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AUST's Third Innovation & Entrepreneurship Competition and Gala Dinner





AUST launched the Third Entrepreneurship and Innovation Educational Initiative whereby teams of students of various majors, together with a school student, were created to collaborate under the supervision of academicians from the university and in collaboration with the private sector. The objective was to join students and faculty from different disciplines to exchange best practices in educational technology and innovation.

This technological revolution is multi-dimensional and has myriad results on the economy, the production centers and the labor market, and has a profound impact on the educational programs and methodology, and the means the universities follow to impart and generate knowledge, and on their pursuit of preparing graduates to become worthy of being effective partakers of the labor market. As such, Vice President Dr. Riad Sakr from AUST dedicated himself to advocate a compatible policy that balances between the role of the university to produce and spread knowledge and its responsibility towards the society and students, with the collaboration and partnership of companies. VP Sakr's major aim is to encourage deans, chairs, and faculty members to have students sit together as a team and brainstorm for new ideas towards new product development in order to

• increase employability of students and to equip them with the needed skills to compete and succeed in the job market; and,

• put new business ideas into practice, thus creating jobs that would facilitate personal development.

For many months, the students sat together with their mentors, exploring innovative ideas and trying as entrepreneurs to tackle social, economic and/or environmental problems to create new services and products. The culmination of their effort was a Gala Dinner during which seven teams presented their projects in front of a panel of esteemed jury members, who are pioneers in their respective fields. The jury panel was comprised of:

• H.E. Nicolas Sahnaoui, Parliament Member

• Mr. George Awad – Bank of Beirut- Director of Consumer Banking

• Ms. Yasmina El Khoury Raphael– Head of Business Environment and Innovation at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

• Ms. Amira Mourad - Head of Business Support Unit at IDAL

• Dr. Toni Issa- President IPTEC, President of the Energy and Water Committee at Beirut Bar Association, and Vice-President of IPT

• Mr. Joe Max Wakim- IT Director- Medical Center Processes and Systems- AUBMC

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Under the Auspices of H.E. Adel Afiouni, AUST Holds the 15th Annual Engineering & Computer Science Project EXPO 2019



From left to right: Dr. Ziad Abu-Faraj, Dr. Aziz Barbar, President Hiam Sakr, Mrs. Yasmina El Khoury Raphael, Dr. Roger Achkar, Dr. Riad Sakr, Dr. Elie Nasr, Mr. Antoine Awad





Under the patronage of the Minister of State for Investment and Technology, H.E. Adel Afiouni, the Computer Science (CSI), the Information & Communications Technology (ICT), the Computer and Communications Engineering (CCE), the Biomedical Engineering (BME), and the Mechatronics Engineering (MTE) Departments held AUST's 15th Annual Engineering and Computer Science Project Expo 2019, on Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019, at Ashrafieh campus, during which 32 Senior Capstone Design Projects were exhibited before 60 independent jury members and around 200 guests. The esteemed professional jury members were industry partners, CEOs of major industrial institutions, researchers, heads of departments, and deans of faculties from several local universities in Lebanon. The event started with a gathering, at the Office of the President; present were Mrs. Yasmina El Khoury Raphael, Head of Business Environment and Innovation, representing H.E. Adel Afiouni, AUF Middle East Director, Dr. Herve Sabourin, AUST President, Hiam Sakr, AUST Vice President, Dr.Riad Sakr, AUST Provost, Dr. Nabil Haidar, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Aziz Barbar, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Roger Achkar, Dean of Research, Dr. Ziad Abu-Faraj, Chairperson of the Departments of Computer Science and Information & Communications Technology, Dr. Elie Nasr, Chairperson of the Mechatronics Engineering Department, Mr. Michel Owayjan, the jury members, and AUST faculty. The group then headed to the exhibition area whereby the event was declared open with the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon. After the Lebanese Anthem, VP Dr. Riad Sakr welcomed the attendees and gave a short speech in which he emphasized the importance of such events in: being a vital stepping stone to the implementation of the university's mission towards excellence and the building of tight collaboration between the industry and the professionals and the university's graduates. VP Sakr then explained the importance of the Industry Advisory Board whose mission is to make sure that the curriculum of the fields of Engineering and Computer Science are compatible with the ever evolving technology trends and the digital revolution in said fields; and, the perpetuation of the acquired ABET accreditation. Mrs. Yasmina El Khoury Raphael emphasized in her speech the importance that the Ministry of State for investment and Technology accords to promote the entrepreneurship sector. She stated the following: "On H.E.'s behalf, I would like to congratulate AUST for always being at the forefront of innovation and technology. Today's engineering and computer science fair, the 15th of its kind, is yet another example of this continued strive for excellence, key in highlighting the endless potential of Lebanese youth, and, in particular, the remarkable talent of AUST students".

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The Communication Arts Department Students of AUST Hold an Ordinary Session at the Lebanese Parliament



H.E Deputy Speaker Elie El Ferezli inaugurating the session



The Communication Arts Department, headed by Dr. George Farha, Chairperson of the Department, a body of faculty members and 128 students held an ordinary session at the Lebanese Parliament on Tuesday 21st of May. The session was chaired by H.E. Deputy Speaker Elie El Ferezli. Mr. El Ferezli inaugurated the session, and after a reading out of the names of the students who were absent-with excuses, before the general assembly, the Deputy Speaker addressed the assembly and welcomed all, and hailed the Lebanese democratic parliamentary organization which we relish, as well as the values of co-existence and the national pact.

