



The Faculty Gazette

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--The Faculty Newsletter of the Lebanese American University--



LAU Divisions, Centres and Institutes were very active in the first half of 2004 in organizing conferences, seminars, and discussion lectures. Many disciplines promoted their fields of study and research locally, regionally, and internationally. For example, please look inside for details on the final module of the European Project for Inter-religious Learning (EPIL), co-organized by IWSAW in February, in

Beirut (after Switzerland, Spain, Germany and Bosnia-Herzegovina). In January, the School of Engineering and Architecture organized a very-well attended environmental conference focusing on air pollution, in Byblos. The performance of Arab women parliamentarians was discussed in the framework of an IWSAW seminar in February, while the Humanities Division organized three well-attended literary discussions in Beirut throughout the Spring, featuring prominent local and European intellectuals. Regional computer science specialists, in the framework of the MENA CISCO Networking

Academies, met at LAU-Byblos in April, even while regional and European education specialists were discussing "the safety and ethos of schools" in Byblos and Beirut. The Institute of Family and Entrepreneurial Business had its conference, in April also (Byblos), whereas LAU and international Architecture and Design specialists met in Beirut in May to discuss contemporary discourses in architecture. The School of Pharmacy gathered around 1,000 attendees for its 2nd international conference in Byblos mid-May, while a smaller

but equally enthusiastic group of panellists and conferees from the region, Europe and the USA attended the three-day "Violence in the Middle East" conference organised by the Comparative Literature Program and the Humanities Division, later in May in Beirut. And the School of Business (Byblos) held its 6th international banking and finance conference also late in May, with many prominent local and international scholars and professionals participating.



— FOOD FOR THOUGHT —

"Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider." — Sir Francis Bacon

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Recent Conferences & Seminars at LAU

On January 29, the **School of Engineering and Architecture** (Byblos) organized a seminar on [Air Quality Management and Estimated Health Impact of Pollutants in Urban and Industrial Areas](#) in the context of a project titled “Air quality management and estimated health impacts of pollutants in urban and industrial areas.” The seminar was funded by USAID and very well attended by many presidents of Municipalities (Chekka, Koura and Batroun) as well as by industrialists, directors general, public administrators, representatives of diplomatic missions, international organizations (UNIDO, WB, WHO), NGO’s, academics, environmental engineers and environmentalists. The study’s objectives were to carry out, for the first time in Lebanon, a long term (one year) air quality measurement campaign centred around the Chekka industrial zone and the neighboring Koura municipalities; to develop a numerical based model to describe the diffusion of pollutants in the Chekka area; to establish parameters between predictions and field measurements; to establish the size of the exposed population, the levels of exposure, and health impacts; and to develop an action plan in consultation with the municipalities, the industry, and NGO’s. In closing, the first environmental partnership in Lebanon was announced between the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, the Municipalities of Chekka and Koura, the Ministry of the Environment and LAU to develop and apply a progressive action plan for environmental management in the region, including air pollution.

The **European Project for Inter-religious Learning (EPIL)** and the **Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab**

World (IWSAW) held the last of five modules of an adult education program “Towards Reconciliation-Elements for Reconciliation in Christianity and Islam,” February 4-12, in Beirut. This program explores problems of living together as Christians and Muslims. The previous four modules were held in Switzerland, Spain, Germany and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Twenty-seven participants from these countries and from Lebanon attended the module. In a series of lectures, prominent Lebanese speakers presented various ways through which reconciliation took place in Lebanon. In addition, visits were organized to various religious groups during which Lebanese women gave testimonies about how they lived the war.

The **Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)** in collaboration with the Arab Centre for Development and Futuristic Research held a two-day seminar on [The Performance of Arab Women Parliamentarians: Tunisia, Egypt and Syria](#), February 24-25, in Beirut. MP Bahia Hariri addressed the participants, presenting her experience as a woman in the Lebanese Parliament.

The **Humanities Division** (Beirut) organized three discussion lectures. Sir Bernard Crick, Emeritus Professor of Politics and Fellow of Birkbeck College, London, delivered the first lecture on April 15. Sir Bernard, who spent much of his life in conflict areas such as Northern Ireland, South Africa and Palestine, was knighted in 2002 “for services to citizenship in schools and to political studies.” The title of his talk was “[Nineteen Eighty-Four](#): Satire or Prophecy.” In

1
The European Project for Inter-religious Learning/IWSAW program, February 4-12

2
The Performance of Arab Women Parliamentarians, February 24-25. From left to right: Dr. Nevine Masaad from the Arab Centre for Development and Futuristic Research, Mona Khalaf, MP Bahia Hariri, Mr. Jamil Matar, Director of the Arab Centre for Development and Futuristic Research



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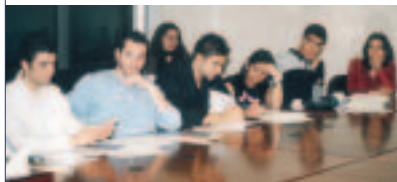
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1 Sir Bernard in Irwin Hall, April 15

2 Lebanese novelist Rashid al-Daif, April 21

3 German novelist Joachim Helfer, April 21

4 Mr. Helfer in animated discussion with moderator Assad Khairallah (left)

5 Students enjoyed the Lebanese-German discussion

6 Huda Ayyash-Abdo giving a keynote address at the 10th Annual Conference on the Global Education of the Child, April 17

7 AUB professor Andrew Long discussing George Orwell, May 7

the wake of 9/11, this discussion of George Orwell’s famous novel was very relevant. It is noteworthy that Sir Bernard wrote an authoritative biography of George Orwell, *In Defence of Politics, George Orwell: A Life*. On April 21, the second event took place: a well-attended and lively discussion on intercultural encounter entitled “Dialogue with Writers – Orient and Occident.” This dialogue between Lebanese novelist Rashid al-Daif and rising German author Joachim Helfer was co-sponsored by the Beirut branch of the Goethe Institute as part of a project for cultural exchange aimed at improving mutual knowledge and dialogue between Germany and the Middle East. This project consists of writers engaging in visits to one another’s country to discuss cultural perceptions and attitudes as reflected in literature. George Orwell was again the subject of discussion in the third event: “Orwell’s Double: The Pamphlet and the Pamphleteer,” a lecture on the intersection of literature and politics by Andrew Long (AUB) on May 7.

