

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

**2023
2024**





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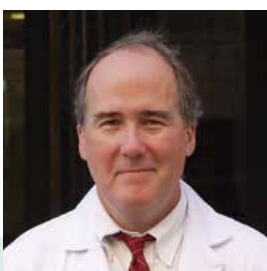
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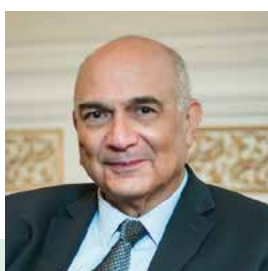
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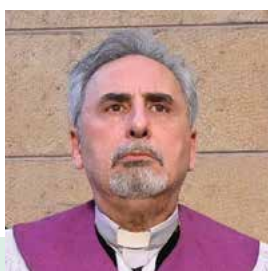


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MESSAGE FROM **THE BOT CHAIRMAN**



The year 2024 marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of Lebanese American University. What do we remember of those early moments of our history, of the people who began our grand enterprise?

We see early photos of a single building, Sage Hall, comprising the whole of the Beirut campus, of a graduating junior college class of scarcely half a dozen women, of some rather stern missionary faces. A bold idea with small beginnings, the first steps in what was to become one of the most transformative moments in the modern history of the MENA region, the education and empowerment of women, and the forging of the character of LAU as an institution seeking to combine education with social change. And here we are today, a co-educational university with 9,100 students, prestigious world rankings, seven schools, and an international network of campuses. Such an outcome would have been unimaginable to those LAU pioneers.

So as successors to our founders, can we say we are true to their values, good stewards of this mission? Looking at the challenges and achievements of the year, I think the answer is "yes."

Leadership and Vision

This year we said goodbye to LAU's Ninth President, Dr. Michel Mawad, with gratitude for guiding LAU through a period of great crisis and for leaving our healthcare programs and medical centers in a sound position. After a meticulous search, we welcomed our 10th President, Dr. Chaouki Abdallah, an internationally renowned researcher and academic administrator who evinces mission, strategic vision, academic leadership, financial acumen, collaborative management, transparency and inclusivity. The Board has tasked him in the coming year with building organizational capacity, delivering our next strategic plan, and driving our advancement efforts to resource our ambitions. He is the right person to lead LAU into our second century.

Care and Support for Our Community

Early in Lebanon's financial crisis, the Board of Trustees committed to supporting our students, preserving our faculty and staff, protecting our stakeholders, and pushing forward with our vision. In 2024, our enrolment rose to 9,100 from 8,100 in 2019, buoyed by the largest financial aid program in Lebanese history built on the premise that those who can afford to pay must pay so that no qualified student will be turned away due to lack of means. This year, we became the first educational institution to restore full dollarization of faculty and staff compensation. LAU is a trusted institution because we always try to do the right thing, decade after decade, in times of crisis and in times of blessings. Acting in this way is not a choice; it resides in our mission, the formative values of our founders.

LAU Global

In 2024, the New York Board of Regents granted LAU a license to issue degrees from what is now our New York campus. LAU is the only MENA-based university authorized to issue degrees in the United States.

With this development, and with much more to come, we are now a global institution, deeply rooted in our own country while creating an international network, a university operating at the intersection of nation and diaspora, providing teaching, research, entrepreneurship, healthcare, and connectivity to the whole of the Lebanese enterprise.

Strength in Adversity

In the fall of 2024, Lebanon experienced the full horror of war. Many of our faculty, staff, students and healthcare providers were displaced. Some lost their homes, and some lost loved ones. No one should have to experience such suffering. We need to recognize the many actions of our community during this period, with faculty at once teachers and selfless counselors to our students, staff ensuring the safety of our community, mobile clinics delivering services to the displaced around the country, students forming ad hoc community outreach groups, and countless acts of kindness and comfort that will never be known or acknowledged. No one person did this, the many did, bound together by our collective purpose. We must never forget what our people did during this time.

Renewal

I began by saying that what LAU is today would have been unimaginable to our founders. But what we now are would be impossible without what they did then. This is the meaning of the Centenary, the lesson we can take forward, that what we do today with good intention and good faith will be magnified generations hence in beneficial ways that we cannot possibly predict.

Today, we stand at the cusp of something that could be genuinely different in Lebanon, an opportunity for renewal. LAU can once again play a transformative role in this new environment, delivering skilled graduates, relevant research, centers of entrepreneurship, international networks, and outstanding healthcare delivery.

And so we must renew our sacred covenant with Lebanon, and renew our mission, powered, like our founders 100 years ago, by the belief in the infinite possibility of unseen things.

Philip Stoltzfus

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of LAU,

AY2023–2024 was a historic year for LAU, marking a century of innovating, empowering, and ever-giving to Lebanon and the world that propelled its growth from a two-year college for women to a comprehensive co-ed university thanks to generations of remarkable women and men who created a defining legacy for us to build on.

As preparations for the centennial began in the shadow of an escalating conflict and a deepening humanitarian crisis in the region and Lebanon, the commemoration carried a message of hope to the Lebanese people and beyond for a future underpinned by innovation and education.

LAU's centennial was officially launched through a series of town halls for students, faculty and staff on our Beirut and Byblos campuses, at our LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital and LAU Medical Center–Saint John's Hospital, a video call with the university's New York office, and an email message to our 53,000+ alumni, donors and friends.

On January 26, in a press conference held on the Beirut campus to announce the launch of the centennial to the wider community, then-President Michel E. Mawad paid tribute to the university's unique past, promising that it would uphold its legacy.

"While we remain deeply rooted in Lebanon, we look forward in the next 100 years to further development in our university, keeping pace with the world, and providing a first-class education to male and female students, in partnership with the public and private sectors, through our vision to bridge the gap between academia and industry," said Dr. Mawad.

"We will continue to strengthen our health institutions, increase access to healthcare and improve efficiency and affordability," he added.

A series of academic, research and social activities was scheduled for the year, including a documentary, concerts, special commencement exercises, alumni celebrations and donor recognition events, fundraising galas in Beirut and New York, and events at our health and medical centers—all of which were intended to reflect our core mission of innovating, empowering and ever-giving.

On March 4, 2024, one of the leading TV channels in Lebanon, MTV, aired a one-hour documentary tracing LAU's storied history as it overcame adversity time and time again, only to emerge stronger, ultimately flourishing into the first-class university it is today.

Highlights of initiatives across the university were a tribute to the Rahbani Brothers and Fairuz, organized by the Center for Lebanese Heritage; a Centennial Exhibition curated by the libraries on both campuses; a tribute concert on the Beirut campus by the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra and members of the Lebanese Oriental Orchestra; all-class homecoming reunions attended by 200 alumni at the Byblos campus, 450 at the Beirut campus, and 200 at the dinner; and another tribute concert on the Byblos campus performed by the Philokalia Choir, Ashtar Ensemble and the Orchestra.

Meanwhile, institutional and academic advancements were underway, supported by the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff, donors, alumni and the community's trust in our mission. Our financial aid program during the centennial year continued to assist over 80 percent of our students, and on average reducing over 50 percent of their tuition, as we continued the implementation of a \$200 million financial aid campaign. Research witnessed significant progress, including the introduction of a \$2.3 million Intramural Research Fund and the expansion of our research faculty.

In addition, the university continued in its drive to bolster scientific, industrial, and policy research through the Industrial Hub, the Genetics Research Lab, the Fouad Makhzoumi Innovation Center, the Center for Innovative Learning and the Center for Policy Analysis, while also promoting sustainability with a newly established Sustainability Office. Strategic planning, expansion of services and numerous operational improvements also aimed to enhance our healthcare services and ensure financial stability and optimal quality patient care.

A major milestone during the centennial year was the conversion of the academic center in New York into a degree-granting campus, a decision formalized by the State of New York Board of Regents on March 12. In a strategic move, all online degrees were relocated to the New York branch campus, enabling their authentication through a US-based institution, thereby elevating their global recognition and credibility.

The above is a reflection on our first century, but we also look forward to many more years of innovating, empowering, and giving. To do so, we will be harnessing our internal resources and expertise to come up with coherent plans for education, research, economic development, and healthcare. We will also call on our alumni, friends, donors, and partners to join us in making sure that LAU is faithfully executing its role in graduating leaders of culture, society, businesses, and government, creating life-saving cures and technological solutions, advising policymakers, and launching companies and start-ups.

Today, we stand on the shoulders of giants who launched the American School for Girls in 1835, which evolved into the American Junior College for Women, followed by the Beirut College for Women, the Beirut University College and finally the Lebanese American University. A hundred years from now, may the LAU family look back on our actions and be thankful to all of you and proud of the trajectory we're embarking on today.

Gratefully yours,

Chaouki T. Abdallah, PhD
President



The grand concert on the Beirut campus combined Western and oriental melodies, the classical and the modern, in honor of the university's dual identity and diversity.





The landmark concert on the Byblos campus celebrated timeless Lebanese artists and the university's commitment to education, empowerment and innovation.



THE SEVEN SCHOOLS

A | ADNAN KASSAR SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Ranking excellence, innovation in teaching, partnership with industry and impactful research underpin the competitive edge that the Adnan Kassar School of Business offers its students in a digital, globalized world.

For the third year running, the Adnan Kassar School of Business (AKSOB) maintained its position as a national and regional leader in Business and Economics according to the 2024 Times Higher Education (THE) Subject Ranking. Notably, AKSOB remained in the top 251–300 rank, placing seventh regionally in business and economics.

The first and only undergraduate program to be licensed and used in the establishment of the LAU New York branch campus was the BS in International Business. Three other online Business programs were used in the licensing, namely the Global MBA, the MBA in Business Analytics, and the MBA in Healthcare Management, a program with four areas of concentration—General track (no concentration), Healthcare Information Technology Management, Healthcare Analytics and Pharmaceutical Management— which has had a large number of applicants and high enrollment.

Continuously innovating in its course contents and course delivery, AKSOB piloted and introduced a course on the duet teaching methodology. In addition, several of its faculty have been using the Center for Innovative Learning facilities to teach the three graduate online programs.

During the fall of 2023, the marketing department facilitated a student competition which resulted in seven internship opportunities for marketing students at Fattal Group. The initiative underscored the school's commitment to bridging the gap between academia and industry, a key aspect often considered in evaluating universities' effectiveness and impact.

In December 2023, the Department of Management Studies hosted students in the Innovation and Entrepreneurship class taught by Assistant Professor Michel Majdalani to present their entrepreneurial projects to a jury. Michel Bayoud, founder emeritus of Boecker World Holding and chairman of the advisory board to the faculty of agriculture and food sciences at the American University of Beirut, granted financial awards to the winning projects, and provided mentorship to all participating students throughout the semester.



In October 2023, the school organized a Smart Shield Cybersecurity workshop which sought to enhance cybersecurity awareness and proficiency among students and the wider community.



The participating students from the Innovation and Entrepreneurship class with Mr. Bayoud and Dr. Majdalani.



In the latest strategic move to bridge academia and industry, the Department of Economics spearheaded an MOU between LAU and the Association of Lebanese Industrialists that aimed to boost the Lebanese economy, promote innovation and create jobs. By combining expertise, the partnership is set to enhance Lebanon's industrial sector through shared research projects, the development of initiatives with international funding potential, and the creation of a comprehensive database on the Lebanese industrial sector.

Also in 2024, the LAU Department of Economics signed an academic pathway agreement with Concordia University.



AKSOB business alumnus and Editor-in-Chief of Arab News Faisal Abbas was elected deputy chair of the Saudi Journalists Association.

The faculty worked steadily on their research despite all the challenges. This year, LAU's results according to the 2024 edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject indicated a significant increase in two research metrics: H-Index and Citations per Paper.



B | HEALTH SCIENCES SCHOOLS

1. ALICE RAMEZ CHAGOURY SCHOOL OF NURSING

Through extensive outreach, community engagement, and collaboration, students of the Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing (ARCSON) built on their interprofessional education and clinical skills.

The school focused on community health promotion on-campus and off-campus, especially for the underprivileged population through a series of health fairs, awareness sessions and collaborations with the LAU mobile clinic.

This year, the nursing club played a key role in easing the transition of first-year students to the Byblos campus. The club actively participated in the school's inaugural summer camp for high schoolers exploring the nursing profession.



A group photo of the nursing summer camp including high-school participants, nursing students, graduates, faculty and alumni.

Students participated in workshops on organ donation, mental health, and training of trainers programs, and visited key stakeholders in the national healthcare system, including the Ministry of Public Health and the Order of Nurses.

In January 2024, ARCSON held its second preceptorship workshop for current and future preceptors to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to assess students in clinical settings following the school's standards and mission. Part-time clinical instructors and preceptors from various hospitals, healthcare facilities and NGOs participated.

Director of the Nursing Program Bahia Abdallah presented several talks over the year at national and international conferences and through webinars.

Alumna Nour Waizani represented Lebanon at the Regional High-Level Meeting (HLM), an international event co-organized by UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, the ILO, and UNFPA. Her participation highlighted the valuable, transferable skills she developed at the school and through her community service.



In May, 53 graduates pledged to lead with compassion in this year's nursing recognition and pinning ceremony.

2. GILBERT AND ROSE-MARIE CHAGOURY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine once again achieved exceptional match rates for its students and graduates, while growing its partnerships and hosting timely conferences on the latest healthcare practices.

This year, 30 out of 40 applicants secured placements at prestigious healthcare institutions in the US through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), achieving an overall match rate of 75 percent. All eight Med IV students who applied—a record number this year—were accepted, setting a perfect match rate of 100 percent. Two additional matches in urology and ophthalmology occurred outside of the NRMP match.

During AY2023–2024, the school pursued accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGMEI) for its residency programs. Following the submission of the Accreditation Preparedness Assessment (APA) report to ACGMEI, a successful virtual visit for the APA took place in November 2023, confirming GME's readiness for the accreditation process.

Simultaneously, the school expanded its teaching affiliation and healthcare partnerships globally with institutions in England, France, Belgium, Canada, Qatar and the US.

In November, the school held a series of retreats designed to facilitate major revisions to the curriculum to ensure that it aligns with the evolving needs of the future healthcare workforce.

The school organized multiple symposiums on familial and hereditary cancer, benign and malignant hematology, stroke management, anxiety, psoriasis and breast cancer, bringing together international and local experts to address timely issues, educate medical students, residents, fellows, nurses and professionals as part of their Continuing Medical Education, and foster connections with participants from outside Lebanon and regional university hospitals to strengthen teams.

To mark the university's centennial, the school launched the 2024 Special Grand Round Alumni Series which serves as a platform for alumni to reconnect with their alma mater, inspire current trainees, and share the advanced medical knowledge and expertise they have gained in their young careers.



Dean Sola Aoun Bahous joined the International Advisory Committee for Artificial Intelligence which serves to inform education groups in global health on harnessing innovations to advance AI in medical education.

The Graduate Medical Education office received 406 applicants for various residency and fellowship positions for the academic year 2024–2025, the highest compared to previous years.

This year, the Clinical Simulation Center adopted several new teaching modalities through USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) grants, such as a new high-fidelity simulator, birthing simulators, a virtual table for dissection, VR devices and a digital platform for learning.

In May 2024, the intensive care unit at LAU's Clinical Simulation Center received a major upgrade thanks to a \$110,000 donation from Intermedic, which will help further create highly realistic scenarios and foster exceptional learning environments that enable medical, pharmacy and nursing trainees to excel in complex situations.



Students, graduates, residents and fellows participated in the First National Research Day in the country, where they presented their research and won seven awards, the highest number received by any university among the eight participating medical schools.



Assistant Professor Cybel Mehawej was honored by the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Levant Young Talents Program 2023 for her inspiring and impactful contributions to human genetics.

With the escalation of the regional conflict in November 2023, students, along with physicians, residents and medical staff participated in an emergency drill at the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital to assess its readiness for managing mass casualties while maintaining optimal patient care.

The drill at the ambulatory entrance and emergency room was the first in a series planned for the rest of the healthcare facility, including the intensive care unit, operating rooms, laboratories, and medical imaging department.



Dr. Mariana El Helou, clinical assistant professor and head of the emergency medicine division, also led a WHO and Ministry of Public Health workshop on Mass Casualty Management, drawing on her expertise in disaster management through research, academia and global collaborations.



Sixty-three medical students from the school donned their white coats and stethoscopes for its centennial cohort.



The school also conferred 65 doctor of medicine degrees, 27 resident diplomas, seven fellowship diplomas and five post-doctoral research certificates during its 12th hooding ceremony.



President/Professor in Interventional Neuroradiology Michel E. Mawad and Clinical Professor Kaissar (Cesar) Yammine were listed among the top 2 percent most-cited scientists by Scopus Elsevier.

Despite the numerous crises the country faced this year, the school remained steadfast in its commitment to recruiting, promoting and retaining qualified faculty. This dedication also aligns with its continuously evolving Medical Practice Plan, which ensures the delivery of excellent patient care, the advancement of research and the provision of outstanding education to its students, residents, and fellows.

Thanks to the efforts of all the offices at the school, attrition across all constituents was minimal.

3. SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The school strengthened its national presence by forging partnerships with key stakeholders, expanding its facilities and actively engaging in timely seminars for faculty, students and the wider community.

The school signed multiple MOUs, including one with the University of Nebraska, to expand sites for PharmD rotations, reduce student costs, provide ACPE Continuing Education credits, develop research and educational collaborations and expand post-graduate opportunities. The first student cohort arrived in February with positive feedback, and further collaborations are underway.



Another key collaboration this year was with Military Healthcare, offering experiential learning experiences to students across professional years at the Military Hospital.



In September, the school collaborated with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) to organize the first Annual Lebanese Pharmacovigilance Conference on the Byblos campus. Since then, discussions regarding the development of an Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience at the MOPH with an emphasis on pharmacovigilance were held with the ministry to build on the existing medication safety component of the curriculum.

In the same month, the school's Lebanon Alumni Chapter was reinitiated to promote the profession and support the school, its students and alumni. In January, a health fair was organized and led by the chapter with plans for more collaborative efforts. Several alumni participated in the Connect with Your Future event in March, sharing insights about their careers to guide and inspire current students.

The school, represented by Associate Professor Aline Milane and Dean Naser Alsharif, led the efforts on interprofessional education. The interprofessional education workgroup gave a grand-round presentation that advocated for building a culture of interprofessional collaborative practice at the LAU Medical Center – Rizk Hospital, followed by three presentations at the 11th International Conference on Interprofessional Practice and Education, held in Doha, Qatar, in November.

In February 2024, the first annual symposium titled United in Action was organized by the school, where pharmacy schools across the country, in addition to key stakeholders of the industry, military and the Lebanese Order of Pharmacists collaborated to lay the groundwork for elevating pharmacy education and advocating for the profession.



Marking their transition from pre-pharmacy to the professional program, the LAU School of Pharmacy celebrated the acceptance of 58 students into Professional Year 1 at the annual White Coat Ceremony.

A \$100,000 corporate grant from CVS administrators in the US was secured by the school. Clinical Associate Professor Soumana Nasser worked diligently to submit the application with support from an alumnus employed at CVS. The grant was used to revamp the pharmaceutical care and dispensing lab and contribute to the expansion of existing sterile compounding practices at the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital to advance the PharmD experiential training. Since the lab's opening in January, several sessions have been conducted with great student engagement, as they expressed their excitement about the hands-on and real-life experience provided.

Fifth-year student pharmacist Mabelle Rechdan won the US Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award for her significant

achievements and contributions to health literacy and development in the local community. Fourth-year student pharmacist Marie Lyn Zeitouny was selected for and completed the Yale Global Health SURGE Program 2024.

The school continued to strengthen its leadership and support for the LAU Pharmaceutical and Medical Research Center (PMRC) by providing essential expertise, leading on acquiring funding from the United States Agency for International Development, securing MOUs with the local pharmaceutical industry and facilitating professional consultancies.

Three faculty members participated in the AACP Institute's AI in Pharmacy Education, held between April 3 and 5 as part of faculty development efforts to advance the integration of digital health in the curriculum.



Dr. Maya Zeineddine, clinical associate professor at the school, led an interdisciplinary awareness campaign at the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital aimed to debunk popular myths about multiple sclerosis and inform the public about available treatments.



The school bestowed the doctoral hoods upon 33 PharmD graduates on July 10 at the Byblos campus.



Multiple webinars covering a wide range of topics were organized for faculty and staff, enhancing their professional development.

PharmD students Nour Rehayem and Stephanie Dibo were among the top ten finalists (out of 126 US pharmacy schools) in the ASHP national clinical skills competition held in December 2023 in Anaheim, California, US.



In May 2024, the School of Pharmacy and the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital represented Lebanon at the sixth edition of the Innovative Insights on Hospital Pharmacy Practice (IHOP6) Conference. Organized by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Health’s General Administration of Pharmaceutical Care, the event brought together pharmacy schools, healthcare centers and pharmacy leaders from across the MENA region to discuss the latest advancements, challenges, and future directions in pharmacy practice.