H.E. the Deputy Speaker stressed the importance of dialogue among all Lebanese and underscored unity before egoism. He believes in brighter days for Lebanon and told the assembly to hold on to their homeland Lebanon, and emphasized the massive effort being done by all political elites to relinquish the status-quo, and to push for development and drastic change.

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The Communication Arts Department at the Lebanese Parliament ...Continued







Dr. George Farha, in his turn, spoke of the importance of the Lebanese Parliament and said: “In this prominent Hall, chapters of the Lebanese history were written. Many Lebanese presidents were elected, and many governments were given the votes of confidence. Under this dome, legislation was promulgated, the Constitution was amended, and the representatives of the Lebanese people spoke their hearts out. In this exceptional Hall, social issues were deliberated, and the dreams and hopes of all Lebanese were cherished. And today, in this same hall, our students from the Communication Arts Department partake in this new chapter of their academic lives: They dream of a new Lebanon, under the sun of democracy. They dream of a nation where they can make a living in peace and with dignity. Students who have in store loads of questions concerning their immediate future, the economy, employment etc. They have come to listen to the legislator who will relinquish their despair and doubts around the project of the state, democracy and liberty.”

Dr. Farha then thanked on his behalf and on behalf of the Communication Arts Department of the American University of Science and Technology, H.E. Speaker of the House Mr. Nabih Berry, and H.E. Deputy Speaker Elie El Ferezli for his prompt and active collaboration in this unique encounter. Knowing that he is a man of dialogue, as well as of initiative of high caliber. He told the students: "You are part of a unique and unusual experience."

Deputy Speaker El Ferezli, in turn, lent an ear to all the addresses by the following students: Mr. Nader Assaad, Ms. Yasmina Akar, Ms. Jana Awkal, Mr. Ezzat Kais, Mr. Nizar Marroush, Mr. Said Tabbara and Mr. Ali Al Natour. Deputy Speaker then gave the right to speak to Dr. Ramy El Rayes, a political science instructor, who cherished the initiative by the Lebanese Parliament to welcome AUST students and listen to their concerns. Q&A session ensued to which Deputy Speaker took time to respond in obvious detail. The session was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

AUST Signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Jeddah



Dr. Mansour Tobaiqy and President Hiam Sakr signing the agreement



From left to right: Dr. Zuhair Attieh, Dr. Mansour Tobaiqy, President Hiam Sakr, Dr. Joanne Nassar, and VP Amer Sakr

The Optics and Optometry Department hosted Dr. Mansour Tobaiqy from the University of Jeddah on the Graduate Research Symposium Day in an effort to expand relationships between the two universities. This culminated in an Memorandum of Understanding, MOU between The College of Applied Medical Sciences, University of Jeddah, represented by their Dean, Dr. Mansour Tobaiqy, and the Faculty of Health Sciences, at the American University of Sciences and Technology, represented by Dean Dr. Zouhair Attieh. This MOU will facilitate the exchange of educational, cultural and scientific exchanges between the two universities; will further the development at AUST; and, will allow for community benefit in both sectors and universities. In addition to the training programs and the exchange of students to facilitate higher learning in all the departments, especially in Optics and Optometry for the mutual benefit of both.

Dr. Joanne Nassar, Chairperson of Optics and Optometry Department

AUST’s Third Innovation & Entrepreneurship Competition ...Continued









As the teams presented, the jury voted online. The teams presented in alphabetical order:

1- CurricuLeb Team mentored by Coordinator of the English and Translation Department at AUST Zahlé, Mr. Afif Khalil

2- Delly Dallies Team mentored by Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Dr. Zouheir Attieh

3- 4RFusion Team mentored by Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Aziz Barbar

4- Mark Team mentored by Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer and Communications Engineering, Dr. Mustafa Halabi

5- SSD Team mentored by Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer and Communications Engineering, Dr. Mohammad Rahal

7- ZeedRev Team mentored by the Coordinator of the English and Translation Department at AUST Zahlé, Mr. Afif Khalil

Following the presentations, all were treated to a lovely dinner.

The event ended with VP Sakr addressing the audience before announcing the winners: “The contribution of entrepreneurship and innovation to economic prosperity has grown with the shift of the global economy towards a mode of production in which knowledge has become a key input. Entrepreneurship contributes to a progress that is economically and socially inclusive in reducing unemployment, poverty and social exclusion. At AUST, we examine reality and predict the future to discern what to teach and how we can best equip our students for future work, and to encourage them to unlatch their creativity and academic capacities and skills. By including school students and industry advisory members, we are paving the way to an open communication channel between the schools, the universities and the work force to disseminate knowledge in a productive and efficient way.”

VP Sakr then extended his special thanks to Bank of Beirut, the Gold Sponsor of the ‘Start-up Project”, through the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Salim Sfeir, who was represented by Mr. George Awad, Director of Consumer Banking. The Vice-President then proceeded to thank the jury members who have shown enthusiasm when they heard of this initiative, and came not only to judge but also to encourage and support the creativity of the students. Vice President Sakr, moreover thanked the mentors, the AUST students, the school students, the industry team advisors, the IT Department, the Printing and Media Department, the Entrepreneurship Trainer Ms. Nadine Ghannoum El Hage, and the overall Initiative Coordinator and Chairperson of the Mathematics Department Hiba Othman for their effort in making this venture a reality. Then AUST’s President, Mrs. Hiam Sakr, VP Dr. Sakr, and Bank of Beirut’s Director for Consumer Banking, Mr. George Awad distributed awards of Innovative Achievement to the winners.

