



AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT

Office of
Research

NEWSLETTER RESEARCH@AUB MATTERS

ISSUE NO 5 / SEPTEMBER 2026





DR. ELIE AKL

VICE PROVOST
FOR RESEARCH

Welcome Message

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I am very happy to share the fifth edition of **Research@AUB Matters**.

While it has been two years since the establishment of the Office of Research, it has been almost 100 years since research was first institutionalized at AUB. This anniversary is therefore an opportunity to acknowledge the foundations on which the Office was built, while looking ahead to its continued role in supporting and strengthening research at AUB.

Over the past two years, the Office of Research team has focused much of its efforts on foundational work. At the same time, we have initiated strategic work aimed at positioning AUB as a thought leader and agenda setter for research in the region, and at ensuring that our research generates meaningful social, health, economic, and environmental impact.

We look forward to building on these foundations and continuing to serve and support our research community.

Research Updates

RESEARCH STIMULUS FUND FOR POLICY ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

This fund aims to incentivize AUB faculty to conduct policy-relevant research aligned with priority needs identified by governmental entities and ministries in Lebanon. This initiative is in collaboration with the Government Engagement Platform at AUB. An info session with governmental representatives took place on July 23, 2026.



INTISSAR AHDAB HONORS TWO FACULTY FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Rita Khoury and Dr. Alissar Yehya, whose work spans two very different fields earned them the 2025–26 Intissar Ahdab Award for Women's Excellence and Impact in Research.

[Read more](#)

UPDATES ON RESEARCH RELEVANT GUIDELINES & POLICIES

- [Guidelines for Selecting a Target Journal: Maximizing Impact & Avoiding Predatory Publishers](#)

Pivot-RP

Pivot-RP SUPPORT

The Office of Research offers one-on-one training sessions on Pivot-RP for AUB faculty members and the research community to help identify funding opportunities and optimize research funding searches. To book a session, please contact the grant development officer, Yasmina El Achkar.

[Contact us](#)

ENABLING RESEARCH @ AUB

#AUBResearch is powered by a connected ecosystem of expertise, collaboration, and support. Across AUB, offices, centers, and specialized units work together to enable researchers at every stage, strengthening the journey from ideas and discovery to **meaningful impact**.

Office of Research



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Events



AUB CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS DAY

The celebration brought together members of the University Research Grants Administrators Community of Practice (UrCOP) to honor professionals whose work supports and enables research across the university.

[Read more](#)

AUB AND CAS SIGN MOU TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH

On September 22, 2026, an MOU was signed establishing a framework for collaboration in research, data, capacity strengthening. The agreement brings together AUB's multidisciplinary academic and research expertise and Central Administration of Statistics central role in producing and managing Lebanon's official statistics.

[Read more](#)



FACULTY LAB VISITS INITIATIVE TO ESDU

The Office of Research organized its second visit to the Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU) at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences (FAFS), offering an opportunity to explore the unit's research portfolio and experience its Urban Oasis, a living laboratory for sustainability, research, innovation, and community engagement.

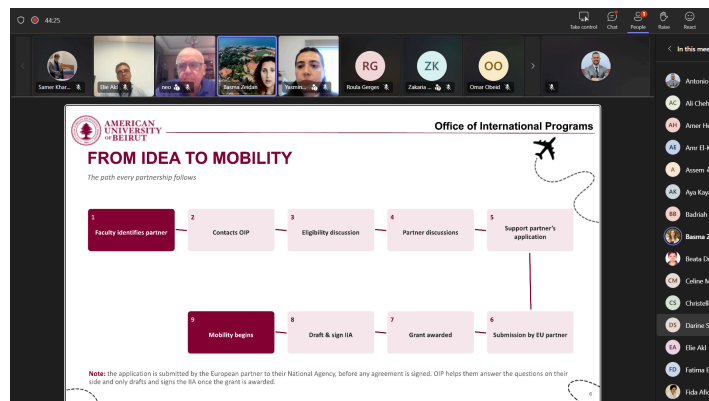
[Read more](#)



THE USE OF AI TOOLS IN RESEARCH

The Office of Research at the American University of Beirut (AUB) hosted “The Use of AI Tools in Research,” an interactive session organized for postdoctoral researchers to explore the growing role of artificial intelligence in advancing research and discovery.

[Read more](#)



FACULTY MOBILITY & EU FUNDING WEBINAR

The Office of Research, in collaboration with the National Erasmus+ Office in Lebanon and the AUB Office of International Programs, hosted a webinar on leveraging Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) as a gateway to broader European research collaboration and funding opportunities on 23 July 2026.

[Explore Opportunities](#)



EVIDENCE GAP MAPS (EGM) WORKSHOP

The Office of Research, in collaboration with the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), hosted an Evidence Gap Maps (EGM) workshop on September 11, 2026.

[Read more](#)



LIRA INNOVATION FORUM 2026

The Office of Research attended the LIRA Innovation Forum 2026, which celebrated the achievements of LIRA 17 and 18 and highlighted innovative startups emerging from university research.

