President Hiam Sakr’s Address on the Beginning of a New Semester

Dear Students, welcome to AUST. AUST attracts motivated young individuals who are seeking higher education given by highly qualified faculty members. These faculty members should not be merely your instructors; they are your guides in your educational journey. They are your advisors, mentors, and friends. Take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that they have acquired through their own education and experience, and make sure to use them as friendly and caring resources. They are at AUST to help you.

I have full confidence that you will persevere and not allow the adverse conditions to distract you from excelling in your pursuit and enjoying your college days; I want you to remember that difficulties are character builders and are instrumental in making you problem solvers. Dear old and new students, remember that your university days are precious not only academically but also socially and professionally. Make friends... enjoy the social life that AUST provides, and attend as many of the professional lectures and events that the administration and faculty have carefully prepared for your benefit and enjoyment. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that you are the descendants of a glorious ancestry that taught the world how to read and write; you are the sons and daughters of geniuses, doctors, engineers, poets, scientists, philosophers and saints who have given to the human heritage much more than anyone thought this small country could give. Be proud of your history and look forward to writing new glorious pages in its never ending epic of human attainment.

On behalf of all the constituencies of AUST, I would like to welcome the new students to their new university and would like to urge the returning students to be elder mentors to the new ones.

Finally, I would like you to know that the doors of my office are always open to you... to listen to your worries and complaints... and to learn about your successes. I wish you luck and a successful and beneficial semester!

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS: Fall 2019 - 2020

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Faculty of Business and Economics, Faculty of Engineering, and Faculty of Health Sciences at the three campuses – Beirut, Sidon, and Zahle—welcomed their students who chose to pursue their higher education at AUST, in various fields of interest. AUST’s pursuit of excellence has culminated by it being accredited by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education to offer the following new degrees under higher education as follows:

In the Faculty of Health Sciences:
- BS in Nursing - BS in Nutrition & Food Science - BS in Forensic Science
In the Faculty of Arts & Sciences:
- * BS in Computer Science with Emphasis in: Mobile Computing – Game Design & Development – Data Science
- * BS in Information & Communications Technology with Emphasis in: Computer Forensics – Systems Administrations- Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking
- * MS in Computer Science with Emphasis in: Computational Data Science – Cyber Security – Systems Engineering
- * BA in Advertising with Emphasis in: Social Media – Design and Strategy

Visual Merchandising & Lighting
- * BA in Fine Arts with Emphasis in: Painting Techniques – Applied Arts Techniques
In the Faculty of Business & Economics
- * BS in Accounting with Emphasis in: Audit (with CMA, CPA & CIA tracks)
- * BS in Economics with Emphasis in: Engineering Economics (with JIA track)
- * BS in Finance with Emphasis in: Financial engineering (with CFA, CQF, CMT tracks)
- * BS in Marketing with Emphasis in: Digital Marketing (with PDDM, PDSM, PDDSP tracks)
In the Faculty of Engineering
- * BS in Biomedical Engineering
- * BS in Mechatronics Engineering
- * BS in Computer & Communications Engineering with Emphasis in: Robotics & Intelligence Systems Engineering – Minor in Smart City
- * MS in Biomedical Engineering
- * MS in Mechatronics Engineering
- * MS in Computer & Communications Engineering with Emphasis in: Robotics & Intelligence Systems Engineering

Students are always encouraged to seek the help of all deans, chairpersons, faculty members and staff at AUST; they are always ready to aid the students, old and new, in any way possible, be it academic, personal, or financial. Life at AUST is not always somber and serious; there is a light side to this life! The Sports and Activity Office (SAO) has opened different clubs that allow students to socialize with colleagues and have fun while enjoying the different sports activities. Everyone is encouraged to become an active member of one or more of these clubs.