Congratulations to:

• **First Prize Winners:** The “SSD Team” ; participating students: Sally Anadani, Mira Miri, Kassem Wahab, Bahaa Naquib, Ibrahim Nachef, Jimmy Ghostine, and Ali Saleh. They were awarded a $5000 check.

• **Second Prize Winners:** The “ZeedRev Team"; participating students: Hiba Shall, Mohammad Khaled Bayan, Rebecca Akl, Wissam Moubarak, and Youssef Yared.

• **Third Prize Winners:** The “MARK Team”; participating students: Ali Krisht, Rawan Fawaz, Karim Mourad, and Marwa Bou Nassreddine.

AUST- Zahlé Computer Science Team Winners of Bekaa 2019 Hackathon









The Computer Science Department at AUST- Zahlé won the first prize (with best impact) of a 3-day long Hackathon organized by the Makhzoumi foundation (Zahle Branch). Eight universities participated in the Bekaa Hackathon.

The participants were divided into teams, with each team having 48 hours to create a solution for a given problem and bring it in a presentable form (Prototype1). During this phase, participants were coached by four experienced and skilled mentors. The project assigned to the AUST team was a secure end to end porotype of a local voting software, including artificial intelligence features. It is worth noting that the students were neither allowed to use their cell phones nor to communicate in any means with anyone outside the institution. AUST computer science team was supervised by Mr. Charbel Boustany, Zahlé campus director, and included Maria-Pia Ghorayb, Fatima Dirani, and Mohamad Khaled Bayan. Distribution of prizes took place at AUST Zahlé campus in front of an audience of more than150.

Chairperson of Radiologic Sciences Department of AUST Lectures at King Abdullah University of Science & Technology (KAUST) - Saudi Arabia





Dr. Achraf Al Faraj, the Chairman of Radiologic Sciences Department of AUST, was invited to King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) - Saudi Arabia as a guest speaker to lecture during the KAUST Imaging workshop organized by the Core Labs in the presence of renowned researchers from Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Sweden. It is worth noting that KAUST is one of the fastest rising universities for high quality research output in the world.

Dr. Al Faraj's lecture was on "Magnetic Resonance Imaging Combined to Innovative Nanoparticles for Early and Better Diagnosis and Therapy of Cancerous Diseases in Mice model".

During the event, Dr. Al Faraj also visited the Core Labs at KAUST which are equipped with state-of-the art research facilities and discussed potential research collaborations with pioneer researchers from KAUST. A tourist trip to Jeddah's old town was also organized to introduce the guest to the rich culture of the city.

The Department of Computer & Communications Engineering of the Faculty of Engineering at AUST Holds the 4th Symposium on Innovations in Computer & Communications Engineering - SICCE 2019


Dr. Roger Achkar giving his speech


Dr. Chafic Mokbel giving his talk


Dr. Omran Ayoub giving his talk


Eng. Ziad Zorkot giving his talk




Eng. Zorkot receiving a token of appreciation from Dean Achkar and Dean Abu-Faraj


Dr. C. Mokbel receiving a token of appreciation from Dean Achkar and Dr. H. Mokbel


Dr. Ayoub receiving a token of appreciation from Dean Achkar and Mr. Owayjan



The Department of Computer and Communications Engineering of the Faculty of Engineering at the American University of Science and Technology held the Fourth Symposium on Innovations in Computer & Communications Engineering- SICCE 2019. The Symposium aspires to bring together global and regional thought leaders in emerging areas of computing, engineering and technology to foster a discussion around aligning global trends with regional needs.

This year the selected topic is related to the technology – 5G – that is invading everything, from the evolution to the security and services to the optical metropolitan networks. These topics were tackled by three distinguished guests from academia and industry, namely, Dr. Chafic Mokbel, Mr. Ziad Zorkot and Dr. Omran Ayoub.

The event was attended by around 100 invitees, including officers of the Lebanese Army, officers of the Internal Security Forces, representatives of the computer & communications and computer science industries in Lebanon, IEEE Lebanon, IEEE Communications Society, IEEE Computer Society, AUST IEEE Student Branch, deans and chairs of local universities, & AUST faculty and students. SICCE was technically sponsored by the IEEE Lebanon section and by the IEEE Communication Chapter in Lebanon.

After the Lebanese National Anthem, Mr. Nashaat Halabi, CCE Faculty and the organizing chair, welcomed the attendees and stated that this event is one of the activities that the CCE Department undertakes to expose the students to innovations and international advancements.

The word of AUST was given by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Roger Achkar who welcomed the speakers and the attendees and stated: "The past century had known scientific, intellectual and technological revolutions, but this century has seen real technological advancements in the fields of Digital Technology and Networking. Thus, it is of great importance not to keep these technologies as puzzles and black boxes which we are ignorant of. Hence, it is of great advantage to start at a stage whereby our students are able to comprehend and professionally put these technologies into effect". This was followed by a word by the representative of the IEEE Lebanon Section, Secretary Dr. Walid Karam.

The first lecture was presented by keynote speaker Mr. Ziad Zorkot, Network Management Director, Touch, Lebanon. The title of his talk was: 5G… Evolving to Unprecedented Experience. The second lecture was presented by keynote speaker Dr. Chafic Mokbel, Professor, University of Balamand. The title of his talk was: 5G Services and Security. The third lecture was presented by keynote speaker Dr. Omran Ayoub, post-Doctoral researcher, Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering, Politecnico di Milano University, Milan, Italy. The title of his talk was: Optical Metropolitan Networks for 5G Communications: Research Lines.

