1835

American School for Girls (ASG) is established.

1924

ASG develops a two-year junior college curriculum.

1927

The two-year college becomes known as American Junior College for Women (AJCW).

1948 – 49

AJCW’s program is expanded into a university-level institution known as Beirut College for Women (BCW).
LAU at a Glance...

The Lebanese American University is a private higher-education institution operating in Lebanon under a charter from the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York.

LAU’s roots go back to the American School for Girls, established in Beirut in 1835 by American Presbyterian missionaries. Officially founded as a women’s college in 1924, it expanded over the decades in tune with Lebanon’s growing educational needs.

Today, LAU is a dynamic and innovative university that boasts solid academic programs offered by five schools on two campuses in the cities of Beirut and Byblos. Operating in a country known for its rich multi-faceted heritage and academic freedom, it offers superior educational opportunities for men and women from Lebanon, the Middle East, and around the world.

LAU is a non-sectarian community guided by a deep-rooted sense of shared ethical values. As a career-oriented institution embracing liberal arts in all curricula, LAU graduates highly skilled professionals and specialists prepared for civic engagement and committed to peace, democracy, and social justice.

The university is governed by a 25-member Board of Trustees, most of whom are American. The Board’s makeup ensures that standards of excellence are upheld in every facet of university life. The university has embarked on a five-year strategic plan that underscores academic excellence, and has attained candidacy status for accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

“The Lebanese American University is committed to academic excellence, student-centeredness, the advancement of scholarship, the education of the whole person, and the formation of students as future leaders in a diverse world.”
LAU’s campuses are located in two cities, Beirut and Byblos, with rich history and distinct contemporary lifestyles.

Set on hillside locations by the Mediterranean Sea, the campuses afford students convenient proximity to almost all areas of Lebanon, and mild weather year round.

Through their libraries, athletic facilities, residence halls, theaters, laboratories, computer centers, and academic support services, the two campuses provide state-of-the-art infrastructure and a wealth of services that enrich the experiences of those studying, teaching and working at LAU. Free wireless Internet access is available to students, faculty and staff throughout both campuses.

The Beirut campus, the university’s foundation site, is nestled on a hillside oasis in the heart of the city, just steps away from the cultural, social, educational and recreational resources of Lebanon’s capital. This 11-building campus houses the schools of Arts and Science, and Business.

In 1991, the Byblos campus opened its doors to students of higher learning at a plot of land in Blat, overlooking Byblos city. Since then, the campus has grown to become the seat of five schools: Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering and Architecture, Medicine and Pharmacy. The School of Nursing, which is expected to start its operations in 2010, will be located on the Byblos campus. Other projected additions to this campus are a new library and a civic center.
Libraries

LAU’s libraries are committed to providing print and electronic information resources that support the university community’s academic, research and cultural needs. Their print collections include about 393,000 volumes and 2,450 periodicals. In addition, users have access to numerous electronic resources, including 80 databases, around 40,000 full-text serial titles, and 38,500 e-books.

The Beirut and Byblos libraries provide an integrated service environment, bringing together technology and specialists. Orientation, individual instruction, training sessions, research assistance and other services are available to library users throughout the year. The services of the two libraries are supported by advanced computing facilities as well as 46 committed staff members and over 126 student assistants. Through agreements with institutions abroad, the libraries secure on-demand materials that are otherwise unavailable in Lebanon.

Special collections in Beirut’s Riyad Nassar Library:
> Book and non-book materials on women’s studies
> Children’s Library that is the largest and oldest of its kind in Lebanon
> Audiovisual collection for instructional support
> Practice teaching sources for education students
> Islamic art and architecture resources and artifacts
**Schools and Academic Programs**

Over the past years, LAU has made terrific strides in providing updated learning opportunities for students, in addition to hiring top-quality faculty, and revising programs to maintain curricula attuned to the needs of the Middle East and the modern world.