The Middle East and North Africa CISCO Networking Academies held their annual conference at LAU on April 14-15. The conference was organized at LAU (Byblos) since **LAU’s CISCO Academy** became the Cisco Academy Training Centre (CATC) for the MENA

region. Regional academy representatives and officials from CISCO Systems met to learn about the latest developments in all CISCO curricula (CCNA, CCNP, Sponsored Curriculum, Wireless and Security), E-Learning and the IT Jordanian Education Initiative.

In partnership with UNESCO, the British Council and HSBC, **Irma Ghosn** and **Elie Samia (Social Science and Education)** organized the 10th Annual Conference on the Global Education of the Child on the theme “In Loco Parentis: Safety and Ethos of Schools.” About 100 participants attended the event on April 16 in Byblos and April 17 in Beirut. Keynote addresses were given by Professor Sir Bernard Crick and by **Huda Ayyash-Abdo**. Dr. **Abdo** spoke on “The Significance of Children’s Play in Lebanon and the Region.” Other speakers came from Lebanon (including LAU faculty members **Ruth Maalouf** and **Iman Osta**), UAE and Turkey. Topics addressed included “bullying and aggression in our schools,” “character and values education,” “bringing up a creative, communicative child,” “right to leisure,” and “family and community links.”

The **Institute of Family and Entrepreneurial Business** organized a conference on Planning for Ownership Continuity and Management Succession,



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April 22-24, in Byblos. Dr. **Josiane Sreih**, Director of the Institute, presented a paper on “A New Corporate Governance Mechanism in Family Firms: Evidence from Lebanese Family Firms.” In the context of the conference, Dr. James Lea gave a seminar on “Planning for Ownership Continuity and Management Succession” (April 23-24).

The **Department of Architecture and Design** organized a two-day symposium on Contemporary Discourses in Architecture, May 13-14, in Beirut. The symposium continued the debate initiated at LAU since Spring 2000 on the importance of architecture in relation to the social, political and ideological aspects of life. A number of international speakers addressed questions of academic interest that relate to contemporary developments in architectural theory and practice, in five sessions: “Theory and Practice,” “Architecture and Art,” “Emerging Paradigms,” “Architecture and the City,” and “Architecture and its Other.” The keynote speakers were Hilde Heynen and Neil Leach. Participants enjoyed fieldtrips to Tripoli and Baalbek.

The **School of Pharmacy** and the Middle East College of Clinical Pharmacy (headquartered at LAU), in

collaboration with the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, organized their 2nd International Clinical Pharmacy Conference on the theme of “Optimizing Pharmaceutical Care,” May 13-15, in Selina Korban Theatre. The latest research and updates in the pharmacotherapy of various diseases and disorders were presented, in addition to strategies for developing new clinical services and skills. With around 1000 local and regional attendees, the conference was the largest international meeting in the region dedicated to improving patient care through drug therapy. With over 15 sessions presented by speakers from Lebanon, Germany and the USA, the conference was valuable to every practitioner. Dr. **Jean Dib** delivered a paper on “Hypertension in Elderly.”

Please go to p. 17 for a photo of the School of Pharmacy faculty and the international participants.

On May 14, the **Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)** hosted nineteen prominent editors and journalists from the USA during a seminar on “Women’s Status in Lebanon.” Guest speakers included Dr. Mohammad Sammak, who is the Secretary General of the Moslem-Christian Committee for Dialogue; Ms. Amal Dibo, lecturer at AUB; and Mrs. Alia Berti Zein, lawyer. Issues discussed included

8 From left to right, Rachid Chamoun, moderator, with panellists Karima Benachenhou, Deb Upadhyahya and Tarek Abdelsalam

9 From left to right, Ziad Mawlawi, moderator, with panellists Beshir Kenzari and Katrin Fagerstrom

10 Souvenir of the IWSAW seminar, May 14. In the centre, Mrs. Mona Khalaf, Director of IWSAW

11 Dr. Hilde Heynen, keynote speaker at the Architecture Symposium, May 13-14



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1
Ken Seigneurie, centre, moderator, and speakers from McGill University (left) and Princeton University (right) at the "Violence in the Middle East Conference," May 28

2
Keynote speaker Prof. Suman Gupta, UK at the "Violence" Conference"

3
Keynote speaker Prof. Jorgen Nielsen, UK

4
Keynote speaker Prof. Susan Stanford Friedman, USA

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An attentive audience of students, faculty, and visitors

women's civil rights and personal status in Lebanon, women and Islam, and living experiences of Lebanese women. Representatives from Mouvement Social, Caritas-Lebanon, and Dar Al Amal spoke about their NGO's and the various programs they implement in Lebanon.

The **Comparative Literature Program** and the **Humanities Division** (Beirut) organized an international conference on the theme of Violence in The Middle East, May 26-28. The interdisciplinary conference, which was opened by Dean **Samira Aghacy** and VPAA **Abdallah Sfeir**, aimed to discuss the violence that has plagued the countries bordering on the Eastern Mediterranean for most of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Participants included scholars working in area and gender studies, social sciences, communications and literary-cultural studies. Three LAU faculty members presented papers: **Samira Aghacy**, **Ken Seigneurie**, and **Sami Baroudi**. A sample of paper titles illustrates the pregnancy of the conference theme and the multiple ways of probing it: "Is Terrorism Morally Justified?" "The Pathology of Violence: A Historical Perspective of 'Territory' and 'Aggression'," "Writing without Authority: Torture in the Lebanese War Novel," "Arab Humanism in a Time of Ongoing War," "Intra-Sectarian Dimensions of the 1958 Lebanese Crisis," "Soviet and Israeli Ethnic Cleansing: A Comparative Perspective," and "Violence Against Nature/Women." They represented the Frankfurt-based Peace Research Institute and universities in Beirut

(LAU, AUB, Haigazian, USJ), Ankara, London, York, Cambridge (UK), New York, Amherst (Massachusetts), Champaign-Urbana (Illinois), Princeton (New Jersey), Montréal and Toronto. The keynote speakers were Professors Suman Gupta (Roehampton, UK), Jorgen Nielsen (Birmingham) and Susan Stanford Friedman (Madison-Wisconsin). After three days of well-attended, challenging lectures and stimulating discussions, the participants enjoyed a fieldtrip to Baalbek. The organizing committee of this first conference of the Comparative Literature Program consisted of Drs. **Ken Seigneurie**, Humanities Chair; **Marianne Marroum**, Program Chair; and **Amal Saad-Ghorayeb**, Cultural Studies professor.