This symposium was not only comprehensive, but very informative. The event ended after the distribution of AUST plaques of appreciation to the keynote speakers by Dean Roger Achkar, Dean of Research, Dr. Ziad Abu-Faraj and the Chair of the Mechatronics Department, Mr. Michel Owayjan.

On this occasion, the Department of Computer and Communications Engineering would like to extend its appreciation to AUST President H. Sakr and the members of the Executive Council for their continuous support. It would also like to commend on the efforts of all those who have contributed to the success of this event, especially the organizing committee headed by Mr. Nashaat Halabi.

In conclusion, it is imperative to say that this state-of-the art symposium marks a quantum leap in the evolution of the Faculty of Engineering, and ascertains the unremitting strive towards the Faculty's local and global visibility.

The 15th Annual Engineering & Computer Science Project EXPO ...Continued


Dr. Riad Sakr giving his speech


First Faculty of Engineering Project (MTE) winners


Second Faculty of Engineering Project (CCE) winners


Third Faculty of Engineering Project (BME) winners


First Information & Communications Technology Project & CME winners (RESS: Real Estate Smart System)


First Computer Science Project winners


CME Offshore CSI winner (LOCO: Loyalty Cocoon)


CME Offshore Engineering winner (Piezo Electric Tiles)


CME Offshore Engineering winner (Motosafe)







Subsequently, Mrs. El Khoury Raphael, President Sakr, VP Sakr, Provost, Deans and the jury members toured around the exhibition area, and listened to each team's short presentation on their project's development. The evaluation of the jury members was entered into a database application in real-time, and the winners of each department were announced as follows:

1st Computer Science Project: FoundIt: Lost and Found by Rami el Debs, Mohammad Dimashkieh and Rabih Kadi. Advisor: Dr. Elie Nasr.

1st Information and Communications Technology Project: RESS: Real Estate Smart System by Louma Makkouk and Nour Al Shamaa. Advisor: Dr. Elie Nasr.

1st Faculty of Engineering Project (MTE): The Inferno Fighter Robot by Amin Hassoun, Dana El-Hariri, Jad Traboulsi and Saad Awad. Advisor: Dr. Adel Chit.

2nd Faculty of Engineering Project (CCE): Smart System Display by Kassem Waheb, Ali Saleh and Abde El-Kader Skafi. Advisor: Dr. Ali Rahal.

3rd Faculty of Engineering Project (BME): A Biomechatronics Model of the Walk Along Theory of Skelatel Muscle Contraction by Rafif Ghostine, Elias Haddad, Nabil Hamdan, Tatiana Khoury, Jamil Jabaly and Jad Al Salman. Advisor: Prof. Ziad Abu-Faraj.

This Year, CME Offshore Company represented by CEO. Mr. Wissam Youssef, presented an award of $5000 distributed among 4 teams of their selection. The winning teams were as follows:

Motosafe (CCE): Jad Kahwaji, Lynn Chammai, Taysir Majbour and Hassan Abdalla. Advisor: Mr. Nashaat El Halabi, received a prize of $1500.

Piezo Electric Tiles (CCE): Eddy Haddad, Siham Hodroj, Elias Fares, Bassel Hamadeh and Ali Yassine. Advisor: Dr. Hoda Mokbel, received a prize of $1500.

LOCO: Loyalty Cocoon (CSI): Georges Battikha, Kevin Boghossian and Robert Khayat. Advisor: Dr. Elie Nasr, received a prize of $1000.

RESS: Real Estate Smart System: Louma Makkouk and Nour Al Shamaa. Advisor: Dr. Elie Nasr, received a prize of $1000.

President Sakr congratulated all on a job well done and expressed her pride in each student. The event ended with a cake cutting ceremony and a commemorative group picture.

2019 Foundation & Fine Arts Exhibition at AUST









In the presence of AUST President, Mrs Hiam Sakr, and the Head of the Lebanese Association for Painters and Sculptors, Mr. Michael Rouhana, as well as the Executive Manager for Fabria Trading Co., Mr. Jean Claude Nahas, the 2019 Foundation and Fine Arts Exhibition was held on May 14th, 2019.

Mrs. Haibat Bawab, Fine Arts Coordinator, was honored to present the 19th Annual Foundation & Fine Arts Exhibition, which was the result of the students' hard work. The exhibition included a wide collection of art works made throughout the academic year 2018/19. Mrs. Bawab thanked Prersident Sakr for her continuous help and support. She also thanked Vice President Dr. Riad Sakr, who kindly approved payments of all necessary expenses for the event. Special thanks went to Mr. Rouhana, who invited Fine Arts graduates to be members of the Lebanese Association for Painters and Sculptors (LAAPS), and to Mr. Jean Claude (Fabriano), who sponsored this event. She then thanked the rest of the management team for their guidance, and the students and fellow instructors who were at the heart of that exhibition.

Finally, she asked President Sakr to present the Certificates of Appreciation to the outstanding exhibiting students who have reached great achievements throughout their years of study. The students were: Patricia Braidi, Aicha Chaaban, Mariam Darbaj, Basma Joumaa, Jad Tawil, Jouanna Makhoul, Zeina Majed, Karen Sabbage, Pascale Saleh, Amal Shahine, Albina Taha and Fatima Wehbe; also, Razan Hatoum, Lama Jaroudy, Tala Kurdi and Ward Sahili who are expected to receive their BA in Fine Arts this semester.

AUST Introduces its Students to the US Embassy Exchange Programs!

In the next few months, AUST will hold a series of workshops and seminars to introduce its students to the numerous programs offered by the US Embassy in Beirut, giving them the necessary knowledge on how to apply and succeed!