From the School of Pharmacy, Clinical Associate Professor and Assistant Dean for Experiential Education and Residency Program Nibal Chamoun served as a country ambassador. The LAU Medical Center – Rizk Hospital Pharmacy team, represented by Clinical Pharmacist Elina Sadek and Clinical Assistant Professor Mira El Masri, achieved third place in the Hospital Pharmacist Competition, standing out among 43 hospitals from KSA and the MENA region. PharmD student Maryam Alhousseini secured a spot among the top five in the Arabic Patient Counseling Student Competition, which involved 21 pharmacy schools. In addition, Clinical Associate Professor Maya Zeineddine delivered a presentation on the pharmacist’s role in managing multiple sclerosis, highlighting specialized pharmacy practice expertise.

In June 2024, the ACPE Board reviewed the school’s interim report, confirmed full compliance with all standards and reaffirmed the accreditation of the PharmD program through to June 30, 2031.



C | SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

International partnerships, faculty research, and cultural dialogue have defined another busy year for the School of Architecture and Design and reinforced its commitment to innovation and design excellence.

In collaboration with the Embassy of Colombia in Lebanon, LAU's School of Architecture and Design (SArD) hosted the *Colombia Weaving Peace* exhibition to showcase art crafted by Colombian artists and craftspeople undergoing societal reintegration following Colombia's war.

Dean Elie G. Haddad published his latest book, *Modern Architecture in a Post-Modern Era*, in which he explored the various developments of contemporary architecture around the world, while challenging common misconceptions. The work came as the culmination of years of teaching, reflection and rethinking of architectural trends.

LAU alumnus and architect Tarek Ibrahim (B.Arch '12) earned an A' Design Bronze Award for his firm's villa project, *Binding Void ZH Architecture*, in Deirkouche, Mount Lebanon. His work was showcased at the annual international exhibition in Italy.



In October 2023, founder and Creative Director of Crismann High Jewelry Christian Nasr (BArch '03) received the Artistar Best Exclusive Jewelry Designer award at the Milano Jewelry Week 2023 for his bold and contemporary bespoke pieces. Competing among 350 exhibitors from 40 countries, he accepted the award from Precious Room founder Muriel Piaser during the MJW awards ceremony on October 18 in Milan.



Mr. Mutaz and Mrs. Rada Sawaf, flanked by President Mawad and Dean Haddad, hold up a candle by Iyad Naja (BS '00) presented to them as a token of appreciation for their continuous support.



Donors like the Sawafs keep LAU closely aligned to its mission, aware of its cultural identity and true to its ideas, said President Mawad.



The Sawafs with President Mawad, Dean Haddad, Dr. Mawlawi, students of the MA in Islamic Art and Dr. May Farhat (far right), visiting associate professor at the School of Architecture and Design.

Thanks to entrepreneur and Lebanon-based architect Mu'taz Sawaf and his wife Rada, up to six SAR D graduate students can now benefit from an annual scholarship fund for the MA in Islamic Art program. The initiative was recognized at a ceremony on November 23 to celebrate the school's commitment to explore the rich Islamic artistic and architectural heritage, a mission echoed by program director Ziad Mawlawi and LAU President Michel E. Mawad.

LAU's Institute of Art in the Arab World (IAAW), under the direction of Associate Professor Yasmine Nachabe Taan, hosted *Like the Delayed Rays of a Star*, an exhibition featuring the work of American artist Heather M. O'Brien-Takahashi reflecting on Lebanon's collective trauma following the Beirut port explosion.

In March 2024, Dr. Taan and former LAU faculty Lina Hakim organized a symposium titled *Teaching Graphic Design History in/of the Arab World* to explore the enduring colonial influences shaping graphic design education in the Arab world. International speakers highlighted the need to integrate Arab heritage in teaching design and advocated for challenging Eurocentric perspectives in design history.

Graphic design students Marie Therese Assaf and Reina Mahmoud won first and second place in Sanita's *Design Your Dreams* competition, led by instructor Rania Khoury. Their designs were featured on special edition product packaging.

In the spring semester, the school offered Grade 12 students a hands-on experience with a typical Foundation Year assignment. Top projects received scholarships of up to 25 percent.



Hala Schoukair with President Mawad. Honoring her mother, said Dr. Mawad, "is a beautiful way for her to return to campus and stay on it as a symbol of talent development and a testimony to the higher premium that LAU has always assigned to art education."

Also in spring, as part of a series of events in collaboration with the Arab Institute for Women (AiW) and the Office of Alumni Relations marking the university's centennial throughout the year, the IAAW hosted a tribute to alumna Saloua Raouda Choucair, a pioneering figure in Arab abstract art. The event featured an exhibition based on IAAW Director Yasmine Taan's book about Choucair's work, in addition to the unveiling of a commemorative plaque next to her sculpture *Mu'allaqa*, gifted to the university in 1974.

The celebration highlighted Choucair's lasting impact on art and design, with reflections from her daughter, Hala Schoukair, and remarks from LAU President Michel Mawad and other speakers about her culturally significant legacy.

In honor of the late designer and LAU alumnus Vick Vanlian (BS '00), the Department of Architecture and Interior Design along with the Galerie Vanlian SAL initiated a student awards program for interior design students. At the inaugural exhibition on June 4, award winners each received a trophy designed by Vick Vanlian, representing freedom of spirit and care for people, in addition to a certificate of achievement and monetary prizes.





The LAU Fashion Design program celebrated its eighth graduating cohort with a runway show, In Sight, on June 7, 2024, at Fondation Charles Corm. With themes ranging from redefining femininity to embracing pan-Arab traditions, the event showcased the students' collections about their journeys and resilience amid Lebanon's economic and political challenges.

This year, the school partnered with OMT to offer third-year fashion students hands-on industry experience through a design competition. Students were tasked with creating a professional uniform. Of the five finalists who received faculty support to develop their prototypes, the top three winners received financial rewards to support their final-year projects, and the first prize winner Nour Ezzedine's design was to be executed and adopted as the official uniform for the company staff.



In July, Dr. Taan launched her fourth book in the Khatt Books Series, titled Mouna Bassili Sehnaoui: The First Lebanese Woman to Brand Her Nation, which explores the cultural challenges faced by the first academically trained female graphic designer in the Arab region and her contributions to shaping Lebanon's visual identity through her work.

In August, SARd's Institute for Environmental Studies and Research (IESR) invited architecture graduates from 2022 and 2023 to participate in a six-month workshop in Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, focused on designing solutions for the Wadi Hanifa Cultural Landscape and Al Turaif UNESCO sites.



Guided by IESR Director David Aouad and Associate Professor of Architecture Roula Khoury, eight LAU alumni collaborated with international students, following which four of them secured internships with top architecture firms.

The school's International Studios have been offering students the opportunity to explore contemporary works of architecture through guided tours in global destinations, an initiative that has become a hallmark of the architecture program. During the summer of 2024, they visited Portugal, Istanbul, Barcelona, Vienna and Scandinavia.



D | SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The School of Arts and Sciences (SoAS) remains a cornerstone of academic achievement as it continues to drive innovation through its interdisciplinary programs, research initiatives, and impactful faculty contributions.

The school welcomed its largest class this academic year, with more than 1,095 new students. The school continues to maintain strong enrollment, contributing 3,215 total gross student credit hours, which make up 45.83 percent of the university's total credits.

In AY2023-2024, the BS in Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program became the second outside the US to receive full accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), allowing graduates to sit for the CDR exam and become Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN). This achievement reflects the program's rigorous adherence to academic standards and its commitment to providing high-quality education.

In fall 2023, SoAS reintroduced the MS in Nutrition upon obtaining approval from the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). Additionally, the school launched online programs in Lebanon and the region, including the MS in Applied Artificial Intelligence aligning with the university's commitment to embracing a digital future. The school also proposed two new graduate degrees set to launch in 2025: an MS in Data Science, available both online and in person, and an MS in Cybersecurity, which will be offered exclusively online.



This academic year saw the retirement of Associate Professor of Theater Lina Abyad, who spent more than four decades shaping the academic and cultural landscape through her work in theater and left a lasting mark on LAU and the wider theater community since joining the institution in 1977.

Assistant professors Pia Tohme and Myriam El Khoury-Malhame at the Department of Social and Education Sciences held a workshop exploring the complexities of achieving work-life balance in today's fast-paced world, especially post-COVID. The workshop also stressed the importance of self-reflection, setting boundaries, and fostering supportive environments to navigate a delicate balance effectively.

LAU's Department of Natural Sciences held a workshop on proper research paper structure and clear communication of findings for students in the MS in Nutrition program. Organized by Assistant Professor Rana Rizk, the workshop was part of a broader effort to engage students in research and advance their ability to publish and drive innovation in the field.

LAU alumnus and Lebanese Biomedical Researcher at MD Anderson Cancer Center Hussein Abbas (BS '06) made significant strides in cancer research, particularly in the study of acute myeloid leukemia (AML), by pursuing work on the p53 gene and immune responses. His research on T cells in AML patients has brought him closer

to understanding treatment responses, the potential for personalized cancer therapies, and hope for improved outcomes in the fight against cancer.

LAU Political Science and International Affairs graduate and Senior Reporter at CNN Business Arabic Paula Naoufal (BA '18) received the 2023 International Energy Journalism Award in the Arabic-language print/radio category for her contributions to energy journalism in the Middle East. The award was presented to her by the Crown Prince of Fujairah, Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi.

The Department of Computer Science and Mathematics brought together more than 700 tech enthusiasts, developers and professionals from across Lebanon for the second annual Developers Festival (DevFest) Beirut 2023, which was held on the Beirut campus.



Organized by Assistant Professor Nadine Abbas and supported by Google Developer Groups Lebanon and Women Techmakers-Lebanon, DevFest featured talks and workshops on technologies and provided students with valuable networking opportunities and insights into the tech industry.

Two LAU Nutrition and Dietetics students, Roa Echtay and Hanin El Hajj, won an award in the Ministry of Economy and Trade's Interuniversity Competition on Food Waste Prevention Awareness 2023 for their impactful poster capturing the extent of food waste in Lebanon. According to them, their participation makes them more socially responsible individuals while promoting action aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Also in the fall, LAU's Department of Social and Education Sciences hosted the closing ceremony for the two-year Teacher Development Program for Armenian Schools in Lebanon, funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. The program trained 24 educators in Western Armenian schools on innovative teaching methodologies, empowering them to enhance classroom practices and contribute to the ongoing cultural preservation of the Armenian language in Lebanon.

Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs Jeffrey G. Karam was appointed as a Fellow and Researcher at the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) in Berlin for a five-year term. Known at LAU for his contributions to historical narratives, interdisciplinary research, and fostering critical thinking, Dr. Karam will continue to expand his academic impact through this prestigious role.

Alumna Youmna Bou Hadir (BA '15) fulfilled a childhood dream by landing the role of Matron Mama Morton, or "Mama Dunia," in *Chicago—The Musical bil Arabi*, a localized Arabic version of the Broadway hit. Her performance in the sold-out shows at the Casino de Liban and Beiteddine Festival received widespread acclaim and solidified her place in Lebanon's theater scene.



Alumna Youmna Bou Hadir, on stage as Mama Dunia (Photo courtesy of Chicagoarabia).



In November 2023, the Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine, in partnership with the Psychology Program at SoAS, organized a symposium at the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital to address the challenges of diagnosing and treating anxiety disorders and emphasize the need for interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure comprehensive care for patients.

In a workshop organized by the Department of Social and Education Sciences, alumna Faten Ghaiss (BA '01), founder of the Creative Learning Integrated Center, returned to LAU to guide students in enhancing their personal and professional skills by emphasizing the importance of cultivating a growth mindset. Ghaiss shared strategies to help students develop this mindset and expressed her commitment to passing on the knowledge she gained from her professors during her time at the university.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Elias Akoury was awarded the Next Generation Investigator Award by the California Sharing Science Solutions (CASSS) Board for his research on protein therapeutics. He shared his findings on the role of epigenetics in diseases like cancer and the potential for targeted treatments at a conference in Chicago.



Professor of Mathematics Dumitru Baleanu received the Romanian Academy's Grigore Moisil Award for his research on Mathematical Methods in Advanced Control of Complex Systems, recognizing his contributions to logic, algebra and theoretical computer science.

As part of the SoAS Lecture Series, Assistant Professor of Nutrition Jana Jabbour delivered a talk during which she investigated how daily dietary choices can influence cancer progression, and offered practical dietary advice to improve overall health, with research-backed insights on the role of whole grains, coffee, ultra-processed foods, and lifestyle modifications in cancer prevention.

In a series of sessions addressing emotional stress and uncertainty, LAU's clinical psychologists, including Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor of Practice Wissam Kheir, offered tools to support the university's faculty, staff and students through effective strategies to manage anger and psychological challenges.

These efforts also saw the organization of more sessions led by Dr. Pia Tohme on guiding children through turbulent times and stressing the importance of honest, age-appropriate communication that validates their emotions and encourages open dialogue.

Additionally, Associate Professor Rudy Abi Habib and Assistant Professor of Practice Toni Sawma offered practical self-care tools and emphasized

the importance of maintaining routines, managing expectations, and fostering communication with loved ones in another set of discussions.

With the introduction of a new course on Journalism Safety in collaboration with the Samir Kassir Foundation (SKF), LAU's Multimedia Journalism program prepares students for one of the world's most dangerous professions. By implementing the Arabic adaptation of the James W. Foley Legacy Foundation Journalism Safety Modules, the program addresses these challenges through safety training, trauma-sensitive reporting, and ethical practices in its curriculum.



SoAS Assistant Professor Sleiman El Hajj was ranked second in the Middle East in the Arts and Humanities, according to Scival's 2023 listing. His research, which focuses on marginalized groups and the intersection of physical and cultural illness, has gained significant attention, ranking him among the top two percent of scientists in the world over the past three years, along with Lecturer Marc Fakhoury and Professor Azzam Mourad.

Alumnus Ibrahim Haddad (BS '96; MS '98), now VP of Strategic Programs for AI at the Linux Foundation, was listed among Concordia's 50 under 50 Shaping Tomorrow for championing Linux's role in powering critical AI innovations and emphasizing its potential to shape industries globally.



LAU nutrition graduates Ranim Assi (BS '23) and Celine El Khoury (BS '23) and senior students Roa Ectay and Hanine El Hajj achieved success in a food insecurity project organized by arcenciel and Welt Hunger Hilfe and funded by the German Agency for International Cooperation. Guided by Associate Professor Hussein F. Hassan and mentored by industry experts, Assi and El Khoury secured first and third places, respectively, while Roa Ectay and Hanine El Hajj earned top-10 recognition. Assi was also selected to attend the Alternative Protein Production and Techno-Functional Characterization Training School at Ege University in Turkey.



Winners Ranim Assi and Celine El Khoury with Dr. Hussein Hassan.



In December 2023, LAU sophomore chemistry student Talya Wehbe and nutrition graduate Melissa Kozah (BS '23) participated in the EEDA AI in Healthcare Autumn School in Bonn, Germany, where they explored the intersection of artificial intelligence and public health. The program, supported by the University of Bonn and Helmholtz Munich, combined lectures, hands-on labs, and hackathons to equip participants with practical AI skills tailored to food safety, clinical nutrition, and medical imaging.



From January 11 to 23, 2024, Professor Sima Tokajian and Assistant Professor Charbel Al Khoury from the Department of Natural Sciences organized a winter camp for 25 undergraduate and graduate biology students focused on computational biology.



Through practical activities in operating basic systems, the biology students gained the necessary skills in genomic analysis for a future in science and medicine, particularly in computational biology and next-generation sequencing.



Dr. Rana Rizk, assistant professor of nutrition, represented Lebanon in the "Hidden No More: Empowering Women Leaders in STEM" International Visitor Leadership Program, led by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The program gathered 46 women leaders in STEM to address barriers to women's advancement in the field, promote personal narratives, and foster a global network.

A recent study led by Associate Professor Nadine Zeeni and co-authored by Joelle Abi Kharma, Dr. Lama Mattar, and Dr. Myriam El Khoury-Malhame, titled "Exposure to Instagram junk food content negatively impacts mood and cravings in young adults," was published and highlighted by major media outlets for its exploration of the influence of social media on body image, mood, and dietary behaviors.

As part of the Forensic Psychology Topic course under LAU's Psychology program, Assistant Professor of Practice Toni Sawma invited ISF Major Rawad Tohme and Clinical Psychologist Lea Sawaya to present a real-life case study to students in an effort to showcase the application of forensic psychology in criminal investigations and emphasize the vital role of psychology in legal proceedings.

A study co-authored by Assistant Professor Elias Akoury, Associate Professor Joseph Stephan, and LAU Chemistry alumnus Christopher Saab (BS '22) on protein therapeutics was published in *Scientific Reports* in March 2024. The research, which explores high-order protein structures and their epigenetic roles in disease progression, earned Dr. Akoury the Next Generation Investigator Award.

The LAU Live Broadcast Club organized a hands-on workshop where students built radio transmitters, learning essential technical skills while exploring radio's role in empowering marginalized communities and promoting freedom of expression. This effort came in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first live radio

broadcast of the Olympic Games, celebrated on World Radio Day, February 13.

LAU sophomore biology student Tala Jardali and junior psychology student Batoul Zalzale placed first and second in the National Public Speaking Competition at LAU, which was brought back for its 19th edition after a five-year break. The event attracted participants from 11 universities across Lebanon and highlighted the value of effective communication in both personal and professional settings.

LAU's Translation program hosted a workshop that focused on the diverse opportunities in the translation field. Led by LAU alumna Takla Katoul Rahbani (BA '18; MA '22), the workshop covered project management, SEO, and copywriting and offered practical skills for both translation students and others in the communication field.

In March 2024, the Department of Communication, Arts and Languages honored the lasting legacy of poet Jawdat R. Haydar at an event held outside the Jawdat Haydar Memorial Study Room at the Riyadh Nassar Library, a space donated by Haydar's daughter, Shahina Haydar Osseiran. The ceremony included readings from students, a trauma writing workshop inspired by Haydar's anti-war ideals, and a reflection on how his poetry empowers creative expression as a means of healing and self-discovery.



From left: Dr. Haidar Harmanani, Ms. Shahina Haydar Osseiran, Dr. Rula Diab, Dr. Sleiman EL Hajj, Dr. Hweida Kammourié, Dr. Dany Badran, and Dr. Jordan Srour at the memorial ceremony of Jawdat R. Haydar.



In spring, LAU hosted Literature Day, organized by The Page Turner Club, to reignite interest in reading. The event on the Beirut campus included a poetry reading competition, a scavenger hunt, and interactive literary booths covering genres like contemporary fiction and sci-fi.

Also in March, Senior Instructor of English Deema Dakakni led a session—aimed at both parents and students—in which she examined the cognitive impacts of excessive digital media consumption, particularly in young learners. Dakakni shared insights from her research on the decline in student performance linked to increased device usage during the pandemic, stressing the need for a balance between embracing technology and maintaining traditional teaching methods.



Among LAU's numerous centennial celebrations, the 2024 International Dance Day Festival embraced the theme **Pulse of Resilience**, marking a six-day exploration of dance and choreography. The event culminated in a Gala at the Gulbenkian Amphitheater, where both international and LAU-based choreographers showcased performances reflecting Lebanon's strength and LAU's century-long impact on education and culture.



This year, SoAS hosted the 7th International Conference on Mathematical Modelling, Applied Analysis and Computation, in collaboration with the Jaipur Mathematical Society, and gathered over 80 experts who shared cutting-edge research on topics like artificial intelligence, computational mechanics, and innovative solutions to global challenges. The hybrid conference highlighted the importance of mathematical modeling in driving progress across scientific and engineering fields.

In celebration of LAU's centennial, the English program at the Department of Communication, Arts, and Languages hosted its 12th Annual Creative Writing Competition, co-organized by Dr. Sleiman El Hajj, at the Gulbenkian Amphitheater. This year's theme, which focused on diversity and inclusion, helped students and alumni expand on these values through personal narratives.



Former instructor and chair of the Humanities Department at BUC Jean Said Makdisi, a special guest at the competition, was presented with a trophy by the organizing committee in appreciation for her participation.

Also in April, SoAS Lecturer Reem Deeb invited neurosurgeon Dr. Georges Haddad to present a lecture on Spain's musical heritage under LAU's new World Music Class, which Dr. Deeb is teaching for the first time. The event, in collaboration with the Vision of International Awareness (VIA) NGO, offered students a deeper understanding of how music reflects societal culture and history.

In July, the school hosted interdisciplinary summer camps for more than 100 high-school students, mainly centered on fields like chemistry, mathematics, public speaking, and creative writing. The camps provided valuable, career-focused skills and awarded 21 students scholarships based on their performance.

In spring, LAU's Software Institute and Computer Science Club held a full-day event for high-school students to explore coding in Python programming and computer science opportunities titled *Learn, Code, and Compete*. Top performers earned scholarships toward future studies in computer science and related fields at the university.



