 2017 Jun 12;17(1):567
- 10) Kassem I, Helmy YA, Kathayat D, Candelero-Rueda RA, Kumar A, Deblais L, Huang HC, Sahin O, Zhang Q, Rajashekara G. Nonculturability Might Underestimate the Occurrence of *Campylobacter* in Broiler Litter. *Foodborne Pathog Dis*. 2017 Aug;14(8):472-477. doi: 10.1089/fpd.2017.2279
- 11) **Kassem, I.**, Candelero-Rueda, R, Esseili, K. and Rajashekara, G., 2017. Formate simultaneously reduces oxidase activity and enhances respiration in *Campylobacter jejuni*. *Scientific Reports*. 7:40117
- 12) **Kassem, I.**, Kehinde, O., Kumar, A. and Rajashekara, G., 2017. Antimicrobial resistant *Campylobacter* in organically and conventionally raised layer chickens. *Foodborne Pathogens and Disease*. 14(1):29-34
- 13) Kharroubi, S. A. (2017). Status quo on health related quality of life in Lebanon [Éditorial : Statu quo sur la qualité de vie reliée à la santé au Liban]
- 14) Kharroubi, S. A. Exponential tilting in approximate posterior computation. *Proceeding of the 61st International Statistical Institute World Statistics Congress*
- 15) **Kharroubi, S. A.** (2016). Valuations of SF-6D health states: Could United Kingdom data be used to select a smaller sample of Hong Kong states. To appear in *International Journal of Healthcare*
- 16) Levitsky, D. Limb, J.E.R., Wilkinson, L. Sewall, A., Zhong, Y., Olabi, A. and J. Hunter. 2017. Lack of negative autocorrelations of daily food intake on successive days challenges the concept of the regulation of body weight in humans. *Appetite* 116: 277-283

- 17) Mason, H., van Exel, J., Baker, R., Brouwer, W., Donaldson, C., Donaldson, C., Baker, R., Mason, H., Pennington, M., Bell, S., Jones-Lee, M., Wildman, J., Lancsar, E., Robinson, A., Bacon, P., Olsen, J.A., Gyrd-Hansen, D., Kjaer, T., Beck, M., Nielsen, J.S., Persson, U., Bergman, A., Protière, C., Moatti, J.P., Luchini, S., Pinto Prades, J.L., Mataria, A., Khatib, R., Jaralla, Y., Brouwer, W., van Exel, J., Topór-Madry, R., Kozierekiewicz, A., Poznanski, D., Kocot, E., Gulácsi, L., Péntek, M., **Kharroubi, S.**, Manca, A., Shackley, P. (2016). From representing views to representativeness of views: Illustrating a new (Q2S) approach in the context of health care priority setting in nine European countries. *Social Science & Medicine* 166; 205-213
- 18) Miles-Chan, J. L., **Fares, E. J.**, Berkachy, R., Jacquet, P., Isacco, L., Schutz, Y., ... & Dulloo, A. G. (2017). Standing economy: does the heterogeneity in the energy cost of posture maintenance reside in differential patterns of spontaneous weight-shifting?. *European Journal of Applied Physiology*, 1-13
- 19) Monnard, C. R., Fares, E. J., et al. (2017). "Issues in Continuous 24-h Core Body Temperature Monitoring in Humans Using an Ingestible Capsule Telemetric Sensor." *Frontiers in Endocrinology* 8: 130
- 20) Nasreddine, L., Hwalla, N., Saliba, A., Akl, C., & **Naja, F. (corresponding author)** (2017). Prevalence and Correlates of Preschool Overweight and Obesity Amidst the Nutrition Transition: Findings from a National Cross-Sectional Study in Lebanon. *Nutrients*, 9(3), 266
- 21) Nisar M, Kassem I, Rajashekara G, Goyal SM, Lauer D, Voss S, Nagaraja KV. Genotypic relatedness and antimicrobial resistance of Salmonella Heidelberg isolated from chickens and turkeys in the midwestern United States. *J Vet Diagn Invest.* 2017 May; 29(3):370-375. doi: 10.1177/1040638717690784
- 22) Olabi, A., Hwalla, N., Daroub, H., Obeid, O. and C. Cordahi. 2016. If it does not taste good, don't eat it! The effect of food hedonics on appetite hormones: ghrelin and insulin. A pilot study. Submitted to *Nutrition Research*. (A. Olabi as corresponding author)
- 23) Ramadan H, **Naja F**, Fouad FM, Antoun E, Jaffa M, Chaaban R, Haidar M, Sibai AM. Prevalence and correlates of metabolic syndrome in pre-crisis Syria: call for current relief efforts. *East Mediterr Health J.* 2016 Dec 12; 22(9):668-675
- 24) Sharara, A., Daroub, H., Georges, C., Shayto, R., Nader, R., Chalhoub, J and **A. Olabi**. 2016. The sensory characterization of bowel cleansing laxative solutions. *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* 8: 508-516. (**A. Olabi** as corresponding author)
- 25) Sibai AM, Singh NV, Jabbour S, Saleh S, Abdulrahim S, Naja F, Yazbek S. Does published research on non-communicable disease (NCD) in Arab countries reflect NCD disease burden? *PLoS One.* 2017 Jun 2; 12(6):e0178401
- 26) Tsiraki, M.I., Karam, L., **Abiad, M.G.**; Yehia, H.M. and Savvaidis, I. Use of Natural Antimicrobials to Improve the Quality Characteristics of Fresh "Phyllo" - A Dough-based Wheat Product - Shelf Life Assessment. *Food Microbiology.* (2017) 62: 153-159 doi:10.1016/j.fm.2016.10.001