The US Embassy has many available opportunities, such as: The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program, the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) – Student Leaders Program, the Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship Program, or the Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSI) for Student Leaders on Women's Leadership program.

"Such programs are life changing and open a lot of career opportunities!" explained Mr. Ibrahim Jouhari, one of AUST instructor, who took part in a six-week study of the United States Institutes) program on US foreign and security policymaking, funded by the US State Department. During the visit to the US; 18 scholars from all over the world participated in the program, visited several Ivy League universities, like Yale, Princeton, Columbia, and met with top professors in the International Relations and Political Studies fields. Additionally, the participants visited the city of Austin in Texas, New York, where they met the US Mission to the UN, and Washington DC. Additionally, the participants took part in several conference, each speaking of his country and the main issues facing their relation with the US. Mr. Jouhari spoke of the





"US Lebanese relations", and the effects of "US disengagement from the Middle East". Mr. Jouhari pointed out that "it was a very enriching and inspiring program. We learned a lot about the US public institutions, their academic organizations, and the American way of life! I believe that AUST students should know more about these programs and how to apply! Hopefully, in the next few months, we will hold several workshops to introduce these programs and speak of the application process!"

The Optics and Optometry Department of AUST Holds a Graduate Research Symposium









The Department of Optics and Optometry (OAO) held its 4th Conference, the host of which was the Global President for the International Association of Contact Lens Educators, Dr. Shehzad Naroo, who lectured on Dissemination of Ocular Research Findings. Dr. Joanne Nassar shared AUST's journey in the Master's Program and the inception and execution of research projects. The talks were unified in their theme; they highlighted the importance of research in the Optometric field and how it is the first of its kind in the academic quadrant of Optics and Optometry. The President of the Syndicate des Opticiens et Optometristes au Liban, SOOLB, Mr. Ahmad Sherry updated the audience that included members of the Optometric Community including the ALOO Association and other heads of section from different universities of the new law governing the profession. OAO graduate students presented topics that ranged from the Prevalence of Refractive Errors, Dry Eye Syndrome, and Keratoconus in AUST's tertiary student population, and some studies that included staff members; along with topics on Low Vision Rehabilitation, and Optometric Knowledge amongst the general population. An Optomap preliminary application that highlighted optic shops and clinic locations throughout the different regions in Lebanon was presented, The symposium was extremely beneficial in showcasing the level of work and effort exerted by all the doctors helping in the Optics and Optometry Department and the pride that the Chairperson, Dr Joanne Nassar feels in the new heights being attained by the department raising the level of Optometric education at AUST and the entire MENA region.

Dr. Joanne Nassar, Chairperson of the Optics and Optometry Department

Under the Patronage of the Commander in Chief of the Lebanese Army, the Communication Arts Department of AUST Holds a Seminar on "Women Revoking Boundaries: Determination, Perception & Disposition"






The Communication Arts Department at the American University of Science and Technology (AUST) held a seminar on the 20th of May, 2019, under the patronage of the Commander in Chief of the Lebanese Army, General Joseph Aoun, represented by General Ali Ghozayel. The seminar, entitled "Women Revoking Boundaries: Determination, Perception & Disposition", was led by two of the most prominent females from the Lebanese Army: General Raghida Abou Haydar and Colonel Suzanne Roukos.

The discourse revolved around sharing personal experience of the challenges and opportunities that face women when they choose to pursue a career that once was considered to be masculine by nature. The seminar focused on women pioneers in a male dominant society with the purpose of furnishing hope and aspirations to the new generation of females and eventually unchain their innermost desire and motivate them to develop the required skills that prepare them to be the leaders of tomorrow.

The event started with the national anthem followed by a welcome speech by Mrs. Liliane Karam who greeted the audience, introduced the topic, and invited the guests of honor to the stage.

General Raghida Abou Haydar displayed a video of the hard training that females go through in the army; one identical to that of males. She also shared her personal experience and the challenges she overcame throughout her career path. Similarly, Colonel Suzanne Roukos emphasized the fact that femininity should not be affected by holding such position in the Lebanese Army.

At the end of the seminar, students showed enthusiasm and interest by asking the guests questions that led to a delightful interaction. Afterwards, The Chairperson of Communication Arts Department, Dr. George Farha, awarded trophies to the guests as a symbol of appreciation for their participation.

Manager of Johnson and Johnson Vision Visits the Optics and Optometry Department at AUST





Mrs. Lolita Souaid, Johnson and Johnson Vision Brand Manager at Khalil Fattal & Fils visited the OAO Department to lecture on how to build a successful optometric practice.

The Optics and Optometry students learned about the different contact lens types available through Acuvue® Brand Contact Lenses by Johnson and Johnson Vision. Ms. Souaid stressed the importance of professionalism when dealing with patients, as being the highest point for patient retention in addition to loyalty, trust and satisfaction. Criteria for a successful contact lens practice include providing products with high optical quality, ensuring good patient comfort, and good contact lens materials. Key factors addressed were quality of vision, dryness, wearing time, and moisture rich lenses. The Vision Care Institute at Johnson and Johnson values these factors. To that effect, Acuvue® Brand Contact Lenses incorporates solutions in their different types of contact lenses on the market like 1Day Acuvue® Define, 1Day Acuvue® Multifocal, Acuvue® Oasys for Astigmatism, 1Day Acuvue® Moist with Lacreon Technology, 1Day Acuvue® Oasys with Hydraluxe Technology and 1 Day Acuvue® Oasys silicone-based lenses. Ms. Souaid discussed lowering the Coefficient of Friction which allows the lenses to be ultra-smooth on the eyes, improving the blink rate in addition to the unique 100% UV blocking benefit present to protect the eyes from harmful rays. Furthermore, Mrs. Souaid explained the Accelerated Stabilization Design "ASD" technology that maintains the fit and vision of toric or Astigmatic lenses.