SoAS marked the university's centennial by inaugurating the SoAS Awards Ceremony at Irwin Hall Auditorium, celebrating the achievements of faculty, staff, alumni, and students. The event, highlighting the school's mission of education, scholarly inquiry, and service to society, honored individuals whose dedication to excellence has shaped the community.

LAU nutrition graduate Siham Hleihel (BS '21) earned the prestigious Chevening Scholarship, becoming the second alumna from the Nutrition and Dietetics program, after Zeinab Elbatoul Sbaiti (BS '19 with distinction), to receive this highly competitive award covering a year of study in the UK.



This summer, four LAU graduates—Raneem Assi (BS '23), Celine El Khoury (BS '23), Hasmig Lily Aywazian (BS '19), and Maha Shaheen (MS '24)—were selected for the Summer School on Affordable AI at the University of Bonn, Germany. The program focused on AI applications in health, education, and climate change, provided them with practical training in AI technologies and fostered international collaboration.

Also in the summer, the school hosted two boot camps for high-school students centered around the interconnected role of AI and medicine. Six students earned scholarships for their commitment and enthusiasm in these disciplines.

LAU's University Theater Festival returned to the Beirut campus for its 19th edition to celebrate the university's centennial year. The festival featured 10 plays addressing social issues like political instability and gender discrimination, as well as musical performances inspired by Lebanon's cultural heritage.



Led by Assistant Professor of Practice Lina Khoury in the Department of Communication, Arts and Languages, the theater festival included 10 plays, three creative workshops by experts on specific aspects of theater production, and four musical performances inspired by Lebanon's cultural heritage.



In September 2023, LAU mourned the passing of Dr. Ahmad Kabbani, an advocate for chemistry and academic excellence, scientist and former chair of the Department of Natural Sciences, who dedicated over three decades of service to the university from 1987 to 2019. Dr. Kabbani impacted student success and educational initiatives—both at LAU and beyond—through his role as a visiting scholar at Rice University and his establishment of the Ahmad Kabbani Annual Scholarship Grant and Chemistry Student Award.



E | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

The school expanded its programs and seized numerous opportunities to build its students' entrepreneurial spirit and career readiness.

This year, the School of Engineering (SOE) took the first position nationally and the 585th globally, according to the 2024–25 Best Global Universities Rankings published by the US News and World Report. This accolade attests to the strides that the school's leadership, faculty, students and alumni have made in recent years.

During AY2023–2024, the SOE launched a five-year strategic plan aimed at elevating its research productivity; teaching with innovation; increasing the number of its programs and the student body; promoting success among its students; and enhancing visibility through activities and industrial collaborations.

To that end, the SOE introduced five new programs: two online graduate programs in international construction management and engineering management, a master's in electrical engineering, and three undergraduate programs in chemical engineering, biomedical engineering and environmental engineering.

The second edition of the school's resident summer camp for high-school students, *Discover Engineering*, took place in July over four sessions. Aspiring for careers in engineering, around 200 young men and women from local and international schools gained firsthand experience in the different disciplines.

Through another initiative aimed at engaging young engineering talents, the SOE hosted more than 80 academically excelling high schoolers at the Byblos campus for a full-day competition where they built a dome using basic materials and programmed a virtual system with LabVIEW. The best students received LAU scholarships.

The SOE's Robotics and Virtual Reality Summer School for middle schoolers in July introduced 40 students from Grades 6 through 9 to the field by teaching them to design and test robotic systems, as well as develop Virtual Reality applications.

Throughout the year, the school fostered and supported its own students' initiatives and their club activities.



In April, the SOE gathered robotics enthusiasts for the inaugural Inter-University Robotics Competition, organized by the IEEE Robotics Club. Engineering students from different Lebanese universities worked on building advanced robots that could navigate and perform critical tasks in disaster-struck areas.

Also in April, the SOE collaborated with InMind Academy in a workshop titled *TechNovation* for more than 40 young professionals and technical leads to promote the conceptual and practical knowledge needed for digitalization and digital transformation. The workshop was led by SOE alumnus Nicolas El Khoury (BE '14), who is the global director of Technology at EDT & Partners, co-founder of Amazon Web Services Beirut and an LAU lecturer.

As part of its SOE Seminar Series, the school hosted experts from around the world, who presented their research on topics such as: filtration, ChatGPT, renewable and sustainable energy, CO₂ monetization, and the environmental impact of the food industry, among others.

In May, the SOE hosted the first National Microelectronics Olympiad in Lebanon, aimed at increasing job opportunities for electrical and computer engineering students while furthering industry collaboration. Students from different universities took part, winning cash prizes totaling \$3,500.



This year, the school set out to understand and assess the different needs of engineering faculty members and how VR technology can be integrated into their course content. Four courses—in the engineering areas of structures, materials, and computer-aided design—were identified and addressed during the spring semester, with many more courses to follow suit.

In a similar pursuit, the school encouraged faculty members to cater to students' entrepreneurial aspirations and align academic offerings with fast-evolving industry needs. A course launched in spring, *Introduction to Virtual Reality and the Startup Journey*, best exemplifies this effort.

During the last weeks of the spring semester, the LAU Engineering Labs and Research Center teamed with students developing their final projects. Their hard work paid off as they competed to address real-world problems and their projects were put on display for all to see. Top teams reaped the fruit of their labor at the Engineering Capstone Design Project Poster Award Ceremony.

Thirty-seven groups of senior engineering students presented their design posters to the faculty and jury.

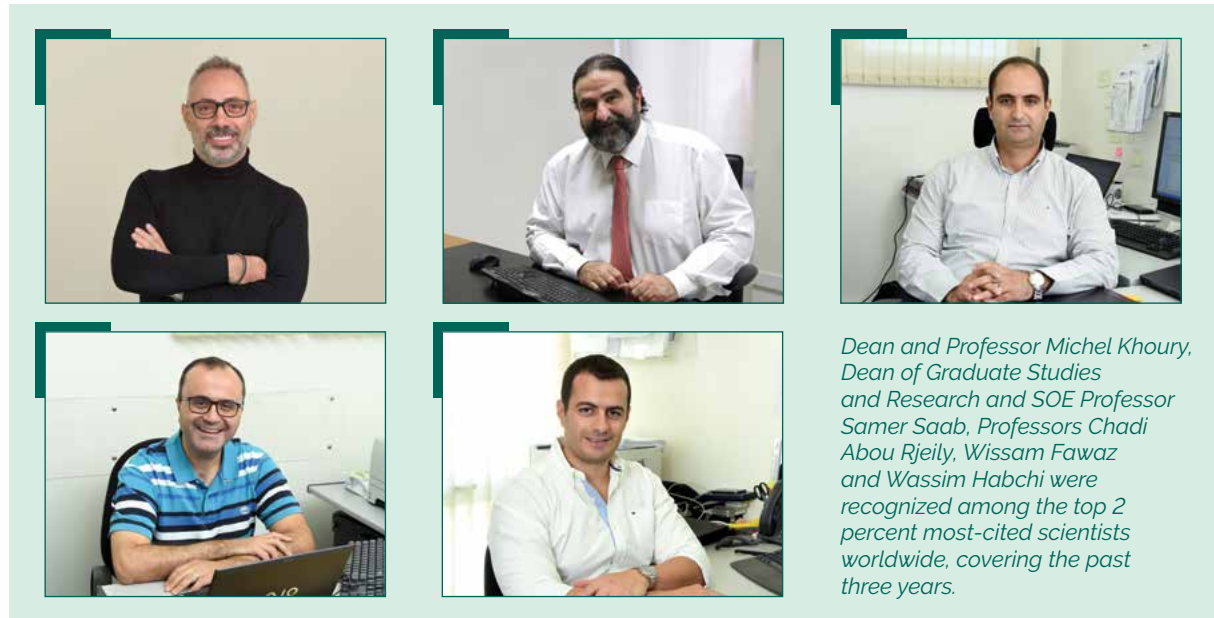


The school actively encouraged undergraduate students to take part in knowledge generation by nurturing research experiences, which were built into the curriculum. These course-based undergraduate research experience courses were launched in fall 2023.

The SOE also sought out partnerships with prestigious academic institutions to plan establishing mutually beneficial joint and dual-degree graduate programs at the MS and PhD levels. Over 12 such graduate models were developed in collaboration with universities in France.

Establishing long-term partnerships with industry stakeholders, the SOE forged a number of new collaborations during AY2023–2024. It joined the Mediterranean Network of Engineering and Management Schools—a global, nonprofit and membership-driven organization dedicated to enhancing engineering and management education and addressing sustainability in the region—and the Regional Network in Energy for Women, enabling students to connect with female role models in the field.

Despite the ongoing economic and security crises in the country, the school maintained its competitive edge by hiring new full-time faculty members who brought a wealth of knowledge and skills to LAU.



Dean and Professor Michel Khoury, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and SOE Professor Samer Saab, Professors Chadi Abou Rjeily, Wissam Fawaz and Wassim Habchi were recognized among the top 2 percent most-cited scientists worldwide, covering the past three years.

On the national level, Dr. Marc Haddad was selected as a key expert for the Lebanese Ministry of Environment's Energy and Transport Climate Change Task Force.

Students and alumni have also largely contributed to the school's successes through earning prestigious positions and internships, as well as awards and research funding.

Fourth-year civil engineering student and President of the LAU student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Lea Al Habr was selected as one of 10 civil engineers of tomorrow by ASCE to design for Cities of the Future, a project that envisions what city life could look like in 50 years.



Mechanical engineering Alumnus Elio Challita (BE '15) became the first Lebanese to be named a Schmidt Science Fellow whose objective is to develop an insect-inspired microrobot for environmental monitoring. The fellowship is considered among the world's top postdoctoral awards for early-career scientists and this year was awarded to only 32 fellows nominated by select institutions worldwide.

The spring 2024 seminar class on Contemporary Issues in Industrial and Mechanical Engineering participated in AUB's IBDAA competition 2024, an annual nationwide innovation competition on environmental topics. Out of nine participating teams comprising 34 students, LAU engineering students claimed first and second prizes.



KEY AREAS

A | STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

During AY2023–2024, LAU witnessed a three percent rise in enrollment from the previous year, driven by a higher-than-expected percentage of undergraduate students returning, and an increase in enrollment for new online graduate programs.

On the **Byblos campus**, the university bestowed the Honorary Doctorate upon HRH Princess Wijdan Bint Fawaz Al Hashemi (BA '61), an artist, art historian, curator, academic and diplomat who served as ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Italy between 2006 and 2011 and Dr. Rabab Abdul-Kader Kreidieh Ward, a professor emerita in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of British Columbia, Canada, and vice president–Educational Activities at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).



LAU campuses lit up in jubilant celebration of the centennial class of 2024 in June. Three ceremonies filled thousands of attendees with the promise of a better future for Lebanese youth.



(From left) Dr. Rabab Abdul-Kader Kreidieh Ward, Princess Wijdan Al Hashemi, Mr. Henri Zoghaib, and Mrs. Manal Boukzam Saab.

On the **Beirut campus**, accomplished poet, author and Director of LAU's Center for Lebanese Heritage Henri Zoghaib received the university's highest award. The same honor was also given to Manal Boukzam Saab, the chief executive officer of Sorenson Gross Construction Services in Flint, Michigan, and an active member of philanthropic institutions dedicated to promoting education, the Arab American heritage and empowering communities in the US and Lebanon.



Courtesy of the LAU Career Development Services and the LAU Consulting Community, students and alumni met with recruiters from leading consulting firms and had the chance to develop their skills and network. Consulting Week is set to become an annual event featuring workshops, recruitment presentations and training in soft skills.

Hosting representatives from leading local, regional and multinational firms, the LAU Career Fair cultivated a dynamic and interconnected professional community of students, alumni and recruiters.

This year, a record 6,112 students signed up for clubs on both campuses, signaling an all-time high spirit for involvement in campus life.



A new cohort of 79 Higher Education Scholarship (HES) recipients joined LAU in the fall, thanks to the support of the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 2010, the program has benefitted 871 scholars who have enriched their university experience with civic engagement and professional development opportunities.

In June, 72 HES scholars graduated at a special ceremony that honored their academic excellence, dedication to their communities and the strides they made toward building up their professional skills.

The Student Council elections took place on October 6, and its new members hit the ground running, especially against the backdrop of the war in South Lebanon, advocating for their peers' increasing need for aid, as well as learning tools, equipment and facilities.

Scholars from across the Arab World started a new chapter at LAU as part of the US-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)–Tomorrow's Leaders Program. In September, LAU welcomed the new cohort of 20 undergraduate, nine graduate, and 43 gender scholars on both campuses.

The timely theme of tackling gender inequality in times of crisis headlined the fourth annual end-of-year conference for MEPI–Tomorrow's Leaders Gender Scholars. Adopting an intersectional approach to gender justice, keynote speakers, scholars and their faculty mentors delivered eye-opening research.

Highlighting the crucial role of interdisciplinary research in realizing a sustainable and prosperous future, LAU hosted the Tomorrow's Leaders Graduate Program (TLG) 4th Joint Conference, titled *Bridging Horizons: Shaping the Future of the MENA Region Through Interdisciplinary Research*—a two-day lineup of panel discussions featuring a diverse assembly of researchers, students, scholars and advisors.

At a joint ceremony, AUB and LAU recognized the graduating class of MEPI scholars, where speakers enticed them to apply adaptive leadership.

During AY2023-2024 the Outreach & Civic Engagement (OCE) unit was split in two to form a Community Service & Engagement (CSE) unit, responsible for all USAID Scholarship Programs, and the Outreach, Leadership & Empowerment (OLE) unit, which oversees LAU's flagship student-managed Simulation Programs.



Aspiring for change from the ground up, MEPI–Tomorrow's Leaders undergraduate senior scholars shared their ideas for change in their home countries at the annual Capstone Presentation Day.



A few weeks into the fall semester, the LAU Simulation Models launched the meticulous selection and recruitment process of the new secretariat. They went straight to work, training and organizing to receive thousands of middle- and high-school students throughout the year.



Exceeding last year's impressive figures, the LAU simulation models concluded the year by honoring 450 delegates, of whom 238 were awarded LAU scholarships.

One of the most anticipated comebacks from the pre-crisis era was the International Model UN Conference, this year themed "Pioneers of Peace," which took place in NYC. More than 50 LAU students and alumni volunteered to help organize it.





Two national champs from LAU represented Lebanon at the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics: alumnus Simon Doueihy (BS '24) and Taekwondo champion and second-year medical student Laetitia Aoun. Upon her return, Aoun was inducted into the University Athletics Hall of Fame on the Byblos campus on August 30.

LAU's Lead Athletics Coordinator and Teams Manager Mohamad Mawas (BS '16) also joined the athletes in Paris, as he was elected as the Olympic Ambassador for Lebanon.

The LAU Sailors and Captains made a strong comeback on the international stage following a hiatus imposed by the pandemic and the economic crisis.

Competing in the 2024 International Sports Festival hosted by the American College of Greece-Deree College, LAU varsity teams secured four titles in total, including two gold and two bronze positions, while the swimming team won six medals.

At the 16th edition of the Belgrade International Student Sport Tournament held in Belgrade, Serbia, from April 18 to 21, the Byblos campus varsity teams competed against their counterparts from Lebanon, Italy and the UAE, and brought pride to LAU.

The Track and Field varsity team also claimed the top three positions in the Beirut Marathon Association's "Run the City" 10km race at the Beirut Digital District.



The varsity teams from both campuses had a commanding presence at the Lebanese University Sports Federation (FSUL) National Championships, where they competed against their peers from other universities and won big.



With the induction of a full-fledged girls' league in its fifth edition, the flagship LAU Jr. NBA's cohort grew to 600 participants. The league closed with a promise to advance youth basketball nationally.

Young men and women of the LAU Jr. NBA took to the podium at the Jr. NBA Europe and Middle East Tournament, held from August 15–20 in Abu Dhabi. Representing Lebanon, they competed against teams from Germany, Spain, Qatar, England and the UAE.



In June 2024, more than 1,500 students from around 250 high schools in Lebanon flocked to the Byblos campus for a taste of university life at the annual "You @ LAU" event, which featured tours of the campus, information sessions and fun activities.

In fall 2023, the Office of International Services was restructured to become the Office of International Services and Programs (ISP), a hub for international programming and services assisting LAU Schools and students through the International Services Committee. The office facilitates exchange programs, study abroad opportunities and international scholarships, manages MEPI TL grants, and supports programs like SINARC and virtual exchanges to enhance the experiences and employability of LAU students.

With the help of the ISP, three LAU students—Hedi Jaza, Zina Kamel and Rassel Narsh—were shortlisted in February for Canada's largest leadership-based scholarship for master's and professional studies, the McCall MacBain Scholarship.

In April, Kamel was announced as one of only 10 global recipients and the first scholar from Lebanon to be selected for the prestigious program. She will pursue a master's in Computer Science, after which she plans to return to her home country, Syria, to start a rescue and relief effort that utilizes robotics.

The ISP also celebrated in July the announcement of six LAU alumni as Chevening Scholars. A testament

to their "passion, ideas and influence to provide the solutions and leadership needed to create a better future," according to the scholarship's website, the highly competitive grant is sponsored by the UK Government and covers one-year master's degrees in the UK, including tuition, flights and board.

Despite security concerns, international students and students of Arab heritage joined the four-week, intensive Arabic hybrid course offered by LAU through SINARC during the summer. Its cultural immersion feature and dedicated faculty gave the students a unique opportunity to build and strengthen their language.

This year, more institutions were added to a long list of LAU partners whereby students could pursue a wealth of graduate programs, as well as exchange and study abroad opportunities. Examples include a five-year agreement with the University of Pennsylvania College of Liberal and Professional Studies, student-and-faculty mobility exchange and research collaborations with the American University of Armenia and a PhD academic pathway agreement with Concordia University's Economics Department.

B | GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH OFFICE

Data generated by the Graduate Studies and Research Office (GSR) for AY2023–2024 on academic and research core KPIs have shown yet another uptick in LAU's scholarly output from the previous year.

A positive indicator in the 2023 data reveals that the number of journal articles indexed by Scopus and Web of Science is still on the rise, as is the quality of research.

According to CiteScore, the Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) increased from 42.15 percent last year to 45.6 percent in the top 10th percentile and from 72 percent to 76.9 percent in the 25th percentile. Percentages for Category Normalized Citation Impact (CNCI) rose from 2.78 percent to 3.59 percent.

RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVES

The university has over the last few years implemented a number of focused initiatives aimed at improving its scholarly footprint and research position regionally and globally, among which:

i. ASHA 2024 University Proposal

The CD adopted "Digital/Experiential Learning" as the theme of the ASHA 2024 proposal in view of its far-reaching impact on the internal and larger community in a wide range of disciplines, from both a teaching (online programs, etc.) as well as a resources (Virtual Reality, etc.) perspective.

ii. The 2024 Research Day



On the second annual Research Day in April 2024, 144 undergraduate and graduate researchers presented their findings in six disciplines, including business, economics, engineering and technology, health sciences, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. Graduate students delivered oral presentations, while undergraduates presented posters. The event was held on the Byblos campus in parallel with the 7th International Conference On Mathematical Modelling, Applied Analysis and Computation on the occasion of LAU's centennial year.

iii. External Grants

Recently acquired and extended active research external grants during the April–September 2024 period include the following projects:

- Zayed University awarded Dr. Rana Rizk, faculty in SoAS, a \$13,927 grant for working on a research study on a plant-dominant low-protein diet for conservative management of chronic kidney disease.
- *L'Institut national de l'environnement industriel et des risques* granted Dr. Nathalie Hayek, faculty in SoAS, \$15,680 as part of a national research project for environmental and occupational health.
- *Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie* awarded Dr. Jad Abdallah, faculty in The School of Pharmacy, \$33,600 as part of a project investigating the identification, characterization, and analysis of bacteria isolated from Lebanese soil. The same agency awarded Dr. Nagham el Ghossein, faculty in SOE, \$33,600 to work on a research project exploring how to improve the lifespan of lithium-ion batteries by optimizing the associated converters.

iv. President's Intramural Research Fund (PIRF) Update

Out of the 44 proposals submitted for PIRF funding for AY2024–2025, those eligible were reviewed. Faculty holding a PIRF grant that was not duly closed out by the deadline of August 31, 2024 were not eligible for funding.

v. Centers of Research Excellence Update

The CD developed the three following proposals in fall 2024: Health Sciences Data Center; Center for Research on Vulnerable Populations; and Center for Emerging Contaminants Research. Following the earlier BOT budget approval for the Health Sciences Data Center, the next step will consist of hiring a director for the Center.

vi. Graduate Research Scholarships

The Graduate Research Scholarships were renewed for the fifth year, supporting graduate students with fully waived tuition and a stipend. The scholarships, which have benefited more than 200 students since 2020, continue to be competitive sought-after springboards for students aiming to realize their research potential across 17 different fields of study—this year covering most of LAU's in-person graduate programs.



GSR Dean Samer Saab was listed among the top 2 percent scientists in 2023 by Scopus Elsevier.