Services

Mohammad Abiad

AUB

- University Senate – *Elected FAFS Representative*
- University Senate Steering Committee – *Elected FAFS Representative*
- University Disciplinary Committee – *Elected FAFS Representative*
- Social and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board (SBS-IRB) – *Full Member*
- University Sports Committee – *Member*
- Nature Conservation Center Executive Committee – *Elected Member*
- Writing Center Advisory Board – *Member*
- K.A.S. Central Research Science Laboratory Steering Committee – *Member – FAFS Representative*
- Interfaculty Financial Aid Committee – *FAFS Representative (member)*
- Nature Conservation Center for Sustainable Futures – *Member*
- IBDA (Student Innovation Initiative) Organizing Committee – *Member*

- Board of Graduate Studies – *Elected FAFS Representative*
- Faculty Student Affairs Committee – *Elected Member*
- Task Force on Campus Master Plan and Academic Strategic Plan
- Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Dean Search Committee
- Task Force for the Review of Grading System
- Provost Consultation Committee
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Reaccreditation – Self-Study working group addressing Standard VII: Governance, Leadership, and Administration

Others

- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Essential Oils (NL TC54); Since 2016
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Pulses and Grains (NL TC34 SC4zein); Since 2016
- The National Committee for Monitoring and Controlling Wheat, Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture; Since 2016
- The National Committee for Agricultural Manufacturing and Food Products, Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture; Since 2010
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Packaging (NL TC122); Since 2010
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Safety of Food Processing Machinery (NL TC 653); Since 2009
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Food additives (NL TC 1008); Since 2009
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Food Labeling (NL TC 1011); Since 2009
- The Lebanese National Standards Institution (LIBNOR), Lebanese Ministry of Industry, Technical Committee on Paper, Board and Pulp, Glass and Metal Containers (NL TC 3010); Since 2009
- Reviewer for the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at AUB
- Reviewer for the following international journals:
 - Food Quality and Preference
 - Waste and Biomass Valorization
 - Journal of Environmental Planning and Management
 - Journal of Cleaner Production
 - Food Quality and Preference
 - RSC Advances
 - European Review of Agriculture Economics