We value Mrs. Souaid's presence and look forward to more collaboration with Johnson and Johnson Vision.

Dr. Joanne Nassar, Chairperson of Optics & Optometry Department.

AUST Hosts the Recognition Event and Exhibition for the National Youth Service Week (NYSW) 2019









The Teaching Diploma Program at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Science and Technology hosted the Recognition Event and Exhibition for the National Youth Service Week 2019, and the launching of the 2020 campaign. The event was organized by the Campaign Coordinating Committee, Volunteer for Lebanon (VFL) and AUST's TD Program, that was the lead partner for this year. The event that took place at AUST's main campus in Achrafieh was attended by 127 NGO members, educational and youth associations, and groups of students and youth who implemented community service projects within the campaign. The celebration started with the National Anthem. The opening words noted the importance of strengthening the voice of youth and social participation in the face of despair and social collapse. Chairperson of the Department of Mathematics, Hiba Othman, welcomed the attendees; this was followed followed by a short documentary on AUSTand its programs. Then Dr. Patricia Nabti, the President of the Volunteer for Lebanon and the campaign's director, gave her speech in which she stated next year's goal: in addition to doubling the number of projects, the goal is to improve the quality and sustainability of projects and empower young people. Dr. Nabti called on NGOs and associations present to encourage the participation of different age groups. Then, Vice-President of VFL, Ms. Sana Hassan, presented the objectives and criteria for evaluation of the implemented projects within this campaign. Moreover, student representatives of youth groups gave presentations on their projects implemented to serve the community. The speeches ended with the word of the patron, H.E. Mohammad Fneish, Minister of Youth and Sports. The Minister's word was delivered by Mr. Joseph Saadallah, the head of the Youth Department in the Ministry. Mr. Saadallah praised AUST and its educational role. He stressed the importance of the initiative and the importance to give young people the necessary space to express their views and aspirations, and to involve them in the development process. In conclusion, Mr. Saadallah praised the National Youth Service Week campaign as it promotes, facilitates and improves the establishment of programs and voluntary activities. All participants received certificates acknowledging their efforts. Moreover, honorary awards were presented to the three distinguished projects and a group picture and a wonderful cocktail.

Eleventh Annual Mathematics Expo: "Mathematics is Everywhere"







The Department of Mathematics held its Eleventh Annual Mathematics Expo: "Mathematics is Everywhere". The Mathematics Expo is designed to demonstrate the importance of mathematics to university students no matter what profession they ultimately select. The Expo aimed to motivate students to make meaningful mathematics connections that will lead to self-sufficiency as inspired by their renewed comfort levels with future homework completion and mastery of requisite mathematics skills within a real life setting. 653 students from different Mathematics courses presented their 197 projects in front of jury members throughout the day. Some of the objectives of the Mathematics Expo were to:

- Shift Emphasis from Product to Process
- Shift Emphasis from memorization to meaning
- Shift Emphasis from computation to concepts
- Shift Emphasis from the "What and How" to the "Why"

Calculus Projects were about the uses of Calculus in real life, particularly in the areas of Engineering, Banking, Information and Communication Technology, and Military Fields. Projects varied from "The Calculus in Pyramids" to "Calculus in Ping Pong " to "Root Mean Square" to "ISP and Calculus" to "Robotic Arms and Calculus" to "Cryptosystems with Calculus" to "Calculus in Game Theory" to " Smart Systems" to "Calculus in Weaponry and Battles" to "Calculus, Rockets, and Space Travel" to "Parabolic Arches" to many others.

As for the Business Statistics projects, themes varied to cover: organ donation, people's conceptions of online banking, traffic jams, students' conceptions of the growing use of technology in education, women participation in politics, finding jobs before graduation, consumers' perceptions of buying products, the effect of advertisement on changing people's attitudes.

Linear Algebra projects were about coding and matrices, while Discrete Math projects centered about graph theory and combinatorics applied to real life situations. Differential Equations Projects approached the uses of differential equations in various aspects of real life including Tomahawk and volcano eruptions. As for the Numerical Methods Projects, they tackled the uses of numerical methods in electrical engineering and computer science.

The day was a huge success due to the efforts of Department Chair Hiba Othman and the Mathematics Department's faculty members in the three campuses.

AUST's Optics and Optometry Department Participates in 'LAAS'



At the yearly Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Sciences "LAAS" convention, three students from the Department of Optics and Optometry at AUST, under the supervision of the Chairperson Dr. Joanne Nassar and the instructors Dr. Jeanne Andary and Dr. Danielle Badro, Ms. Nancy Sleem, Ms. Rita Abou Ghaida, and Ms. Hiba Sati participated in the First Italian-Lebanese Science Day "Global Science". This event was held at the American University of Beirut (AUB); AUST students had the chance to participate in the poster presentation session on topics that included Identifying Optometric clinics and shops through an Optomap, the level of optometric knowledge in the general population, and low vision treatments and devices. A discussion and question and answer session was held with members of the Italian jury. AUST is proud to be representing the Optometric field for the second year in a row and for being a pioneer in Optometric Education thanks to the efforts of its Chairperson, Dr. Joanne Nassar and all the doctors that have helped raise the level of research inquisition in the students.

