



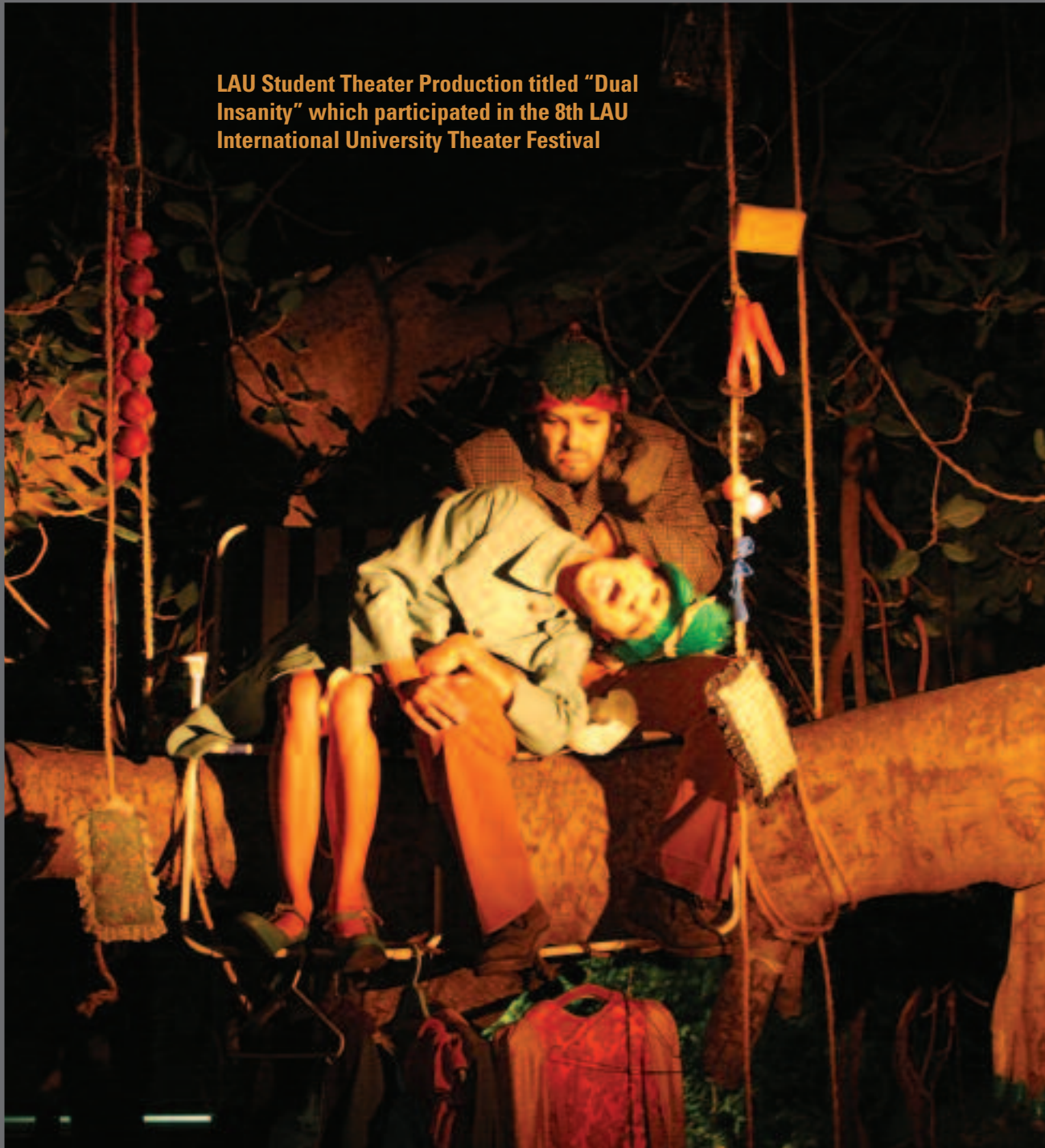
The Faculty Gazette

August - December 2005

Volume 8.2

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

LAU Student Theater Production titled "Dual Insanity" which participated in the 8th LAU International University Theater Festival



— FOOD FOR THOUGHT —

"Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first and the lesson afterwards." — Vernon Sanders Law

The Faculty Gazette

The Faculty Newsletter of the Lebanese American University

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Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Lectures & Exhibitions

A première! The American University of Beirut (AUB) sent three of its employees for training to LAU in summer 2005, more specifically to the successful “Summer Seminar” offered for the ninth year in a row by the **Institute for Banking & Finance** (Byblos). The following topics were covered: “Business Planning and Strategic Management,” “Managerial Decision- Making,” “How to Maintain an Effective Working Atmosphere” and “Business Valuation and Credit Analysis.” Vincent Petrini-Poli, a professor and international consultant based in Chicago, led the first three seminars, while Julian Roche from Redcliffe Training Associates Limited (London) conducted the fourth. A total of 88 participants from 15 different firms (mostly banks) attended all four seminars, and in addition to these bankers, four companies from the industry (Indevco, Veolia Water, Alfa and Apave) were represented. We had one participant from the Housing Bank for Trade & Finance in Amman.

Maurice Maalouf magisterially directed the “8th International University Theater Festival” which took place July 22-29 in Irwin and Gulbenkian theaters as well as outdoors in Beirut. It hosted 70 international participants from Holland, Poland, Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait and Tunisia as well as 75 participants from local universities including LAU (Beirut). In addition, 35 LAU students were involved as technical & relations crewmembers. Our own students participated with not less than seven productions.

The **School of Business** (Beirut) hosted Dr.

Carnegie Samuel Calian for a lecture in its brand-new facilities on October 17. Through its new “Research Seminar Series,” the **School of Business** (Beirut) allows its faculty to present work-in-progress to peers and students. This original initiative will certainly contribute toward creating a positive research atmosphere. **Anwar Bou Mosleh** had the grand honor of opening the Series on November 19 with a paper-in-progress: “Director Compensation and Board Effectiveness.” **Rima Turk Ariss** presented her paper “Competitive Behavior in MENA Banking: A Cross-Country Analysis” on December 20.

The Institute of Family and Entrepreneurial Business (IFEB) organized a free program (in Arabic) on “E-Learning for Entrepreneurs” in cooperation with J.P. Morgan (USA). The seminar took place on Byblos Campus, November 16-18.