Lamis Jomaa

AUB

- Co-director of the Refugee Health Program, Strategic Health Initiative
- Member of the FAFS Research Committee
- Member of the Graduate Student Committee
- Member of interdepartmental Rural Community Development Committee
- Member of the Interfaculty committee on capacity building in Food Security
- Alternate member on the IRB Social and Behavioral Sciences board

Others

- Member of the Nutrition Platform (academic, governmental and nongovernmental entities working on nutrition programs and initiatives in Lebanon) – hosted at WFP
- Technical nutrition committee at the Ministry of Public Health
- Member of the Lebanese Association for Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND)
- Member of the Fulbright Alumni Association in Lebanon

Samer Kharroubi

AUB

- Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Secretary
- Member of Student Affairs Committee

Others

- Member of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS)
- Member in the International Editorial Reviewer Board of International Journal of Healthcare
- Member in the International Editorial Reviewer Board of INQUIRY Journal

Farah Naja

AUB

- Coordinator of the Undergraduate Nutrition Program
- Member of FAFS Research Committee
- Member of FAFS Library Committee
- Co-Chair of the Rebuilding Health Forum. Strategic Health Initiatives.
- Member of the special review panel of the newly established Collaborative Research Stimulus (CRS) grants
- Affiliate member in the Nutrition and Obesity Related Diseases (NORD) program, Global Health Initiatives, Strategic Health Initiatives, AUB
- Member of the AUB Wellness committee
- NCC executive committee

Others

- Examination Member of National Nutrition Colloquium
- Advisory board member of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Beirut Arab University
- Reviewed four articles for the 2 journals
- Member of the Vascular Medicine Program (AUB)
- Member of the Food Security and Policy in the Middle-East (FSPME) (AUB)
- Member of the International Breast Cancer Network

*Lara Nasreddine***AUB**

- Member of the Equity & Title IX Working Group—to develop recommendations for institutional strategies including policy revisions to cultivate a climate of respect, equity, and inclusion
- Member of the CP committee to oversee the coordinated program in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Member of the Teaching Excellence Award Committee
- Member of the Vascular Medicine Program (VMP) Executive Council
- Member of the Biomedical Sciences PhD Committee

Others

- Member of the Board of ILSI Middle East
- Associate Editor in BMC Nutrition Journal
- Reviewer in PLOS one Journal
- Member of Lebanese Action for Salt and Health (LASH)
- Member of the International Breast Cancer and Nutrition team
- Member of the Public Health in the Arab World (PHAW)
- Member of the WHO Regional Research in Nutrition-related NCDs
- Member of the World Action on Salt & Health (WASH)

*Ammar Olabi***AUB**

- Member, FAFS Advisory Committee
- FAFS Representative on the selection Committee of the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at AUB
- Member of the FSMT Accreditation Committee
- Member of NCC (Nature Conservation)
- Program Learning Outcomes Departmental Representative
- Member, MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at AUB, Interviewing Committee

- Member of the Steering Committee for AUB's re-accreditation by the Middle States
- Commission on Higher Education. Co-Chair for Working Group 6 (Planning, Resources and Institutional Assessment)
- Member of the Search Committee for Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture
- Member of the Second Tenure Task Force FAFS Representative
- FAFS Representative on the Office of International Programs Academic Advisory Committee
- FAFS Faculty Coordinator for the Continuing Education Center of the Regional External Programs (REP) Office
- Member of the Lebanon Action for Salt and Health Group (LASH)
- Member, of the Teaching Excellence Award Committee (Dates not shown for confidentiality purposes)

