



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

FAS Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

6:30 pm | Green Oval

Streamed via facebook.com/FAS.AUB

Program

6:30-6:45 pm

Opening Remarks

President Fadlo R. Khuri

Interim Dean Saouma BouJaoude

6:45-7:30 pm

Distribution of Awards

Dear Students,

Congratulations! Not only did you make it to graduation, but you also achieved excellence, which we are thrilled to be celebrating today. The awards which will be distributed today demonstrate your perseverance, hard work, and resolve to excel under what can only be described as the dire conditions of Lebanon's compounded crises.

I am glad that your last year at AUB was normal (almost). Experiencing life on our beautiful campus, interacting with your peers, and participating in various activities, clubs, and societies – this is all a hallmark of AUB. As you take this next important step toward your careers, we are proud to have seen you develop academically and socially, and become important messengers for AUB's mission, which states that "Graduates – such as yourselves – will be individuals committed to creative and critical thinking, life-long learning, personal integrity, civic responsibility, and leadership." Each and every one of you embodies the best of AUB's and FAS's liberal arts model of higher education - we are sending you off into the world as critical and creative thinkers who have received an excellent education, as citizens devoted to service, and as individuals accepting of others and respectful of diversity and equality. These are all key attributes of citizens needed in Lebanon, the region, and I dare say the world.

First, education. The excellent education you received at AUB has prepared you to be successful in your careers, to be innovative and lifelong learners, and to behave ethically and rationally when dealing with issues and challenges. These qualities amplify your responsibility to promote the importance of education to others and to prepare them to be good citizens.

Second, service. Service to the community broadens perspectives and provides a different outlook on life: getting out of your comfort zones, understanding and assisting the underprivileged, and contributing to society in several ways. I know that many of you have been involved in community service, and I hope that you will continue to serve your communities, wherever you may be and wherever life may take you, but especially if you are in Lebanon – because this will help you grow as a person and citizen, and allow you to make an impact and important difference in the lives of others.

In addition to service to the community, it is important that you take what you have learned at AUB and contribute to the public good by being active in and involved with national issues. With the lessons you have learned here, you can strongly influence and help establish important and much-needed policies that help fight corruption, protect the environment, and improve the quality of life for all citizens.

Third, diversity and equality. Your experience at AUB, especially over the past year which marked your return to campus, has allowed you to interact with students from a variety of backgrounds, which has heightened your dedication to a more inclusive, diverse, and equal society. Contemporary problems faced in many countries, including Lebanon, come from the failure to accept others and a tendency to discount others as inferior. Acceptance of one another should be an integral value of life in the twenty-first century, a value that I am sure you will strive to promote in whatever you do.

According to the American journalist, writer, and filmmaker Nora Ephron, “Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead.”

As your time at AUB comes to a close, keep everything you have learned, and all your AUB experiences, close to your hearts and to your minds. Benefit from what you have acquired and experienced at AUB to live a successful, happy, and healthy life that is grounded in education, service, and respect for others.

Dear Students,

Congratulations again to each and every one of you on your graduation and your awards. You have made FAS very proud. Congratulations to your families whose love and support allowed you to excel.

Finally, I would like to end my speech today with the Irish blessing,

May the road rise to meet you

May the wind be at your back

May the sun shine warm upon your face

May the rain fall softly on your fields

My best wishes for a bright future, for all of you.

Saouma Boujaoude

Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages

Anwar Salman Award in Literature

Anwar Salman is a distinguished modern Lebanese poet who is considered to be one of the pioneers of Al-Shamiyah [the Levantine] school, a trend in Arabic poetry that focused on the aesthetic aspects of the poem, with emphasis on visual and auditory imagery. Established in 2019, the award is given to a graduating undergraduate student in Arabic in recognition of creative writing skills and exceptional research related to poetry and/or the literary works of Anwar Salman.