LAU’s vibrant academic community allows students to achieve a high level of learning and a variety of intellectual experiences. Students may choose from a wide range of majors and interdisciplinary programs offered by **six schools**:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>School of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>School of Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>School of Engineering and Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>School of Pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing (expected 2010)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The School of Arts and Sciences is home to LAU’s oldest programs, which form the core of the university’s liberal arts tradition. The school is an academic crossroads, drawing students from all disciplines. It seeks to grow in tandem with LAU. More than 2,000 students are enrolled across its around 30 programs in six departments. The school offers the following degrees:

**Associate Degrees:**
- Associate in Arts (A.A.) in Liberal Arts
- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in: Communication Media, Computer Science, General Science, Graphic Design

**Bachelor’s Degrees:**
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in: Communication Arts, Education, English, Fine Arts, Political Science/International Affairs, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Graphic Design, Mathematics Education

**Master’s Degrees:**
- Master of Arts (M.A.) in: Comparative Literature, Education, International Affairs
- Master of Science (M.S.) in: Computer Science, Molecular Biology

**Other:**
- Teaching Diploma (T.D.) in: Elementary Level, Intermediate and Secondary Level
The School of Business is committed to providing students with an opportunity to gain essential skills and learn about the latest developments in their respective business fields within a liberal arts environment. Through innovative teaching and research, its faculty seeks to graduate students with the diverse theoretical, methodological and practical skills needed to succeed in the world of business and lifelong learning. The school attracts the largest number of students, and offers the following degrees:

**Associate Degree:**
> Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Business Management

**Bachelor’s Degrees:**
> Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Business Studies with areas of emphasis in accounting, banking and finance, economics, family and entrepreneurial business management, hospitality and tourism management, international business, management information systems, management, and marketing.
> Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Economics with four tracks in mathematics, political science/international affairs, finance, and management.
> Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Hospitality and Tourism Management

**Master’s Degrees:**
> Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
> Executive Master of Business Administration (E.M.B.A.)
Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine

The School of Medicine seeks to graduate students who will provide patient-centered care, employ evidence-based practices, utilize cutting-edge technologies, secure quality improvement, and work in interdisciplinary teams. In collaboration with Harvard Medical International, the school is committed to emphasizing world-class fundamental practices and clinical/translational research, particularly targeting health needs in the Middle East. The construction of its state-of-the-art complex began in July 2008. More than 76 premedical students are enrolled in the undergraduate program. The first class of 24 students will be admitted in September 2009.

Doctorate Degree:
> Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)
School of Pharmacy

Founded in 1993, the School of Pharmacy follows a curriculum in line with the standards and guidelines of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The school aims at developing students’ professional values required to provide ethical and compassionate patient care for the benefit of the individual and community being served. The school’s Pharm.D. program is the only ACPE-accredited program outside the United States. In addition, the school is the only full member of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy outside the United States. It offers the following degrees:

Bachelor’s Degree:
> Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (B.S.Pharm.)

Doctorate Degree:
> Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)
School of Engineering and Architecture

The School of Engineering and Architecture provides a rich academic and professional foundation leading to successful careers in today’s global markets through a curriculum supported by current technologies. The school’s experiential approach aims at enhancing students’ hands-on skills through research and training opportunities in multiple settings. The school offers the following degrees:

**Associate Degree:**
- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Interior Design

**Bachelor’s Degrees:**
- Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.)
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Interior Architecture
- Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) in: Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Interior Design
- Master of Science (M.S.) in: Computer Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Management

**Master’s Degrees:**
- Master of Science (M.S.) in: Computer Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Management
Alice Ramez Chagoury
School of Nursing

In September 2006, the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the School of Nursing. The school, which is to be located on the Byblos campus, is envisioned to become an integral part of the health sciences, business, and technology research hub that will offer students the unique multidisciplinary environment and expertise needed to become qualified nurses. The first class of students will be admitted in 2010.
LAU’s centers and institutes play an integral role in addressing community needs and providing unique services to various sectors in Lebanon and the region.

Through fieldwork, conferences, training programs and educational campaigns, they disseminate knowledge, offer skill upgrades, explore innovative practices and raise awareness on different issues. They also serve as interactive forums for promoting multidisciplinary research, encouraging collaboration among scholars and professionals, and advancing diversity of thought.
LAU’s student body, characterized by diversity and community spirit, constitutes one of the university’s chief assets. More than 70 nationalities—and all of Lebanon’s confessional groups—are represented on both campuses.