Others

- Jury Member for the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Sensory and Consumer Sciences Achievement Award (Dates not shown for confidentiality purposes)
- Jury Member for the selection and evaluation of abstracts submitted to IFT's annual conference (Dates not shown for confidentiality purposes)
- Ministry of Agriculture (Committee for milk and milk products) December 2009-present)
- Ministry of Agriculture (Agro Industry Committee) January 2010-present)
- Member of the National Codex Alimentarius Committee
- Member of the World Action on Salt & Health (WASH)
- Founding Board Member, Land O Lakes Association-Lebanon (March 2014-present)
- Reviewer for the Journal of Food Science
- Reviewer for the Journal of Dairy Science
- Reviewer for the Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture
- Reviewer for Food Quality and Preference
- Reviewer for Appetite
- Member of the Institute of Food Technologists (Sensory and Quality Assurance divisions)
- Member of the American Dairy Science Association

Imad Toufeili

AUB

- FAFS Advisory Committee
- Chairman NFSC Department

Other

- Workshop “Nutrition and Food: Ongoing Journey for Better Health” Department of Nutrition & Food Sciences, September 29, 2016
- Reviewed Papers for:
 - Food Science & Technology (Campinas); October 14, 2016
 - Journal of Food Processing and Preservation; November 18, 2016
 - International Journal of Dairy Technology; December 22, 2016



Participation in Workshops and Conferences

NFSC Department

- NFSC organized a one day workshop on “Nutrition and Food: Ongoing Journey for Better Health”. (September 29, 2016)
- Dean Hwalla and Dr. Habib Mourad participated in an event organized by “Healthy Kids- Ajyal Salima” to encourage healthy eating and physical activity. Schools were invited to showcase their projects during a national event that was held at the UNESCO palace. (October 5, 2016)
- NFSC organized an awareness session for dietetics internships entitled: “Nutrition and Dietetics Internships (non-CP track) Awareness Session”. (October 26, 2016)
- NFSC held a workshop entitled: “Workshop on Post-Graduation Opportunities in Lebanon and Internationally” at FAFS. (April 26, 2017)
- NFSC hosted a 2-day workshop on “Basic and Advanced Carbohydrate Counting”, presented by Ms. Claudia Matta. (Jan 19-20, 2017)
- NFSC in collaboration with the Institute of Global Health (part of University College London) organized an eleven-day course in Nutrition in Emergencies (NIE). (May 2-13, 2017)
- The NFSC Department organized a ceremony for the NDCP’s Preceptors and Class of 2017. The Ceremony took place at Charles Hostler Auditorium and Terrace. (May 26, 2017)
- The NFSC Department hosted a 2-days workshop on “Basic and Advanced Carbohydrate Counting”, presented by Ms. Claudia Matta. (July 12-13, 2017)

Mohamad Abiad

- Organized a one day workshop on “Reducing Food Waste: A worthy challenge for food processors”, in collaboration with Euro-Lebanese Centre for Industrial Modernization (ELCIM). Hospitality Forum, HORECA 2017, Biel. (April 6, 2017)
- Organized a one day workshop on “Industry and Environment: Cost saving and profitable solutions”, Funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Lebanon Industry Value Chain Development (LIVCD) project in Collaboration with Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI). Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand Hotel, Sin El-Fil. (April 11, 2017)

Marie-Claire Chamieh

- Was invited by the National Cancer Institute, where she participated in *the Implementation Science Skills Development Workshop*. (Cairo, Egypt, Dec 4-Dec 8, 2016)
- Participated in the scheduled site visit for *re-accreditation of the Nutrition and Dietetics coordinated Program (NDCP)*. (Albany, New York, Nov 4-Nov 9, 2016)

Elie- Jacques Fares

- Gave an oral presentation at Physical Activity and Health Workshop entitled: “Metabolic Phenotyping and Predisposition to Obesity which was organized by the Lebanese Academy for Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) and AUB. (April 3, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation at the Capacity Building Workshop- towards Improving Nutrition among Refugees I Lebanon entitled: “The importance of physical activity among adolescent females for their healthy growth and development and for the prevention of obesity”. AUB, FAFS room 102. (February 3, 2017)
- Presented a talk entitled: “Controversies of antioxidant supplementation in Sports”, at the “18th ISANH Middle East World Congress on Antioxidants”. (May 3-4, 2017)
- Presented a talk entitled: “Physical activity, metabolism, and health”, at the “MYANT Company” that took place in Toronto, Canada. (May 3-4, 2017)