THE LAU SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS INITIATIVE

Given the importance of giving due attention to all university rankings evaluating LAU, particularly the QS Impact Rankings, the CD recommended forming a Standing Committee for Sustainability convened and chaired by CSO Nadim Farajalla and comprising GSR Dean Samer Saab, Assistant to the President for Public Policy Leila Dagher, Assistant to the President for Institutional Research & Assessment Diane Nauffal, in addition to other relevant stakeholders, tasked with developing an institutional strategy for addressing university rankings on sustainability.

C | THE LAU HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

The **LAU Integrated Healthcare System, LAU HEALTH**, comprising the LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital, the LAU Medical Center–St. John’s Hospital, the Mobile Clinics and the Campus Clinics, has maintained its lead position among Lebanon’s top healthcare providers. Through continued focus on strategic planning, expansion of services and numerous operational improvements, the health system is well-positioned to meet future challenges and sustain its growth trajectory, ensuring both financial stability and high-quality patient care.

Following the establishment of a joint five-year strategic plan with the school of medicine, a comprehensive departmental development plan was initiated, including a hospital-wide review and strategic planning sessions that culminated in adopting a focused approach toward sub-specialties and program development. Marking a significant stride in modernizing patient care, steps have been put in place to implement e-Health, particularly telemedicine services.

LAU MEDICAL CENTERS

The health system demonstrated strong operational performance during the academic year, exceeding financial and patient-care targets, with both hospitals reporting a positive EBITDA (earning before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) and improved bottom-line performance.

In terms of operations, both hospitals reported increasing demand. Additional Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were introduced to focus on Bed Utilization and Bed Turnover Rates to capture more accurately the scope of operation beyond traditional indicators such as Bed Occupancy, particularly as the hospitals experienced a rise in short-stay admissions and same-day surgical cases.

Several departments at both medical centers witnessed growth in AY2023–2024. Examples include the Emergency Departments, Outpatient Oncology Services at the LAU Medical Center–RH, dermatology, ophthalmology and interventional radiology, which have all contributed to the overall sustainability of the health system.

Specialties such as cardiology and orthopedics remain core to the hospitals’ profitability. The LAU Medical Center–RH has experienced a 42 percent increase in cost recovery due to tariff adjustments and growth in surgical activity, while outpatient services at the LAU Medical Center–SJH have contributed to a 47 percent cost recovery increase, thanks in part to close cooperation with LAU Medical Center–RH.

Procedures and surgeries at both hospitals have also been busy, with a reported growth of 44 percent in gastrointestinal endoscopies at the LAU Medical Center–SJH. Laboratory services, pathology and medical imaging have seen increased demand, enhancing operational efficiency. Patient satisfaction surveys reveal a positive sentiment overall.



Shortly after the start of the Israel-Gaza war and the ensuing conflict in South Lebanon, the LAU medical centers implemented an Emergency Relief Plan, as part of a larger strategic plan to bolster resilience, safety and readiness to address crises. This comprehensive plan covers both hospitals and includes stocking up with essential medical supplies and medications, establishing clear communication schemes, as well as triaging and identifying patients, among other crucial measures.

As early as August 13, 2024, LAU HEALTH organized a webinar titled *Managing Stress During Uncertain Times* to support the LAU community by providing practical strategies and insights for coping with stress and anxiety during the challenging period the country was experiencing. The webinar was led by Dr. Jocelyne Azar, head of the Division of Psychiatry, and Dr. Toni Sawma, assistant professor of practice in clinical psychology in the Department of Social and Education Sciences. It was moderated by the campus counselor, Nathalie Medlege.

In November, a symposium titled *Mind-Body Harmony: Navigating Anxiety in Medicine* was hosted at the LAU Medical Center–RH, in collaboration with the Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine and the School of Arts and Sciences. It proposed an alternative to the prevailing approach that silos screening, diagnosis and treatment of anxiety disorders.



Joining the World Health Organization's (WHO) global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer and HPV-related cancers, the LAU Medical Center–RH and LAU Medical Center–SJH launched an extensive awareness and vaccination campaign against HPV on November 2023. In addition, an outreach and education effort resulted in the success of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination campaign, which also featured a press conference, informative talks, case presentations and a panel discussion.



The LAU Mobile Clinic hit the road again this year, covering a total of 26 destinations across Lebanon, to mark LAU's centennial year and uphold its legacy of healing with compassion. Its dedicated team of volunteer physicians, residents, nurses and staff visited the communities, conducting free-of-charge essential medical screenings and raising awareness on health and wellbeing.



In January, a team from the Cardiac Arrhythmia Unit at the LAU Medical Center–RH led by Dr. Johnny Abboud performed Lebanon's first pulse-field ablation operation, a procedure to treat irregular heartbeats in the atria—the heart's upper chambers.

The LAU Medical Center–RH launched a state-of-the-art medication dispensing system thanks to a generous grant of \$750,000 million from the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) grant, aimed at improving patient safety in line with US standards and practices and benefiting thousands of inpatients at the hospital.



Another significant event brought together heart and vascular experts to streamline national expertise on cardiovascular diseases in March. The conference, titled *Interventions in Hybrid OR: Where Complexity Meets Safety*, served as an academic forum and underlined the critical need for advanced technological settings, such as the LAU Medical Center–RH's own Hybrid Operating Room.

LAU HEALTH CAMPUS CLINICS

Strategic initiatives have elevated the quality and accessibility of healthcare services on both campuses. In May, a satellite clinic was established on the Byblos campus to provide more responsive first aid and follow-up care and to complement the services provided by the main clinic on the outskirts of the campus.

Additional registered nurses have been recruited for each campus, including two part-time Registered Nurses assigned to the Byblos campus. This allowed for more hours of coverage on campus, including Saturdays, to accommodate students who remain on campus beyond regular operational hours.

The health clinics collaborated with medical and nursing students and student clubs to hold awareness-spreading events to engage students and the wider LAU community on topics such as the dangers of substance abuse and mental health. They also offered first-aid training sessions in partnership with the Lebanese Red Cross, and joined student-led events that catered to the wider communities in Jbeil and Blat.

LAU HEALTH marked significant world-celebrated events, such as World Cancer Day, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, World Heart Day, Patient Safety Day, Hypertension Day and International Radiology Day, by offering educational awareness sessions and free-of-charge related screening and/or consultations.

D | INSTITUTES AND CENTERS

1. ARAB INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN

The Arab Institute for Women (AiW) had a busy year, especially against the backdrop of the multifaceted crises in Lebanon and the wars in South Lebanon and Gaza, which exasperated gender-based violence and economic hardships for many. A heightened backlash against gender rights has also been on the rise in recent years, manifest in the narratives and policies that reinforce traditional gender notions and intensify discrimination.

The AiW took the reins on several projects and initiatives that strategically address these issues, spanning research, education, development programs and outreach.

In October, the institute launched the Women in Leadership program, a multi-layered initiative that combines research and outreach activities documenting the endeavors of inspiring women to maximize their visibility. The program received generous support from the Government of Canada and will be implemented in collaboration with the UN Development Programme and UN Women.



In total, the AiW solicited \$129,000 in funds from UNDP to cover its 50th anniversary activities, which took place throughout 2023 and 2024. Some of these activities included the relaunch of the *Who Is She* online database; a TedxLAU Women Event, the launch of a special edition of *Al Raïda* journal; a book titled *Our Feminine Memory*—which doubled as a tribute to AiW late director Julinda Abu Nasr; and the production of *Women Champions of Gender Equality* and *Wadad: An Ant that Digs in Stone*, two plays that highlight remarkable achievements in gender equality and honor activist Wadad Halwani, respectively.

In a significant achievement, a project launched by the institute in 2020, *Countering Backlash: Reclaiming Gender Justice*, was shortlisted for the Times Higher Education's (THE) Awards for the Arab World 2024. AiW Executive Director Myriam Sfeir was also invited by THE to speak at the University of Dubai as part of the Arab Universities Summit in December 2024.



In June, the Intisar Foundation and the institute signed a three-year agreement to generate the largest regional symposium on women, peace and mental health, whereby three annual conferences are projected to start in 2025.

The AiW also signed an agreement with the Lebanese League for Women in Business to implement a project titled *Supporting Women on Board of Syndicates, Universities, and Boards of Organizations*. The project entails a gender audit assessment, a training program, a mentorship program, an ESA mentorship participation, a marketing campaign and podcasts, and a closing event.

In collaboration with the Call to Action Field Implementation (CAFI) network, the AiW launched a course titled "Violence Counts! Strengthening Arab Regional Capacity to Collect Data on Violence Against Women," which was offered in February 2024 to 17 participants. By the end of the course in March, participants had garnered valuable skills to enhance regional data collection on violence against women.

For the eighth consecutive year, the AiW organized the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). The campaign highlighted the work of activists combatting gender-based violence in the Arab World under the theme "Overlooked No More." The work of 27 LAU graphic design students was spotlighted during the campaign's closing on December 8, when the institute hosted a timely discussion between activists working in Gaza and the West Bank.

Working closely with the School of Arts and Sciences at LAU, AiW contributed to a white paper on personal status codes in Lebanon, focusing on custody and sponsorship, which is undergoing revision. It is part of a project funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York to promote resilience and inclusive politics in the MENA region.

A university-wide initiative spearheaded by the Title IX Office and the AiW, with support from Human Resources, resulted in LAU's first Gender Equity Plan, the first of its kind for an academic institution in Lebanon. This milestone followed a paper prepared by the AiW in 2017, which presented a rationale for creating the plan and led to the subsequent establishment of the Title IX office.

Another collaboration with the Title IX Office and LAU faculty contributed to the success of the *Equality for Everyone: Gender Reform from Grassroots to Government* project, which proposed reforming parental leave in the private and public sectors, with a focus on policy change on the national level. The project garnered international recognition by THE.

Engaging with the Middle East Partnership Initiative–Tomorrow's Leaders (MEPI–TL) scholars, the AiW continuously offers a wealth of workshops and training sessions, culminating in the Gender Scholars (MEPI–TLS) publishing their work in one special issue of *Al Raïda* every year that is dedicated to their articles to promote academic discussions on gender. The TLS program's annual end-of-year conference is also co-organized in partnership with the institute, and this year it was titled: *Tackling Gender Inequality During Times of Crisis*.

MEPI students also benefited from a workshop on Personal Status Codes in Lebanon in collaboration with KAFA, as well as a *Food 4 Thought* discussion titled *Non-violence, Gender and Human Rights*, featuring human rights pioneers Ogarit Younan as a guest speaker. Other editions of the students-focused *Food 4 Thought* series included one about sexual violence and femicide, which was customized for MEPI TLS students.

The AiW organized a workshop in collaboration with the Gender and Sexuality Club, conducted by Seeds for Legal Initiatives at LAU–Beirut Campus for students on *Sexual Harassment Law to Create Safe Spaces*, as well as a talk on *Gender, Citizenship and Leadership* by lawyers Manar Zeaiter and Layal Sakr.

Throughout the year, the institute celebrated the life and legacies of pioneering women, including its own leaders.

On March 8, International Women's Day, a special ceremony shed light on Dr. Samira Aghacy's decades-long service to education, research, gender equality and social reform.

In 2024, AiW hosted a number of events, including:

- A panel discussion on *Women in Diplomacy* marked the International Day of Women in Diplomacy, in collaboration with Rotary Beirut Pax Potentia, highlighted the successes and challenges faced by leading figures in diplomacy. The panel comprised the Canadian Ambassador Stefanie McCollum, the Second Secretary External to the UK Embassy in Beirut Girija Tase and the Diplomatic Counsellor at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Abir Ali.
- A talk by LAU graduate student and AiW Research Assistant Noura El Masry on the dehumanization of Palestinian men by mainstream Western media, as part of the series of events titled *Liberated Futures: Fostering Solidarity with Palestine, Lebanon, and Beyond*.
- A multi-paneled hybrid conference titled: *Accelerating Gender Equality through Economic Empowerment of All Women and Girls*, held in collaboration with the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU). This conference, which is part of a yearly series of panels between the AiW and AGBU, highlighted the economic challenges facing women in the region and provided recommendations.
- The launch of the *Comprehensive Assessment of the Childcare Landscape in Lebanon* in collaboration with the World Bank.





In collaboration with the Institute of Art in the Arab World and the Alumna Relations Office, the institute paid tribute to pioneering artist of abstract art in the Arab World and late alumna Saloua Raouda Choucair (AA '38) on April 23, as part of a series of events that marked the university's centennial.

Other activities related to the centennial celebrations included translating the autobiography of former LAU President Salwa Nassar to English, updating the *Women Artists in Lebanon* book, which was originally published by the institute in 1987, and producing a play about the university's trailblazing women presidents.

On the research front, Dr. Suad Joseph, a distinguished research professor of anthropology and gender, sexuality and women's studies at the University of California, Davis, entrusted the institute in 2023 with a \$100,000 endowment fund, which will be awarded to students of social sciences and humanities in recognition of excelling research output.

2. CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE LEARNING

With a wealth of innovative tools for faculty development and pedagogical delivery, the Center for Innovative Learning (CIL) continues to expand and enrich the learning modalities at LAU.

During the fall, the center hosted a series of orientation sessions for nearly 60 new faculty members to introduce them to LAU learning systems, classroom culture, assessment, and active learning techniques. The center also assigned coaches to guide all new full-time, tenure-track faculty through their first semester. The coaches mentored them, hosted discussion sessions, observed their classes and offered feedback and support where needed.

In a bid to create new learning spaces, the CIL worked closely with faculty to help them design their "dream classroom." Flexible layouts and state-of-the-art technology were used for hybrid and technology-enabled teaching, and the specifications emerging from these workshops formed the blueprint for planned upgrades that were proposed to Facilities Management and IT. The center also collaborated with the university's Extended Reality Taskforce to finalize plans for an XR tech lab on the Beirut campus.

Throughout the year, the CIL continued to engage faculty through training on timely topics and teaching trends, including AI in education, tackling student evaluations, and the use of key technologies such as Blackboard, Panopto, and Starfish.

In line with the university's Strategic Plan IV–Pillar III, Innovate to Inspire, the CIL hosted a variety of sessions designed to inspire new pedagogical practices among the faculty. One session on teaching the visually impaired was delivered by a visually impaired faculty member. Another, delivered through student demonstrations, revealed how students use AI. A workshop held in partnership with the School of Architecture and Design, titled *Cutting Edge Tools in Architecture: From Design to Fabrication*, gave faculty members new ideas on how to integrate technology in their studio classes.

In Spring 2024, the faculty who went through the Faculty Fellows Summer 2023 program designed and delivered engaging sessions for the full faculty body. Topics included student testimonials on having benefited from new pedagogical techniques, faculty fellows' strategies for student success in the 21st-century workplace, as well as the benefits of hosting guest speakers, flipped classrooms, AI tools' inclusion in design courses, and gamification in delivering theoretical concepts.

Summer 2024 saw the selection of seven faculty members into the Faculty Fellows program. They participated in 12 sessions covering a range of topics, from grant writing for collaborative teaching to embedding technology in the classroom. The fellows were also paired with faculty coaches and student mentors who supported them in developing revised curricula and class experiences to be implemented in the fall of 2024.

In partnership with the LAU Libraries and the Extended Reality Taskforce, CIL unveiled a virtual reality app for use in marketing classes. The "virtual supermarket" app allowed students to practice product placement by mimicking the retail environment.



In a similar endeavor, the Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing procured a license for the SimX platform to expose nursing students to scenarios they might not otherwise experience, as part of their training.

Innovative online courses made a debut in the fall of 2023. In partnership with Assistant Professor of Communication and Multimedia Journalism Gretchen King, CIL supported the launch of an open online course titled "Media and Palestine." A Teaching Duet Course in collaboration with Associate Professor of Finance and Accounting Rim El Khoury was also deployed in two sections of the Managerial Finance Course. The center also helped develop a free-of-charge beginner's level Arabic course, which was launched in February as part of a series of events and activities marking the LAU Centennial.

3. CENTER FOR LEBANESE HERITAGE

As part of its series of events marking the university's centennial year, the LAU Center for Lebanese Heritage (CLH) shed light on the formidable cultural influence of the Rahbani brothers and Fairouz over three thought-provoking panel discussions, poetry recitals and a concert on March 4 on the Beirut campus.

The three-panel discussions, interspersed with poetry recitals by CLH Director Henri Zoghaib, featured the Director Emeritus of Cancer Research at Baylor/St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston Philip A. Salem via Webex, composer and singer Marcel Khalife, researcher Mahmoud Zibawi, Father Badih El Hajj, author Fares Youakim, and researcher Hala Nohra.

The day culminated in an enchanting evening concert by the Philokalia Institute's Ashtar Ensemble at Irwin Hall, conducted by Sister Marana Saad.



The evening concert by the Philokalia Institute's Ashtar Ensemble enchanted the spectators in Irwin Hall on the Beirut campus.

Notably, on the occasion of the centennial, Zoghaib penned a poem in Arabic honoring the university's long-lasting impact which became the official Centennial Anthem, set to music by senior instructor and musician-in-residence Joseph Khalife. Following the National Anthem, it was played at the opening of every marquee event.

In recognition of his seminal contributions as founder and director of the center to safeguard and promote the Lebanese creative legacy, Zoghaib was awarded the LAU Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters during the 2024 Beirut commencement ceremony.



For the past 22 years, the center has been a reference point for translating the country's rich repertoire of seminal literature, hosting numerous local and international conferences, and publishing *Mirrors of Heritage*, a bi-annual refereed journal.

Throughout AY2023–2024, commemorating the centennial, the CLH hosted a series of panel discussions on prominent figures of Lebanese heritage, such as the late Said Akl, Mikhail Naimy, Rahbani and Fairouz, and Ameen Rihani, which were compiled into issue 20 of the center's *Mirrors of Heritage*. In addition, the center held a screening of researcher Eddy Choueiry's documentary on the Grand Sofar Hotel, from its glorious past to its destruction.

In September 2024, the CLH hosted Dr. Hyam G. Mallat to discuss his recent book *Pioneers of Lebanon's Heritage* published by the center in August 2024.

4. LAU LOUIS CARDAHI FOUNDATION

In September 2023, Dr. Rachid Chamoun, former Director of the LAU–Louis Cardahi Foundation and Advisor to the Lebanese Minister of Tourism, represented Lebanon and LAU in the Governing Board of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies at the 12th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes that took place in Poland.

Building on its ongoing institutional collaborations, the foundation also participated in October in the XVI Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue on the Phoenicians' Route, the 20th-anniversary celebration of the Phoenicians' Route International General Assembly, held in Italy.

In 2024, the foundation further boosted Byblos' cultural visibility by hosting a series of diverse lectures featuring renowned archaeologists and historians, including Assistant Professor of Egyptian Archaeology at the University of Chicago Anna-Latifa Mourad-Cizek, Associate Professor of Ancient Near Eastern studies and member of several archaeological missions Maroun Khreich and Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Marc Abou Abdallah, who explored diverse topics such as the timber trade in Phoenicia, the evolution of the alphabet and the prolific ruler of Byblos, Rib-Adda.

Additionally, in June, illustrator Beatrice Doumet presented a lecture and exhibition that brought the myth of Cadmus to life for the community—engaging audiences, including children, through a playful exploration of the Phoenician prince's story.



1. LAU LIBRARIES

AY2023–2024 saw the LAU Libraries enter a new phase of productivity, particularly in terms of units' restructuring, strategic vision, and an information system upgrade, among other feats.

This year, the LAU Libraries completed the organizational restructuring, which allowed for a more agile allocation of staff to functional units while also introducing greater capacity to the Technology and Innovation Unit at the forefront of the modern library. A library archives manager was onboarded as well to oversee the preservation of the university's history.

The libraries' Strategic Plan II 2024–2029 rolled into action, with a particular focus on life-long learning, research partnerships and extending the reach of the LAU Libraries. To that end, library patrons and the community at large started following a host of new social media channels that sparked more interest in the libraries.

Visible changes included the extension of the libraries' opening hours, the migration from OLIB to a new library information system that allows for easier cataloging and search, acquiring new materials for the LAU archives and enhancing accessibility for the visually impaired through standard screen-reading software. At the Riyadh Nassar Library on the Beirut campus, collections and staff were also relocated to ensure that all EdTech capabilities share the space with the Center for Innovative Learning.

A special collection honoring the enduring legacy of Lebanon's Prima Ballerina Georgette Gebara, received by the library in 2023, was completely digitized.



In March, as part of a series of events that commemorate the university's centennial, the LAU Libraries celebrated their evolution through a special exhibit. Featuring photographic timelines, yearbooks, old university publications, card catalog cabinets, and an array of audiovisual materials used to store information, such as vinyl, cassettes, microfilms, overhead projector slides and floppy discs, the exhibit traced the evolution of multimedia and resources access for visitors while paying tribute to the libraries' leaders.

2. DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT

In AY2023–2024, the Department of Institutional Research and Assessment (DIRA) reaffirmed its vital role in advancing educational quality and institutional excellence at LAU.