The **School of Business** (Byblos) organized the 6th International Conference on the Economics and Finance of the Middle East and North Africa on May 27-28, jointly with the USA-based Middle East Economics Association (MEEA). Speakers represented organizations such as the World Bank and the International Food Policy Research Institute as well as about twenty universities from the MENA region, the EU and the USA. On May 27, Dr. **Wassim Shahin** chaired a round-table discussion with Dr. Ahmad Jachi (First Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon), Dr. Joseph Torbey (President of the Arab Banks Association, Chairman of the Board of the Association of Banks in Lebanon, and Chairman of the Board and General Manager of the Crédit Libanais), and Dr. François Bassil (Chairman of the Board and General Manager of Byblos Bank).



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School of Arts & Sciences

Arts & Communication

Throughout the week of January 10-18, the **Arts & Communication Division** (Beirut) presented its Fall Major Theatre Production "FRAGMENTS."

According to Director **Nagy Souraty**, "FRAGMENTS was an experimental performance, not based on a specific script and without a specific plot: We started exploring ideas. Texts came in later in the process of creation. The ideas we explored are water, survival, wolves, dreams, fear, pain..." The performance was inspired by texts written by Etel Adnan, Nasri El Sayegh, David Rudkin, Mohamed Kacimi, Walid Mouaness and Michel Azama. **Hala Masri** was production manager, and **Mona Knio** was technical director and lighting designer. **Dima Dabbous-Sensenig** was director of the video production. The cast consisted of 14 actors and around 40 crewmembers from the "Acting," "Theatre in Performance," and "Technical Stagecraft" classes. The

Spring Major Theatre Production was "AYYAM BAYRUT" (Beirut Days). Aliya Khalidi directed, and performances took place on May 13-23 in the Gulbenkian Theatre.

Albert Seikali had a photo exhibit entitled "Interior Vision" in Sheikh Zayed Hall (Beirut). The show ran for a week in January.

Yasmine Nashabe Taan and **Nathalie Fallaha** (**Graphic Design Program**, Beirut) presented papers at the [Tasmeem Doha Symposium](#) in Qatar, February 23-25. The Symposium was organised by the Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned (Chair of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development) in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and Housing. The objective of the Symposium was to gather people

with insights in and experience with design, to have discussions, provide examples, and inspire others. The general idea was that design processes, practices and potentials can indeed be a vital resource for a healthy Middle-Eastern society in times of rapid change. **Yasmine Nashabe Taan** spoke on "A Graphic Design Culture Emerging in Lebanon: A Visual Language for an Arab Populace," and **Nathalie Fallaha** presented "Teaching Graphic Design in Lebanon: Raising Awareness of Design Representing Middle East Heritage."

The **Graphic Design Program** (Beirut) hosted award-winning designers Oliver Klimpel and Svend Wennick of the design network Büro International London/Copenhagen for a workshop titled "The Visual Profiler: Graphic Authorship & Urban Narratives" on the challenges of

6-7
Scenes from
"Fragments",
January 10-18

8
Scene from "Ayyam
Bayrut/Beirut
Days," May 13-23



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Arts & Communication

design in Europe today. The workshop was held on April 26 in collaboration with the Beirut branch of the Goethe Institute.

Mr. Adam Coleman, resident practitioner of the **Shakespeare Globe Theatre** from London, gave a series of drama workshops. The event was organized by the **Arts & Communication Division** (Beirut) in the Gulbenkian Theatre, in cooperation with the English Speaking Union, the Al-Bustan Festival of Arts & Drama, and Middle East Airlines. The workshops aimed at enacting the human emotions Shakespeare explores in his plays; they examined how he deals with them and how we can relate to them. Voice coaching and improvisation on stage were also addressed. These interactive sessions were open to high school students, university students, amateur and professional actors and teachers—and all were fully booked! The **Arts & Communication Division** also organized three other workshops: “Indian Dance” (directed by Natasha Devalia) in early April; “Stage Make-Up” (led by Nabil Ammash) and “Mime and Movement” (with Issam

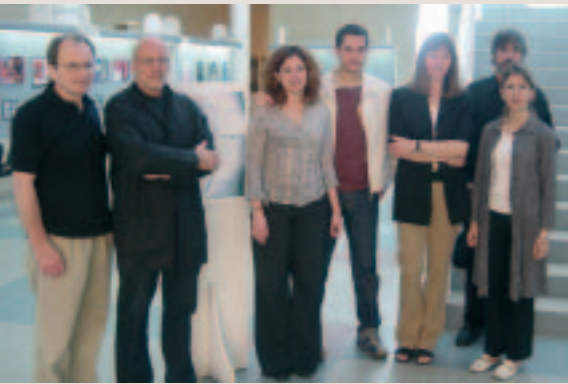
Boukhaled) in early May.

Assad Fouladkar in Hollywood! His script-in-progress [The Cedar Tree](#) was selected by Robert Redford’s SUNDANCE Studios for its filmmakers/screenwriters lab, which was held in late June. Mr. **Fouladkar** had the precious opportunity to work closely with Hollywood writers, directors and producers, not to mention Mr. Redford himself. He was part of a very select group: in addition to 14 people selected from the USA, only four filmmakers-screenwriters represented the rest of world. And our Mr. **Fouladkar** was one of these four!

