



**AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY  
OF BEIRUT**

**Mediterraneo**

**OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**August 31, 2023**

## **Celebration of the Inaugural Opening of the American University of Beirut – Mediterraneo in Pafos, Cyprus**

Pafos, Cyprus – The American University of Beirut (AUB) will celebrate the inaugural opening of its new twin campus, the American University of Beirut – Mediterraneo (AUB Mediterraneo), in Pafos, Cyprus on September 6, 2023.

The establishment of AUB Mediterraneo is part of the American University of Beirut’s global strategic vision, which was approved by the Board of Trustees in June 2020 and developed over three years with stakeholders across the institution “to ensure AUB’s future success, relevance, and sustainability over the next decade and beyond.”

The official ceremony will be held at the Pafos Innovation Center on Neophytou Nicolaides at 6:00 pm. Among the distinguished guests for this august occasion will be the Honorable Athena Michaelidou, Minister of Education, Sport, and Youth in Cyprus; Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the American University of Beirut Philip S. Khoury; AUB President Fadlo R. Khuri; AUB Trustee Huda Y. Zoghbi; US Ambassador to Cyprus Julie D. Fisher; Mayor of Pafos Phedonas Phedonos; ministers and members of parliament from Cyprus; the founding rector of the American University of Beirut – Mediterraneo Wassim El Hajj; founding AUB Mediterraneo Deans Alain Daou (School of Business), Salah Sadek (Faculty of Engineering), and Malek Tabbal (Faculty of Arts and Sciences); and distinguished guests from Cyprus, Lebanon, and the United States.

The select group of students enrolling at AUB Mediterraneo in fall 2023 were chosen from more than 500 applications that were received from a broad and diverse group of countries including Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Cyprus, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zambia, South Africa, Tanzania, Sudan, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgystan, Russia, and Thailand.

AUB Mediterraneo is offering five undergraduate programs and two master’s programs in the 2023-24 academic year as follows: philosophy, politics, and economics (BA); psychology (BS); computer science (BS); industrial engineering (BS); business administration–management (BBA); business analytics (MS); and engineering management (MS). The university plans to expand its academic programs and grow its student body to 2,000 within 10 years.

Commenting on the inauguration of AUB Mediterraneo in Pafos, Cyprus, AUB President Fadlo R. Khuri said, “I am confident that many years hence, when the modern history of the American University of Beirut is written, the expansion to Pafos will be viewed as a reaffirmation of the deep humanistic values and broad scope of

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service and excellence of the university, and even greater proof of our commitment to serve the people of Lebanon and the Mediterranean as faithfully and effectively as we have for the last 158 years.”

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**Note to Editors:**

**About the American University of Beirut**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, it has 780 full-time faculty members and a student body of 7,800 students. The American University of Beirut currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor’s, master’s, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 365-bed hospital.

**About The American University of Beirut – Mediterraneo**

The American University of Beirut – Mediterraneo (AUB Mediterraneo) in Pafos, Cyprus, is approved by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) as a branch campus of the American University of Beirut (AUB) in Beirut, Lebanon. AUB operates under a charter granted by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) which registers the university’s degree programs and has approved AUB Mediterraneo as a twin campus of AUB. All departments and programs at AUB Mediterraneo are accredited by the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education (CYQAA).

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