Dr. Joanne Nassar, Chairperson of Optics and Optometry Department.

AUST Inter Departmental Mini Football Tournament









S.A.O organized for the 16th year, its annual Inter Departmental Mini Football Tournament. Though last year's tournament was a success, the SAO saw fit to introduce new factors that enhanced the spirit of competition and challenge: each team was made up of 5 players including minimum 1 staff or professor or girl; if any of the latter scored, their score was multiplied by 2.
Following is the results of the matches:
Staff vs F.O.E: 14 - 13
MKT vs F.H.S: 17 - 6
ECO vs Staff: 19 - 18
F.O.H vs CSI: 7 - 12
F.O.E vs MIS: 17 - 5
STAFF vs MIS: 21 - 15
Goal scorers:
Best Scorers till now:
Dr. Daniel Sakr: 24 goals
Mr. Ziad Saade: 18 goals
Dr. Roger Achkar: 16 goals
Mr. Marwan Haddad: 10 goals
Dr. Gaby Tabbal: 8 goals

AUST Sidon Campus Holds its Annual "Chouf Schools Tournament"



The Sports and Activities Office at AUST Sidon campus held its annual "Chouf Schools Tournament" at the AUST Sports Complex, from Friday the 10th of May till Tuesday the 14th of May, 2019. The participating schools were: Barja Official Secondary School, Damour Official Secondary School, La Cime -Khaldeh, Barja Al Hadissa School, Deir El Moukhaless Secondary School, Lycee Social Barja, and Saint Charbel Secondary School- Jiyeh. The results of the tournament are as follows:
Basketball (F)
1st Place: Barja Official Secondary School
2nd Place: La Cime - Khaldeh
Basketball (M)
1st Place: Damour Official Secondary School
2nd Place: Barja Al Hadissa School
Football (F)
1st Place: Barja Official Secondary School
2nd Place: Damour Official Secondary School
Football (M)
1st Place: Barja Al hadissa School
2nd Place: Barja Official Secondary School
Volleyball (M)
1st Place: Barja Al hadissa School
2nd Place: Saint Charbel Secondary School Jiyeh
At the end of the tournament, all participants received medals and the winning teams were awarded with trophies.

AUST Zahlé Ranks 2nd in the AUST Bekaa Mini Foot Tournament

After qualifying for the Semi-Finals, AUST played against USEK and won 3-2.
Goals scored for AUST: Omar Chalha - 2 goals, Elie Saghbini: 1 goal.
In the 2nd match, LIU won against USJ 5-3.
In the Finals, LIU played against AUST, AUST lost 4 - 3.
Goals scored for AUST: Elie Saghbini - 2 goals, Omar Chalha: 1 goal
The Results were:
1st place: LIU Khiyara
2nd place: AUST
3rd place: USJ
4th place: USEK
Best scorer: Venisio Smeily (LIU)
Best goal keeper: Ralph Riachy (AUST)
MVP: Rayan Btadini (AUST)
At the end, trophies and medals were distributed by Mr. Charbel Boustany, Zahlé Campus Director, Mr. Assaf Riachy, and Mr. Joe Kassouf, Sports Coordinator.







IQ Test

1. 25, 24, 22, 19, 15, (?)
Which number comes next in the series?
4, 8, 10, 12, 14

2. 3968, 63, 8, 3, (?)
Find the next number in the following series:
-1, 0, 1, 2, 3

Answers will be announced on facebook

Horoscopes



ARIES *March 21 - April 19*
The conversations and the people you meet can keep things moving along over the week ahead. You might completely misunderstand a conversation or someone's intentions. You could also have an overly idealized view of a situation when in reality it's nothing like you think. With this in mind, it might be a good idea to wait a few days before signing or committing to anything important. The weekend brings more clarity if what you're considering is worthwhile.



TAURUS *April 20 - May 20*
Go easy around money matters. This could be something like a gym membership or an offer that involves your hard-earned cash. Take the time to look at the details to see what's in it for you before you make a move. There is potential for romance or for you to be mesmerized by a certain someone. This person might seem perfect in your eyes but in a few days appear more human. They could lose their appeal unless you can take this in stride.



GEMINI *May 21 - June 21*
This isn't one of the best times to make promises, no matter how sure you are that you can follow through. Going back on your word would be noticed by those in authority. To avoid this, it's best to underestimate what you can accomplish and over deliver on results because this will make a more positive impact. If there is something you'd like to accomplish, seeing it first in your mind's eye can make it easier to manifest.



CANCER *June 22 - July 22*
There could be a clash of beliefs involved that stems from experiences that occurred in your younger years. If you want to understand why you've been sabotaging your best interests, talking to someone who knows you well or who has a canny understanding of human nature might bring some powerful insights. You might enjoy spending time with good friends at a nearby spa where you can relax and let your troubles melt away.



LEO *July 23 - August 22*
It might be wise to avoid any schemes that involve a lot of money because they might not be as good as you think. Before you sign or commit, it's wise to do the math. If you take the time to look into the financial side of things, you might find the potential return is a lot less than you imagined and possibly nothing much at all. Bearing this in mind, it might best to sidestep this and wait until something much more solid comes along.



VIRGO *August 23 - September 22*
Take extra care over the coming days because this person could find it difficult to stick to their word. They likely mean well, but they might not be able to follow through due to unexpected circumstances. If this is something you need urgently, it might be better to attend to it yourself because it will then get done. There is also the promise of a delightful outing with your partner or a good friend that leaves you feeling positive and upbeat.