[Read more](#)



DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY AT AUBMC RETREAT

The Office of Research participated in the Department of Radiation Oncology at AUBMC retreat, following an invitation from Chairperson Dr. Osama Mohamad. The retreat provided an opportunity for the Office to present the services and support available to faculty and researchers, including Pre-Award, proposal development support and Pivot-RP training.



URCOP RAISING AWARENESS ON IP PROTECTION

On July 30, 2026, the Technology Transfer Unit (TTU) at the American University of Beirut's Office of Research, in collaboration with Lebanon Innovate & Berytech hosted a UrCOP knowledge-sharing session on Intellectual Property (IP) Protection.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

THE GRANTS ADMINISTRATION ACADEMY

The Office of Research is pleased to announce the launch of the AUB Grants Administration Academy, a new professional development initiative designed to enhance expertise in grants management.

The Academy offers a structured, modular learning experience covering the full grants lifecycle, from identifying funding opportunities and proposal development to post-award management, compliance, financial management, and emerging topics in grants administration. Designed as a foundational-level program, the Academy provides participants with a comprehensive introduction to the core principles and processes of grants management and research administration. The first cohort is set to start on 27 October 2026.



The graphic is a vertical rectangular announcement. At the top, it features the American University of Beirut logo and the text 'AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT' and 'Office of Research'. Below this, a black box contains the text 'THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH' in white. Underneath, it says 'ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF' followed by 'THE GRANTS ADMINISTRATION ACADEMY' in red. A horizontal line with 'FALL 2026' in the center is below that. A white rounded rectangle contains the text 'Registration is now open' and 'Early Bird Deadline 30 September 2026'. Below this is a red button with 'CLICK HERE TO REGISTER' in white. At the bottom, a dark red box contains 'Grants Administration Academy' in white, with the tagline 'Towards Research Administration Excellence' in small white text at the bottom right.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT | Office of Research

THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH

ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF
THE GRANTS ADMINISTRATION ACADEMY

FALL 2026

Registration is now open | **Early Bird Deadline**
30 September 2026

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Grants Administration Academy

Towards Research Administration Excellence

The History of Research at AUB

Led by Dr. Makram Rabah on behalf of the Office of Research, this project seeks to uncover and document the rich history and evolution of research at the American University of Beirut (AUB), tracing its roots back to the University's earliest years. The initiative began by exploring the research journeys of two faculties—the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business (OSB) and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS)—highlighting key milestones, achievements, and the people who helped shape their research landscape. Building on this initial work, the project will gradually expand to encompass all seven faculties. Ultimately, it aims to create a comprehensive narrative of how research at AUB has evolved over time and contributed to the University's enduring research legacy.

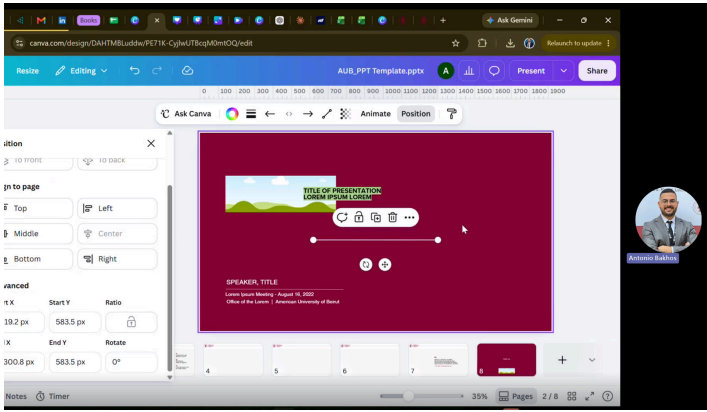


TEAM ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS

TEACHING WITH CASES WORKSHOP

On August 27, 2026, The Office of Research participated in the Teaching with Cases Workshop, facilitated by Dr. Fida Afiouni and Dr. Randa Salamoun.

The workshop aimed to introduce the office to case-based learning and explore how case studies can be used to create engaging, discussion-driven learning experiences.



CANVA TRAINING

As part of the team's preparation for the Grants Administration Academy, Antonio Bakhos delivered a practical training session on Canva, focusing on the basics of creating effective and visually engaging presentations. The training aimed to equip team members with essential Canva skills to support the development and enhancement of their presentations for the Academy.



OFFICE RESET DAY

The Office of Research held on July 27, 2026 a one-day strategic reset at Lost and Found, Beirut, bringing together team members to reflect on progress, strengthen collaboration, and identify priorities for the year ahead.

[Read more](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

The Office of Research has launched a feedback initiative to better understand and improve the services we provide to our research community.

Your feedback is highly valued. Please scan the QR code to share your anonymous feedback.



Here's a glimpse of what our community have shared so far



“The team is excellent!!!”

“The team were fast, helpful, and competent. Thank you!”



Editorial Team

Antonio Bakhos, editor-in-chief

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