Dima Dabbous-Sensenig presented several papers at local and international conferences. On March 11, she spoke on “The Stereotyping of Arabs in Hollywood: [The Siege](#) as an example of alternative representation, in “Wrapping yourself in the flag: Lebanese Americans in times of crisis” at a conference organized by the Lebanese Emigration Research Centre (LERC) at Notre Dame U. Dr. **Dabbous-Sensenig** then read her paper “What role can broadcast regulation play in

societal change?” at the [4th Annual Conference on Media and the Transformation of Arab Societies](#) organized by the Beirut Institute for Media Arts (BIMA) at LAU, March 16-19. On May 14, she gave a presentation entitled “Al-Hurra: Between Propaganda and Fair Reporting” at a seminar on US Public Diplomacy Efforts in the Arab World; the seminar was held at LAU and was attended by 13 gatekeepers and editors from the US on a visit to Lebanon and Syria. **Dr. Dabbous-Sensenig** then travelled to Barcelona to present a paper titled “Challenging the core/periphery metaphor: Building diversity and restructuring cultural exchange in the Arab world” at the conference on [Global Broadcasting, Cultural Diversity and Regulation](#) organized by the Catalan Broadcasting Council along with the Forum Barcelona 2004, May 28-29. And on June 18 she spoke on “Exporting Diversity: Is the Middle East profiting from European cultural protectionism?” at the [Arab Media Seminar Series](#) organized by the Communication and Media Research Institute (CAMRI) at the University of Westminster, London.

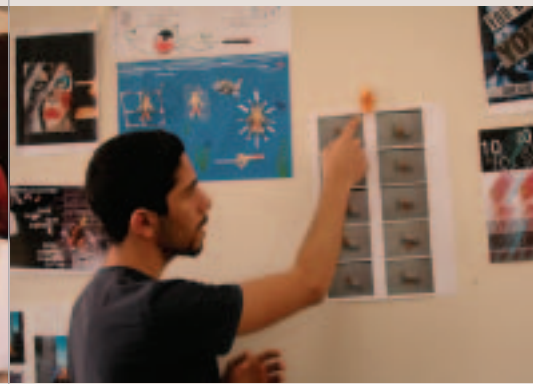
1-2-3
Tasmeem Doha
Symposium in Qatar,
February 23-25



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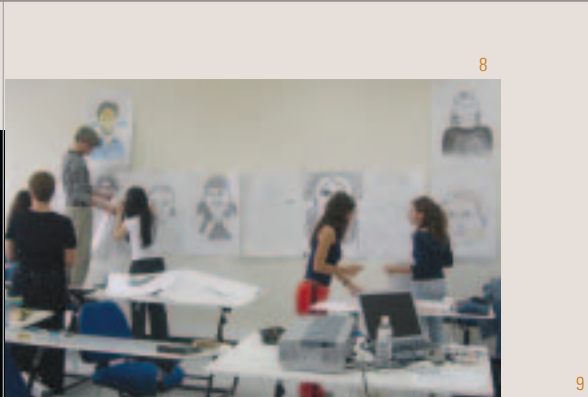


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LAU students practise
Indian dance with
Natasha Devalia



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Graphic Design fac-
ulty in Sharjah. Third
from left: Nathalie
Fallaha. First from
right: Yasmine
Nashabe Taan

10
Assad Fouladkar at
the SUNDANCE
Studios with Susan
Shilliday, writer of
"Legends of the Fall"



8-9
Magic Pencil



11
And with Scott Frank, writer of "Minority
Report", "Out of Sight," and "Get Shorty"



12
Souvenir from
the SUNDANCE
Studios work-
shop 2004

5-6
"The Visual Profiler:
Graphic Authorship &
Urban Narratives", in
Beirut, April 26



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Education & Social Science

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The founding members of the Lebanese Psychological Association. First from left, Ketty Sarouphim. Second from right, Ahmad Oueini

2
From left to right, Dean Tarek Na'was, Miss Lebanon 2003 Marie José Hnein, Hassan Hammoud and Ketty Sarouphim

3
Marie José Hnein and Hassan Hammoud

On January 12th, the **Lebanese Psychological Association** (LPA) was born at the UNESCO Palace in Beirut. Among the founding members of this new association, the first of its kind in Lebanon, were two LAU professors: Drs. **Ketty Sarouphim** and **Ahmad Oueini**. The LPA's goals are threefold: highlighting the role of psychology as serving the Lebanese society; establishing a network of professionals in order to exchange expertise and promote research; and working closely with local, regional and international psychological associations and organizations. The other founding members were Drs. Brigitte Khoury (AUB), Shahe Kazarian (AUB), Ghassan Yacoub (LU), Leila Dirani (USJ), David Tawil (HU) and Christine Sabieh (NDU). Subcommittees in each branch of psychology were formed, e.g. clinical, educational, etc. **CALL FOR MEMBERS:** All psychologists holding an MA/Ph.D. in psychology are welcome to join the **LPA**; graduate students in the discipline are

invited to join as non-voting members. Contacts: **Ketty Sarouphim** (ksarufim@lau.edu.lb) or **Ahmad Oueini** (aoueni@lau.edu.lb).

On February 25, a panel discussion was held in the Gulbenkian Theatre (Beirut) between **Tarek Na'was, Ketty Sarouphim, Hassan Hammoud**, and Marie José Hnein (AKA Miss Lebanon 2003). The topic of discussion was "Family Ties: What Happened?"

Also in February, **Ohannes Geukjian** presented a paper at an international conference held at the University of California-Los Angeles. The topic of his paper was "The Historical and Territorial Dimensions of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict between the Armenians and the Azerbaijanis."

Ketty Sarouphim published her article "DISCOVER in Middle School: Identifying Gifted

Minority Students" in [The Journal of Secondary Gifted Education](#) 15 (2) 2004: 61-69.

Mona Nabhani was asked by the representative of the Assembly of Secondary School Teachers of Public Schools in Lebanon to present a study of the pre-service education and in-service teacher training at LAU, and to come up with recommendations to upgrade pre-service teacher education at the Lebanese Ministry of Education. Concomitantly, Dr. **Nabhani** read a paper titled "Pre-service Education: Pitfalls and Recommendations" at an education conference held June 4 at the UNESCO Palace in the presence of the Minister of Education. The paper (to be published in the [Proceedings](#)) presented what LAU does in teacher preparation for teachers at all grade levels in all subjects and recommended improvement for training public school teachers.