This year the award goes to:

Siba Mahmoud Mroueh

Nader Prize for Excellence in Arabic Language and Literature

This award is given to a graduating undergraduate student who achieves the highest academic distinction or achieves the highest levels of creativity in Arabic language and literature

This year the award goes to:

Rana Jamil Roukoz

Department of Biology

Usama al-Khalidi Endowed Award

Professor Usama al-Khalidi was an Arab scientist, artist, poet, and astronomer who dedicated his life to teaching young people to innovate and think “outside the box.” Al-Khalidi was an alumnus, professor, and chairperson of AUB’s Biochemistry Department. This award was established by his family, students, and friends in 2015 and is given to an outstanding senior student majoring in biology who has demonstrated academic excellence and creativity, as well as a commitment to community service. www.usama-alkhalidi.squarespace.com

This year the award goes to:

Zeina Munther Al Khalil

Wadia Nouredin Award in Biology

This award is given to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence in their academic studies in biology, as well as a mature commitment to a career in the same or related field. The award honors Mrs. Wadia Shaar Nouredin, mother of Drs. Baha’ and Samar. As an Arabic language teacher, Wadia cultivated in her children a love of AUB and of studying the life sciences. Both Drs. Baha’ (in medicine) and Samar (in nursing) are AUB alumni and have had lifelong academic and service careers at AUB.

This year the award goes to:

Joe Georges Bedrane

William Van Dyck Award in Biology

Dr. William Van Dyck was a professor of biology at AUB and a mentor of Frank Stewart, whose father was a good friend of Dr. Van Dyck. To honor his memory and his achievements, including acknowledgment of his work from Dr. Charles Darwin, Stewart established this award in 2012. It is given to the graduating senior student majoring in biology with the highest academic average.

This year the award goes to:

Joe Michel Youssef

Department of Chemistry

Makhlouf Haddadin Award for Outstanding Chemistry Graduate and Undergraduate Students

Dr. Haddadin has had a long and distinguished association with AUB's Chemistry Department. An AUB alumnus, Haddadin earned a PhD in organic chemistry at the University of Colorado and did a fellowship at Harvard University. He returned to AUB to begin his career as a research associate. He was chairman of the Department of Chemistry in the 1970s and 1980s. He served AUB also as vice president for academic affairs and acting dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. He also served as acting president on more than one occasion.

In honor of his service to the university, two awards were established in 2011: the Makhlouf Haddadin Award for Outstanding Chemistry Undergraduate Student and the Makhlouf Haddadin Award for Outstanding Chemistry Graduate Student.

Makhlouf Haddadin Award for the Outstanding Chemistry Undergraduate Student

Awarded at the end of each academic year to a graduating senior chemistry student who has an excellent academic record and has demonstrated research excellence through a paper or project.

This year the award goes to:

Karen Georges Hannouche

Makhlouf Haddadin Award for the Outstanding Chemistry Graduate Student

Awarded at the end of each academic year to a graduating MS chemistry student who has demonstrated research and academic excellence.

This year the award goes to:

Christina Edward Al Tawil

Department of Computer Science

Henri Qais Naccache Computer Science Student Development Fund

This fund was created to recognize students engaged in promising computer science projects, including those training to participate in the ACM Collegiate Programming Contest, one of the most prestigious computer science contests worldwide. The fund also supports the acquisition of software and hardware required for senior student projects and grants awards to the best and brightest students in computer science.

Late Henri Qais Naccache Competitive Programming Award

Awarded to a student or team of students in computer science who have shown dedication and remarkable performance in competitive programming.

This year the award goes to:

Mohammad Bassem Ghalayini and Zein Mohammad Shehabeddine

Late Henri Qais Naccache Undergraduate Research Award

Awarded to an undergraduate student or group of students in computer science who have demonstrated excellence in research.

This year the award goes to:

Karim Kassem Barada

Late Henri Qais Naccache Best Thesis Award

Awarded to a graduate student in computer science who has defended the best thesis.

This year the award goes to:

Safaa Yousef Diab

Late Henri Qais Naccache Best Graduate Student Award

Awarded to a graduate student in computer science who has completed the thesis and has attained the highest cumulative average in courses.