On the onset of this new semester, all AUST family wishes students a beneficial, successful and an enjoyable year!
Snapshots from the AUST 18th Commencement Ceremony

- AUST President Hiam Sakr
- AUST Vice-President Dr. Riad Sakr
- AUST Provost Dr. Nabeel Haidar
- AUST Registrar Mr. Pierre Atallah
- SUNY Vice-President for Administration Mr. Joseph Garcia
- H.E. Amine Gemayel
- Deputy Prime Minister representing H.E. Prime Minister Saad Al Hariri
- AUST President Hiam Sakr & Vice-President Dr. Riad Sakr
- AUST Vice-President Amer Sakr
- AUST President Hiam Sakr & Vice-President Dr. Riad Sakr raising the Lebanese flag in honor of Dr. Joyce Azzam's achievements
- The Ivy Chain
- AUST Vice-President Riad Sakr
- AUST Registrar Mr. Pierre Atallah reading the names of the graduates
- The Ivy Chain
- AUST Registrar Mr. Pierre Atallah reading the names of the graduates
AUST Signs a Memorandum Of Understanding with Schlumberger-Headquarters in Egypt

On September 8, 2019, AUST, represented by Vice President Dr. Riad Sakr and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Roger Achkar, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Schlumberger-headquarters in Egypt. Schlumberger is a leading company in oil and gas specialized in drilling services and oil-well intervention. Schlumberger has the industry-leading technologies, domain expertise, project management and digital enablement to conduct multidisciplinary that integrate reservoir characterization, drilling services and well intervention for optimizing field production to maximize the life of oil and gas fields.

As per the MOU, the two parties have agreed to develop a mutually beneficial business cooperation, utilizing their combined expertise and capabilities to encourage talent development, design educational curriculum, design and execute specialized training programs, and provide instructors and subject matter experts in the field.

The Communication Arts Hosts the Annual Student Film Showcase (2nd Edition) at VOX Cinemas – City Centre

The Communication Arts Department organized the Annual Student Film Showcase 2019 (2nd Edition) under the auspices and presence of Mrs. Hiam Sakr, President of AUST, and Dr. George Farha, Chairperson of the Communication Arts Department, at VOX Cinemas, City Centre-Hazmieh. President Sakr in her speech, expressed her pride in the students and emphasized the need for strong personalities, communication skills, and originality in the film industry. She accentuated hope as an unsurpassed value to fight for, and said "Be proud of Lebanon and conquer the world with peace", emphasizing the power of art and innovation.

Dr. George Farha, in his speech said: "I hope, that this showcase will propel our students into the marketplace with motivation and dreams of their own, knowing that their effort is a collective one. One of an entire department, embraced by the vision and warmth of an institution whose predecessor Mrs. Hiam Sakr has always guided us with the values of strength, love, unity, creativity and progress." He then welcomed the alumni whose works were showcased, and who have accomplished so much and have been rising to prominence for quite some time; namely, Ms. Raya Haidar, Mr. Makram El Rayyes, Mr. George Roukoz and Mr. Nassif El Rayyes. "Tonight, is also an opportunity to salute and honor them in our showcase, as a token of appreciation for their own efforts which perpetuates ours as a Department" Farha added.

The ceremony opened with the Lebanese National Anthem, and was presented by Mrs. Moni Sukkar. The films offered a range of genres from mystery to thrillers to experimental that resonated with the Lebanese society. Parasit by Tarek Narch is about a psychotic young woman with a history of abusive relationships and a series of events that follow. Sami Joe Abiad's Ovis Aries is about a realm ruled by corruption and power. Ali Fouad's Silent Screams is about a young girl and her father and the dysfunction caused by her mother's death. Bashar Mashmoushi's Entropy is a sarcastic comedy around a bunch of people trying to rebel against the system. Ragheed Zaky's DayLili is an experimental short film about a young Syrian seeking refuge after a terrorist attack. Last but not least, is Rania Rafeh's Watar, a biographical drama about a passionate musician who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