For several decades now, Indian-born Gayatri Spivak has been a widely published and world-renowned scholar at the cross-roads of literary and cultural criticism, postcolonial studies, Marxism and feminism. She was the guest of the **Humanities Division** and the **M.A. Program in Comparative Literature** (Beirut). On November 17, Dr. Spivak lectured in Irwin Hall Auditorium (standing room only) on the subject of “Globalization and the Humanities.” Distinguishing between “good” and “bad” globalization, Dr. Spivak writes that “even good globalization requires uniformity and must therefore destroy linguistic and cultural specificity. This damages human

1
Participants in the 2005 IBAF Summer Seminars

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Scene from the Dutch production at the 8th International University Theater Festival



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1
A Jordanian production at the 8th International University Theater Festival

2-3
The Tunisian troupe in action



4 | 5



4-5
Anwar Bou Mosleh presenting at the Business Research Seminar Series



6
Professor Gayatri Spivak at the Humanities/Comparative Literature lecture



7
November 17: Irwin Auditorium filling up for Gayatri Spivak



8
November 18: A view of the Spivak Seminar



9



10



11

life and makes globalization unsustainable in terms of people.” She then asks: “How can the humanities and an extended notion of comparative literature be useful in persistently containing this trend?” On November 18, Dr. Spivak met with eager students and faculty in the Irwin Hall conference rooms for a 2-hour class session. All those present had read her most recent book *Death of a Discipline* (2003) and were prepared to discuss it with the author. Dr. Spivak is the Avalon Foundation Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, New York, where she also serves as Director of the Center for Comparative Literature and Society. Her distinguished visit to LAU was a landmark in the recent history of the **Humanities Division** and the **M.A. Program in Comparative Literature**.

In cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Goethe Institut, the **Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)** held a seminar on November 18 on “Democracy and Gender: The Role of Women in Politics, the Media and Education.” **Dima Dabbous-Sensenig**, Acting Director of **IWSAW**, introduced the prominent German speakers. Dr. Anke Martiny, former MP and Senator for Culture from Berlin, presented a paper on the role of women in politics. Next, Mrs. Gisela Brackert, journalist and former President of the Journalists’ Association, spoke about the role of women in the media. Finally, Dr. Hadumod Bussman, former responsible for

Women Affairs at the Ludwig Maximillians University in Munich, spoke about women in education.

Working toward capacity building in the sector of waste-water treatment management, the **Biology Department** (Byblos) implemented during July and November a second series of advanced local and regional training courses in the framework of the European Union-funded project “Efficient Management of Waste-water, its Treatment and Reuse.” The highly specialized courses prepared and supervised by **Sima Tokajian** attracted some 46 participants from Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Turkey. Specialists from Lebanon, Europe and the Middle East lectured on waste-water treatment and reuse, and its environmental impact in Lebanon.

The **Humanities Division** (Beirut) in collaboration with the **Teacher Training Institute** invited Dr. Agneta Svalberg to deliver a workshop on professional development, on November 13. The very relevant topic of the day was “Academic Cultural Perspectives on Textual Borrowing/Plagiarism.”

JAD at LAU. On November 24, the **Graphic Design Program** (Beirut), in collaboration with the Goethe Institut, organized a lecture entitled “The History of Comics in the Arabic Language” by award-winning comic-strip artist George Khoury (AKA JAD). Next, the **Graphic Design Program** organized a “Comic-

9
Dima Dabbous-Sensenig at the Democracy and Gender Seminar

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The panel at the Democracy and Gender Seminar

11
VPAA Dr. Sfeir addressing participants in the Waste-water Treatment training course



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1
At the JAD lecture: (L-R)
Mr. Rolf Stehle of the
Goethe Institut,
Yasmine Taan, JAD

2
At the JAD lecture



3
Graphic Design
students at the
Kufi workshop in
Beirut



4
Byblos Architecture and Design students in front
of the work of Spanish architect Calatrava...



5
...and before a characteristic Gaudi creation



6



7



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Strip Workshop” by George Khoury on the theme “The Animals’ Conference in Lebanon,” an adaptation of Erich Kaestner’s novel *The Animals’ Conference*. In Kaestner’s original novel, the animals of the world are tired of the never-ending wars of the humans; they convene a “World Conference” with the aim of securing a better future for children and young people. The point of the workshop was to adapt the novel to the current situation in Lebanon.

The **Graphic Design Program** (Beirut) offered two workshops by Nedim Kufi. “Sound before Image” engaged students in the motion design class, November 25-27. The students produced an animated typography using sound and image. The “Make a Book Workshop” was held for students of the Graphic Design III class, December 2-4. In this experimental workshop, each participant produced a personal art-book on recycled, hand-made paper. Innovative processes of book-binding were investigated, and the result was a limited edition.

The **Department of Architecture and Design** (Byblos) organized the “International Studio Exhibition 2005: Barcelona & Valencia” to display the projects of the International Studio students who visited Barcelona and Valencia in September under the supervision of **Tony Lahoud**. The trip offered students the opportunity to explore the characteristics of

the Spanish typology and to identify the work of such great architects as Gaudi, Calatrava and Raphael Moneo. **George E. Nasr**, Dean of the **School of Engineering and Architecture**, opened the exhibition on November 24 at the Rima Amal Hourani Exhibition Hall (Byblos) in the presence of high-ranking government dignitaries, a representative of the Spanish Embassy, students, faculty and many visitors. The exhibition was followed by a reception.

On December 21, the **Computer Science and Mathematics Division** (Beirut) invited Hassan M. Khachfe to Sage Hall to speak in the context of its “Bio-informatics Seminar.” The afternoon’s subject was “Structural Characterization by Homology Modeling (SCHM): An *in-silico* alternative to the bio-physical structure determination.” A seminar on “Intelligent Agent Technology” was led by Dr. Hadi Sabeh.

In the context of its “Invited Lecture Series,” the **Computer Science and Mathematics Division** (Byblos) offered a seminar on “Biomedical Circuits and Systems for Implantable Devices” by Dr. Mohamad Sawan on December 23. Dr. Sawad received his degrees from universities in Quebec (Laval, Sherbrooke, McGill), and he has been for more than a decade a professor in Microelectronics at the Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal.