Yara Gholmie

- Attended and participated at the *Food and Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE)*. (Boston, MA, USA, Oct 15-18, 2016)

Dima El-Halabi

- Participated in the scheduled site visit for *re-accreditation of the Nutrition and Dietetics coordinated Program (NDCP)*. (Albany, New York, Nov 4-Nov 9, 2016)
- Organized a one day workshop on “Post-Graduation Options: Internships and Masters Opportunities in Lebanon and internationally”. FAFS, AUB. (April 26, 2017)

Lamis Jomaa

- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Comparison of the Food and Nutrition Security Status of Syrian Refugees and Host Communities in Lebanon: the Case of Akkar” at the AUB4Refugees Initiative first forum, AUB, West Hall. (January 27, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Addressing the Nutritional Status of Syrian Refugees and Host Communities in Lebanon: Highlights from Community-based Research Projects.” At the Fulbright Alumni Regional Conference: Contemporary Health Issues, Cairo, Egypt. (February 20-22, 2017)
- Organized a one day Round Table Discussion “Tackling the Health and Nutritional Status of Syrian refugees: Comparisons between Lebanon and Germany”. FAFS, AUB. (February 2, 2017)
- Organized a one day Capacity Building workshop “Towards Improving Nutrition among Refugees in Lebanon”. FAFS, AUB. (February 3, 2017)
- Presented two posters entitled: “Household food insecurity is associated with the double burden of obesity and hidden hunger among mothers in Lebanon: A national cross-sectional study” and “Development and validation of a standardized measure to assess food quality to aid in nutrition policy and alleviate hidden hunger” at the 3rd International Hidden Hunger congress, Stuttgart. Germany. (March 20th-22nd, 2017)

- Attended the “North American Refugee Health Conference” and presented an oral presentation, entitled: “Impact of a School Nutrition Intervention on the Nutrition security of Refugee Children in Lebanon: Findings from a Pilot Study”. The conference was held in Toronto, Canada. (June 16 - 18, 2017)
- Organized a full health awareness day in one of the refugee camps in the Bekaa in collaboration with the NGO, for the launching of the RHP part of the Global Health Initiative, the foundational phase of the Global Health Institute (GHI) at AUB. (June 28, 2017)

Issmat Kassem

- Gave an oral presentation as an invited speaker at the HORECA 2017 Workshop Seminar entitled: Microbial Hazards in the Foodservice Industry: Contamination and Control. Hospitality Forum, HORECA 2017, Biel. (April 4, 2017)
- Granted a Long-Term Faculty Development Grant to conduct research at Ohio State University's (OSU) in their Food Animal Health Research Program. Taking place in Ohio, USA. (June 1 - July 31, 2017)

Samer Kharroubi

- Attended a seminar entitled: “Modelling health state preference data: Be Bayesian” at the Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Notre Dame, University-Louaize. March 8, 2017)
- Attended a seminar entitled: “Basic Biostatistics for Geneticists and Epidemiologists” at the American University of Beirut. (March 24, 2017)
- Visited the Department of Statistics and Operations Research at Kuwait University and gave a talk on: “Modelling health state preference data: Be a Bayesian”. The meeting was held in Kuwait. (May 6 – 12, 2017)
- Attended the 61st ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC) and presented a paper entitled “Exponential tilting in approximate posterior computation”. The meeting took place in Marrakech, Morocco. (July 16 – 21, 2017)
- Attended a seminar “School of Health and Related Research”, at University of Sheffield and presented a talk on: “Bayesian estimation for health state preference based measures utilities”. (August 4, 2017)