Joe Helou presented a paper “Cementing Vocabulary” at the [Conference of the Association of Teachers of English in Lebanon](#) (ATEL) which took place, May 15, at the UNESCO Palace, Beirut. Dr. Helou introduced a new, unconventional method for teaching vocabulary through etymology. His presentation was accepted for publication in ATEL’s journal.

Irma Ghosn published “Partnership in Education: Lebanese Evolution of a Finnish Educational Model” in the [Scandinavian Journal of Educational Research](#) 48 (1) 2004: 34-45. Dr. **Ghosn** also presented a paper “Story as Culturally Appropriate Social Context?” at the [37th Annual TESOL Convention](#), which took place at Long Beach, California in March/April. At the same conference, she chaired the EFL Interest Section’s Panel on “Responding to Job Competition from Native English Speakers,” and she participated in a panel dedicated to “English, Environment and ‘The Earth Day Special’.” Dr. **Ghosn**’s paper “Story-based Instruction for L2 Academic Literacy” was published in the [Proceedings of the IATEFL Brighton Conference Selections](#), Spring 2004. It is certainly worth mentioning that Dr. **Ghosn** was invited to join the organizing committee of “Seeing the South,” a national student competition for landscape pro-

jects in Southern Lebanon. The competition is sponsored by the UN Office of the Personal Representative of the Secretary General for Southern Lebanon. Finally, Dr. **Ghosn** was elected Chair of “TESOLers for Social Responsibility,” a special interest caucus of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). The caucus advocates inclusion of environmental issues, gender equity, prejudice, tolerance, conflict and related issues in the English language curricula. Her responsibilities start in 2005.

As announced in the previous issue of the [Faculty Gazette](#), **Irma Ghosn** launched the TEPMEC-project in January 2004. (TEPMEC stands for Teacher Education for Peace in the Middle Eastern Countries). The event took place in the presence of H.E. Mr. Vincent Battle, the US Ambassador to Lebanon. Thirty senior teachers and teacher educators gathered over five days to explore peace education pedagogy and existing materials, which were evaluated and adapted to suit the local context. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants returned to their respective institutions to pilot the testing materials and to train their teachers. Dr. **Ghosn** was the principal trainer of the session, with Dr. Habib Malik (human rights) and Ms. Afifa Dirani-Arsanios (gender issues). Dr. Amal El-Nasser, the

Jordanian partner in the project, brought a very useful regional perspective to the workshop. The same group will meet again in summer to report back and to make final adjustments based on field feedback on the material, which will then be translated into Arabic and Turkish.

Ken Seigneurie published two articles: “The Importance of Being Kawabata: The Narratee in Today’s Literature of Commitment” in [JNT: Journal of Narrative Theory](#) 34 (1) 2004: 54-73, and “Decolonizing the British: Deflections of Desire in The Alexandria Quartet” in [South Atlantic Review](#) 69 (1) 2004: 85-108.

Nuwar Diab presented a paper entitled “Peer Editing: Just when you thought it does not work!” at the [7th Annual ATEL Conference](#) which was held on May 15 at the UNESCO Palace, Beirut.

Ibrahim Hussari was selected for the summer session of the University of the Middle East’s 2004 Institute for Sustainable Development Policies, which was held in Spain. Dr. **Hussari** was selected with only 26 others from a competitive pool of over 220 highly qualified applicants hailing from the Middle East and North Africa. The University of the Middle East is based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Above
The UNESCO Palace,
Beirut



Computer Science & Mathematics

1
Ramzi Haraty
lecturing at the
Université de
Bourgogne,
June 15

Dr. **Ramzi Haraty** organized and chaired a special track on “Database Theory, Technology and Applications” at the 19th Association of Computing Machinery-Symposium on Applied Computing (ACM-SAC), which was held in Cyprus (March 14-17). The tract drew 50 papers from 31 countries but only 16 were accepted for publication in the Proceedings. Dr. **Haraty** also presented two papers (published in the Proceedings) at the 6th International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems, held in Porto in April: “BVA+ - A Bit Vectors Algorithm for Accelerating Queries in Multilevel Secure Databases” and “A Comparative Study of ElGamal Based Cryptographic Algorithms.” On May 23-25, Dr. **Haraty** chaired the conference on Storage World Middle East 2004 in Dubai. Senior speakers from organizations in the region and

around the world provided the 150 participants with a complete picture of recent developments in the Middle East’s storage industry. On June 15, **Ramzi Haraty** was invited by the Université de Bourgogne to give a seminar on “Information Security;” he established joint research efforts and projects between LAU and the French university. In July, Dr. **Haraty** presented two papers (both published in the Proceedings) at the 13th International Conference on Intelligent and Adaptive Systems and Software Engineering in Nice: “ElGamal Public-key Cryptosystem Using Reducible Polynomials over a Finite Field” and “A Comparative Study of RSA Based Cryptographic Algorithms.” **Ramzi Haraty** was also the author of “Regression Test Selection for Database Applications” in the book Advanced Topics in Database

Research vol. 3 (Idea Group Publishing: 2004) and “Arabic Character Recognition” in the International Arab Journal of Information Technology 1 (2) 2004.

F.N. Abu-Khzam was first co-author of the study “Kernelization Algorithms for the Vertex Cover Problem: Theory and Experiments” that was presented at the ACM-SIAM Workshop on Algorithm Engineering and Experiments in New Orleans in January. The paper was published in the Proceedings.

Nashat Mansour presented a paper titled “Technical and Scientific Policies for Developing the Software Industry” at the conference of the Arab Information Club which was held in Beirut, May 19-20. Dr. **Mansour, Hiba Tabbara**, and **Tarek Dana** published “A



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Genetic Algorithm Approach for Regrouping Service Sites” in Computers & Operations Research 31 (2004): 1317-33. Dr. **Mansour** also co-authored with Miran Salame the paper “Data Generation for Path Testing” in Software Quality Journal 12 (2004): 121-36. And with **Ramzi Haraty** (first co-author) and Bassel Daou, Dr. **Mansour** was second co-author of a chapter titled “Regression Testing of Database Applications” in Readings on Database Management (Philadelphia: Idea Group Publishing: 2004). Finally, **Nashat Mansour**, Dania Baasiri and Shirine Dandashly presented a paper “A Heuristic Algorithm for Assigning Papers to Reviewers” at the 17th European Conference on Combinatorial Optimization which took place in Beirut, June 24-26 (published in the Proceedings).