By refining assessment tools, supporting accreditation processes, and empowering stakeholders with actionable data, DIRA continued to lead institutional advancement, support strategic initiatives, and strengthen the university's leadership in higher education.

DIRA continues to play a pivotal role in providing all statistical student and faculty-related data for rankings. Notably, it collected all the necessary data and developed a brochure for the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024, which placed LAU globally at No. 13, No. 34, and in the 101-200 bracket globally on three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 1, No Poverty; and SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goal.

In addition to its regular activities, DIRA undertook the following key initiatives in AY2023–2024:

- Spearheaded a university-wide initiative to revise and expand course evaluation tools. A task force of faculty and student representatives collaborated to develop:
 - Updated evaluation questionnaires for lecture, lab, and studio courses.
 - Specialized tools for internship and online courses, addressing diverse learning formats.
 - A mid-semester evaluation instrument for formative feedback, helping faculty enhance teaching and student learning experiences.
- Revised exit and alumni surveys and introduced an exit survey tailored specifically for online program graduates to ensure comprehensive feedback across all academic offerings. These updates provided valuable insights that informed strategies to support student success.
- Facilitated the evaluation of field experiences and the development of portfolios essential for accreditation and program assessment in collaboration with academic schools.
- Delivered targeted training to staff on critical tools such as the BLUE Explorance System and business intelligence platforms. These sessions empowered participants to:
 - Conduct in-depth data analyses.
 - Use survey tools effectively.
 - Interpret learning outcomes to enhance academic practices and improve student experiences.
- Identified opportunities to enhance academic services and strengthen student outcomes using insights from assessments and surveys, including the National Survey for Student Engagement (NSSE). These efforts inform strategies to foster continuous improvement and provide targeted support for student achievement.



3. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology unit has been vital in maintaining operational continuity amidst challenges such as increasing demand and staff shortages. Key initiatives include:

- **Infrastructure and Security Enhancements:** Upgrades to IT infrastructure, such as Hyper-Converged Infrastructure and improved wireless networks, connecting our campuses, LAU Medical Center-Rizk Hospital and Gezairi via Fiber WAN, with LAU Medical Center-Saint John's Hospital to follow as soon as fiber connectivity is available in Jounieh, along with planning for the establishment of a Security Operations Center to boost cybersecurity.
- **Classroom Upgrades:** Modernization of 88 classrooms and plans to develop 20 advanced "classrooms of the future" by 2026.
- **Process Automation:** Automation of various academic and administrative processes, including faculty evaluations and a new library system.
- **Emergency Planning:** Development of contingency plans to maintain operations during crises, including redundant internet connectivity and satellite internet deployment.
- **Medical Centers IT Integration:** Upgrading medical centers' infrastructure, focusing on the SAP/Cerner Electronic Medical Records system and the implementation of the PYXIS medication dispensing system.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department undertook several compensation and retention initiatives, departmental restructuring, and recruitment processes throughout this year amid a multitude of external and internal challenges, such as the country's inflationary pressures, government-imposed income tax increases, understaffing, and the growth of new areas and departments that were not initially included in the university work plan.

HR is partnering with other university constituents in the implementation of several strategic projects specifically targeting faculty and staff retention as identified within the "Retention Framework" proposal that was submitted to the BOT in September 2023.

LAU has implemented a 20 percent increase in fresh cash salaries for faculty and staff, achieving 100 percent fresh cash compensation for full-time employees by spring 2024, in response to rising government income taxes. These changes, along with merit-based increments and promotions, have helped reduce employee turnover rates to pre-crisis levels. HR is also reviewing its 2018 staff study.

In terms of organizational restructuring, HR has been working with university leaders to evaluate departmental designs and workloads to support operations and expansion.

Additionally, HR is pursuing strategic projects to enhance staff retention, such as expanding pension plans and improving insurance coverage. Training initiatives have focused on skills development, and recruitment has been strengthened through increased headhunting and outsourcing. The performance management cycle for 2023-2024 is complete, with preparations for the next cycle underway. Enhanced staff relations initiatives have also contributed to improved onboarding and reduced resignation rates.



5. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

LAU has adapted its operational strategy in response to Lebanon's economic crisis, which led to the postponement or cancellation of many capital projects initially planned before 2020. However, with some stabilization in the financial situation by AY2023–2024, LAU is experiencing growth in student enrollment and academic programs, prompting the need for renovations and new spaces.

In addition to ongoing classroom and laboratory upgrades and building renovations on both campuses, key developments by the Facilities Management team include:

- **Pharmaceutical & Medical Research Center:** A major capital project is the construction of a new building for the Pharmaceutical & Medical Research Center, located in the Research and Industrial Zone on the Byblos campus, which is slated for completion by fall 2026.
- **Various Renovation and Infrastructure upgrades** are also underway on both campuses, to respond to the growing needs of the university.
- **Sustainability Efforts:** LAU has made significant strides toward sustainability with the completion of its solar photovoltaic (PV) projects across both campuses. Completed solar power projects are anticipated to save the university \$625,000 annually, enhancing operational cost efficiency and sustainability.
- **Seismic Structural Assessments:** Post-earthquake assessments revealed that older buildings need reinforcement, which will affect future expansion plans.
- **Important Property acquisitions** were lately finalized in view of securing adjacent plots and premises to the LAU Beirut campus and to the LAU Medical Center-RH in Ashrafieh.
- **On the Operational side,** the Facilities Management department is currently implementing Computer Maintenance and Management Software to automate its processes and optimize the management of space and service requests at the university in view of upgrading service levels.
- **LAU Medical Centers:** Both the LAU Medical Center–RH and LAU Medical Center–SJH are undergoing expansion and renovation projects in line with their strategic plans to continue providing quality healthcare and training for medical students. These projects related to the interim 2022-2026 Bridge Plan, which replaced the initial larger-scale Master Plan of LAU Medical Center-RH, are progressing. As for LAU Medical Center-SJH, various renovations were executed during the fall semester; a new master plan has been launched with a view to expanding the medical center's capacity in Jounieh. PV projects are also being implemented in both medical centers and are due for completion in 2025.

6. BUSINESS SERVICES

Despite regional instability and economic challenges, LAU's Business Services Department has upheld critical operations. Key achievements include renewing general, medical, and political violence insurance with favorable terms and conducting tendering processes for outsourced services like catering, security, and transportation to ensure quality and cost efficiency.



1. ACADEMY OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

The LAU Academy of Continuing Education (LAU ACE) made remarkable strides in establishing new revenue streams, both locally and internationally. This strategic expansion resulted in an impressive operations growth of 108 percent from September 2023 to August 2024, culminating in a substantial total of \$1.25 million, and underscoring LAU ACE's commitment to innovation and excellence in continued education.

In terms of its offerings, LAU ACE positively impacted 1,800 professionals through an extensive array of 116 programs, including 31 new additions that cater to the evolving needs of today's workforce. The academy successfully built relationships with 42 partners, enhancing its ability to deliver high-quality education and training.

To further its mission, LAU ACE formed strategic partnerships aimed at establishing a robust physical presence in key markets, including the UAE, KSA, and Cyprus. These collaborations facilitate both online and in-person LAU ACE programs, ensuring accessibility and flexibility for participants.

LAU ACE's curriculum spans a wide range of vital topics, reflecting the diverse interests and needs of its audience. The programs cover areas such as:

- Health and Mental Fitness
- Fitness and Nutrition
- Innovation and Technology
- Legal and Societal Issues
- Executive Education and Entrepreneurship
- Finance and Fintech
- Creative Arts
- Professional Development

This comprehensive approach equips participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in their respective fields.

The impact of LAU ACE's programs is both significant and measurable. A recent survey revealed that 63 percent of graduates experienced career shifts post-completion. Among these, 40 percent reported securing better job opportunities, while 31 percent achieved promotions in their current roles.

Additionally, a remarkable 76 percent of participants indicated that they had gained substantial benefits from LAU ACE's offerings, highlighting the effectiveness and value of the academy.

With a solid track record of enhancing careers and building valuable partnerships, LAU ACE is well-positioned to expand its reach and refine its offerings, significantly impacting the professional journeys of those who engage with its programs.

In October, LAU ACE, in collaboration with the Muhanna Foundation, marked a milestone in Lebanese municipalities' capacity-building, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Municipal Administration and Finance Diploma program.



Also in October, LAU ACE held the graduation ceremony of its fourth cohort from the Professional Real Estate Brokerage program.

This year, LAU ACE signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Me3margi, Heart and Arrows Ltd, which specializes in professional training and continuing education diplomas, as well as with Partners and Beyond.

The graduating cohort of the Professional Real Estate Brokerage program at the ceremony in Gulbenkian Theater, Beirut campus.



Under the agreement, LAU ACE and Partners and Beyond will conduct specialized programs and courses for healthcare professionals on management and leadership development, digital transformation, and project management in healthcare.

2. INDUSTRIAL HUB

The LAU Industrial Hub (LAU IH) continues to serve as a vital catalyst for experiential learning among students, effectively bridging the gap between academia and industry. This year, more than 90 students actively participated in industry pods and sponsorships, gaining invaluable hands-on experience under the guidance of 16 faculty mentors, who oversaw the submission of 27 projects seeking funding.

The LAU IH established 31 collaborations, including 13 new partners and clients. Noteworthy new agreements were formed with organizations, such as Techvitis, InMind, and KC Industrial Solutions. These partnerships enhance LAU IH's ability to deliver real-world projects and opportunities for students, further solidifying its role as a leader in industry-driven research and development. In addition, LAU IH launched four projects funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and submitted applications for nine additional initiatives.

These partnerships enabled LAU IH to achieve operational growth, reflecting its successful initiatives and growing influence. Its presence on LinkedIn saw organic growth, surpassing 1,000 followers and enhancing its visibility and engagement with the broader community.

The establishment of an advisory council, composed of industry experts and faculty members, provides strategic guidance and insights and ensures that the hub remains aligned with industry trends and needs.

As it continues to grow and evolve, the LAU IH is well-positioned to lead the way in shaping the future of education and industry collaboration.



Members of the LAU IH Advisory Council with President Mawad at the inaugural meeting in January 2024.

3. GLOBAL AFFAIRS SERVICE CENTER

LAU's Global Affairs Service Center (LAU GASC) is strategically advancing its partnerships, establishing the university as a prominent player in the consultancy market. These collaborations encompass both opportunistic partnerships for joint bidding and strategic partnerships for developing innovative consultancy offerings. By nurturing these alliances, LAU GASC is driving revenue growth while generating significant value within the consultancy-academia nexus, ultimately enhancing overall institutional growth.

Initially, 101 faculty members expressed interest in providing consultancy services; this number nearly tripled in the 2023–2024 period. To further expand its expert pool, LAU GASC plans to invite vetted external freelancers, ensuring alignment with market demand and effective execution of its go-to-market strategy.

The revenue growth of LAU GASC is fueled by three essential factors: Market demand, sales capacity, and delivery capacity. The initial year, characterized by limited selling capacity, provided critical insights for refining the go-to-market strategy and establishing efficient internal processes. To enhance sales capabilities, LAU GASC appointed key positions, including a marcom manager, which led to an evident boost in the department's performance.

Understanding market dynamics is vital for LAU GASC's aspirations. As a late entrant into consultancy, the center prioritized building strong relationships

with target prospects in international development. In the 2023–2024 period, LAU GASC successfully engaged six out of 12 active development agencies, resulting in collaborations with four of them and contracts with three. These engagements bolstered LAU GASC's visibility as a reliable service provider.

Two key offerings finalized for the 2023–2024 cycle include the Open Banking Consultancy, which has already generated sales, and the Clinical Simulation Consultancy, set to launch in the first quarter of 2024–2025 with strong expectations for success. The portfolio will continue to expand, focusing on innovation and avoiding oversaturated markets.

Through strategic relationships with key development agencies and impactful event organizations, LAU GASC is enhancing its visibility and reinforcing its commitment to delivering exceptional consultancy services in the MENA region. This proactive approach lays the groundwork for continued growth and positions LAU GASC as a trusted partner in the consultancy market.

In May, LAU GASC partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to foster sustainable development and empower the youth in Lebanon to become agents of change.

In August, GASC hosted the Head of Economics and Global Labor Markets at LinkedIn and Harvard University Adjunct Professor Rand Ghayad (BS '06) who provided valuable insights on new work trends, technology, and upskilling.

Building on an existing collaboration between LAU GASC and UNDP's Youth Leadership Program, the new agreement in May 2024 aimed at promoting innovative thinking and leadership among the youth to meet the UN's Sustainability Development Goals by broadening the scope of the projects.



4. FOUAD MAKHZOUMI INNOVATION CENTER

LAU's Fouad Makhzoumi Innovation Center (LAU FMIC) is rapidly gaining recognition as a leading hub for entrepreneurship and development among LAU students, faculty, and alumni.



As part of the centennial edition of its SPARK program, LAU FMIC hosted iDay, the final pitching event for this year's cohort of entrepreneurs, at the Beirut campus on August 12, 2024, where 16 startups presented their businesses to the LAU investment committee, competing for a \$10,000 prize to help them turn their products and services into thriving enterprises.

The center's signature Spark program attracted double the applications compared to last year, with more than 100 submitted for the centennial cohort. This year, more than 500 students were involved in 124 hours of training and mentorship, over 20 pitches and 12 startups that signed term sheets. This reflects increased student awareness, thanks to collaboration with student clubs and activities.

LAU FMIC has signed a strategic agreement with Eureka Innovation Hub to offer unique exchange opportunities for LAU startups and faculty in the global innovation landscape.

In terms of operational progress, standardized data management, program upgrades and the development of operational manuals for scalability were all achieved to enhance the center's delivery and reporting.

5. LAU NEW YORK BRANCH CAMPUS

Having completed the technical approval process, the LAU New York Headquarters and Academic Center received the approval of the New York Board of Regents to become a degree-granting branch campus of the university.

This year, the branch campus geared up to offer seven online continuing education programs, four diplomas, and three certificates.

In collaboration with Holberton, LAU New York has worked on refining its marketing and recruitment strategies to build up its student body.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

Significant advancements were made in establishing the Pharmaceutical and Medical Research Center (PMRC), marking a crucial step toward its launch. The comprehensive guidelines for setting up a bioequivalence center were finalized in an essential collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) to initiate this project.

In addition, several critical reports were prepared, including bioanalytical study reports for each study conducted at the PMRC, along with detailed report templates for the clinical components of BA/BE studies. These templates incorporate essential elements such as pharmacokinetics (PK) and statistical analysis, ensuring adherence to high standards of scientific rigor and regulatory compliance.

The facility's design has been completed, paving the way for the next phases of construction and operational readiness. Comprehensive tender documents have been prepared to facilitate the procurement process.



A notable milestone during this period is the appointment in March of Sam Haidar, the former senior science advisor at the US Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Office of Study Integrity and Surveillance, as the new executive director of the PMRC. His expertise is expected to guide the center effectively.

These collective efforts underscore a strong commitment to establishing the PMRC as a key center in Lebanon. While challenges remain—navigating complex regulatory frameworks and avoiding potential administrative bottlenecks—the groundwork laid thus far positions the PMRC to make substantial contributions to the pharmaceutical industry and enhance the credibility of pharmaceutical generic medications in the region.



Private giving results during AY2023-2024 of the two divisions, Institutional Advancement and Global Advancement, amounted to \$3.69 million, an improvement on the \$3.16 in AY2022-2023.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

1. Development Office

The fundraising climate in Lebanon continued to be marked by donor fatigue driven by competing solicitations and needs for basic, urgent and pressing priorities. Donors were once again called upon to fill the void created by the absence of the state in health, education, shelter, and food.

The GCC climate remained economically more attractive, although the travel restrictions and controls over donations to Lebanon, especially for the KSA and UAE, were still in place. Activities aimed at engaging the alumni and the Lebanese diaspora picked up with key trips to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Jeddah, Riyadh, Khobar, Doha and London.

A comprehensive review of all major donors is being conducted to assess the giving potential and align this with the projections for AY2024-2025. The review will help to assign clearer actions for dormant relationships, objectives for ongoing relationships, and targets for new relationships.

As per our strategic plan, more donor recognition is expected to be rolled out across the campuses to enhance the giving culture. Current efforts include integration with IT of the communications with the campus screen network and with Facilities Management on physical donor recognition walls. The revamping of the Giving website, which had also stalled due to resourcing issues, will be accelerated and will provide much-needed opportunities to channel stewardship and recognition opportunities.

The war on Lebanon's south, the Gaza war and its impact on Lebanon continued to cast a climate of instability, which prompted the Gala Committee to postpone the gala to a later date. Even without the mobilizing effect of the gala, LAU's family of donors remained steadfast in their support, effectively offsetting the absence of the gala (which traditionally accounted for over 20 percent of fundraising revenue) and contributing to lowering the cost of dollars raised by saving the budget usually allocated for the event.

The Development Office underwent a restructuring, with a unit assigned specifically for stewardship, and an enhanced unit for prospect research. Its staffing will be handled in the following academic year. The restructuring included the assignment of a dedicated medical causes fundraiser.

2. Alumni Relations Office

The Alumni Relations Office (ARO) successfully integrated the shift of the Annual Giving program to its area of responsibility and leveraged the centennial to energize the alumni base. The shift coincided with the development of a strategic annual giving plan to engage the university's students, alumni, faculty and staff in supporting the university's mission.

The ARO continued to increase the level and frequency of its engagement with alumni, in and outside Lebanon, to regain lost ground brought by the Lebanon crises, the COVID-19 pandemic and budget restrictions.

The office underwent minor restructuring: in addition to the integration of the Annual Giving unit, the office will oversee a contact center to be able to consistently and more frequently engage the alumni and communities with the university mission, events and news.

Annual Giving campaigns by the ARO included:

- i. A Phonathon campaign with 10 students contacting 2,000 alumni, most of whom reside outside Lebanon, between March 27 and May 30 to solicit their support for the Centennial Fund and update their information.
- ii. A senior class gift campaign was conducted in May and June, resulting in contributions from 358 students (21 percent of the graduating class).
- iii. A Centennial Fund appeal sent to current students, alumni, faculty, and staff in June and July attracted 62 donors.

Highlights of Activities

The Alumni Mentoring Program saw around 250 students and alumni actively participating in the program in the spring semester, with 50 alumni volunteering as mentors.



In April, the ARO commemorated the life and work of esteemed artist and LAU alumna Saloua Raouda Choucair during a gathering of 80 guests. A descriptive plaque was installed near Choucair's famous sculpture "Epic Poem" which was donated to LAU in 1974 by the Beirut Alumni Chapter.

The Alumni Keep Learning Lecture Series this year featured a hybrid panel discussion titled *Coaching Culture at Work* followed by one-on-one coaching sessions. The event was organized by the ARO in collaboration with the Academy of Continuing Education and the ICF Lebanon Charter Chapter.

Two other lectures within the same series were presented by Dr. Dunia Harajli, an assistant professor at the Adnan Kassar School of Business, and alumnus and faculty member Hassan Chaker (MBA '06) titled *Neuromarketing: Decoding the WHY behind our choices* and *Empower Your Life: Shifting from Victim to Victor* respectively.

In May, the KSA Eastern Province Alumni Chapter was reactivated during a gathering in Dammam attended by around 100 alumni.



In July, the ARO held the Alumni Homecoming Week, with two class reunions on both campuses and a dinner. The gatherings attracted 200 alumni to the Byblos campus, 450 to the Beirut campus, and 200 to the dinner.

Also in July, 60 alumni who had served on committees of alumni chapters in the past years were honored at the Alumni Volunteers Recognition ceremony.



This year, the Alumni Achievement Award was bestowed on Nada Ghazal (BA '92), the founder of Nada Ghazal Fine Jewelry, and the Alumni Recognition Award on Gabriel Fernaine (BS '00), founder of Rebirth Beirut NGO.

The office participated in the New Students Orientation Program, which took place at the start of the fall and spring semesters on both campuses. New students were presented with a Welcome to LAU mug from the Alumni Association and were informed about the alumni program and what to expect after graduation, while about 800 senior Students were presented with a farewell centennial pin and introduced to benefits offered by the Alumni Program.

Accompanied by AVP Abdallah al Khal, among other leadership, the president met with alumni around the world, namely in Toronto and Montreal in September 2023, Dubai and Abu Dhabi in April 2024, and Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province and Jeddah in May, demonstrating LAU's dedication to fostering robust connections with its alumni.