Lara Nasreddine

- Participated in the scheduled site visit for *re-accreditation of the Nutrition and Dietetics coordinated Program (NDCP)*. (Albany, New York, Nov 4-Nov 9, 2016)
- Participated as a speaker in the 2nd *Dubai Nutrition Conference*, and presented a lecture, titled: “Challenges and opportunities for Optimal Nutritional Status among Children”. (Dubai, UAE, Nov 17-20, 2016)
- Participated in the roundtable discussion, entitled: “Tackling the Health and Nutritional Status of Syrian refugees: Comparisons between Lebanon and Germany” at FAFS, AUB. (February 2, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Prevalence and Hazards of Obesity in Children: the case of the Levant”; in the Workshop on “Towards Improving Nutrition among

Refugees in Lebanon: A Capacity Building Workshop” at AUB in collaboration with the University of Hohenheim. (February 3, 2017)

- Presented a lecture entitled: “Nutrition Situation Analysis for Lebanon” at the Nutrition platform meeting, World Food program, Beirut, Lebanon. (February 13, 2017)
- Presented a mini workshop entitled: “Dietary Exposure to Food Contaminants” at the 6th Middle East Conference on Clinical Nutrition, Cairo, Egypt. (March 21-23, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Prediabetes in Lebanon: Prevalence and Associated Factors” at the 6th Middle East Conference on Clinical Nutrition, Cairo, Egypt. (March 21-23, 2017)
- Participated in the closed meeting on scientific aspects of monosodium glutamate (MSG) use in food organized by International Glutamate Technical Committee (IGTC), Dubai, UAE. (March 27, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Pediatric Obesity Amidst the Nutrition Transition: the Case of Lebanon” at FHS Seminar series, FHS, AUB. (April 5, 2017)
- Granted a Long-Term Faculty Development Grant to participate in the summer research camp at Purdue University, taking place in Indiana, USA. (June 20 – July 5, 2017)

Farah Naja

- Participated in the *Sixth International Breast Cancer and Nutrition Symposium (IBCN) and its think tank*. She chaired the session on “Big data: Combining environmental impact and primary prevention”. (California, US, Oct 10-14, 2016)
- Participated as a speaker in the *2nd Dubai Nutrition Conference*, and presented two lectures, titled: “Optimal Nutrition for Children & Adolescents: the story beyond energy & nutrients” and “Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research: implications for health care and policy”. (Dubai, UAE, Nov 17-20, 2016)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Dietary Intake Data: The good, the bad and the ugly” at the Workshop on “Women In data Science”. FAFS, AUB. (February 3, 2017)
- Gave an oral presentation entitled: “Obesity among Adolescents: Story Beyond Energy & Nutrients” in the Workshop on “Towards Improving Nutrition among Refugees in Lebanon: A Capacity Building Workshop” at AUB in collaboration with the University of Hohenheim. (February 3, 2017)
- Attended the “Launch of the 2nd Edition of the Public Health Nutrition textbook” in which she coauthored a chapter on “Diet and Cancer”. The event took place in London, UK. (May 18 – May 19, 2017)
- Invited to give a lecture entitled: “The Mediterranean Diet: Health And Beyond during the workshop to launch the FAO Project: Towards the Enhancement of the Mediterranean Diet in the Mediterranean Region: The Case of Lebanon”. The lecture took place at FAFS, AUB. (May 24, 2017)

- Participated in the Technical Workshop on “Sustainable diets in the context of sustainable food systems”, where she presented a talk entitled “A Western Dietary Pattern Has the Highest Environmental Footprints among Lebanese Adults”. The workshop took place in Rome, Italy. (July 12 – 13, 2017)

Carla Habib Mourad

- Attended a seminar on *Practice Sports Safely* and presented: “Healthy Nutrition for Athletes”. The Seminar was organized by AUB and AUBMC to celebrate the UN International Sports Day for Development and Peace. (April 6, 2016)
- Visited Jordan to meet with her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan during a school event in Amman for Ajyal Salima Program. (May 15, 2017)
- Participated in the Conference on the occasion of Nurses Day, which was organized by the Order of Nurses for Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Her Lecture covered Healthy Eating tips for Nurses. (May 22, 2017)
- Interviewed on Radio Orient. She discussed the FAFS reception honoring graduating students and gave few tips for Ramadan. (May 22, 2017)