More than one hundred and fifty invitees cat-walked the red carpet with intense celebrity presence and media buzz: A prodigious instance to celebrate our RTV students, their talent and future prospects. It is a collective effort of both the Communication Arts Department and the RTV students, who had spared no labor to make this event a memorable one. It attempts to create a dynamic dedicated to talent exploration and manifestation, where RTV students and professionals from the film industry can gather in one place for the love of film. No doubt the event will inspire subsequent and emerging RTV students to work harder, and to continue to show their talent in the years to come, and to aspire to take active part in both the showcase and in the Lebanese film scene at large.
Clinical trials are tests carried out on human beings in order to evaluate the safety and efficacy of new drugs, therapies, devices or other interventional methods to be potentially used by humans. Every clinical trial is a lengthy process divided into four main stages. In Phase I, the drug (in the case of drug testing) is tested on 20-100 healthy volunteers to identify the safety and tolerability of the drug. During Phase II, the drug is tested on 100-500 patients suffering from a specific condition that can possibly be treated by the drug. During this phase, efficacy and adverse events are identified. In Phase III the efficacy and effectiveness of the drug are evaluated on a broader population of 1000-5000 patients for an enhanced accuracy and reliability of results. Finally, during Phase IV, which is the post-marketing stage, a continuous monitoring of the safety and efficacy of the drug on real-life patients is conducted. All these aspects and their details were described by Mr. Bachir Baaklini from ClinGroup Holding. ClinGroup is a company entitled to conduct and audit clinical trials in Lebanon. Mr. Baaklini pointed out that Phase I clinical trials are not conducted in Lebanon due to specific requirements and regulations that Lebanon fails to abide by. Moreover, he identified the various and heavy documentation works that have to be prepared ahead, during and following every clinical trial. Indeed, clinical trials contain a considerable ethical component whereby medical doctors and volunteers involved must not introduce any bias in the study or influence its outcomes through behavioral mistakes. Last but not least, Mr. Baaklini described the various job opportunities that fit with the various majors offered in the Faculty of Health Sciences, thus bringing forth new ideas of professional perspectives that could be used by our students while planning their careers.
Communication Arts Department of AUST Signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Rafic Hariri University Hospital (RHUH)

AUST President Hiam Sakr and in the presence of the Chairperson of the Communication Arts Department Dr. George N. Farha, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Rafic Hariri University Hospital (RHUH), which was represented by the PR and Communication Director Ms. Nisrine Huuseni.

Rafic Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) is a public independent establishment that offers medical services to the Lebanese citizens by ensuring care and hospitalization services in an academic frame, and by offering treatment and health follow-up. The prime focus of the Communication Arts Department at the American University of Science and Technology (AUST) is to offer practical skills and conceptual knowledge, and to prepare students for work in the various production, creative, and managerial professions in the TV/Radio and film industries. Thereby, "the Partners" wish to collaborate and develop privileged relations with their respective fields of activity through the achievement of goals in order to develop health promotion materials and campaigns for the hospital to improve communication and social marketing with the community by producing short films in order to introduce the hospital’s mission and its services, and to have the opportunities to stand out, spread messages, and make change through storytelling, in addition to providing students with the chance to gain working experience to know how to communicate and behave and develop their educational skills by practicing in the health/social sectors. Hence, the MOU aims at benefiting from the Communication Arts students’ experiences in producing documentary and marketing films.

Second and Third Awards for the Faculty of Engineering at LSSC 2019 - IEEE – Lebanon Section

The IEEE - Lebanon Section held a competition for leading innovators in the field of pioneering services in science and technology at the Lebanese University- Hadath on 22-6-2019. The American University of Science and Technology (AUST) ranked in the second and the third place, in the robotics and biomedical tracks among fifty-two projects from all Lebanese universities. The second and third winners of the robotics track are the students of Computer Engineering and Communication (CCE) and Mechatronic Engineering (MTE), Samah Abi El Rahim, Karim Tarraf, Diana Khalil, George Abu Saad and Hassan Al Moussawi, who participated in two distinguished projects named “Robotic Feeder for Disabled People (RFDP)” and “Smart Service Waiter” under the supervision of the Department’s Engineering Coordinator Mr. Gaby Abou Haidar from AUST-Zahle.