6
LAU faculty and dignitaries at the opening of the International Studio Exhibition 2005, Byblos

7
View of the International Studio Exhibition 2005, Byblos

8
Hadi Sabeh at the CSM Seminar



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3

Arts & Communication

School of Arts & Sciences

1-2
Yasmine Taan presenting in Marrakesh

3
Yasmine Taan (R) at her BIEL book signing in November

The Dar Bellarj Cultural Institute in Marrakesh was crowded on November 12 with around 50 participants from Belgium, the U.K., Iran, France, Germany, Argentina, Switzerland, Morocco, Lebanon and the U.S. They had gathered to brainstorm the pedagogical direction of the program to be launched at the École Supérieure des Arts Visuels in Marrakesh. **Yasmine Taan** presented her paper “Lisibilité et visibilité d'une modernité arabe: Des Signes de modernité dans la création visuelle du monde arabe.” She presented the development of Arabic typography from its calligraphic roots, starting with Ibn Muqlah’s letter proportions, to low-resolution Arabic typefaces designed for the screen by Tarek Atrissi.

Probably few of us know that **Yasmine Taan** is an accomplished and prolific book illustrator, with around 20 books to her credit. At the French book fair “Lire en Français et en Musique”, that was held at BIEL in November, Ms **Taan** had signing sessions for her most recent productions: *La Princesse au Collier de Perles* and *Deux Plumes et un Voyage* (both written by Mary-Noëlle Japy Fahed). She had also a signing session at Librairie Al Bourj, Dar Annahar for *Princesse Angélique* and *Angélique et le Loup* (both written by Stéphanie Schneider). Samples of her work for these books were selected for exhibition at the International Bologna Book Fair in March, 2006.

Achtung! Twenty-five graphic design students, accompanied by **Sylvia Gabrielian** and **Nathalie Fallaha**, attended “Profile Intermedia 8” in Bremen, December 9-11. “Profile Intermedia” is **the** international conference on the crossover in design, art, architecture, film, video, photography, digital media, sonic art, revolution, visual effects, music, fashion, protest and performance. Speakers included worldwide branding specialists Wally Ollins, Mirko Ilic, Mervyn Kurlansky and Tanja Diezmann. Hamish Muir and Simon Johnston, the original founders of 8vo spoke about their work and their new book *8vo. On the Outside*. Our students attended the morning workshops; they keep very good impressions of their interaction with international design students and workshop leaders—especially when recalling how ‘hard’ they pushed to promote Lebanese graphic design in general and LAU in particular.

Bassam Lahoud participated in a conference on “The Actual Situation of Art & Culture in Lebanon,” which was held in Erfurt, Germany in late June. He also had there a personal photo exhibit, “A Trip to Lebanon,” as well as a student photo exhibit “Student Trip Thru Photography.” Mr. Lahoud met with the dignitaries of Erfurt University and was invited to attend the annual dinner on campus.

Bassam Lahoud traveled to Italy in August to partici-



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6-7
Graphic Design
students at the
Bremen workshop

7



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4
Bassam Lahoud (C)
at the Erfurt Exhibit
opening

5
Bassam Lahoud (L) at
the end of year dinner
at Erfurt University



1
Dima Dabbous-Sensenig
(top R) at the UN-DAW



2
Dima Dabbous-Sensenig
(2nd L) in Sharjah

participate in the University of Camerino's "14th International Seminar of Architecture and Urban Culture" (in Italian). Mr. **Lahoud** is no foreigner to Camerino, since he has already participated several times in this Seminario Internazionale. This year's topic was broad: "Art and Architecture." Mr. **Lahoud's** contribution focused on the connections between the body and architecture through photography. It also merits mention that our colleague was reappointed for the 3rd straight year as Chair of the ESCWA Arts Council!

Dima Dabbous-Sensenig presented a paper entitled "Building Diversity and Restructuring Cultural Exchange in the Arab World" at the "3rd Pan-American Congress of Communication" on the theme of "Commercial Integration or Cultural Dialogue in the Context of the Information Society." The conference was organized by the School of Communication Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires in July.

Dr. **Dabbous-Sensenig** began this academic year with the annual conference of the **Beirut Institute for Media Arts (BIMA)** which was on the topic of "Religion, Media and the Middle East" and which took place on the LAU Beirut Campus, October 2-5. Her paper was on "The *hijab* controversy on Al-Jazeera." Dr. **Dabbous-Sensenig** then traveled to New York to present her paper "Incorporating an Arab-Muslim Perspective in the Reassessment of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action" at an expert consultation organized by the UN Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), October 31-November 3. The consultation theme was "Priorities in follow-up to the ten-year review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action." And November 26-28, Dr. **Dabbous-Sensenig** was in Sharjah at a conference organized by the International Music and Media Center (IMZ-Austria). ARTE and BBC executives participated in the conference which aimed to discuss and

promote a regulatory and economic framework for the production and dissemination by satellite of artistic and alternative audio-visual and music products in the Arab world. She presented a paper entitled "Artistic Broadcasting in a Hostile Environment? The Laws of Supply and Demand in the Arab World."

Dr. **Dabbous-Sensenig** was invited by the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Notre Dame University (Louaize) to be the first guest lecturer in the "5th Millennial Lecture Series 2005-2006: Veils of Eve." She read a paper titled "Al-Shari'a Wal Hayat: Gender Discourse in Al-Jazeera's Religious Talk Shows" in which she analyzed the spectrum of views on women and Islam. She argued that, despite claims to the contrary, the Al-Jazeera religious talk show through its main guest Sheikh Qaradawi privileges a position that is at times very close to a conservative approach to women and Islam.

Mona Knio was academic supervisor of six student productions last Fall: "The Chairs" written by Issam Mahfouz (in Arabic), "Medeaspiel" by Heiner Müller, "Act Without Words" by Samuel Beckett (p.11), "The Human Voice" by Jean Cocteau (in Arabic) (p.12), "Miss Julie" by August Strindberg and "Play" by Samuel Beckett.

On December 21, Selina Korban Theater (Byblos) witnessed another success of **Joseph Khalife's LAU Choir (Byblos)**: the annual Christmas Concert.

And everybody watching Future TV at around 8:30 pm on Saturday December 24 must have seen **Leila Dabaghi's LAU Choir (Beirut)** perform its annual magic. A crew from Future had filmed the final performance of the Choir's 2005 Christmas Concert in Irwin Hall, and parts of it were broadcast in a special program following the evening news (p.13).