This year the award goes to:

Sarah Bassem Katerji

Mark Sawaya Excellence Award in Computer Science

Established in 2014, this award is given at the end of each academic year to the graduating senior student in computer science with the highest cumulative average.

This year the award goes to:

Elie Zahi Rizk

MT2 Best Achievement Award

Established by MT2 in 2019, this award is granted to the computer science student(s) who prove their achievements through an acquired and demonstrated skillset across various accomplishments in specific area(s) of computer science.

This year the award goes to:

Amir Ahmad Nassereldine

Murex Best Collaborative Development Project

Established in 2012, this award recognizes team work, group spirit, and collaboration in support of a development project spanning different industries, geographies, and departments.

This year the award goes to:

**Yahya Abdul Rahman Al Eryani, Mohamed Louai Bouzاهر,
Mario Joseph Sassine, and Bilal Hassan Wehbi**

Murex Best Computer Science Student in Development

Established in 2012, this award honors the top computer science student who has focused in his/her courses, projects, internships, and research assistant assignments on development and programming.

This year the award goes to:

Souad Mahmoud Bdeir, Hadeel Raafat El Yazori, and Fatima Ali Karaki

Murex Best Innovative Development Project

Established in 2012, the award recognizes and rewards development projects that spotlight ideas, concepts, and methodologies that are “out of the box.”

This year the award goes to:

Ali Yasser Jammoul and Dani Mohamad Nehme

Department of Economics

Dr. Basil Fuleihan Excellence Award in Economics

Dr. Basil Fuleihan graduated from AUB in 1984 with a BA in economics. He went on to earn a master's degree at Yale University and a doctorate at Columbia University. He returned to Lebanon in 1993 to embark on a 12-year political career and advised many of Lebanon's leading politicians. He was appointed minister of economy and trade and elected a member of parliament in 2000. A prominent economist and politician, Fuleihan was tragically killed by the bomb blast that assassinated former Prime Minister Rafic Hariri on February 14, 2005. This award was established by his friends in 2015 and is awarded to the graduating student with a BA in economics with the highest average over their period of study at AUB.

This year the award goes to:

Cynthia Michel Diab

President Elias Hraoui Student Awards in Economics

This award was established in 2015 by President Elias Hraoui's wife and former first lady Ms. Mona Hraoui and their son Roland. Hraoui was born in 1926 in Hawsh Al-Umara, Zahle. He studied law and commerce before being elected to parliament in 1972. From 1980 to 1982, he served as minister of public works under President Elias Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafik Wazzan. He was elected president of Lebanon on November 24, 1989 and served until November 23, 1998.

President Elias Hraoui Student Award in Economics (Undergraduate)

Awarded to an undergraduate student who is a member of the Economics Student Society for demonstrating outstanding leadership and scholastic achievement.

This year the award goes to:

Karim Nadim Abdo

President Elias Hraoui Student Award in Economics (Graduate)

Awarded to an outstanding graduate economics student who has been accepted to a PhD program.

This year the award goes to:

Jana Nabih Abou Hjaily

Mona Chemali Khalaf Award

Dr. Mona Chemali Khalaf was a professor, economist, and director of the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW), and chairperson of AUB's President's Club. She was an especially passionate champion for gender equality and women's empowerment. Dr. Amin Khalaf established the Mona Chemali Khalaf Award to celebrate his late mother's memory and honor her accomplishments. This award is given to the undergraduate student majoring in economics who has the highest GPA in the fall term of their graduating year.

This year the award goes to:

Karen Joseph Bakhos

Nadim Khalaf Memorial Award

Dr. Nadim Khalaf was a professor at AUB and chair of the Department of Economics. He was an adviser on several governmental committees and made a significant contribution to the study of economics. This award was originally established in 1996 and was endowed in 2014. It is given to the graduating student in economics who has earned the highest average during their undergraduate studies.