The third place winners in the biomedical track are Rafif Ghostine, Elias Haddad, Nabil Hamdan, Tatiana Khoury, Jamii Jabali, and Jad Al Salman who participated in a project entitled “A Biomechanotics Model of the Walk Along Theory of Skeletal Muscle Contraction” supervised by Prof. Ziad Abu-Faraj. Two additional projects also participated in this competition, and were highly appreciated by the jury members. The first is done by Hussein Hamboune, Hussein Hemaojoi, Jana Sour entitled “Beach Cleaning Vehicle” and directed by Dr. Mustafa Halabi. The second is done by Kassem Waheb, Ali Saleh, Jimmy Ghostine, and Ibrahim El Nacheif entitled “Smart System Display SSD” and directed by Dr. Mohamad Rahal. Again the Faculty of Engineering at the AUST proves its commitment to excellence in the engineering world.

Faculty of Health Sciences of AUST Organizes the 2nd Drug Awareness Day at Achrafieh & Zahlé Campuses

The FHS also invited Captain Alaa Sleika, from the Prevention Regimen at ISF, to participate in the event. He described the fluctuations in the rate of drug dealing and consumption across the country, over the years 2016-2018, across nationalities and among both men and women. Noticeably, drug dealing by Syrian citizens is significant and men are by far more involved in drug dealing and consumption than women. These statistics were derived from the arrests made by the Regimen’s officers across the country.

The two seminars were followed by a poster session prepared by FHS students enrolled in toxicology and clinical trials classes with Dr. Sylvia Saade. Every student made a 5-minute presentation and was evaluated individually. The students also prepared activities on the theme of Drug Awareness and challenged their instructors with Q&A sessions, fun games and interactive tools for drug identification. Kudos to Achrafieh and Zahlé students for another successful awareness day!

For your comments, e-mail us at: austmidweek@aust.edu.lb
Sports Activities for Men
* Football
Location: BFA
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (9:30 to 11:00 pm)
* Futsal
Location: El-Sed
Date & Time: Thursday 10th & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (7:30 to 9:00 pm)
* Basketball
Location: Emile Lahoud Stadium
Date & Time: Thursday 10th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (8:30 to 10:00 pm)
* Handball
Location: AUST court
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th of Oct, 2019 (9:00 to 10:00 pm) & Friday 11th of Oct, 2019 (6:00 to 7:00 pm)
* Volleyball
Location: AUST court
Date & Time: Thursday 10th & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (9:00 to 10:00 pm)
Sports Activities for Women
* Basketball
Location: AUST court
Date & Time: Thursday 10th of Oct, 2019 (6:00 to 7:00 pm) & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (5:00 to 6:00 pm)
* Volleyball
Location: AUST court
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (8:00 to 9:00 pm)
* Futsal
Location: LES School Louizeh -Baabda
Date & Time: Thursday 10th & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (8:00 to 9:30 pm)