Huda Ayyash-Abdo was invited to speak at the “National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC International) and the Association of Counselor Education for Supervision (ACES) Conference” in Pittsburgh, October 19. The conference was part of the “International Fellows Program of ACES 2005.” Dr. **Ayyash-Abdo** presented on the “Status of Counseling in Lebanon” (p.12).

In August, only a few days before Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, **Ketty Sarouphim** presented in that ill-starred city her paper “A Performance-based Assessment of Giftedness: Research on Validity” at the “16th Biennial Conference of the World Council of Gifted and Talented Children.”

In September, Dr. **Sarouphim** gave a workshop to the teachers of “Dr. Mohamad Khaled Social Foundation” (Beirut) on the subject of “Caring for Disadvantaged Children.” In November, she read a paper entitled “Teaching Gifted Students: A Challenge or a Gift?” at a plenary session of the “9th Science and Math Conference” held at AUB (p.13). Dr. **Sarouphim** also published an article, “DISCOVER Across the Continuum of Grades: Identifying Gifted Minority Students,” in the journal *Gifted and Talented International* 21 (2) 2005, 123-134.

Irma-Kaarina Ghosn published a review of Goldstein & Selby (Eds.), *Weaving Connections: Educating for Peace, Social and Environmental Justice* in *Journal of Peace Education* 2(2) 2005, 222-223.

LAU President Dr. **Joseph Jabbra**, delivered a lecture on December 16 in the Selina Korban Auditorium (Byblos), on “From a Diverse to a Uniform Global Village: The Benefits and Drawbacks of Globalization.”

The **Department of Political Science and International Affairs (Beirut)** held an end-of-the-year reception for full-time and part-time faculty, staff and graduate students in Irwin Hall Faculty Lounge (December 9). **Paul Tabar**, Chair of the Department, delivered a witty speech with kind and thoughtful words for each and every person present. It was a nice occasion to introduce and welcome our new colleague **Jennifer Skulte-Oueiss**.

In December, **Fawwaz Traboulsi** published *Fayrouz wa-l-Rahabina- Masrah al-Gharib wa-l-Kanz wa-l-U`juba*, a 243 pp. critical essay on the musical theater of the Rahbanis and Fayrouz. He also translated texts by Edward Said: *Humanism and Democratic Criticism* (Beirut: Dar al-Adaab, 2005), and by Alessandro Barrico: *Silk* (Damascus: Dar al-Mada, 2005). In addition, Dr. Traboulsi published the article “Public Spheres and Urban Space: A Critical Comparative Approach” in the journal *New Political Science* 27 (4) 2005, 529-41. And he did editorial work for *New Political Science* as well as for *Al-Raida*, the **IWSAW** magazine.

Fawwaz Traboulsi did not only write and publish a lot last Fall, but he also spoke a lot in public, with television appearances on ‘Kalam Mayzun’ (Tanius Du`aybis), *ABN* (October 8); a documentary film on Michel Chiha (director: George Ghanim), *LBC* (November 21); a documentary film on Euro-Med (Ziad Antar and Mahmoud Hujayj), *AL-Arabiya* (November); and the ‘Maza Ba`d’? talk show (Amr Nassif), *Al-Manar* (December 28).

In the previous issue of the *Faculty Gazette* 8.1, p. 10, we reported on the publication of *Bin Laden in the Suburbs: Criminalizing the Arab Author*, co-authored by **Paul Tabar** (2005). The book has already become a success and it has been favorably reviewed.

Education & Social Science

3-4
“Act Without words”
supervised by Mona Knio

1-2-3
Scenes from the production "The Human Voice" supervised by Mona Knio



4
Huda Ayyash-Abdo with Gerald Corey, renowned author of textbooks on counseling



5
A surprise reunion with three GWU classmates and a former professor



According to one reviewer, "*Bin Laden in the Suburbs* argues that the social imaging of the criminal in contemporary Australia increasingly involves the evocation of the 'Arab-other' as a primary folk devil of our times: a figure which brings together Arabs, Muslims and Australians of Middle Eastern ancestry and is grounded in manifestations of crime and violence." The racially motivated riots in Cronulla (Sydney) last December prove the urgency and the relevance of this study. The publisher wants an updated edition with additional chapters on the Cronulla Riots.

Sami Baroudi gave a presentation on the timely subject of "US-Lebanese Relations in the Twenty-First Century: A View from Beirut." He spoke in the context of the "America in the Middle East/The Middle East in America Conference" organized by the Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR) at AUB (December 18-21). This major international conference featured papers by more than 60 scholars from 15 countries. A modified and updated version of the paper will be forthcoming in the journal *The Arab World Geographer*.



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DIMENSIONI DEL VIAGGIO DIMENSIONS DU VOYAGE

14

THE STORY OF SIR KONRAD GRÜNEMBERG'S PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND IN 1486



Centro Internazionale di Ricerche sul "Viaggio in Italia"

8

6
Ketty Sarouphim at
"Teaching Gifted
Students" at AUB

7
Junior and senior mem-
bers of the Beirut
Christmas Choir giving it
all they can – to great
applause

Humanities

Leila Harmoush analyzed part of the history of LAU at the "Renaissance, Representation and Identity Conference" which was organized at Durham University in September. Her paper was entitled "A Turning Point in Female Education in Lebanon: Beirut University College."

Victor Khachan traveled twice to Australia to read papers at different conferences. With "Collective Vocal Behavior at the Crossroads between Lebanese Village Identity and its 'Imagined' Counterpart" he participated in the "30th Annual Congress of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia (ALAA)" at the University of Melbourne in September. And in December, he presented a paper at Macquarie University, Sidney, in the "15th Australian Language and Speech Conference (ALAS)" entitled "Mapping Collective Auditory Perception in Connected Speech."

Kristiaan Aercke published in Turin an annotated, critical translation of a late-medieval pilgrim's diary. *The*

Story of Sir Konrad Grünemberg's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1486 gives an account of the hardships and the blessings that befell this German knight and his comrades during their 31 week voyage. Besides being an account of the gruesome travel conditions and the route along the southeastern Mediterranean coastline, most of the text describes the pilgrims' nine-week stay in Jerusalem and their visits to the surrounding Holy Places. The introduction places the narrative in the contexts of past and present orientalisms, and it is relevant in the post 9/11 context.