This year the award goes to:

Jane Georges Dayoub

Samir Makdisi Award in Economics

Dr. Samir Makdisi is an emeritus professor of economics and served as deputy president of AUB from 1993 to 1998. He was founding director of AUB's Institute of Financial Economics (1984-2007) and has published important works on democracy, economics, and development in the Arab world. He was Lebanon's minister of economy and trade in 1992. This award was established in 2007 and is given to the project or thesis produced during the academic year that best reflects the values of Makdisi's work.

This year the award goes to:

Mohamad Hasan Nidal Bazzi

The Remy Rubeiz Award in Economics

Remy-George Rubeiz was a 20-year-old senior student in economics who passed away in March 2013 from sudden cardiac arrest. His BA degree in economics with distinction was awarded posthumously. To honor Rubeiz's memory, his family established this award and launched the Remy Rubeiz Young Heart Foundation. Its mission is to save the lives of children and young adults who, like Rubeiz, are genetically predisposed to heart rhythm abnormalities. This award is given to a junior student majoring in economics who has the highest average in a specific set of economics, mathematics, and humanities courses.

This year the award goes to:

Chekri Joseph Khalife

Suad Sabbagh Sanioura Memorial Prize

This prize was established in 2017 to honor Suad Sabbagh, a devoted mother who valued education, self-esteem, and human dignity. She strongly believed that clear vision, hard work, and integrity would lead her children to excellence and empower them to serve the general good. This award is given to a graduating student majoring in economics who has high academic standing.

This year the award goes to:

Rim Moataz El Samman

Department of Education

Burhan and Rabab Baalbaki Award in Education

This award is given to a graduating student in education (teaching diploma or diploma) who demonstrates excellence in his/her academic studies. The award, made possible by their children Thuraya (BBA '84, MBA '86), Imad (BBA '85, MBA '87), Souheir (BBA '93), and Salwa, honors Mr. Burhan Baalbaki and Mrs. Rabab Baalbaki for their selfless devotion to their family, and for instilling in their children noble values and moral principles, the love of knowledge, and belief in education as the great equalizer.

This year the award goes to:
Haya Hadi Bitar

Educators' Endowed Award in Education

Established in 2008, this award is given to the undergraduate student(s) who have demonstrated exceptional involvement in community service, a commitment to innovation, and academic excellence.

This year the award goes to:
Maria Rani Wehbe

Dr. Fuad Said Haddad Award in Education

Dr. Fuad Said Haddad was a professor emeritus in the Department of Education, registrar of AUB, and a member of the Arab Association of Collegiate Registrars. He made many contributions to both the study of education and to the discipline of registration. His wife and children established this award in 2011 to honor his life and memory. It is awarded to the graduate student in education who writes the best thesis as selected by the Department of Education.

This year the award goes to:
Rabih Bechara Murr

Randa Azzam Khoury Award in Education

This award is given to a graduating education teaching diploma (TD) student, preferably in elementary education.

This year the award goes to:
Abir Ghassan Muhareb

Jack and Hoda Afram Manok Endowed Award

Established by Maria (BA '04), Georgina (BA '10), and Joe (BS '03) in honor of their parents Jack and Hoda Afram Manok, this award is given to the graduating student in education with the highest academic achievements.

This year the award goes to:

Lama Mazen Hamzeh

Khawla Hobeika Rizk Endowed Award in Education

This award is given to the top senior female student majoring in education.

This year the award goes to:

Rana Ahmad Zalghout

Samia Abdul Basset Siniora Endowed Award in Education

This award is granted to an undergraduate student with an excellent academic record who demonstrates a commitment to the education pledge and promotes moral and academic excellence, tolerance, inclusivity, and innovation in education.

This year the award goes to:

Yara Mazen El Amine

Department of English

Shehadeh Abboud Memorial Excellence Award in English Language

Though Shehadeh Abboud held several administrative positions during his career, he was widely known as a passionate and dedicated English language teacher. His wife and children established this award in 2004 to celebrate his academic life and his commitment to AUB, which he considered his second home. It is awarded to a graduating senior student majoring in English language who has achieved the highest average in English courses during their undergraduate studies.