LIBRA *September 23 - October 22*
Is it better to help others or help yourself? This could be an issue this week because you could feel guilty for saying no to someone who counted on you to help them out. This could be a victory for you, though, especially if you've given in to them one too many times in the past. Standing your ground and setting firm boundaries can let this person know that you don't intend to be used in the future.



SCORPIO *October 23 - November 21*
It might seem like love at first sight, but is it really? The coming days could see you falling head over heels with someone and perhaps feeling that you have finally met "the one." If so, it might help to get the opinion of a friend. If the friend knows you very well, they'll be unafraid to tell you the truth as they see it. There's a possibility that you won't want to hear what they have to say until it's too late. If someone gives you a warning, it might be wise to listen.



SAGITTARIUS *November 22 - December 21*
You could be eager to beautify your surroundings at home or at work like adding beautiful pictures, inspiring sayings, and sentimental gifts from those you love lifts your spirits when needed most. Powerful feelings could seem overwhelming. Reminder that nothing is forever and that you're supported, loved, and cherished. It can help you stay positive. A very practical aspect could see you investing in something that nets you a side income.



CAPRICORN *December 22 - January 19*
Make sure that people understand you, because there's a possibility of mistakes over the days ahead. Things may not go as planned. One way to sidestep this is to write out your instructions in bullet points so they can be seen in black and white. Even then, someone could still misread your words. In fact, if you're hoping to involve others in a complex project, it might be better to wait until the end of the week when things will more easily fall into place.



AQUARIUS *January 20 - February 18*
Is it worthwhile to spend money on a new hobby, pastime, or even romance? If you're uncertain, don't commit just yet. By the end of the week, you could have valuable insights into whether it's worth investing your time and money into something new or better to avoid doing so for now. When it comes to creating a pleasant atmosphere at home, a trip to a vintage store or local art gallery could see you falling in love with one or two items.



PISCES *February 19 - March 20*
It would help to make your intentions clear this week, because if you don't, your family might have expectations that you don't intend to fulfill. This might be a case of mixed messages and general misunderstanding. However, it could create a negative atmosphere unless you set the record straight. Visiting a gallery, going to a concert, or appreciating other people's creative efforts can encourage you to give it a go.

Word Search

ACCOUNT
ANNOY
ATTRACT
BRACKET
CLIMB
COLOR
CONTEMPT
CRAZY
DANCE
DEAR
DEPOSIT
DINER
DISPLAY
DUSTY
GARMENT
GATEHOUSE
GUIDE
HEAP
HUNGER
LANE
LEATHER
MERCY
MESH
MODERN
NEVER
NIGHT
PINCH
PRANK
PROPULSION
RUED
SERIOUS
SORE
SPAT
STORE
TEEN
WALLPAPER

E	D	I	U	G	T	E	K	C	A	R	B	N
C	E	D	I	S	P	L	A	Y	S	E	Q	O
N	R	S	P	C	O	N	T	E	M	P	T	I
A	O	A	Y	C	R	E	M	V	R	T	W	S
D	T	I	S	O	P	E	D	A	E	N	A	L
R	S	T	E	Y	Z	I	N	E	S	E	L	U
E	O	C	R	Z	A	K	N	L	U	M	L	P
N	R	L	I	A	C	D	E	C	O	R	P	O
I	E	I	O	R	C	D	U	D	H	A	A	R
D	V	M	U	C	O	T	E	S	E	G	P	P
U	E	B	S	M	U	R	E	H	T	A	E	L
A	N	N	O	Y	N	M	D	S	A	Y	R	H
N	I	G	H	T	T	H	U	N	G	E	R	V

ABJECT
ABSORB
ASSIST
BLAST
BOAST
BRAND
CAPABLE
CHEERLEADER
CHINA
CONTAIN
COVER
DETOUR
FIRE
FORBIDDEN
FURNITURE
GRACE
GREAT
GRIME
HELMET
HOUSE
LACE
LEARN
MINER
MORAL
PILLOW
PLANE
POWER
RARE
RUNNER
SHARE
SPEAR
STACK
SUCCESS
THROB
TICKET
TRIAL

C	T	K	W	O	L	L	I	P	G	L	S	L
G	P	C	T	P	G	E	L	B	A	P	A	C
R	L	A	E	T	H	R	O	B	E	R	I	F
A	A	T	B	J	D	L	I	A	O	U	U	O
C	N	S	B	S	B	E	R	M	I	N	E	R
E	E	I	S	R	O	A	T	P	E	N	R	B
X	S	E	H	I	A	R	K	O	S	E	U	I
T	S	E	E	C	S	N	B	W	U	R	T	D
I	E	R	L	O	T	T	D	E	O	R	I	D
C	C	A	M	V	M	A	S	R	H	Z	N	E
K	C	H	E	E	R	L	E	A	D	E	R	N
E	U	S	T	R	I	A	L	R	L	Q	U	C
T	S	C	O	N	T	A	I	N	G	B	F	D

Sudoku

Easy

	5		4	9				6
		3			2	5	4	8
					6	2		9
	4				7	1	6	
3								7
	8	5	9				2	
6		7	5					
5	2	1	7			6		
4				2	9		5	

Medium

	3			6	1			
9	8	1	2				6	3
			3					
	2		1				9	5
	1	8				4	2	
7	9				2		1	
					4			
1	6				3	9	4	8
			9	7			3	

Hard

	8			7	4			
	3		6					
9		4			8			6
	7		2			5		
		3	8		1	9		
		5			3		2	
2			4			8		5
					9		3	
			5	6			7	