In December, **Ken Seigneurie** traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, where he presented a paper entitled "The Lebanese War Novel and Humanist Renewal." With **Hala Daouk**, a Comparative Literature graduate student, Dr. **Seigneurie** co-presented "Fajanaakun! Moo?" (We Surprised You! Didn't We?). This presentation featured photos, video and songs of the Spring 2005 Independence movement.

8
Kristiaan Aercke's
translation of
Grünemberg's diary



Computer Science & Mathematics

¹ Haidar Harmanani (R) at work with Umberto Paolucci, Microsoft Senior Chairman and VP for Corporate and Government Strategy

Joseph T. Khalife presented a paper entitled "A Simple Computer Model based on Visualization, Analogy and Collaboration" at the "IASTED International Conference on Education and Technology (ICET 2005)" which was held in July in Calgary. The paper was published in the *Proceedings*. In August, Mr. **Khalife** was in Nicosia, where he presented a paper (first co-author) entitled "Understanding Novice Programmers' Difficulties as a Requirement to Specifying Effective Learning Environments" at the "11th Biennial Conference of the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction."

Haidar Harmanani attended the Microsoft "Higher Education Summit" in London. Between November 27 and 30, specialists from across Europe, the Middle East and Africa gathered in London to identify challenges facing higher education and to develop strategies to best meet these challenges.

Ramzi Haraty published the chapter "Security Issues in Distributed Transaction Processing Systems" in the *Encyclopedia of Information Science and Technology* (Idea Group Publishing, 2005). Dr. **Haraty** further published two articles: "RSA-Based Cryptographic Algorithms" in the *International Journal of Informatics* (November 2005), and "T-Stem - A Superior Stemmer

and Temporal Extractor for Arabic Texts" in the *Journal of Digital Information Management* 3 (3) September 2005.

In November, **Ramzi Haraty** participated in the ISCA "18th International Conference on Computer Applications in Industry and Engineering (CAINE-2005)" in Hawaii, with two papers: "Lebanese Colloquial Arabic Speech Recognition," and "Modified RSA in the Domains of Gaussian Integers and Polynomials over Finite Fields." Both papers appeared in the *Proceedings*.

May Hamdan's paper "Nonlinear Learning of Linear Algebra: Active Learning through Journal Writing" was published in the *International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology* 36 (16) 2005, 607-15.

May Abboud and **Samer Habre** were co-authors of the paper "Students' Conceptual Understanding of a Function and its Derivative in an Experimental Calculus Course," which was published in the *Journal of Mathematical Behavior* 25 (1) 2006.

Samer Habre spent a sabbatical semester at California Polytechnic State University doing research



on classification of iterative systems.

Nashat Mansour, with R. Sibli and A. Tarhini, published “WSDL Mutation for Testing Web Services” in the *International Journal of Computers and Their Applications* 12 (4) 2005, 210-16. Dr. **Mansour** also published, with M. Awad and K. El-Fakih, the article “Incremental Genetic Algorithm” in the *International Arab Journal of Information Technology* 3 (1) 2005, 42-47. In November, Dr. **Mansour** gave a presentation on “Human Capacity Development for Information and Communication Technology” at the “Launching the National E-strategy for Lebanon Workshop,” which was organized by UNDP and the Ministry for Administrative Reform.

Nashat Mansour joined the World Scientific and Engineering Academy and the Society Working Group on Computers. He also served on the scientific committees of the “International Conference on Machine Intelligence” in Tunisia (November) and the “IEEE International Conference on Signal-Image Technology and Internet-Based Systems (SITIS-05)” in Yaoundé, Cameroon (November 27-December 1).

Faisal Abu-Khzam participated in the “International Computing and Combinatorics Conference” which

was held in Kunming (China) in August, with the paper “A New Approach and Faster Exact Methods for the Maximum Common Sub-graph Problem” (in the *Proceedings*, 717-727). His co-authors were M.A. Langston, N.F. Samatova, W. Henry Suters, C.T. Symons and Y. Zhang. The paper was presented by M.A. Langston. In November, Dr. **Abu-Khzam** was co-author of the paper “Genome-Scale Computational Approaches to Memory-Intensive Applications in Systems Biology” presented at the “Super-Computing 2005 Conference” in Seattle (in the *Proceedings*, 12). Co-authors were N.E. Baldwin, E.J. Chesler, M.A. Langston, N.F. Samatova and Y. Zhang; the latter presented the paper. Dr. **Abu-Khzam** was also awarded a \$48,000 grant by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Tennessee to conduct research on “Graph-Theoretical Methods for the Analysis of Biological Data.”

Chadi Nour joined the LAU Byblos campus in October as an Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Dr. **Nour** received a B.S. in Mathematics from the Lebanese University and a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the Université de Lyon. In 2004, he was an invited Research Professor at Concordia University and a CRM postdoctoral fellow at the Université de Montréal.

² Ramzi Haraty (R) in Hawaii



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2



3

Natural Science

1
Ahmad Hourì (2nd L)
with conference digni-
taries in Tehran

2
Ahmad Hourì (3rd L)
with the Kuwait
Conference organizers

3
Ahmad (R) (relaxed) with
the Chair of the IWRA
Conference in New Delhi

Ahmad Hourì recently published several articles: "Residential Energy Consumption Patterns: The Case of Lebanon" (with **Samira Korfali**) in *International Journal of Energy Research* 29 (2005), 755-766; "Addictive Behaviors Amongst University Students: Contributing Factors, Student's Perception and Addiction Rates" (with Mirvat Hammoud) in *Journal of Social Sciences* 1 (2) 2005, 105-113; "Renewable Energy Resources in Lebanon: Practical Applications" in *ISESCO Science and Technology Vision* 1 (2005), 65-68, and "Wind Energy: Will It Run The World?" in *Environment and Development* 10 (86) 2005, 52-54. Dr. **Hourì** also participated in the final workshop on "National Forest and Tree Resources Assessment in Lebanon" (FAO/TCP/LEB/2903), which took place September 13-14 in the Crown Plaza Hotel in Beirut.