May Hamdan published the paper “Combinatorial Approach for a Scheduling Problem” (co-authored with **Abdel Nasser Kassar**) in Mathematical Research Journal 8 (2) 2004: 47-54.

Nashat Mansour served as a member of the Steering Committee of the Software Process Improvement Network (Lebanon), which was established in the Spring of 2004. In the first half of the year, he also served as international reviewer of applied computing and information technology conferences in Lisbon, Cairo, Cyprus, Tunisia, Jordan and Qatar.

Iman Osta presented a paper “Etude de la cohérence d’un curriculum de mathématiques: le cas du Liban” at the 2003 Espace Mathématiques Francophone (EMF) conference, in Tunis. The

paper was published in the Proceedings (2004). Dr. **Osta** also served as chair of the panel on “Research and Development in the Teaching and Learning of Geometry” in the 10th International Commission for Mathematical Education (ICME), which was held July 4-11 at the Technical University of Denmark-Lyngby (<http://www.icme-organisers.dk/tsg10/>)

Haidar Harmanani presented two papers (published in the Proceedings) at the IEEE North East Workshop on Circuits and Systems which was held June 20-24 in Montréal: “Distributed Control in Testable High-Level Synthesis with Low Area and Power Overhead” (with Wissam Marrouche), and “An Incremental Approach for Test Scheduling and Synthesis using Genetic Algorithms” (with **Aouni Hajjar**).

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Science
Building, Byblos

3
Sage Hall,
Beirut



Natural Science

- 1
Turbine blades

- 2
The international participants at the Tehran conference, February 15-20

- 3
Ahmad Houri among the international participants at the Tehran conference

- 4
At the wind factory

- 5
Samira Korfali at the river Arun, Sussex (April 7)

Ahmad Houri was awarded a grant to present a paper "Renewable Energy Resources in Lebanon: Practical Applications" at the 3rd International Conference of Fuel Conservation in Building and the International Symposium of South/South Networking and Cooperation in Renewable Energy, in Tehran (February 15-20). Dr. **Houri** was a co-founder of the South/South Network for Renewable Energy, which generally aims at assessing and promoting the use of renewable energy in developing countries, and which was established at the Tehran conference. In March, Dr. **Houri** participated in the Renewable Energy Forum organized by the Lebanese Solar Energy Society (Order of Engineers) in Beirut as well as in the Renewable Energy Forum organized by NDU and in the forum on Renewable Energy: The UK Experience at the Jefinor

Rotana Hotel, Beirut. He also participated in the Regional Collaboration on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Workshop, which took place at AUB in April; in the Anaerobic Waste Decomposition forum organized by MECTAT at Project Lebanon at BIEL, Beirut, in May; and in the Workshop on Energy Statistics in ESCWA Member Countries at UN House, Beirut, May 31-June 2.

Samira Korfali, a specialist in environmental geochemistry, travelled to Nanjing, China to lecture on "Metals in Soil, Sediment and Water of Karstic Basin: Floodplain as Storage System" at the Nanjing Institute of Soil Science (March 29). One week later, Dr. **Korfali** was in England speaking on "Variation of Metals in Bed Sediments of Qaraaoun Reservoir, Lebanon" at the 22nd European Conference SEGH 2004

which was held at Sussex University (April 4-7). In the context of this conference, Dr. **Korfali** participated in an international workshop involving a research visit to the Arun River catchment. The workshop demonstrated the potential impact of contamination on health and ecosystems by examining the findings of a recent study on organic micro-pollutants, especially antibiotics and estrogens due to human waste discharges. In addition, Dr. **Korfali**, who was recently appointed an international reviewer for international scientific, environmental journals, published with B.E. Davies the article "Speciation of metals in sediment and water in a river underlain by limestone: Role of carbonate species for purification capacity of rivers" in Advances in Environmental Research (18 2004): 599-612.



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School of Business

In March, **Josiane Sreih** presented a paper on “Family Business Cases” at the [Business Entrepreneurs Conference](#) held at the University of Missouri, which was organized by Franklin Publishing and the University of Missouri. Her paper will appear in the [Business Journal for Entrepreneurs](#). In May, Dr. **Sreih** read a paper on “Corporate Governance” at the EURAM Conference which was organized by the University of St. Andrews and the European Academy of Management (EURAM) in St. Andrews, Scotland; this paper, too, will be published in the electronic proceedings. On May 26-27, she participated in the [Middle Eastern Families in Business](#) conference at the Phoenicia Hotel, Beirut, with a paper on “Challenges Facing Family Businesses in the Middle East,” while on June 3, she read a

paper on “Corporate Governance in Family Owned Enterprises” at the conference on [Corporate Governance: A Focus on Lebanon](#). This conference was organized by the Centre for International Enterprise (CIPE). Dr. **Sreih** also published an article “Corporate Governance Comes of Age in Lebanon” in the British publication [Families in Business 2004](#) (April-May): 22-25, as well as her book [Family Business Cases](#), a collection of case-studies with an emphasis on inheritance, cultural and legal aspects affecting family firms.

Mona Khalaf is the coordinator of the World Bank’s Consultative Council on Gender, which held its annual meeting on April 1-2 in Washington, DC. On May 17, **Mrs. Khalaf** was invited by the Economics Department at AUB to lecture on

“The Economic Participation of Arab Women in the Context of Globalization.”

Michel Majdalani, Nouri Beyruti, and Abdulrazzak Charbaji co-authored the paper “An Exploratory Investigation of the Corporate Social Responsibility Effects on the Firm’s Financial Performance in Lebanon” in the [Corporate Social Responsibility Journal](#) (April 2004) Vol. 1.

On May 7, **Michel Majdalani** led senior Business students and MBA students from both Beirut and Byblos campuses on a fieldtrip to the headquarters of Bank Audi, Downtown Beirut. It is also noteworthy that Dr. **Majdalani** was invited by private Xavier University (established in 1831) in Cincinnati, Ohio, to teach its MBA’s during the Summer term.