Through a variety of clubs and athletics programs, students engage in a wide range of extracurricular activities, tailored to meet their intellectual, physical and social needs. Student achievements continuously enhance the university’s reputation locally and internationally.

Around 7,200 students enrolled at LAU in fall 2008. Enrollment continues to grow as new academic endeavors and cutting-edge programs are born.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Number of Students*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>5,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byblos</td>
<td>2,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fall 2008 figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>Number of Students*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beirut Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>1,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>2,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and Architecture</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,096</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Fall 2008 figures
As part of its strategic plan, LAU is raising the standards of faculty qualifications. The university takes great pride in attracting and retaining distinguished scholars and seasoned professionals who excel in teaching, research, and community service. Complementing their intensive research efforts, faculty members provide in-depth instruction through the use of cutting-edge technologies. They promote critical thinking and problem solving among students in a friendly and interactive learning environment.

Of the 205 full-time faculty members in fall 2008, 124 (60%) have Ph.D. and 12 (6%) Pharm.D. degrees. The majority of Ph.D.s hold degrees from North American and Western European universities. The faculty body is characterized by diversity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATIONALITY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF FACULTY*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lebanese</td>
<td>111 (54.15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanese-American</td>
<td>45 (21.95%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American</td>
<td>10 (4.88%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-American dual-nationals and nationals of other countries</td>
<td>39 (19.02%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>205</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender

- Male 59.02%
- Female 40.98%
LAU works together as an extended family community that reflects the highest ethical and moral standards.

LAU is one of the region’s largest private employers, with over 500 staff members working collaboratively for positive transformation through dedication and leadership. Staff commitment, cooperation and diversity provide the LAU community with vital support in the areas of education, information technology, advancement, administration, and other services.

The completion of a human resources study in October 2008 led to a new grading and salary scale, regulating compensation and employee development policies and procedures. The key objectives of the study were to adopt a market-driven competency-based job classification and compensation system, and create a new employment culture promoting retention, equity, transparency, and career development.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of Staff Members 2008 – 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
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</table>
In its commitment to assist as many knowledge-seeking individuals as possible to acquire higher education, LAU allocated over $13 million for financial aid for the academic year 2008–2009.

Financial aid is in the form of a work-based program designed to provide an opportunity for full-time students demonstrating financial need to earn part of their tuition fees by working at LAU. In addition, work-study grants can be complemented by loans, honor scholarships, and other types of grants, depending on the student’s level of need and academic qualifications. Students can also benefit from other forms of assistance such as merit scholarships, student employment, and graduate assistantships.

In fall 2008, 1,544 students (811 in Beirut and 733 in Byblos) received financial aid.

**Budget and Tuition**

**Operating Budget:** The university’s operating budget for 2008–2009 is $99,866,000. Funding comes from tuition and student fees, private gifts, government grants and endowment income.

**Tuition:** The average undergraduate tuition is around $12,725 per year. On average, the annual graduate tuition is $9,900. These amounts vary depending on the degree program.
LAU has more than 27,000 alumni around the world. Twenty-six chapters maintain close ties with the university and foster networking among fellow alumni. Alumni are offered a number of benefits and services. They can also participate in numerous events, including reunions, homecomings, conferences, lectures, dinners, and social gatherings. Active Alumni Association members can also have access to certain LAU facilities and participate in alumni elections.

Alumni chapters exist in:
- Abu Dhabi
- Amman
- Athens
- Bahrain
- Beirut
- Byblos
- Damascus
- Detroit
- Dubai and Northern Emirates
- Eastern Province, KSA
- Florida
- Jeddah
- Kuwait
- Los Angeles
- London
- New England
- New York/New Jersey
- Northern California
- Oman
- Ottawa
- Qatar
- Riyadh
- Toronto
- Washington, D.C.

Chapters also exist for alumni of the School of Engineering and Architecture, and the School of Pharmacy.
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Dr. Najib Khatib
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