Dr. **Hourì** participated in several international conferences. As an invited speaker, he presented the paper "Solar Thermal Applications for Water Heating in Lebanon" at the "4th International Conference on Fuel Conservation in Buildings" and the "International Symposium on South/South Networking and Cooperation in Renewable Energy" in Tehran, March

10-15. In September, his paper (with co-authors Saadieh el-Jeblawi, Mirvat Hammoud and Hussein Abbas) "Effect of Current Culture of Water Use on Coastal River Water Quality in Lebanon" was presented by Hussein Abbas, a senior student in biology, at the "International Conference on Water Culture and Water Environment Protection" held in Kunming City (China), September 6 - 8 (*Proceedings*, 78-82). In November, Dr. **Hourì** traveled to Kuwait to present "Evaluation of Residential Energy Consumption: A First Step to Energy Conservation Planning" at the "3rd International Conference on Energy Research and Development (ICERD-3)" (*Proceedings I*: 93-102). Also in November, he presented two papers at the "12th World Water Congress of the International Water Resources Association" in New Delhi: "Water Use in Water Poor Countries: Energy, Agriculture or Domestic. The Case of Lebanon" (*Proceedings II*: 107-112) and "Role of Rainwater Catchment and Waste-water Management in Offsetting Water Needs: a Case Study" (with Saadieh El Jeblawi; *Proceedings V*: 9-13).

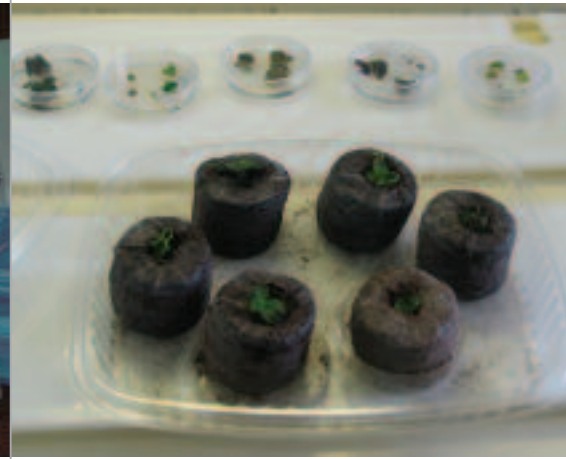
Samira Korfali, with her loyal co-author B.E. Davies,



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published the article “Seasonal variation of trace metal chemical forms in bed sediments of a karstic river in Lebanon: implications for self-purification” in the journal *Environmental Geochemistry and Health* 27 (2005), 385-95. Moreover, Dr. **Korfali** was again selected as international reviewer for a manuscript by the *International Journal of Environmental Management*.

Ahmad Kabbani published the paper “Synthesis of Some Metal Complexes of N-[(benzoylamino)-thioxomethyl]-aminoacid (HL)” in the *Journal of the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy* 40 (4) 2005, 339-344. His research “The X-ray of Cu (adene)(acetyl acetone)2.ethanol” was deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center, CCDC 281077. Furthermore, Dr. **Kabbani**’s paper “Schroedinger Fluid and the Quadruple Moments of Axially Deformed Nuclei in the p-Shell” was accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Applied Mathematics*.

The **Biology Department** (Byblos) received final approval of an ASHA grant worth \$540,000 to estab-

lish a Genomics/Proteomics Center for teaching, research and community service—the first such facility in Lebanon.

The Plant Physiology Group of the **Natural Science Department** (Byblos) successfully implemented the use of plant tissue culture for the mass production of African Violets by using the plant’s leaf as a starting material. Plant tissue culture is a biotechnological process that has developed into a flourishing business in several countries, including Japan and the U.S. This technology helps provide the market with several plant species through procuring a uniform plant tissue.

Sima Tokajian and **Fuad Hashwa** recently published in the *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* 51 (4) 2005, 325-336 their article “Phylogenetic assessment of heterotrophic bacteria from a water distribution system using 16S rDNA sequencing.” In cooperation with Dr. Pierre Zalloua (AUB) and Dr. Ian Hancock (University of Newcastle upon Tyne), they achieved for the first time the successful phylogenetic analysis of heterotrophic bacteria from drinking water samples in Lebanon using the 16S rDNA sequencing technology.

4-5
Ahmad in India speaking on water resources and their best use

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LAU Labs are growing the African Violets that the whole world loves



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School of Business

1
Dr. Silva Karkoulian (C) with two professors from the conference in Athens

Silva Karkoulian presented her paper “How to Enhance Professional Development” at the “International Conference on Business, Economics, Management and Marketing” that was held in June in Athens. Whereas this news should have appeared in the previous issue of the *Gazette*, Dr. **Karkoulian** received only in November the good news that her paper will be published. Dr. **Karkoulian** also learned that her paper “Investigating the Importance of Mentoring in Three Lebanese Higher Education Institutions” has been accepted for publication in the next issue of the *Arab Journal of Administrative Sciences*.

Rock-Antoine Mehanna, a member of the Faculty of **Management**, was an invited guest-speaker at the “International Conference on Doing Business in Islamic Asia,” which was held in Kuala Lumpur in June. The conference was organized by the Universiti Kebangsaan (National University of Malaysia) and the University of Hawaii-Manoa, in conjunction with the meetings of the Organization of Islamic Countries and of the Islamic Development Bank. Dr. **Mehanna** presented a paper entitled “Regional Business Patterns in Islamic Countries.”

Rock-Antoine Mehanna also published several articles in the period covered by this issue of the *Gazette*: “A Gulf Monetary Union: How Close Are We Really?” in the *Journal of Transnational Management Development* 9 (4) 73-91, and “Are Open-Developing Economies Less Corrupt and/or Politically Freer?” in *Thoughts on Economics* 15 (1-2) 7-20. Also, Dr. **Mehanna** published

his paper “Examining Wagner’s Law: A Co-integration Analysis,” in the refereed proceedings *Global Business & Economics Anthology* (December 2005, 33-41). In addition, Dr. **Mehanna** received several significant honors. His paper “Open First, Then Invest” received the “Best Paper Award” at the “European Applied Business Research Conference” in Santorini, Greece. No doubt because of all of the previous, he was invited to serve on the editorial boards of the *Global Journal of Finance & Economics* and of *The International Business and Entrepreneurship Development Journal*. Congratulations, Dr. **Mehanna**.