6
Mona Khalaf with Christian J. Poortman, VP of the MENA Region at the World Bank, in Washington DC

7
Dr. Majdalani (lower row, left) with Business faculty and students at Bank Audi’s headquarters



1

School of Engineering & Architecture

On January 7-9, the [Travelling Studio Exhibition](#) (organized by **Antoine Lahoud** in Byblos) showed the work of the **Architecture and Interior Design** students who had participated in a cultural trip to Moscow and St. Petersburg in September 2003, on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of St. Petersburg.

Samer Saab published "A Stochastic Iterative Learning Control Algorithm with Application to an Induction Motor" in the [International Journal of Control](#) (77) 2004:144-63.

Raymond Ghajar participated in three local workshops in the first half of this year: "Management of Energy Demand in Residential Sectors" (organized by

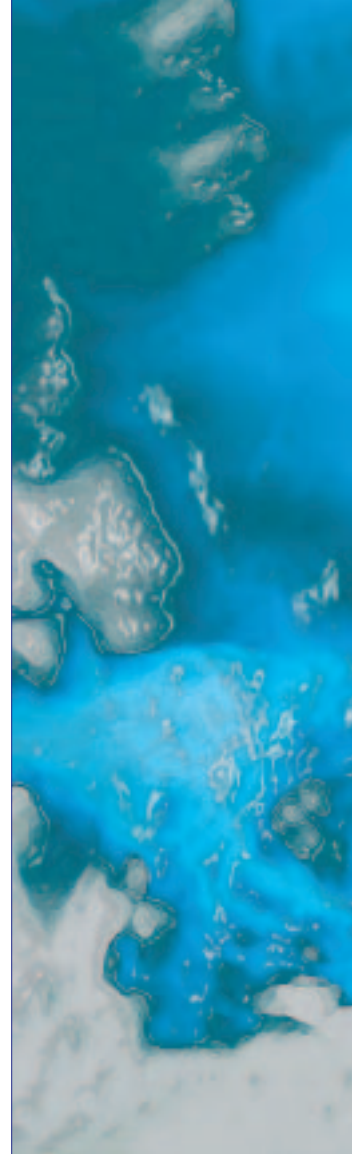
NDU and the Ministry of Energy and Water, March 15); "Regional Collaboration on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technologies" (organized by the Energy Research Group at AUB and the US State Department, April 26-30); and "Classification of Energy Reserves in the ESCWA and OPEC Countries" (organized by ESCWA in Beirut, May 31-June 2).

The **Department of Architecture and Design** organized an exhibition of photos by architect and former LAU faculty member Charles Meyer, titled [Lebanon 1996-2002](#). The exhibition took place in Sheikh Zayed Hall (Beirut), from May 13 to 20. A number of colleagues from LAU and other universities as well as current and former students attended the event.

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At the vernissage of Charles Meyer's exhibit, May 13



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School of Pharmacy

Jean Dib was elected President of the Middle East Chapter of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. He was also re-appointed as a member of the Ministry of Health's Technical Committee. Dr. Dib had 4 publications in the first half of this year: "Drug-related Osteoporosis" (in [Drug Topic](#) Jan 26: 7); with S. Dedeyan, "Purported Benefits of Inositol Niacinate" (in [AMJ Health-Syst Pharm](#) (61) 2004: 307; with S. Saade and F. Merhi, "Pharmacy Practice in Lebanon: An Overview" (in [AMJ Health-Syst Pharm](#) (61) 2004: 794-95; and, with K. Zarikian, "The Role of Activated Protein C in Sepsis (in [Hospital Pharmacy](#), June 2004). In May, Dr. **Dib** also presented a paper "Hypertension in Elderly" at the [2nd International Clinical Pharmacy](#)

[Conference](#) on the topic of "Optimizing Pharmaceutical Care," organized by the School of Pharmacy at LAU-Byblos.

Yolande Saab and J. Nassif published "Uncontrolled Hypertension: The Impact of Complex Drug-Regimens and Patient Non-Compliance" in the [Arab Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences](#) 2 (7) 2004: 81-93.

Mohamad Mroueh, Yolande Saab and Raed Rizkallah published "Hepatoprotective Activity of Centaurium Erythraea on Acetaminophen-Induced Hepatotoxicity in Rats" in the journal [Phytotherapy Research](#) 18 (200): 431-33.

²
LAU Pharmacy faculty and participants in the International Clinical Pharmacy Conference, Byblos, May 13-15

ACPE Accreditation of the Pharm.D. program was extended until June 2008, following a focus visit to campus in May 2004

1
At the **Women & War** exhibit, March 9. From left to right: Dean Samira Aghacy, VPAA Abdallah Sfeir, Mona Khalaf, Director of IWSAW, and Dean Tarek Na'was



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2
"Challenges for Women in a Changing World," March 23. From left to right: Sir Nicholas Shehadie, Mrs. Mona Khalaf, President Riyad Nassar, Dr. Marie Bashir, H.E. Stephanie Shwabsky, VPAA Abdallah Sfeir



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Flashes from Centres and Institutes

3
Dean of Arts & Sciences Samira Aghacy at the certificates ceremony for participants in the Teacher Training Institute Workshops

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the **Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World** (IWSAW) organized the exhibit "Women & War: Photos & Facts" in Irwin Hall (Beirut), March 9. Emphasis was placed on the three roles played by women during such times: active participants, passive bearers, and forceful agents for peace. A special issue of Al-Raida, the quarterly journal published by IWSAW, focused on the same subject. It was distributed along with a brochure on the role of women in the military in various Arab countries and with testimonies by Algerian, Iraqi, Lebanese and Palestinian women.

On March 23, the **Institute for Women in the Arab World** (IWSAW) in collaboration with the Australian Embassy in Beirut hosted H.E. Prof. Dr. Marie Bashir, Governor of New South Wales. Dr. Bashir gave a talk on "Challenges for Women in a Changing World." H.E. Stephanie Shwabsky, Ambassador of Australia to Lebanon, attended the talk, along with friends, Australian nationals, professors and students.