This year the award goes to:

Yazan Samy Abdunnur

Murad Al-Akl Literary Award

This award is granted to the student who writes the best essay, speech, or debate on the subject of “How I Can Serve My Fellow Man.”

Jinan Majzoub Excellence Award in English Literature

Mrs. Jinan Majzoub is the wife of a diplomat and has dedicated her life to charity work. Her daughter Reem Al Rashash-Shaaban, who is an alumna and former faculty member, established this award in 2007 to honor her mother who has a degree in English literature, and to show her appreciation for AUB. It is awarded to the graduating student(s) with the highest average(s) in the master’s program in English literature.

This year the award goes to:

Jana Fouad Nasr

Department of Fine Arts and Art History

Hana Jabsheh Endowed Award

Ms. Jabsheh had a strong passion for fine art and music. As a singer herself, she felt the need to encourage art in our region. In 2017, to honor her memory, her beloved family established this award to recognize top students who share her passion. It is presented to the senior student graduating from the Department of Fine Arts and Art History with the highest GPA.

This year the award goes to:

William Mazen Okaily

Department of History and Archaeology

Abdallah Lahoud Foundation Award

The Abdallah Lahoud Foundation Award was established in 2013 by the friends and family of the late Abdallah Lahoud to honor the memory of both this young entrepreneur and of his grandfather, Abdallah Lahoud, a prominent lawyer and literary figure. Established in 2016, this award is presented annually to the graduating student with the highest average in either history or archaeology.

This year the award goes to:

Nathan Nabil Azar

Department of Mathematics

Muhanna Foundation in Mathematics Award of Excellence

The Muhanna Foundation is dedicated to the development, funding, and implementation of actuarial education and research projects and continuing education programs for professionals in actuarially underdeveloped countries, particularly in the Arab world. This award was established in 1998 and endowed in 2013 to support students who excel in mathematics. It is given to the most outstanding senior Lebanese student in the Department of Mathematics.

This year the award goes to:

Amir Monjed Jaber Chehayeb

Department of Political Studies and Public Administration

Dr. Randa Antoun Annual Awards for Public Service and Civic Engagement

Dr. Randa Antoun was a beloved alumna and esteemed faculty member in the Department of Political Studies and Public Administration who was widely admired both at AUB and in the community. The news of her passing in February 2014 was met with a tremendous outpouring of love. Her family, friends, students, and colleagues established this award in 2014 to commemorate and celebrate her life and her dedication to her students.

Dr. Randa Antoun Annual Award for Public Service and Civic Engagement (Undergraduate)

This award is given to a graduating student who demonstrates academic excellence, engages in and promotes leadership in civic issues, has worked on a research paper that evaluates a contemporary problem in Lebanon, and advances a clear and innovative solution to that problem.

This year the award goes to:
Baker Sami Shakhshir

Dr. Randa Antoun Annual Award for Public Service and Civic Engagement (Graduate)

This award is given to a graduate student who demonstrates academic excellence, engages in and promotes leadership in civic issues, and has worked on a research paper that evaluates a contemporary problem in Lebanon and advances a clear and innovative solution to that problem.

This year the award goes to:
Fatima Mohamad Nasser

Hussein Oueini Memorial Award

His Excellency Hussein Oueini was the founder of the first commercial bank in Lebanon, BLOM Bank. A member of parliament from 1947 to 1951, he also held several ministerial positions. He was prime minister of Lebanon in 1951 during the tenure of President Bechara el Khoury, and also between 1964 and 1965 under President Charles Helou. This award was established in his memory in 2003. It is awarded to two students: the Lebanese graduating senior in PSPA with the highest average, and the Lebanese graduating master's student in PSPA in recognition of the best thesis written during the academic year.

H.E. Ghassan Al-Rashash Memorial Excellence Award in Political Studies

His Excellency Ghassan Al-Rashash was a Saudi diplomat who served in Pakistan, Iran, France, and the US. He was the Saudi ambassador to Niger as well as to other countries in West Africa. His daughter Reem Al Rashash-Shaabani, an AUB alumna and former faculty member, established this award in 2007 in his memory and in recognition of her alma mater. The award is given to a graduating student with the highest average in the graduate program in political studies.