Ammar Olabi

- Participated as a moderator in *The 6th Arab Beverages Conference and Exhibition*, and moderated the session about: “Best Practices in Beverage Industry”. (Amman, Jordan, Sept 28-29, 2016)
- Presented a lecture entitled: “How to prepare a scientific poster” for AGSC 395 (Graduate Seminar), room 325, FAFS, AUB. (March 23, 2017)

Omar Obeid

- Participated as a speaker in *The 6th Arab Beverages Conference and Exhibition*, and presented a lecture, titled: “Emerging nutrition trends and the need for change”. (Amman, Jordan, Sept 28-29, 2016)
- Participated as a speaker in the *2nd Dubai Nutrition Conference*, and presented two lectures, titled: “Flour Fortification with Iron: Fighting Anemia or Fueling Obesity?” and “Refeeding and metabolic syndromes: two sides of the same biological coin”. (Dubai, UAE, Nov 16-19, 2016)
- Presented one of the emerging topics in Clinical Nutrition entitled: “Artificial Sweeteners, the benefits and the potential hazards”. at the 6th Middle East Conference on Clinical Nutrition, Cairo, Egypt. (March 21-23, 2017)
- Granted a Short-Term Faculty Development Grant to present an abstract, titled “Effect of phosphorus supplementation on diet induced thermogenesis of a normal protein-low phosphorus meal” at the ECO2017- the 24th European Congress on Obesity, taking place in Porto, Portugal. (May 17 - 20, 2017)
- Attended the Third Middle East Diabetes Forum MEDF2017 and presented a talk, entitled: “Refined Carbohydrates and Diabetes”. The event was held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. (May 3 – 4, 2017)

Ioannis Savvaidis

- Participated in *the Imparas Conference*, where he represented Greece in “the Management Committee”. (Vienna, Austria, Nov 30- Dec 1, 2016)
- Participated as speaker in *The 6th Arab Beverages Conference and Exhibition*, and presented a lecture, titled: “Spoilage Problems- New Technologies that help to reduce microbial juice and dairy spoilage”. (Amman, Jordan, Sept 28-29, 2016)
- Participated in *the Imparas Conference*, where he represented Greece in “the Management Committee”. (Warsaw, Poland, Sept 20-22, 2016)



Consultancies

- **Dr. Jomaa** received consultancy as a project coordinator for a joint training project with the University of Hohenheim entitled “Nutrition Training Workshops to Improve the Nutrition Security of Syrian Refugee Children in Lebanon”. Period: 11.5 days, Jan 26 -Feb 8, 2017. Location: Beirut and Bekaa, Lebanon).
- **Dr. Jomaa** received consultancy as the coordinator of the nutrition education intervention within the ROTA project conducted in collaboration with CCECS. (Period: 12-days, March 16 -April 6, 2017. Location: Beirut and Bekaa, Lebanon).

Strategic Challenges

The following challenges were encountered during the past year:

- Difficulty in conducting national or regional nutrition surveys, given the unstable political situation.
- Difficulty in implementing community projects and securing internship placements for dietetic interns as part of their community nutrition rotations due to the unstable security situation in Lebanon.
- Scarcity of laboratory equipment

New initiatives

N/A

Future plans

- Establish a nutrition research and outreach unit
- Establish a Packaging and Consumer Unit for Research and Education (Pack CURE) at the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences.
- Enhance collaborations with the food industry



P.O.Box 0236-11, Riad El Solh
Beirut 2020 1107, Lebanon
Tel: +961 1 343002
Fax: +961 1 744460
Email: fafs@aub.edu.lb