The **Teacher Training Institute** (Beirut) held its 11th Annual Workshops Series between February 19 and April 28. The Institute has a long tradition of service to the teaching force in

Lebanon by offering various workshops to train teachers of all subjects and grade levels. LAU professors share their exposure and expertise needed to improve student learning. For the 2004 edition, the Institute decided to mix old and new and come up with innovative topics that have so far not been dealt with in regular teacher training workshops. The emphasis was on introducing new ways, practical strategies, quick and easy techniques to improve and update the teaching/learning process for all grade levels. The hands-on/minds-on workshops were educational and fun because of the active participation of public and private school

4
Mona Nabhani, Director of the Teacher Training Institute



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teachers and coordinators of all grade levels. The following LAU teacher-trainers contributed to the success of the 2004 edition: **Pamela Pattie, Rima Bahous, Ahmad Oueini, Mona Majdalani, Hassan Hammoud, Ketty Sarouphim, Iman Osta, Hiam Zein, Huda Ayyash-Abdo, Ken Seigneurie, Samer Habre, May Abboud, Nuwar Diab, Mona Knio, Ahmad Kabbani, Basma Faour** and **Kristiaan Aercke**. They worked on such varied subjects as psychology, language acquisition, basic writing skills and teachers' feedback on student papers, visualising mathematical concepts, using sophisticated calculators, chemistry, the contexts and skills of children's play, Shakespeare, creative dramatics, romantic and modernist poetry, learning disorders, community and leadership skills, and activities for troubled students.

In May, the **Centre for Strategic**

Development (CSD; director Dr. Fuad Awad) organized three workshops in Irwin Hall (Beirut): "The New Millennium Manager," "Project Management," and "Effective Negotiation Skills." In June, **CSD** organized two more workshops in Beirut: "How to become an 'Assistant Buyer' and a 'Salesmaker'," and "Change Management, Mobilization and Persuasion."

The **Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)**, in consultation with Beirut-DC, held its 5th Annual Film Festival on June 28-30. The program included short films by students from various universities in Lebanon, documentaries from Iran and South Africa, and feature films from Egypt and Tunisia.

In the context of the **Software Institute**, 22 participants from software organizations attended a 2-day training course on "Unified model-

ling language for software analysis and design" in January. Three Microsoft's MCSE (Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer) courses were given in Beirut under the Microsoft's IT Academy program; there were about 50 participants, mostly LAU students. The **Software Institute**—a CISCO Academy Training Centre—also gave two CISCO certification courses in computer networks to LAU students and two courses to trainers from local and regional academies. The total number of participants exceeded 40. In addition, the CATC started executing its responsibility for quality-auditing academies in the Middle East and North Africa region. In July, the **Software Institute** gave a three-evening training course on "Programming SQL-Server 2000 Database," mostly to professionals from software organizations.

In view of the precarious living conditions of incarcerated women in Lebanon and their overwhelming

5
L-R: Tania Mehanna, Magda Abu-Fadil and Samia Nakhoul at a media panel during Women and Armed Conflicts Forum in Beirut

6
Magda Abu-Fadil speaking on media literacy at the Alexandria conference

7
Magda Abu-Fadil (centre) following online journalism workshop at Tunis University



Flashes from Centres and Institutes (Continued)

Above
Edmond Saab, executive editor of An-Nahar daily; Dr. Riyad Nassar, then president of LAU; H.E. Michel Samaha, Lebanese information minister; Kirsten Maas, Middle East director of the Heinrich Böll Foundation; and Magda Abu-Fadil, director of the Institute for Professional Journalists at LAU.

needs, the **Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)** has initiated rehabilitation and intensive vocational training programs in the Lebanese prisons for women. The 2002-2004 program is being implemented in the Tripoli women's prison, where 165 inmates are benefiting from the rehabilitation programs offered: vocational skills, literacy and basic living skills.

LAU's **Institute for Professional Journalists (IPJ)** hosted veteran Lebanese TV war correspondent Tania Mehanna who spoke with LAU journalism students in the fall of 2003). The event was organized jointly by IPJ and the Arts & Communication Division in Beirut (<http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/events/20031107/tm>). **Magda Abu-Fadil**, Director of **IPJ**, was invited to speak about Lebanon's broadcast media laws and underlined the need for professional ethics, ongoing training and the understanding of media convergence at the conference Towards Public Broadcasting in Morocco and the Region which was held in Rabat in December.

LAU's **IPJ** was tapped to help set up the Lebanon chapter of the "Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina" in an effort to expand this landmark that came back to life after centuries of obscurity. As a first step toward establishing the Lebanon chapter, **Magda Abu-Fadil** shipped books authored by LAU faculty members as well as various LAU publications. She visited the library in December 2003 and May 2004 (<http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/outreach/20031226/alexlib>).

In March 2004, **Magda Abu-Fadil** chaired a panel on media and culture at the Arab Women's Forum on Armed Conflicts at which LAU alumna Samia Nakhoul, Gulf Bureau Chief for Reuters, spoke. This event was hosted by Lebanese First Lady Andrée Lahoud and grouped the first ladies of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Sudan and Bahrain. **Abu-Fadil** also edited the forum's daily trilingual newsletter (<http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/outreach/20040308/forum>). In April she was invited to Tunisia (Tunis and Gabes, in the south-east) and in May to Morocco

(Casablanca, Rabat and Tangiers) to lecture, conduct workshops and participate in conferences on media ethics, online journalism, and the makeup of media empires. These events were covered extensively by Tunisian and Moroccan print, online and broadcast media (<http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/clippings>). Finally, **Magda Abu-Fadil** addressed a conference on Young People and the Media organized by the Swedish Institute in Alexandria (May 25-27). She tackled the importance of media literacy.

The **Institute for Professional Journalists** signed a contract with the German Heinrich Böll Foundation to organize a conference entitled Media Ethics & Journalism in the Arab World: Theory, Practice & Challenges Ahead, June 9-11, at the Beirut campus. The conference grouped international experts and media and was covered by the CNN World Report, the BBC and various local and regional news organizations (<http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/events/20040609/program.php>).

