

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

To complement the myriad regional and international partnerships maintained by its constituent schools, LAU devotes considerable effort to securing new and ever-expanding collaboration with outside educational, professional and government institutions. In doing so, we seek to enhance our positive impact on the society around us and to provide our students and faculty with unparalleled opportunities for research and learning.

A. University Enterprise Office

Throughout 2015-2016, the University Enterprise Office (UEO) continued to play strategic advisory, entrepreneurial development, and coordination roles in the university's projects and initiatives throughout the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe.

While it provides universities, colleges and corporations with consultancy on strategic planning, academic coverage, and design and management of academic programs, UEO is in the process of expanding its consulting and advisory engagements to healthcare project management, nursing services management and accreditation, patient education, social marketing, and healthcare communication.



Once again this year, the office curated exceptional students from the MENA region through the Middle East Partnership Initiative Tomorrow's Leaders Program (LAU-MEPI TL) with nine different nationalities currently represented in the program. This year, for the first time, LAU sent 23 LAU – MEPI TL students to the University of California, Berkeley, located in one of the most open and culturally diverse environments in the U.S.

Meanwhile, for the twelfth year running, LAU has been actively involved in the development of the Scientific College of Design (SCD) in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, providing the Omani side with academic coverage and advisory services.

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B. Student and Faculty Exchange Opportunities

The newly established Office of International Services (OIS) has been working together with the seven constituent schools to coordinate and manage the existing exchange programs across the university, while constantly exploring new international opportunities, which this year generated exchange agreements with the Danish School of Media and Journalism and IESEG-France. Meanwhile, we have established several new summer exchange programs, with UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, and George Washington University in the United States, and with the Salzburg Academy in Austria.

OIS's Study Abroad Steering Committee worked diligently throughout AY 2015-2016 to ensure our students a smooth and seamless exchange experience, for example by creating a "Special Topics for Exchange" course that enables students to transfer up to six credits from their studies abroad.



LAU's first-ever International Education Week was held this April on both LAU campuses, providing opportunities for students and faculty to network with representatives from international universities, embassies and educational institutions.

Over the past five years, LAU has participated in four different Erasmus Mundus consortiums, partnering with more than ten European universities to provide undergraduates, graduate students and faculty and staff with unprecedented exchange opportunities.



This year, Oxford University (U.K.) instituted a new Rhodes Scholarship, for students from Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Palestine, giving our students an unprecedented opportunity to carry out postgraduate studies at one of the world's most prestigious universities.

In October 2015, LAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), with the aim of establishing the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies that will bring Indian scholars to the university's campuses, in a first-of-its-kind agreement between the ICCR and a Lebanese university.