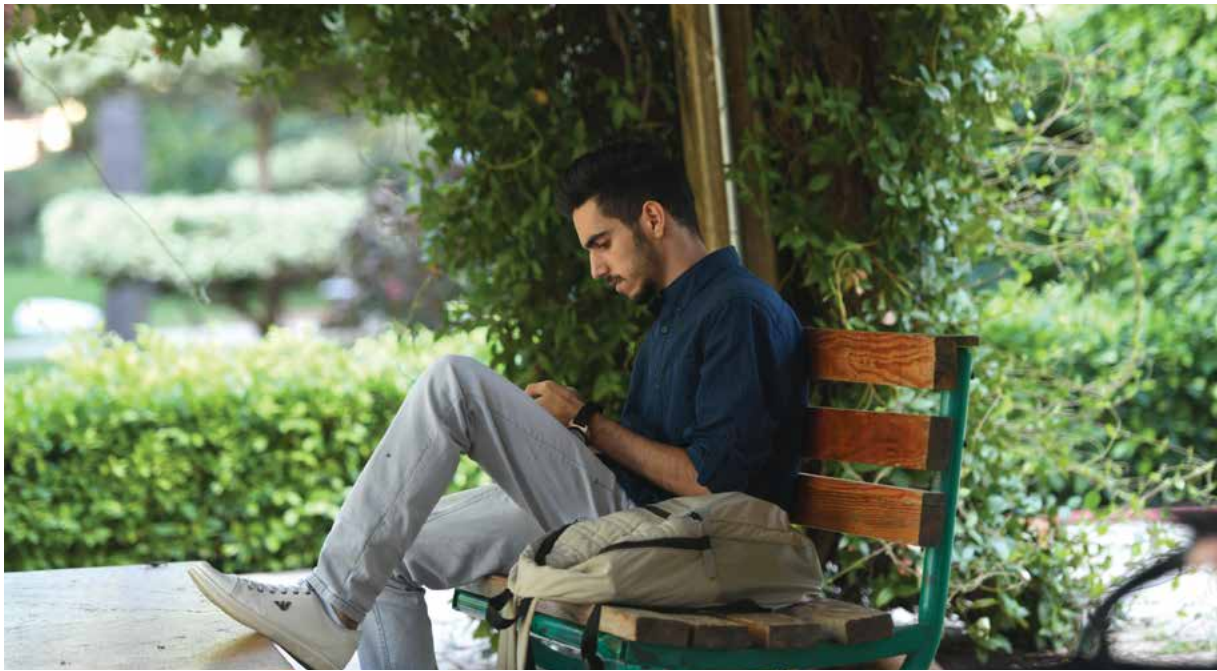
During AY2023–2024, the ARO coordinated 12 activities by their South Lebanon, Beirut, Abu Dhabi, Riyadh, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and London chapters, engaging about 2,300 alumni overall. The office also supported the chapters in branding their events "Centennial" to commemorate their alma mater's 100th anniversary.



On the occasion of the centennial, the office launched the following projects and events:

- i. A series of podcasts titled *100/100: The Full Grade* developed and presented by LAU alumnus and media figure Zaven Kouyoumjian (BA '92), in which he interviewed distinguished alumni/ae about their achievements, experiences with LAU and the university's impact on their professional lives. The podcasts were viewed over 350 thousand times.
- ii. "The Centennial Alumni Spotlight," a series of articles developed alongside Global Advancement, highlighting alumni/ae who have made various contributions to LAU over the years.





3. Strategic Communications

The Department of Strategic Communications (Stratcom) juggled several priorities that included the centennial tributes, the integration of medical centers' communications, responding to those of the institution, and assisting with the presidential transition communications in coordination with an external consultancy, while under-staffed by about 27 percent vacant positions up until June 2024.

As the demands for international communications, namely in North America, are increasing, Stratcom is aligning on how best to support them.

Centennial Tributes

Major high-reach activities amplified the reach of the centennial tributes, starting with a live broadcast launch press conference. The centennial high marks included helping to organize an outstanding tribute concert on the Beirut campus in June and another one on the Byblos campus in July.

The amplification included two advertising supporting bursts: a digital campaign that ran from February to April 2024 and a combined outdoor and digital campaign from August until September 2024.

Stratcom coordinated the design and concept of the centennial brand and campaign developed by Impact BBDO. The brand mark was created along with the slogan "Innovating. Empowering. Ever-Giving." In parallel, Stratcom provided campus branding ideas (which were executed in collaboration with the Administration), built a website (100.lau.edu.lb), and produced the materials needed for the above-mentioned January roll-out.

A special program produced by a leading documentary team in Lebanon was broadcast

in prime time on one of the top two stations in Lebanon (MTV Lebanon). The documentary received strong positive feedback from alumni and friends.

Stratcom also assisted with fundraising communications, executing post-event communications for the New York gala: coverage, post-event landing page, and distribution of photos and videos to stakeholders.

In May, the communications of the university and medical centers were effectively integrated in terms of leadership. While the medical centers retained their resources, their supervision fell under the integrated leadership of the new Head of Strategic Communications Saad El Zein. Other restructuring included integrating digital communications with social media.

Following the Board of Trustees' request and search, Stratcom was tasked with coordinating a strategic consultancy contract awarded to Vianovo to successfully communicate the presidential succession, enhance LAU's reputation in the US, and assist with the Gala fundraiser organized by Global Advancement.

In addition to creating story content, digital campaigns, and providing strategic support for various stakeholders, Stratcom has worked on publishing:

- i. Annual publications (Fact Book 2022–23, Facts 2023–24, SOE annual report)
- ii. President's Search microsite
- iii. NECHE Standard 9 input and website revisions
- iv. Title IX collateral materials
- v. The LAU News Brief newsletter (monthly).
- vi. The President's Forum (monthly).





4. Advancement Services Office

Database Maintenance

i. The database now stands at 65,750 records.

- The database was updated with 1,766 new records in the past period; in coordination with IT, 1,255 new graduates' records and contact information for graduates of Spring 2024 were added.

ii. The database maintenance efforts have led to:

- The review of 10,340 records, out of which 5,995 were updated through extensive research, social media channels, phone calls, and email inquiries.
- The office is currently revisiting and updating the records of more than 2,500 individuals contacted during the Phonathon 2024 project.
- A very rough estimate of the database quality, therefore, stands at 42 percent which a new plan to enhance the database quality will address.

Gift Processing and Reporting

- Processed 747 new gifts/grants/pledges/research and government grants received in Beirut and New York offices.
- Processed three new gifts in the RE-Health Causes database.
- Issued 232 Endowment Scholarship Fund reports.
- Issued 293 Annual and Designated Grants and President's Scholarship Fund reports.

Capital Campaign Support

- Compiled and generated reports on the lifetime giving history of 125+ donors for the Capital Campaign Feasibility Study.
- Supplied Global Advancement with hundreds of donor profiles and giving reports, and generated numerous email lists based on various criteria.

Other Support

- Produced and created 1,325 analytical, statistical and comparative reports.

GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT

Under its mandate to expand LAU's visibility and impact within the US and beyond, the Development Office in New York, led by VP for Global Advancement Rima Zaitoon, made significant strides in AY2023–2024 in preparing for a multi-year capital campaign and enhancing LAU's outreach for fundraising success.

The office focused its efforts on restructuring, campaign readiness, and strengthening alumni ties and marketing initiatives while planning and promoting the university's Centennial Gala.

As part of its strategic initiative to broaden LAU's visibility globally, the Development team secured marketing firms/individuals that offer a suite of innovative marketing strategies, advanced data analytic capabilities, and access to a vast network of consulting expertise.

Communication initiatives and alumni engagement were strengthened showcasing LAU's commitment to fostering lasting relationships with its community. Several alumni events included meetings with chapter presidents, mid-winter happy hours, and chapter gatherings across different regions. In total, 14 events were held in AY2023–2024.

In the lead-up to the LAU's Centennial Gala, co-chaired by HH Sheikha Intisar Al Sabah and Mr. Peter Tanous, the office launched an extensive communication strategy that entailed event management, marketing, and outreach planning. Part of the centennial celebration, the Centennial Alumni Spotlight Social Media campaign in collaboration with Alumni Affairs and Stratcom in Lebanon featured more than 50 prominent alumni throughout the centennial year.

The announcement of the Centennial Gala and its honorees, Elissa and Sassine Ghazi, received significant media attention, with more than 227 million potential audience reach across 250 media outlets, including NBC, AP, and Apple News.

LAU's communication strategy effectively leveraged these media channels to highlight the importance of the gala, the honorees' contributions, and the university's mission. This extensive media exposure raised awareness and support for LAU's fundraising goals, particularly in scholarship funding and healthcare.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A | OPERATING ENVIRONMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

This year proved to be exceptionally difficult. The war intensified, forcing more than one million Lebanese citizens to leave their homes. LAU transitioned back to online teaching and remote operations to support displaced students, staff, and faculty. An emergency plan was implemented, which brought additional financial challenges.

During this critical period of transition, LAU remained a pillar of stability and resilience. The past three years have brought an array of unprecedented challenges, creating a complex and uncertain academic and operational environment. Despite these difficulties, the university approached each obstacle with a thoughtful and strategic mindset, demonstrating its unwavering dedication to excellence and advancement.

Remarkably, LAU's financial foundation not only withstood the turmoil but also proved to be exceptionally resilient in an operating environment destabilized by political and regulatory voids. This achievement is a testament to its outstanding financial expertise and strategic planning, which have been carefully honed over the years.

The finance team's expertise in advanced financial management has been the university's cornerstone, providing stability amid the nation's infrastructural collapse, the sharp depreciation of its currency, and the troubling exodus of intellectual talent. These professionals not only weathered the challenges but also steered a course that preserved the institution's integrity and ensured its long-term viability.

LAU's current financial stability stands as a powerful testament to the leadership's exceptional expertise, strategic foresight, and steadfast commitment. It highlights the resilience, collective effort, trust, and respect that define a community dedicated to educational excellence and societal progress. Looking ahead, LAU's solid foundation and unwavering strength in the face of extraordinary challenges emphasize the vital contributions of its finance professionals, whose relentless dedication continues to safeguard our mission and propel our future forward.

Despite persistent challenges, the university achieved a 3.4 percent growth in net assets

for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024. This reflects strong financial resilience, enabling the institution to strengthen its economic stability and expand its resource base during a period of significant turbulence.

Amid a severe economic collapse, the university successfully normalized its resources and operations during the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024. This ensured full compliance with ASC 830-20-30-3 and other relevant accounting standards. As a result, the audited financial statements for both the previous and current fiscal years were issued with an unqualified opinion.

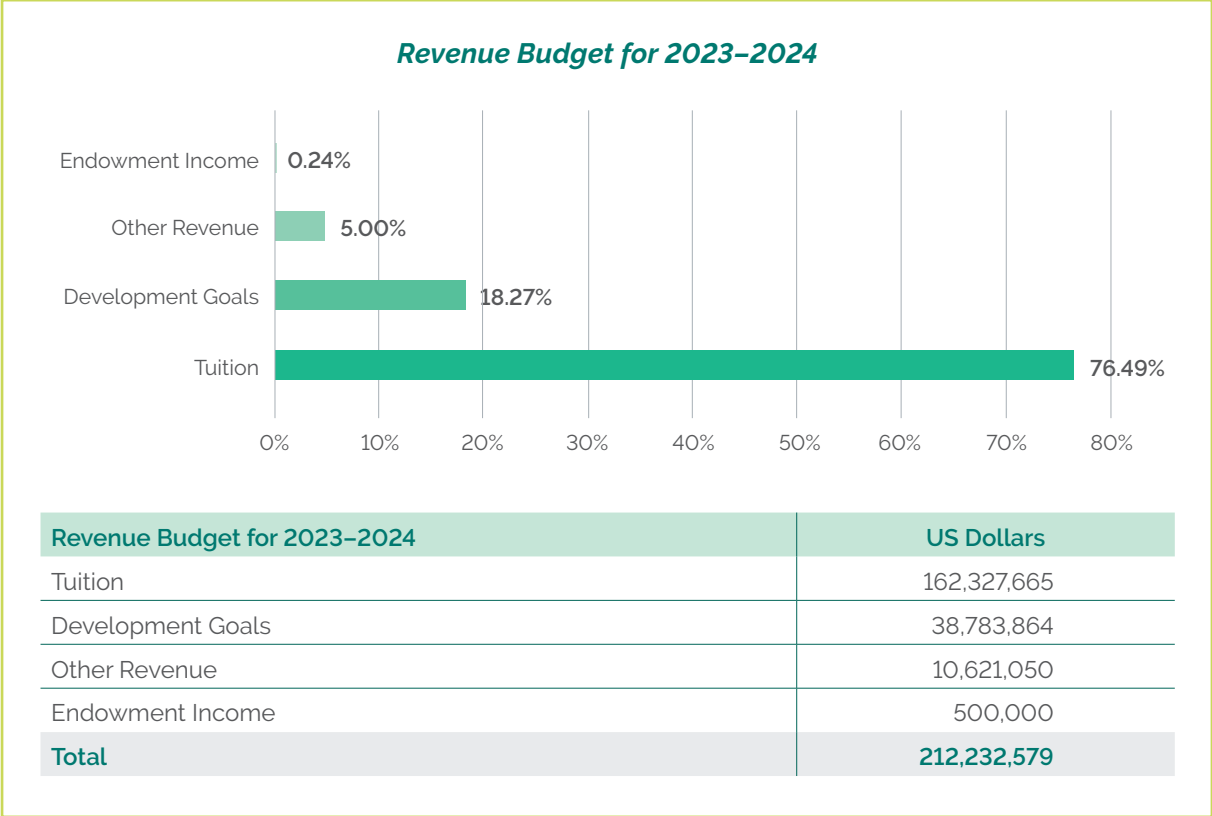
At the start of the fall 2022 term, LAU transitioned to full dollarization of its tuition, supported by a robust financial aid package designed to minimize student attrition. This strategy proved highly effective, as no attrition occurred during that term. Building on its forward-thinking approach, the university achieved steady enrollment growth in the fall 2023 and 2024 terms, further reinforcing its path toward stability. These results provide strong indications of the institution's ability to maintain financial and operational sustainability without external funding. However, the long-term assurance of continued sustainability remains uncertain and is heavily influenced by the country's political and economic conditions.

The university's management team is carefully monitoring external factors that impact its operations, with a strong focus on critical metrics within its business structure. This proactive strategy aims to identify and mitigate potential risks that could threaten the institution's future performance and stability. By staying vigilant and responsive to these key indicators, the university is positioned to navigate uncertainties and maintain its resilience.

As a vital contributor to the national framework, LAU remains deeply committed to its mission of delivering education and service. Understanding the financial challenges faced by students from diverse economic backgrounds, the university has prioritized ensuring that financial constraints do not become barriers to education. This dedication to inclusivity has garnered significant appreciation from the community, which increasingly relies on such unwavering support during challenging times.

LAU's steadfast pursuit of excellence is evident in both its academic programs and community initiatives. Over 75 percent of its student body receives financial aid, highlighting its commitment to making education accessible to all. Additionally, LAU has invested heavily in its academic infrastructure, expanding its full-time faculty and physician base. These investments not only elevate the quality of education but also reinforce the university's mission to serve the community by offering exceptional educational and medical resources.

LAU's revenues operating budget for AY2023–2024 was around \$212.2 million—a landmark, given the restrictive economic conditions in Lebanon.





B | THE OVERALL PICTURE

LAU successfully maintained strong financial sustainability despite significant challenges. As of August 31, 2024, the university's total assets were valued at \$1.29 billion, showcasing the substantial strength of its resource base and investment portfolio. Net assets, representing the remaining value after liabilities, totaled \$1.21 billion, highlighting the university's considerable financial reserves available to support future operations and strategic initiatives. This solid financial foundation reflects LAU's resilience in navigating economic fluctuations while maintaining fiscal stability, enabling continued growth and the pursuit of its academic and institutional objectives.

Despite mounting pressures on enrollment driven by adverse economic conditions and heightened competition, LAU successfully sustained strong enrollment levels. This accomplishment required increased investment in financial aid to alleviate the effects of the ongoing economic challenges. Significant support from various stakeholders played a crucial role in ensuring the university's continued operational strength and stability.

As of August 31, 2024, investments in subsidiaries remained steady at \$182.2 million. The fair market value of properties and assets related to the university's hospital operations closely aligned

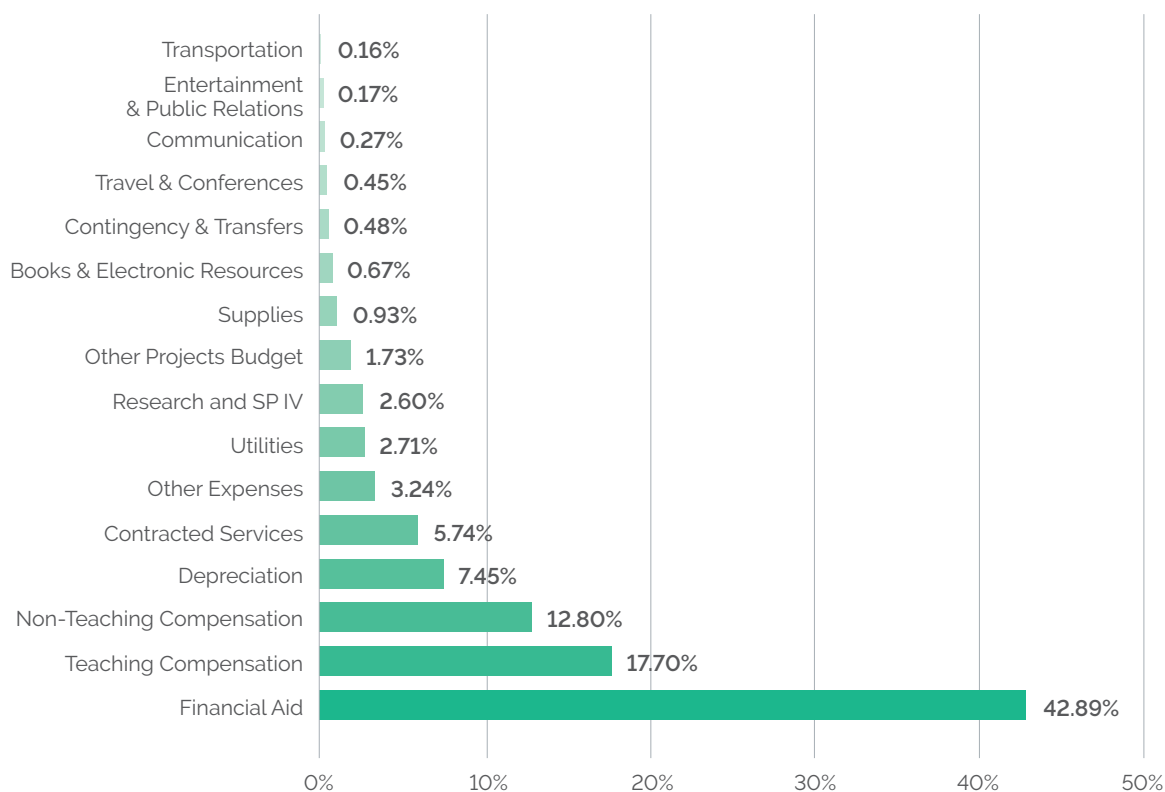
with the investment outlays, ensuring these investments retained their value.

By the close of the fiscal year on August 31, 2024, LAU's investment holdings, primarily in endowments, experienced a notable increase to \$706.7 million. The university's investment committee, alongside its investment office and external consultants, remains dedicated to optimizing investment strategies. Their efforts focus on monitoring the Endowment Portfolio, evaluating current market conditions, and implementing a strategic asset allocation that aligns with clearly defined investment objectives, supported by a thorough manager selection process.

Undergraduate financial aid retained its high in the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024—a reflection of the university's strategic adaptation to fast-changing economic landscapes.

The total expense budget, excluding financial aid allocations, increased by approximately 15.7 percent compared to the previous fiscal year. This rise was driven by the full normalization of salaries and the growing dollarization of the economic environment. Despite the increase, operating expenses remained efficient and effective in resource allocation, allowing the university to channel additional resources toward financial aid initiatives.

Expense Budget for 2023–2024



Expense Budget for 2023–2024	US Dollars
Financial Aid	91,037,101
Teaching Compensation	37,571,039
Non-Teaching Compensation	27,156,848
Depreciation	15,805,458
Contracted Services	12,187,456
Other Expenses	6,871,911
Utilities	5,754,926
Research and SP IV	5,524,660
Other Projects Budget	3,665,843
Supplies	1,983,516
Books & Electronic Resources	1,427,909
Contingency & Transfers	1,025,000
Travel & Conferences	949,731
Communication	579,854
Entertainment & Public Relations	353,236
Transportation	338,091
Total	212,232,579

C | ENDOWMENT

Endowments are vital in securing the necessary resources for future investments and expenses at institutions like LAU, acting as permanent, self-replenishing financial foundations that enable dynamic, long-term stability. This stable funding source allows the university to flourish by providing a financial buffer against unexpected challenges and enhancing key development areas such as scholarships, campus growth, and operational costs.

Recent crises—including Lebanon's ongoing economic challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic, the August 2020 explosion and the current security events—have highlighted the significance of endowments in helping to withstand financial shocks and ensuring consistent funding. These events have underscored the crucial role that endowments play in maintaining the university's resilience.

At LAU, the endowment is strategically segmented into general, schools, and financial aid funds, with an emphasis on financial aid due to the acute economic hardships facing students and their families. Contributions to these funds not only secure LAU's future but also open up numerous opportunities for a multitude of students annually.