This year the award goes to:

Emil Salim Kaston

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Media Studies

Sheikh Fawzi Azar Award

Sheikh Fawzi Azar studied at AUB and was an active philanthropist and supporter of education. Born in 1910, he was the CEO of several companies as well as a member of the Lions Club, later becoming international director for Lions Asia and the Middle East. The Beirut Lions Club Lebanon established this award in his memory and honor in 1990. It is given to one or more students in recognition of an outstanding paper or study.

This year the award goes to:

Nazlee Ali Radboy and Paola Antoine Sawaya

Dr. As'ad E. Khairallah Endowed Award in Social Sciences

Dr. As'ad E. Khairallah earned a PhD in Arabic, Persian, and Comparative Literature from Princeton University. He taught at Princeton, Freiburg, Basel, and Berkeley before returning to AUB as a full professor where he taught modern Arabic literature and edited (in Arabic and English) *Al-Abhath*, the journal of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. His primary fields of interest are Arabic literature (mainly modern), cultural East-West relations, and comparative and world literature. He has authored a monograph, *Love, Madness, and Poetry: An Interpretation of the Mağnun Legend* (Steiner Verlag, Beirut Texts and Studies, 1980) and about 30 scholarly articles in English, Arabic, German, and French. He is completing a monograph on modern Arabic poetry for the RoutledgeCurzon Press and co-editing a four-volume work for Wiley-Blackwell: *Literature: A World History*. In this work, he coordinates the literatures of West and Central Asia, mainly Arabic, Persian, and Turkic-Turkish, and authors the entry on Arabic literature. This award was established in 2017 in honor of Professor Khairallah by his former student and distinguished AUB alumnus Dr. Hamed Alajlan. It is given to the student who submits the best paper in Arabic during their period of study.

This year the award goes to:

Hala Tarek Akkawi

Professor Fuad I. Khuri Award in Anthropology

An AUB alumnus, Professor Fuad Ishak Khuri earned his BA and MA degrees from AUB. He later received his PhD in social anthropology from the University of Oregon. In 1964, he returned to AUB to serve as a professor of anthropology until 1987. Among his noteworthy books are *From Village to Suburb, Tribe and State in Bahrain*, *Imams and Emirs*, *Being a Druze*, and his career memoir *An Invitation to Laughter*, published post-mortem. In honor of his life and memory, his wife Mrs. Sonia Jalbout Khuri established this award, presented to an outstanding Lebanese student graduating with a master's degree in anthropology.

This year the award goes to:

Hussein Ahmad El Mouallem and Haya Hussein Mortada

Kamel Mrowa Award in Media Studies

Kamel Mrowa was a prominent Lebanese journalist and publisher who was assassinated in his office in Beirut in May 1966. He was the founder of *Al-Hayat* and *The Daily Star* newspapers and is considered the father of modern Arab journalism. His family established this award in 2015. It is given to a graduating undergraduate or graduating master's student majoring in media studies who has produced the most creative and insightful project (a film, multimedia presentation, or scholarly paper) related to Arab media.

This year the award goes to:

Tracy George Makhoul

Antoun Saadeh Cultural Foundation Best Student Essay Award

This award was established in 2015 by the Antoun Saadeh Cultural Foundation to honor the memory and legacy of Antoun Saadeh, the philosopher, writer, and politician who founded the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. It is awarded to the best graduate paper or thesis dealing with social reform in the Arab world.

This year the award goes to:

Yara Mohamad Malka

M&C Saatchi MENA Award

M&C Saatchi MENA is a communication agency covering the full spectrum of creative communication, from offline advertising to online and digital media engagement. This award was established in 2010 to recognize the academic achievements of one or more graduating students in the Media Studies Program at the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Media Studies.