In August, **Rima Turk Ariss** was appointed to the “National Council for the Protection of Consumers”, a recently formed body within the Ministry of Economy and Trade according to the Consumer Protection law that was promulgated in May 2005. The Council comprises, among others, nine Directors-General of different ministries, and representatives from the economic and social community. Dr. **Turk Ariss** also presented a paper entitled “Trade-Off between Stability and Efficiency in Banking—A Myth” at the “18th Australasian Finance and Banking Conference” which was held at the Shangri-La Hotel in Sydney (December 14-16). The conference was organized by the School of Banking & Finance at the University of New South Wales and hosted five keynote speakers: Mark Flannery (University of Florida), Martin Gruber (Stern Business School, New York University), Anne O. Krueger (International Monetary Fund), Andrei Shleifer (Harvard University) and Suresh M. Sundaesan (Columbia University).



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School of Engineering & Architecture

Elie Haddad has developed a fascinating web-project on Beirut for the Architecture League of New York's Worldview Series. This case study of Beirut is part of the Worldview Series titled "Perspectives on Architecture and Urbanism from Around the Globe," a web-based project that looks at various cities. The inaugural report on Caracas in 2002 was followed by reports on Dhaka, Oslo, Tijuana and now: Beirut! Dr. **Haddad's** report was commissioned by the Architecture League. Among its features of interest are essays, an illustrated Timeline on the city, and a review of young contemporary architects in Beirut. Please view it at <http://www.worldviewcities.org/beirut/main.html>.

Elie Haddad's article "In Nietzsche's Shadow: Henry van de Velde and the New Style in Architecture" appeared in *Architecture Theory Review* 10 (2) 89-99, a publication of the University of Sidney.

Samer Saab continues to serve as associate editor of *IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology* while also being a member of the *IEEE Control Systems Society* Editorial Board. In the November issue of *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control* 50 (11) 2005, 1761-74, Dr. **Saab** published "Selection of the Learning Gain Matrix of an Iterative Learning Control Algorithm in Presence of Measurement Noise." In the December issue of the same journal (50 [12] 2005, 2039-43), he published the article "Optimal Selection of the Forgetting Matrix into an

Iterative Learning Control Algorithm."

Dr. **Saab** participated in the "44th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control—European Control Conference ECC 2005" which was held in Seville, December 12-15. His paper, "On Higher-Order Iterative Learning Control Algorithm in Presence of Measurement Noise" was published in the *Proceedings*.

Camille Issa, with former LAU students Rita Awwad and Anthony Sfeir, co-authored the paper "Numerical Modeling of Plain Concrete Beams Strengthened with Externally Bonded CFRP" at the "2005 ASCE International Conference on Computing in Civil Engineering" which was held in Cancún (July 11-15; in the *Proceedings*). Dr. **Issa** is also the author of "An Experimental Overview of CFRP Structural Strengthening Techniques" which was delivered at the "International Conference on Advanced Materials for Construction of Bridges, Buildings and Other Structures – IV" which took place in Maui, Hawaii (August 14-19; in the *Proceedings*).

Pierrette Zouein, with Tannous Franjeh, presented a paper entitled "Design Constructability and Space Management" at the "10th International Conference on Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering Computing (CC2005)" which took place in Rome in September (Paper #82, Civil-Comp Press., in the *Proceedings*).

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What web-users throughout the world see when they open Elie Haddad's web-project on Beirut



1
Shereen Nabhani and Marwan Taha with LAU pharmacy students in Las Vegas

School of Pharmacy

Soumana Nasser's work "The Lebanon-WMH Study: Highlights on Mental Health Disorders in Lebanon" was presented as an abstract in the "World Psychiatric Association Conference" that took place in Cairo in September.

Marwan Taha was second co-author of the paper "Safety and Effectiveness of 100 mg/kg/day Deferiprone in Patients with Thalassemia Major: A Two-year Study" published in *Acta Haematol.* 114 (3) 2005, 146-9. He was fifth co-author of the paper "Efficacy and Tolerability of Peginterferon alpha-2a with or without Ribavirin in Thalassaemia Major Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection" in *British Journal of Haematol.* 130 (4) 2005, 644-6.

In November, the Lebanese Order of Pharmacists organized a workshop for hospital pharmacists in the Habtoor Hotel-Sin El-Fil on the occasion of Oncology Day. **Oussayma Moukhachen** lectured on "Supportive Care: An Infectious Disease Perspective," while **Shereen Nabhani** trained attending pharmacists on "Pain Management."

This workshop preceded the "13th Annual Congress of the Order of Lebanese Pharmacists" which was held at the same location on the theme of "Pharmacy: A Core Profession within the Health Care System." **Oussayma Moukhachen** presented his paper "New Drugs on the

Lebanese Market." **Shereen Nabhani** discussed her study of the perception of pharmacists by Lebanese patients. She also gave a lecture on the "Role of the Pharmacist in the Care of the Oncology Patient."

Also in November, **Oussayma Moukhachen** presented his paper "Evidence for 5 top-selling medications" at the "Bridging Body and Mind Conference" organized by the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine in AUB's West Hall.

Sara Dadayan was hosted by Kevin Ford in a talk on smoking cessation which was aired on Radio One in December.

The **School of Pharmacy** was heavily represented in the annual ASHP midyear meeting that took place in Las Vegas (December). **Marwan Taha** and **Shereen Nabhani** accompanied more than ten students to the conference. The students presented posters of their various research projects and they also interviewed for jobs and residencies. Wissam Kabbara and Elias Hajj Chahine represented LAU in the annual Clinical Skills Competition where they competed against 82 U.S. schools of pharmacy. They were coached by **Shereen Nabhani** who also presented a poster on NAPHASS (No Apathy-Health Awareness Student Society) describing the various activities that took place on Byblos campus during Pharmacy Week in October.



Towards a Culture of Peace
through Teacher Education



Handbook for Workshop Facilitators
Teacher Education for Peace in Middle Eastern Countries
Part I



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Flashes from Centers and Institutes

Dima Dabbous-Sensenig, BUC alumna and Acting Director of the **Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)**, read a paper entitled "The Role of Higher Education in the Empowerment of Women in Politics in the Arab World" at a forum organized by the Dubai LAU Alumni chapter on "The Role of Higher Education in the Empowerment and Achievements of Arab Women." **President Dr. J. Jabbara** and **VPAA Dr. A. Sfeir** attended the event. Several BCW and BUC (now LAU) alumnae from different nationalities spoke on the role of higher education in shaping their successful careers after graduation. The forum took place on December 3 and on December 22.