In the 2023–2024 fiscal year, LAU's investment portfolio, including its endowments, aligned with market expectations and delivered solid returns. Moving forward, effective risk management and strategic portfolio structuring are anticipated to drive realistic investment objectives. This underscores the critical role of skilled

investment strategies in enhancing the performance of endowment funds.

The Office of Development at LAU is dedicated to bolstering the university's financial future by actively seeking endowment contributions. They engage with donors and stakeholders to promote funding for the endowment, which is crucial for sustaining long-term financial health and supporting various institutional initiatives.

Moreover, the investment committee, finance and investment offices, and consulting experts are committed to devising successful strategies for managing the university's endowment. They meticulously monitor market conditions, evaluate investment opportunities, and analyze risks to make well-informed decisions. Their goal is to create a strategic asset allocation mix tailored to the university's objectives and risk profile.

Rigorous manager selection processes serve to ensure that the endowment is managed by skilled investment professionals. This involves thorough evaluations, due diligence, and consistent performance monitoring of potential managers.

By proactively and carefully managing its endowment portfolio, LAU aims to optimize returns and safeguard the fund's long-term value. This strategic approach ensures the financial vitality and stability of the university, enabling it to continue delivering high-quality education and support to its students and the broader community.





CONTRIBUTORS' REPORT-2024

A | INTRODUCTION

It is thanks to the generosity and kindness of our esteemed contributors that the Lebanese American University continues to help safeguard the future of our youth and the country through education.

Your support has always come at a time when the institution and its scholars have needed backing more than ever before, and for that, we are forever grateful.

The Lebanese American University has made every effort to create an accurate listing of all contributors. If your name has been inadvertently omitted, or incorrectly spelled, please accept our apologies.

If you have any queries or name corrections, please contact our Executive Director of Advancement Services **Amal Abdel Massih**
Tel. +961 1 786 456 Ext. 1324 or email aafares@lau.edu.lb.

B | U.S. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The American government and its people have shown tremendous support to LAU and its students throughout our history. We are indebted to them for their extraordinary kindness, especially for the following gifts received during Fiscal Year 2023–2024.

USAID – HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (HES)

with funds to be dispersed until Fall 2031

USAID – AMERICAN SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS ABROAD (ASHA)

with funds to be dispersed until Spring 2025

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE – MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MEPI)

Tomorrow's Leaders Scholarship Program (TL XI) with funds to be dispersed until Spring 2025

Tomorrow's Leaders Scholarship Program (TL XII) with funds to be dispersed until Spring 2027

Tomorrow's Leaders Graduate (TLG)–TL XIII – with funds to be dispersed until Spring 2027

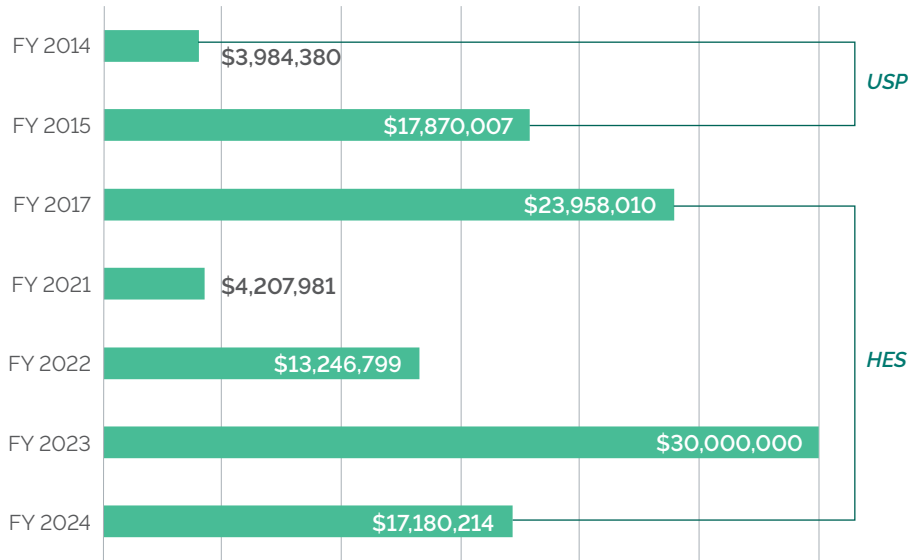
Tomorrow's Leaders Scholarship Program (TL XIV) – with funds to be dispersed until Fall 2032

Tomorrow's Leaders Gender Scholars (TLS II) – with funds to be dispersed until Spring 2025

U.S. EMBASSY DIALOGUE

with funds to be dispersed until Fall 2024

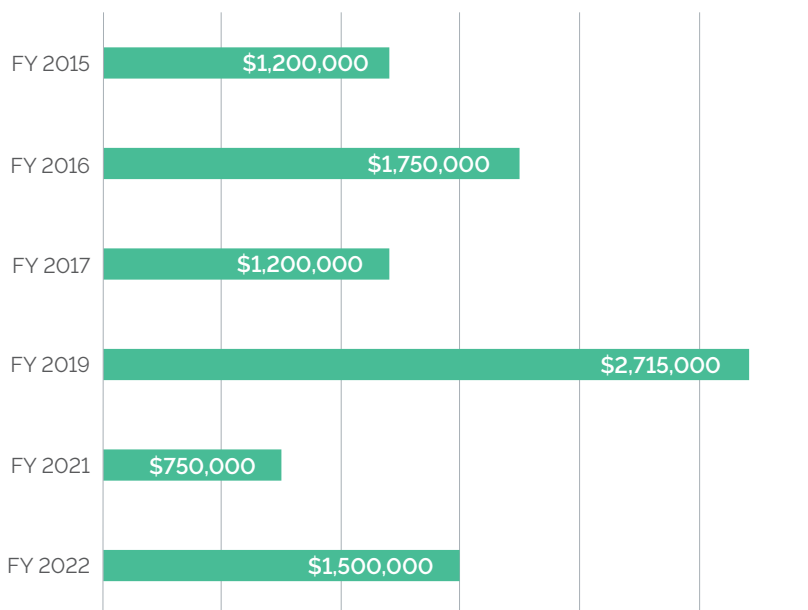
USAID Donations in Support of LAU's University Scholarship Program (USP) and Higher Education Scholarship Program (HES)



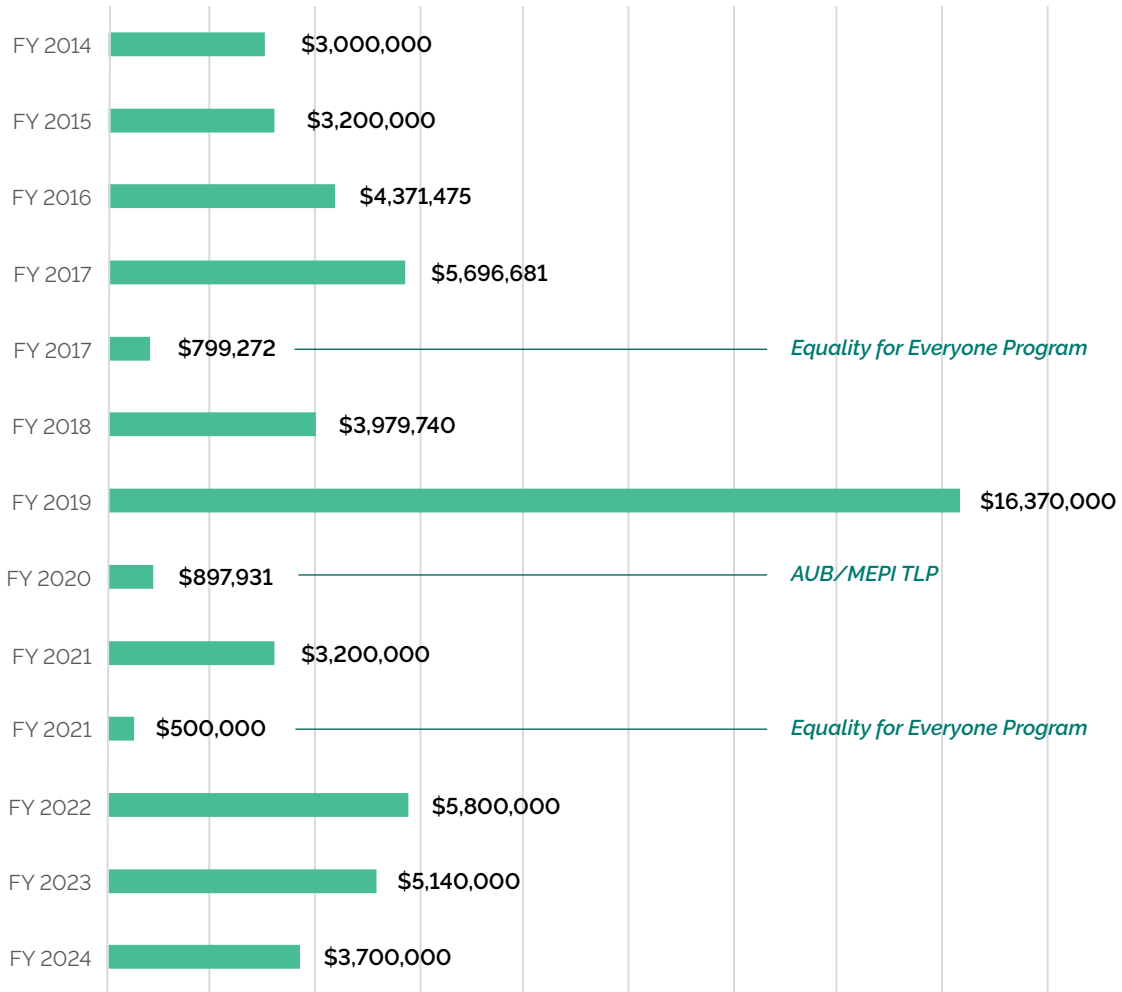
Crisis Medical Response for Lebanon (CMR Lebanon) – USAID



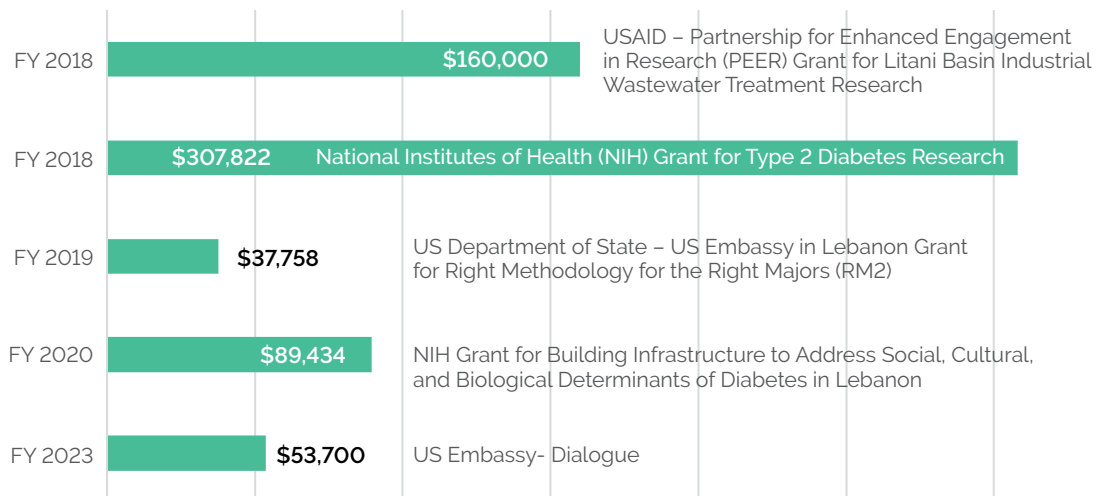
Support from USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) Program



US State Department – Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Donations in Support of LAU's Tomorrow's Leaders Scholarship Program and Equality for Everyone Program



US Research Grants and US Embassy Dialogue





1. ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

Since 1959, when LAU opened its first alumni chapter in Mount Lebanon, the institution's alumni volunteers have helped promote their alma mater's position as a leading institution for academic excellence in Lebanon and around the world. Working together and with their respective alumni chapters, they help support the university through various networking and fundraising activities to advocate LAU's mission—making them highly valued members of the institution's community.

Volunteers**A**

Abdul Razzak Al Moghrabi
 Abed Izmirly
 Abir Zahreddine
 Ahmad Theibich
 Ahmad Zaarouri
 Akram Khairallah
 Akram Naufal
 Ali El Samra
 Ali Najem
 Ali Tourba
 Alia Faour
 Aline Banboukian
 Amal Dimashki
 Amal Najjar
 Amer Bawab
 Amir Alameh
 Anas El Khatib
 Anwar Nazzal
 Aref Boualwan
 Aya El Mir
 Ayline Mohamadbey
 Ayman Chouman

B

Bassam Merheb
 Bassem Kashour
 Bassem Soubra
 Bruno Salwan

C

Caline El Khoury
 Catherine Fawaz
 Chadi Chaar
 Chafica Ojjeh
 Chantal Farah
 Chirine Saghir
 Christel El Hayek
 Cindrella Semaan
 Corinne Chakhtoura

D

Dalal Sawaya
 Dalia El Baltaji
 Dania Awad

Dania Demashkiah
 Diana Abdul Ahad
 Diane Anbara
 Dima Ghossaini
 Dina Jadaa
 Dina Nasser
 Dolly Baaklini
 Dr. Camil Sukkar
 Dr. Jad Maamari
 Dr. Mohamad Khalife
 Dr. Rawan Demachkie
 Dr. Remie Chrabieh
 Dr. Sarah Kawtharani
 Dr. Wael Salame

E

Elias Darwiche
 Elias El Ghandour Maalouf
 Elias Naim
 Elie Andary
 Elsie Nassar
 Esther Manoukian
 Eva Kotite Farha

F

Fadi Allos
 Fadi Broumana
 Fadi N. Khatib
 Fadi Zakaria
 Fadi Ziadeh
 Fadia Srouji
 Farah Abou Alfa
 Farah Chehade
 Farid Abboud
 Faten Saliba
 Fatin Siblani
 Faysal Awar
 Fleurette Manneh
 Fouad Olayan
 Frida Youssef

G

George Chahda
 George Freiji
 Georges Ayoub
 Georges Saoud

Ghenwa Serhan
 Ghida Fidawi
 Ghina Yazbeck
 Gizele Azar
 Guy Salmé

H

Habib Abla
 Habib Battah
 Hadi Fakhreddine
 Hala Choukair
 Hala Jabre
 Hala Zeidan
 Hana Archbold
 Hanadi El Mina
 Hanadi Tellier
 Hanan Haidar
 Hani Ghata
 Hani Farchoukh
 Hani Kamareddine
 Hassan Hamdan
 Hayat Chedid
 Helen Badawi
 Hiam Habash
 Hiba Wehbe
 Hicham Douba
 Hilda Abla
 Hisham Fayad
 Huda Dajani
 Huda Fallaha
 Huda Saad
 Hussain Sharaf
 Hussein Abbas
 Hussein Mansour

I

Imad Mouawad
 Israa Al Najdi

J

Jack Kassab
 Jad El Ghossaini
 Jad El Hage
 Jamal Bleik
 Jamil Ghandour
 Jana Thourmy



Jean Khoury
 Jeanine Kesrouani
 Jean-Pierre Mehanna
 Jihan Safwan
 Joanna Makarem
 Joe Hawa
 Joe Nohra
 Joelle Jabbour
 Joseph Mouaikal
 Jouliana Sadek
 Joumana Sakka
 Joyce Freiji

K

Kareem Zakharia
 Karen Naaman
 Karim Boulos
 Karim El Khatib
 Kassem Odaymat
 Khalil Khatib

L

Laila Dakkak
 Lama Madi
 Lana Ghandour
 Lara Khalifeh
 Lara Mansour
 Layal Kalash
 Lea Nader
 Leila Ghantous
 Lin Altabash
 Lina Kashef
 Lina Mouaikal
 Linda Saab
 Louay Ghaziri
 Lubna Kalot
 Lyna Rumbarger
 Lynn Ladki
 Lynn Zakhem

M

Mahmoud Akhal
 Mahmoud Beydoun
 Mahmoud Slim
 Majdi Awkal
 Majed Sarieddine

Manal Diab
 Manal Houry
 Marc Karim
 Margaret Kanaan
 Mariam Farida
 Mariam Hammouda
 Marie Chahine
 Marwan Abboud
 Marwan Farah
 Marwan Khadij
 Marwan Mneimneh
 May Chehab
 May Rizk
 May Sarout
 Maya Mroueh
 Mazen Arab
 Mazen El Attar
 Mazen Haidar
 Mera Faddoul
 Merva Faddoul
 Mireille Aoun
 Miriam Boustani
 Miriam Ghubril
 Mohamad Lawasani
 Mohammad Zahra
 Mohammed Addoum
 Mohd Hassan
 Mona Khoury
 Mona Sabbagh
 Mona Zoughaib
 Muna Gedeon

N

Nada Badreddine
 Nada Mehio
 Nada Messaikeh
 Nada Yamout
 Nader Nasser
 Nader Nasser
 Nadia Zakhria
 Nadim Yacoub
 Nadine Kain
 Naim Stephan
 Naji Azar
 Nancy Hallak
 Nancy Jabbra
 Nancy Ohanessian

Nelly Adel
 Nermine Saad
 Nizar Bakalini
 Noreen Ayan
 Noura Ibrahim
 Noushin Maktabi

O

Ola Danaf

R

Rabih Nehme
 Racelle Farah
 Rami Mehio
 Rami Zein
 Ramona Rammal
 Ramzi El Bizri
 Ramzi Fayad
 Rana Abou Ayash
 Rana Jaouhar
 Rana Zeitouny
 Randa Kotob
 Rania Agha
 Rania Saghira
 Rania Saleh
 Rawan Hijazi
 Raymond Mouzannar
 Reem Yassine
 Reham Haddad
 Rida Elhajj
 Rima Makkdissi
 Rita Nasr
 Robert Badawy
 Robert Zaloum
 Rouba Eid
 Roula Kotait
 Roula Maddah
 Rowaida Bourji
 Rushdi Kikhia

S

Saffana Zameli
 Salah Al Jamal
 Samar Cheaib
 Samir Hathout
 Samira Sayegh

Sana Cherfan
Sara Gharib
Shady Nehme
Shereen Nabhani
Shirine Kyprianos
Shirine Osseiran
Sima Saghira
Souad Idriss
Souleima Assal
Sudad El Hoss
Suhair Al-Alami
Susan Sweis
Suzanne Soubra
Sylvia El Masri

T

Tala El Kayyal
Taline Avakian
Tamer Bitar
Tania Mazraani
Tania Shaheen
Tarek Batshoun
Tarek Maalouly
Tony Faddoul
Tony Wehbe

W

Wael Eid
Wafa Sheuib
Wajdi Abou Ayash
Walid Rebeiz
Wasan Fayad
Wassim Aldayah
Wassim Farah
Wassim Hallak

Y

Yasmeen Sakka
Yasmine Bark
Yasmine El Baba

Z

Zaha Khoury
Zaher Raidan
Zahra Tabbara
Zeina Khoury
Zeina Sharaiha
Ziad Kabbani
Ziad Moubarak
Zohour Safieddine
Zouheir Farhoud

CHAPTERS

A

Abu Dhabi
Aleppo
Athens
Atlanta

B

Bahrain
BCW
Beirut
Byblos

C

Chicago

D

Dallas
Damascus
Detroit
Dubai & Northern Emirates

E

Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia
EMBA Group

F

Florida

G

Ghana

H

Houston

J

Jeddah
Jordan

K

Kuwait

L

London

M

Montreal

N

New England
New York/New Jersey
Nigeria
North Lebanon
Northern California

O

Oman
Ottawa

P

Paris

Q

Qatar

R

Riyadh

S

School of Engineering
School of Medicine
School of Pharmacy
Seattle
South Lebanon
Southern California
Switzerland
Sydney

T

Toronto

U

USP

W

Washington DC

2. PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

Created in 2012, the President's Circle (PC) focuses on ways to promote the university that transcend conventional academic channels. Its members and volunteers continuously engage with their community to foster a culture of support and philanthropy. PC activities involve multiple events each year ranging from holiday parties for underprivileged communities to creating special awards for exemplary students, organizing lectures for specific programs such as organ donations, and coordinating fundraising events and campaigns to better the community as a whole.

MEMBERS

Roula Hussami
Doha Halawi
Hala Jabre
Layla T. Nimah
Maria Mroueh
Mona Iskandar
Nabila Firzli
Neemat Kanaan
Siham Hamzeh
Najat Ghosn
Younna Salame
Jihan Zeineddine Saab
Suzanne Modad
Joumana Shoeib



D | NAMING A SEAT OR BENCH AT LAU

Alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and supporters of LAU have the opportunity to leave a lasting impact on the university's campuses through the Seat and Bench Naming Campaign, launched a decade ago. Through this program, those who wish to leave their mark at LAU while providing vital support to the university can do so by naming seats at the Irwin Hall Auditorium in Beirut and the Selina Korban Auditorium in Byblos, among other benches across both campuses. The following contributors donated generously toward the Naming a Seat or Bench initiative.