This year the award goes to:

Nadim Fadi Saadeh

Amal Saidi Award

Amal Saidi graduated from AUB in political science in 1958. She often described her days at AUB as among the happiest of her life and would often refer with great fondness to her teachers, among whom she singled out Albert Hourani and Walid Khalidi. This award was established by her family in 2000 and is awarded to a graduating senior excelling in anthropology or sociology.

This year the award goes to:

Khadija Ouannes

Selma Mirshak and Mohsen Slim Award

This award was established in 2015 by Mrs. Rasha el Ameer in honor of her parents Selma Mirshak and Mohsen Slim. The late Mohsen Slim was a lawyer and a pioneer in the human rights movement in Lebanon. Selma Mirshak was an AUB alumna and scholar with an interest in the “Shawam” community. After graduating with a degree in journalism from the American University in Cairo, she joined the Newsweek office in Beirut where she met Mohsen Slim. They married in 1956. Their marriage at the time was a rare example of an inter-religious mixed marriage. The award is given to a graduate student majoring in sociology who has conducted the best fieldwork research.

This year the award goes to:

Sarah Gualtieri Moritz

Departments of Economics, History, Middle Eastern Studies, and Political Studies and Public Administration

Lebanon Renaissance Foundation Award

The Lebanon Renaissance Foundation works to ensure that Lebanon progresses to be a free, democratic, and open society while providing people with choices as to how they live under the rule of state law. The foundation exerts consistent positive influence on the future political and social sectors in Lebanon as part of a national rebuilding process favoring emergence of state attributes. Established in 2009, this award is given to one or more graduating students in political studies, economics, social and behavioral sciences, public administration, or history with the highest academic achievements.

This year the award goes to:

Sirine Zafer Chehade and Marie-Simone Assaad Saadeh

Salim Ali Salam Award

Salim Ali Salam (1868-1938), also known as Abu Ali, held numerous public positions, including deputy from Beirut to the Ottoman Parliament, president of the Municipality of Beirut, and president of the Al-Makassed Philanthropic Islamic Association of Beirut. He was also the leader of the Beirut Reform Movement and a member of the Executive Committee of the First Arab Congress which met in Paris in 1913. Established in 2018 by the family of Salim Ali Salam to commemorate their grandfather's spirit of enlightenment and call for reform, this award is granted to the author of the best graduate thesis in Ottoman or Arab studies in the fields of history, political studies, or Middle Eastern studies.

This year the award goes to:

Nancy Mustapha El Hallak

Departments of Economics, Political Studies and Public Administration, Philosophy, and Physics

Dr. Mohammad Chatah Excellence Award

A widely respected public servant, Dr. Chatah began his academic career at AUB, where he earned a BA in economics in 1974. After earning a PhD in economics from the University of Texas in 1983, he worked at the International Monetary Fund where he held several positions. He was an especially astute observer of Lebanese politics and advised many of Lebanon's leading politicians. He was appointed minister of finance in 2008. Chatah was assassinated when a car bomb struck his convoy in Beirut on December 27, 2013. His friends and family established this award in 2015 to honor his memory. It is given to the graduating senior student in economics, political studies, public administration, philosophy, or physics who has achieved the highest average at AUB.

This year the award goes to:

Sarah Imad Hamad

Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies

Ahmad and Fadwa Dannawi Award in Islamic Studies

Established in 2022 by the family of the late Mr. Ahmad Dannawi to honor his life and passion for Islamic studies. Mr. Dannawi spent his career with the Lebanese Army and always enjoyed reading and learning about Islam. After he retired, he spent his days reading even more about religion and history, helping with charity work in the community, and raising funds for the local mosque, which he cared about deeply. The Ahmad and Fadwa Dannawi Award will be conferred on a graduate MA or diploma student in Islamic studies who has demonstrated academic excellence and commitment.

This year the award goes to:

Batoul Ali Hallal

General Awards

Abdul Hadi Debs Endowed Award for Academic Excellence

The Makassed Philanthropic Islamic Association of Beirut has founded a higher technical school, the Abed El Hadi El Debs Vocational Center, in commemoration of the late Abed El Hadi Mohammad Khair El Debs. El Debs donated annually to the center and encouraged his children to continue this support after his death. This award was established in 2000 and is given to a graduating student, preferably at the graduate level, in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and research excellence as demonstrated by a paper, project, or thesis deemed by the faculty to be worthy of publication.