Irma-Kaarina Ghosn, Director of the **Institute for Peace and Justice Education**, was one of 30 international educators, historians and researchers invited and sponsored by the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs and USIP to participate in the international, interdisciplinary conference "Revising History Education after Conflict." The conference was held in Virginia, November 18-20.

In December, **Irma-Kaarina Ghosn** was invited to Istanbul by Women's Initiative for Peace to consult on establishing a university-based Peace Education Center in Turkey, modeled after the centers at Teachers College, LAU and three other universities around the

world. **Dr. Ghosn** shared her experiences with peace education and the work of the **Institute for Peace and Justice Education**. She also presented the **IPJE's** latest project, the workshop manual *Towards a Culture of Peace through Teacher Education*. The 128 page-manual was developed by **Dr. Ghosn** with a grant from the USIP (see *Faculty Gazette* 8.1 p. 24) and is subtitled "Teacher Education for Peace in Middle Eastern Countries." It presents a wealth of classroom activities to promote peace education as well as numerous references and web resources. Several schools in Lebanon are already using the manual, as do some training projects in Iraq. Requests for copies have come from the U.S., Italy, Nigeria and other countries.

Fourteen reporters and editors from Lebanese media discussed sources, corruption and journalists' responsibilities during a week-long workshop in investigative journalism at LAU funded by AMIDEAST and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The event was tailored to the training needs of selected print and broadcast journalists. It was organized by the **Institute for Professional Journalists (IPJ)** at the Beirut campus, August 1-5. The sessions included investigative journalists' responsibilities, legal and ethical parameters, story ideas, locating sources, research techniques, using the Internet, and ways to improve writing style and struc-

² Dima Dabbous-Sensenig (C) with President Dr. Jabbara (L) and VPAA Dr. Sfeir (R) and alumni in Dubai

³ The latest, and already popular, publication of the Institute for Peace and Justice Education



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¹ Nicole Abu Haydar (AMIDEAST), Lina Freij (USAID), Dr. Samira Aghacy (Dean, Arts & Sciences-Beirut) & IPJ Director Magda Abu-Fadil with investigative journalism workshop participants

ture. Journalists from Lebanon's Future Television, *Future Daily*, *Sada Al Balad Daily*, *Al-Liwa' Daily*, *Al-Hayat-LBC Satellite Channel*, *Al-Shira'a Magazine* and *Al Itkissad wal 'Aamaal Magazine* were among those who took part. <http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/events/20050801/workshop.php>.

Journalists' safety in war zones, political considerations and common experiences between Iraqi and Lebanese media permeated a workshop in media skills organized by the **Institute for Professional Journalists (IPJ)** for 15 Iraqi print, broadcast and online reporters/editors at the Beirut campus. The workshop featured Mona Ziade, from the Lebanon country office of the World Bank and a veteran editor/correspondent who discussed the difference between news and opinion; Lebanese daily *As-Safir* editor Zuheir Hawari who talked about the art of interviewing; pan-Arab daily *Asharq Al-Awsat* correspondent/editor Sana El Jack who tackled feature story writing; **IPJ** director **Magda Abu-Fadil** who underlined the importance of media

ethics; LBCI TV's anchor and talk show host and LAU alumna Shada Omar and producer Marwan Matni who elaborated on broadcast news; and Lebanese University professor **Mahmoud Tarabay** who touched on cultivating sources, online journalism and ways to improve one's writing style. The event took place September 26–October 5 and was funded by the Berlin-based Heinrich Böll Foundation. It drew 15 journalists from media such as Nawa Radio, Kurdish satellite TV, Al Diyar TV, *Azzaman* newspaper, Voices of Iraq News agency, *Yanabeeh* magazine, *Al Jeel* magazine, *Iraqioun* news agency, *As-Sabah* newspaper and the Baghdad correspondent of the *Washington Post*. http://ipj.lau.edu.lb/events/2005/09_iraqij/beirut.php.

Institute for Professional Journalists Director **Magda Abu-Fadil** spoke of "Online Media Ethics: A Needed Dynamic" at the conference "Online Journalism in the Arab World: Realities and Challenges" at the University of Sharjah's (UAE) College of Communication, November 22-24. She examined the



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proliferation of sites, blogs and outlets for citizen journalism and asked how countries could legislate for the Internet when one man's proverbial meat is another man's poison. She showed how mainstream media have abused their powers by distorting news and pictures and demonstrated how different uses of captions online for the same picture could lead to disinformation that experts considered unethical. Mrs. **Abu-Fadil** concluded with a set of questions and recommendations to make journalists, ethicists and users of online media stop and think before embarking on their cyber quest for knowledge and communication.

The **Institute for Professional Journalists** helped promote LAU in the Middle East and the world at two conferences in Dubai on women's empowerment and international media, respectively. Dubai and Northern Emirates-based LAU alumnae organized a daylong forum (December 3) on the "Role of Higher Education in the Empowerment and Achievements of Arab Women" that underlined LAU's pioneering history and role in the

region. **IPJ** Director **Magda Abu-Fadil**'s presentation on "Media & Women in the Middle East & North Africa" touched on obstacles and constraints facing women in the MENA region, the impact of regional media, ethics, standards and training, new media, solutions and recommendations. Elsewhere in Dubai, **Abu-Fadil** attended the "Arab and World Media Conference 2005: Getting it Right" (December 5-6) that drew 1,000 participants representing media experts, journalists, academics, advertising and high-tech organizations from around the world to discuss ways of bridging the East-West cultural divide (<http://arabandworldmedia.org>)

International experts including **IPJ** Director **Magda Abu-Fadil** met in Paris to design model journalism curricula. Their talks focused on the context of journalism education, curricula, educators and students, and led to plans for the first world journalism education congress scheduled for 2007 in Singapore. This "Experts Consultative Meeting on Journalism Education" was held at UNESCO Headquarters, December 14-16.

²
Dima Dabbous-Sensenig (L) and Magda Abu-Fadil (C) at Dubai conference on the "Role of Higher Education in the Empowerment and Achievements of Arab Women."

³
Iraqi journalists visit LBCI-TV station during IPJ workshop



1
IPJ director (L) at
"Experts Consultative
Meeting on
Journalism Education"
organized by UNESCO
in Paris

2
Science and mass cul-
ture meet at LAU –
waiting for future
beauty to grow



2