Naming a Seat at Gulbenkian Theatre

Annie K. Magarian

Naming a Seat at Irwin Hall Auditorium

Diana I. Abdo

Donna Louise Oliva

Naming a Seat at Selina Korban Auditorium

Caline E. Trad

Khairallah S. Daya

E | FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Awards AY 2023–2024

Type of Aid	Count*	Amount
Entrance Scholarships	767	\$2,702,697.90
Baccalaureate Scholarships	447	\$4,231,040.05
Honor Scholarships	955	\$3,896,631.27
Merit Scholarships	135	\$2,583,842.00
NCSR (Lebanese Scientific Research Grant)	36	\$781,126.00
Athletic Scholarships	176	\$444,006.65
Talent Scholarships	78	\$540,183.25
Grants	6,010	\$58,456,570.99
LAU Loans	1,572	\$5,197,211.70
MEPI-TL (US Dept. of State Grant)	119	\$2,768,885.26
USP (USAID Grant)	665	\$11,707,129.46
FAFSA (US Federal Loans)	30	\$269,477.00
Sponsorships	547	\$1,957,841.48
Graduate Assistantships	411	\$3,455,446.42
Total	7,281	\$98,992,089.43

* Duplicates occur at the level of the count of awards as a student may benefit from more than one type of financial aid, yet the total financial aid count is unduplicated.





F | LAU ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The following funds were established to provide ongoing financial support to deserving students with financial challenges. By giving to this fund, donors can make sure their contributions make a lasting impact for many years to come and touch countless lives.

A

Abdallah Yabroudi Endowment Scholarship Fund
AbdelRahman Ismail El-Khalil Endowment Scholarship Fund
Abdul Ghani and Inayat Hammour Endowment Scholarship Fund
Abdulaziz Al-Turki Endowment Scholarship Fund
Adelaide Bahu Endowment Scholarship Fund
Adlette Inati Khoriaty Endowment Scholarship Fund
Aghnie Farouk Abi Rafeh Honorary Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ahmad & Suad Juffali Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ahmad Finj Endowment Scholarship Fund
Aida & Michel Nasser Endowment Scholarship Fund
Aida Cotran Shamma Endowment Scholarship Fund
Aida Gosaynie Salloum Endowment Scholarship Fund
Albert Abela Endowment Scholarship Fund
Albert and William Kanaan Endowment Scholarship Fund
Albert G. Albert Library Fund
Alex Fauti Bouri Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Abu Dhabi Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Athens Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Damascus Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Dubai & Northern Emirates Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Ghana Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Jordan Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Kuwait Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Oman Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Qatar Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Riyadh Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association SA Eastern Province Chapter Endowment Scholarship Fund
Anglo Lebanese Cultural Foundation Endowment Fund
Anis and Hind Murad Endowment Scholarship Fund
Anthony R. Abraham Foundation Endowment Scholarship Fund
Aref and Helena Jabbour Endowment Scholarship Fund
Argent Maksoud Nasser Endowment Scholarship Fund
Arthur Gabriel Endowment Scholarship Fund
Assadour & Elize Konialian and Zabelle Bezdikian Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Athletics Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ayoub Hamad Rafeh Endowment Scholarship Fund



B

BB Energy Endowment Scholarship Fund
Bishara M. Lorenzo Endowment Scholarship Fund
Boudai Group of Company Endowment Scholarship Fund
Brummana High School Cultural Society Endowment Scholarship Fund

C

Charbel Khairallah Endowed Award of Excellence in Engineering

D

Dany Hamchaoui Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dar As-Siyassah Endowment Scholarship Fund
Darwish Engineering Endowment Scholarship Fund
Distinguished Board of Trustees Endowment Scholarship Fund
Don and Nancy Mafrige Endowment Scholarship Fund
Donald Rynne Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dr. Charles Elachi Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dr. Hassan Mehio Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dr. Irene Faffler Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dr. Nadim and Noura Daouk Endowment Scholarship Fund
Dr. Zuhayr A. Moghrabi Endowment Scholarship Fund

E

E.A. Juffali Endowment Scholarship Fund
Edgar and Daniele de Picciotto Endowment Scholarship Fund
Edith Newton Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Edward I. Chammas Endowment Scholarship Fund
Edward Y. Elias Endowment Scholarship Fund
Elias & Ferial Baz Endowment Scholarship Fund
Elizabeth Esler Duncan Memorial Endowment Fund
Emirates Computer Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ethel Stoltzfus Endowment Scholarship Fund
Eva Kotite Farha & Peter Farha Endowment Scholarship

F

Faculty Research Endowment Fund
Fahed Nayef Dabbous Endowment Scholarship Fund
Fakhri and Sonya Saghiyyah Women in Medicine Scholarship
Endowment Fund
Family of Joseph Kalim Daher Endowment Scholarship Fund
Farida Jaber Al Rayes Endowment Scholarship Fund
Fay (Fakhri) Samadi Fiuzat Endowment Scholarship Fund
Fouad Makhzoumi Center for Innovation Endowment Fund
Frances M. Gray Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Frank & Margaret Bitar Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Fred & Emily G. Arrigg Endowment Scholarship Fund
Frederic & Agnes Maloof/Edmond Villani Endowment Scholarship Fund

G

Gabriel Maliha Endowment Scholarship Fund
Gala Dinner Endowed Scholarship Fund
Gale McDonald Endowment Memorial Scholarship Fund
General Endowment Scholarship Fund
George and Raymond Audi Endowment Scholarship Fund
George William Hajjar Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ghada Daniel Boulos Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ghia Saidi Saad Endowment Scholarship Fund





H

Hala and Issam Fares Business Scholarship Endowment Fund
 Hamad Rafeh Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Hamid Hattab Engineering Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Hanan About Ghazaleh Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Hassib and Haas Mroue Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Hazem F. Aswad Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Helen Ghosn Nassar Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Henry and Elda Mirna Sarkissian Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Hussam Qanadilo Endowment Scholarship Fund

I

Ikrum Shkhashir Beidas Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Institute for Banking & Finance Endowment Fund
 Intermedic Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Issam Michael Faris Endowment Scholarship Fund

J

Jad and Yvonne Kabban Endowment Scholarship Fund
 James & Arthur Gabriel Endowment Scholarship Fund
 James L. Stoltzfus Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Jamil Fouad El-Khazen Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Jana Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Janet and William A. Stoltzfus, Jr. Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Jesra Foundation Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Joe and Wafa Yammine Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Joseph and Carmen Maroun Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Joseph E. and Zeina Aoun Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Julia and Elias Bou Saab Endowment Scholarship Fund

K

Kamil Shaheen Al Rayyes Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Kanan & Hanan Hamzeh Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Karen Lorenz Ziadeh Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Karim Fayez Saab Memorial Endowment Scholarship
 Khaled & Chafica Omari Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Khalil Habib Sayegh Endowment Scholarship Fund

L

Lana Ghandi Halabi Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Latifa Kosta Endowment Scholarship Fund
 LAU Centennial Endowment Scholarship Fund
 LAU Solidarity Evening Fund
 LAU/BoB Affinity Card Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Layla & Musa Nimah Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Leila Al Saleeby Dagher Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Leila Kurban Barkett Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund

M

Maggie Kutteh Ghattas Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Maha Kaddoura Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Mahmoud and Najla Saab Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Marwan Toufic Assaf Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Marwan Walid and Victoria Nasr Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Maya Begdache Char Endowment Scholarship Fund
 Mazen and Gisele Nazzal Endowment Scholarship Fund
 MedGulf Chair in Actuarial Sciences Endowment Fund

Michael and Effie Jabbra Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mimar Group Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mohamad Abdul Rahman Bahar Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mohamad and Naziha Knio Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mohamad Nasser Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mohamed Harasani Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mohammad and Rowaida K. Yaghi Endowment Scholarship Fund
Monzer Hourani Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mouna Jamal Haraoui Endowment Scholarship Fund
Mounir Khatib Endowed Engineering Lecture Series
Mounir Khatib Endowed Engineering Scholarship Fund
Mu'taz and Rada Sawaf Masters in Islamic Art and Architecture Endowment Fund

N

Nabil & Diana Abou Nassr-Eddine Endowed Scholarship Fund
Nabil Bustros and Family Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nadim Said Khalaf Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nafez Jundi Endowment Scholarship Fund
Najib Musa Nimah Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nancy and Joseph G. Jabbra Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nancy Hoffart Endowed Scholarship in Nursing Fund
Nariman Abou Ghazaleh Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nehme Tohme and Rizk Rizk Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nehme Tohme Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nicolas & Abla Chammas Endowment Scholarship Fund
Nicolas J. Choueiri Endowment Scholarship Fund
Norah Abdulrahman Alissa Endowment Scholarship Fund

O

Oumayma Farah Art Scholarship Endowment Fund

P

Patricia and Michael M. Ameen, Jr. Endowment Scholarship Fund
Paul F. Boulos Water Engineering Endowment Scholarship Fund
Paul Youssef Abou Khater Endowment Scholarship Fund
PepsiCo International Endowment Scholarship Fund
Pierre and Maya Choueiri Endowment Scholarship Fund
Presbyterian Legacy Lecture Series Endowment Fund
Presidential Awards Endowment Fund
President's Scholarship Endowment

R

Rabab Al Sadr Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ragheb Alameh Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ramzi & Saeda Dalloul Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ramzi Asfour Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ramzi B. Shami Talent Retention and Attraction Endowment Fund
Ray Irani Education Endowment Scholarship Fund
Rev. Samuel Habib Endowment Scholarship Fund
Rifaat EL-Nimer Endowment Scholarship Fund
Riyad F. Nassar Endowment Scholarship Fund
Rizk Rizk Endowment Scholarship Fund
Robert and Mabel Bitar Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Robert Harrington Endowment Scholarship Fund
Roger & Joumana Sahyoun Endowment Scholarship Fund
Rose Shehade Jabbra and George Khalil Jabbra Endowment Scholarship Fund
Roudayna Geadah Nehme Endowment Scholarship Fund
Rushdi Daye Endowment Scholarship Fund

S

Salim & Laudy Baz Endowment Scholarship Fund
Salwa C. Nassar Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sami and Annie Simonian Totah Endowment Scholarship Fund
Samih Barbir & Mounira Barbir Naamani Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sara Khatib Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sarah Lanman Huntington Smith Endowment Fund
Selim Lawi Endowment Scholarship Fund
Selina Korban Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sheikh Abdallah Fouad Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sheikh Ismail Abudawood Endowment Scholarship Fund
Simon Siksek Endowment Scholarship Fund
Suad Wakim Kesler Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Sukkar Family Endowment Scholarship Fund

T

Talal and Maha Shair Endowment Scholarship Fund
Taline & Edmond Avakian Endowment Scholarship Fund
Tamari Foundation Endowment Scholarship Fund
Tony Nagib Najjar Endowment Scholarship Fund
Toufic & Victoria Haddad Endowment Scholarship Fund

W

Wadih & Gertrude Jordan Endowment Scholarship Fund
Walid Attieh Endowment Scholarship Fund
William Stoltzfus Endowment Scholarship Fund

Y

Yasmine and Kamal Shouhayib Medicine and Nursing Scholarship Endowment Fund
Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons Endowment Scholarship 1
Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons Endowment Scholarship 2
Yvonne Shehadeh & Son Walid Jamil Shehadeh Endowment Scholarship Fund

Z

Zade Julian Shamma Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund
Zafer & Tonia Chaoui Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ziad and Lina Cheikh Endowment Scholarship Fund
Ziad R. Nassar Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund



G | LAU SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AND AWARDS

During FY 2023–2024

The following annual, merit, designated grants and awards were established to support the Financial Aid Program to benefit deserving students with low income during the academic year 2023–2024.

A

Abou Jaoude & Associates Law Firm Designated Scholarship Grant
Ajialouna Annual Scholarship Grant
AKSOB Annual Scholarship Grant
Al Waleed Bin Talal Humanitarian Foundation Annual Scholarship Grant
Alexis & Anne-Marie Habib Foundation Designated Scholarship Grant
Ali Nesr Educational Program Scholarship Grant
ALMA – LAU Medical Designated Scholarship Grant
Anonymous (NK) Designated Scholarship Grant
Anonymous Nursing Scholarship Grant
Antoine Frem Designated Scholarship Grant
Assaad Karam Annual Scholarship Grant
Association for Development and Empowerment in Lebanon (ADEL) Designated Scholarship Grant
Association for Specialization and Scientific Guidance Designated Scholarship Grant
Association Philippe Jabre Designated Scholarship Grant
Ataya Family Designated Scholarship Grant
Avicenna Designated Scholarship Grant
Azeez Shaheen Annual Scholarship Grant

B

Badr Foundation Designated Scholarship Grant
BB Energy Annual Scholarship Grant
BD Holding Annual Scholarship Grant
Beirut Bkheir Association Designated Scholarship Grant
BFL Group Annual Scholarship Grant
BLOM Bank Annual Scholarship Grant
Boutros and Ziad Noujaim Designated Scholarship Grant

C

CVS Pharmacy Students Designated Scholarship Grant

D

Dima Healthcare Nursing Annual Scholarship Grant

E

Ed Shiner Designated Scholarship Grant
Elias Boutros Sayah Annual Scholarship Grant

F

Firas Jalloul Designated Scholarship Grant
Firas Y. Sayegh Annual Scholarship Grant
Fouad and Mouhab Jawhari Designated Scholarship Grant

G

General Mahmoud Tay-Abou-Dargham Award
Georges Harik Designated Scholarship Grant
Ghassan & Manal Saab Designated Scholarship Grant
Give To Learn – Gala 2022

H

Hanna & Nina Ayoub Foundation Designated Scholarship Grant
HH Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani Designated Scholarship Grant
Hraoui Family Designated Scholarship Grant

I

IMAR Annual Scholarship Grant
International College Alumni Association Scholarship Grant

L

Lamia Sabbah Ali-Ahmad Designated Scholarship Grant
LAU Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine Annual Scholarship Grant
LAU Legacy Scholarship NY Gala
LAU School of Engineering Annual Scholarship Grant
Lebanese Orphans Virtuous Education Foundation Designated Scholarship Grant
LIFE Annual Scholarship Grant

M

Mary Taylor Alexander Annual Scholarship Grant
MIDIS Group Annual Scholarship Grant
Mike Ahmar Designated Scholarship Grant
Mohamad Samih Ghaddar Designated Scholarship Grant
Murex Designated Scholarship Grant
Mutaz and Rada Sawaf Masters in Islamic Art Scholarship Grant

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Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
Carnegie Corporation of New York
Event Organization Club
Music Club
Office of the Dean of Students
Phoenix Clinical Research

Champion (\$2,500–\$4,999.99)

Beirut Bkheir Association
Grand Challenges Canada
M2Med sarl
Orthodox Benevolent Palestinian Society
Saradar Capital Holding
We Deserve Better Foundation

Elite (\$5,000+)

Al Waleed Bin Talal Humanitarian Foundation
American Lebanese Medical Association
Badr Foundation
CVS Health Foundation
IC Alumni Association
Touba Foundation

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY

Sustainer (\$10,000–\$24,999.99)

Ali Nesr Educational Program
Association Philippe Jabre
Hanna & Nina Ayoub Foundation
Institute of Development Studies
Safadi Foundation
Tarraf Foundation
The Levant Foundation

Pioneer (\$25,000–\$49,999.99)

Association for Development and Empowerment
in Lebanon
The Jesra Foundation, Inc.
Z. Moukahal Foundation

Ambassador (\$50,000+)

Anthony R. Abraham Foundation, Inc.
Association for Specialization & Scientific Guidance
Lebanese Orphans Virtuous Education DBA Love
America

PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

Benefactor (\$100,000–\$249,999.99)

Ajjalouna Organization
Lebanese International Finance Executives
LAU Health Foundation
The Semaan Foundation
Unite Lebanon Youth Project

Visionary (\$250,000–\$499,999.99)

The Alexis & Anne-Marie Habib Foundation

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

TRIREME SOCIETY

Leader (\$1,000–\$2,499.99)

Presbyterian Foundation

GOVERNMENT

Pioneer (\$25,000–\$49,999.99)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Luminary (\$500,000+)

Middle East Partnership Initiative
U.S. Agency for International Development

GIFTS DURING AY2023–2024 SEGMENTED BY SOURCE/PROGRAM

Program (Fund)	Amount in USD
	Received at LAU Account
Academic Schools/Institutes Support	\$270,016.72
Student Financial Aid Support	\$54,956.46
Student Financial Aid Support – LAU Centennial	\$870.00
Endowment Scholarship Fund	\$535,020.40
LAU Centennial Endowment Scholarship Fund	\$42,646.00
Give To Learn – NY Gala 2022	\$120,375.00
LAU Legacy Scholarship NY Gala	\$528,300.42
Named Scholarship Grants	\$2,056,385.94
Naming Opportunities	\$2,000.00
President's Scholarship Fund	\$73,858.00
Plant Your Class Tree	\$3,635.00
Totals for Private Giving	\$3,688,063.94
	Received at LAU Health Foundation Account
Patient Care	\$22,050.00
Cancer Patient Fund	\$5,000.00
Totals for Private Giving	\$27,050.00





CUMULATIVE DONATIONS – GIVING BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION DURING FY2023–2024

Geographical Area	2023–2024 Totals Sep. till Aug.			2023–2024 Totals Sep. till Aug.		
	# of Gifts	# of Donors	\$ Amount	# of Gifts	# of Donors	\$ Amount
	Received at LAU Account			Received at LAU Health Foundation Account		
Europe	25	22	331,720.91			
Lebanon	653	527	1,951,276.97	3	3	18,000.00
Middle East	97	81	287,401.70	1	1	3,800.00
Africa	2	2	800.00			
Other Countries	3	2	25,070.00			
North America/Private	298	218	1,091,794.36	3	3	5,250.00
North America/Government	72	3	18,696,461.71			
Non Federal/Grants	3	3	21,330.00			
Total Raised	1,153	858	22,405,855.65	7	7	27,050.00
Private Giving Totals	1,078	852	3,688,063.94	7	7	27,050.00

HISTORICAL TIMELINE



1835

American Presbyterian missionary **Sara L. Smith** establishes **the first school for girls** in the Ottoman Empire.

1904

Sarah L. Smith's pioneering efforts pave the way toward instituting the **American School for Girls**.

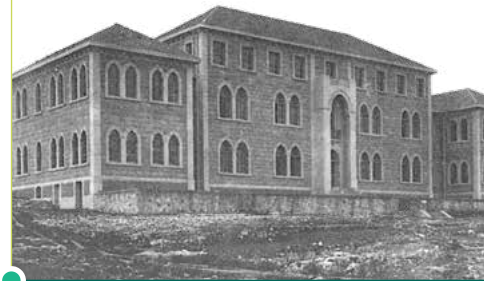


1924

The **American Junior College for Women (AJCW)** is founded with a class of eight students.

1933

The cornerstone of LAU's oldest building, **Sage Hall**, is laid.



1994

The Board of Regents approves the new name of **Lebanese American University**.

LAU has four schools: Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering and Architecture, and the School of Pharmacy, inaugurated this year.



2009

LAU acquires majority holdings of Hôpital Rizk, and begins developing the **LAU Medical Center–Rizk Hospital**.

The **Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine** welcomes its first class of students.



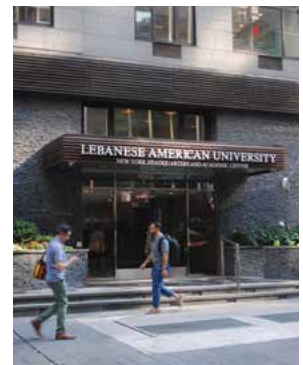
2010

The **Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing** welcomes its first class.



2013

LAU's **New York Headquarters and Academic Center** is inaugurated in midtown Manhattan.





1948-1949

The name of the college is changed to **Beirut College for Women (BCW)**.

1955

BCW is granted an absolute charter by the State of New York.



1973

The college becomes co-educational and changes its name to **Beirut University College (BUC)**.

1991

Classes begin on the **Byblos campus**.



2018

The **LAU Louis Cardahi Foundation** is inaugurated next to St. Jean-Marc Church in historic Byblos.



2019

The **Fouad Makhzoumi Innovation Center** is established as a hub for the incubation and acceleration of bold new ideas.



2020

The **LAU Medical Center-Saint John's Hospital** in Keserwan area is inaugurated.

2021

The university launches **LAU Online** with several online programs, ushering in its LAU Global chapter.

2024

LAU's academic center in Manhattan, which had opened in 2013, is authorized to grant degrees thereby becoming the **LAU New York branch campus**.









Beirut Campus

P.O. Box 13-5053 Chouran
Beirut 1102 2801, Lebanon
T +961 1 786 464 | T +961 1 786 456

Byblos Campus

P.O. Box 36
Byblos, Lebanon
T +961 9 547 254 | T +961 9 547 262

New York Branch Campus

211 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017-2935
United States
T +1 212 203 4333

www.lau.edu.lb