This year the award goes to:

Saad Omar Omais

FAS Mamdouha S. Bobst Student Award for Civic Engagement and Community Service

This award is given annually during the FAS Graduation Reception to one or more FAS students (undergraduate or graduate) in recognition of their dedicated contributions to improving communities around them. This may include initiatives that had a positive impact on the AUB campus, as well as service going beyond the campus walls, which enacts positive change within local communities. Candidates for this award will be evaluated based on their volunteer work (number of hours committed and relative impact) as well as excellence in scholarship, leadership, and their commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

This year the award goes to:

Nour Samih Al Halabi and Mirna Abdel Hafiz Raslan

Majida Sanioura Memorial Prize in Humanities

Mrs. Majida Sanioura was a writer and author of several manuscripts as well as a founding member of the “Alkateb Wal Kitab” Association in Lebanon. Her book collection is now housed in the Majida Al Sanioura Library at the Lebanese University. After her passing, her family, including her brother His Excellency Fouad Sanioura, established this award in 1988 in her honor and memory. It is given to a top graduate senior in the arts or humanities.

This year the award goes to:

Leen Bassam Jradi

Mary Jones Memorial Award

The Mary Jones Memorial Award will be presented around Commencement to a graduating female student who exemplifies outstanding commitment to community service and volunteerism – values that Mary so faithfully embodied during her years with AUB.

This year the award goes to:

Buthaina Ghassan Al Abrash

Philip K. Hitti Prize

An AUB alumnus, Philip Hitti taught at AUB before enrolling at Columbia University to pursue his PhD. After World War I he returned to AUB where he taught until 1926. He later went back to the US where he is credited with creating the discipline of Arabic studies. Established in 2008, this award is given to the senior student who, in the judgment of the president, the dean of FAS, and the department chair, exemplifies in their academic career the scholarly spirit of AUB at its best.

This year the award goes to:

Karen Georges Hannouche and George Habib Issa

Poet Said Fayad Graduate Prize in Literature and Humanities

This award is granted to a graduate student from, or residing in, the Global South who participates in and submits the best paper for the Al-Abhath Essay Prize Competition.

This year the award goes to:

Nancy Mustapha El Hallak

Rosemarie S. Haggard Endowed Music Award

This award was established in 2009 and is given to a student or students in the AUB Choir to support a musical performance or for supervised education and research outside AUB.

This year the award goes to:

Tamara Wissam El Khouri

Salwa Siniora Baasiri Exceptional Volunteer of the Year Award

Salwa Siniora Baasiri, current director general of the Rafic Hariri Foundation, is an AUB graduate (BA Economics '67) and was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award in 2015. As an active community influencer, Siniora Baasiri established this university-wide award in 2016 to highlight and encourage community engagement, social responsibility, and civic education. It is awarded to an undergraduate student who has maintained not only a high academic standard, but also demonstrated a commitment to community work, diversity, and inclusion initiatives and innovative social projects.

This year the award goes to:

Wael Yahia Musaed

WAAAUB - Abu Dhabi Chapter Student Endowed Award

This award is granted to the top graduating student who joined AUB from an Abu Dhabi high school.

This year the award goes to:

Leila Ramzi Moufarrej and Joanne Roger Zogheib

Penrose Award

The Penrose Award was established to honor former AUB President Stephen B.L. Penrose, Jr. Born in Walla Walla, Washington, Penrose came to AUB in 1928 where he taught physics for three years. He served as AUB president from 1948 until his death in 1954. He is the author of *That They May Have Life*, an invaluable history of AUB from its founding in 1866 as the Syrian Protestant College until 1941. The Penrose Award is given to the outstanding graduate in each faculty in recognition of scholarship, character, leadership, and contribution to university life.

This year the award goes to:

Amal Ahmad El Masri

Congratulations

FAS Class of 2022

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

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