Sports Activities for ALL
* Tennis
Location: AUST court
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th & Friday11th of Oct, 2019 (9:00 to 10:00 am)
* Table Tennis
Location: AUST  (Block M)
Date & Time: Thursday 10th of Oct, 2019 (4:30 to 5:30 pm) & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (7:30 to 8:30 pm)
* Badminton
Location: AUST (Block A)
Date & Time: Monday 14th & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (5:00 to 6:00 pm)
* Martial Arts: MMA
Location: AUST (Block M)
Date & Time: Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (5:00 to 7:00 pm)
* Muay-Thai
Location: Shogun Club
Date & Time: Thursday 10th & Tuesday 15th of Oct, 2019 (8:30 to 9:45 pm)
Dance
* Danse de Salon
Location: AUST (Block M )
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (1:00 to 2:00 pm)
* Folklore Dance (Dabke)
Location: AUST (Block M)
Date & Time: Thursday 10th of Oct (1:00 to 2:00 pm) & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (12:00 to 1:00 pm)
* Cheerleading
Location: AUST (Block M or A)
Date & Time: Wednesday 9th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (6:00 to 7:30 pm)
Outdoor Activities
* Horseback Riding
Location: Mont La Salle
Date & Time: Saturday, October 12, 2019 (12:30 to 3:30 pm)
* Swimming
Location: Cap sur Ville
Date & Time: Friday 11th & Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (3:00 to 5:00 pm)

Challenge your Mind!
Chess
Location: AUST (Block M)
Date & Time: Monday 14th of Oct, 2019 (5:00 to 6:30 pm)
For Registration, pass by S.A.O Block M

Please note that if your GPA is below 2.00, you are not allowed to register in any of the sport activities mentioned above.
**Horoscopes**

**ARIES March 21 - April 19**
If the past months have seen obstacles getting in your way, now progress is more assured. Thursday could inspire you to look beneath the surface. This is one of the better times to resolve emotional difficulties and set them go. This is a good time for teamwork rather than trying to manage on your own. Romance can flourish in a harmonious environment, too. Sunday could be a tad disruptive, yet the day itself could be more exciting for not going to plan.

**TAURUS April 20 - May 20**
If you’ve wanted to make progress but felt held back by forces beyond your control, doors that were shut may now open. The climate is right for seeing positive change taking place in your world. Thursday is perfect for all kinds of negotiation and holding those searching conversations. This influence can be of great help to understand someone’s motives. Thursday gives you extra vitality for those searching conversations. This influence can be of great help to understand someone’s motives. Thursday gives you extra vitality.

**GEMINI May 21 - June 21**
You could experience something of a rebirth in your sector of shared assets. Positive developments can replace weeks of frustration and inactivity. This doesn’t mean that you can overspend. You’ll still need to keep an eye on finances, but life will be easier in general. Thursday encourages you to get organized. If you’re surrounded by clutter, this is the time to get things sorted out. Throwing out things you no longer need could be restful and reenergize you as well.

**CANCER June 22 - July 22**
The coming weeks could see a shift suggesting you may consider new or important projects. This is a time to keep an eye on finances, but life will be easier in general. Thursday encourages you to get organized. If you’re surrounded by clutter, this is the time to get things sorted out. Throwing out things you no longer need could be restful and reenergize you as well.

**LEO July 23 - August 22**
Problems may begin to melt away. And if you have purposely made changes to your schedule, you may now feel the benefits. You may feel moved to organize your place and set up housework routines. This can also be you proactively promoting your work and relishing the chance to connect with those on your wavelength. Sunday may not work out as planned, and you might have to forgo a pleasurable outing to attend to work responsibilities or other issues.

**VIRGO August 23 - September 22**
If you’ve felt frustrated by the lack of progress in a romantic bond or creative project, the week ahead can be the start of a more progressive phase. Things can begin to shift your way over the coming weeks. Thursday could see you playing detective. If there is something you want to get to the bottom of or don’t quite understand, you’ll likely leave no stone unturned to do so. This can be a great time to get up to speed with your bills and other expenses.

**LIBRA September 23 - October 22**
The attitude to certain relatives or family members may begin to shift. And you could find that they’re more open to your ideas, with less of a tendency to resist or argue. Thursday encourages you to look out for bargains and barrier where necessary. You might also be eager to reorganize your finances and perhaps save something for a vacation or other special treat. If you have an important project in mind, Mars’s presence here can help you focus.

**SCORPIO October 23 - November 21**
Many opportunities may push ahead over the past months, but something stopped you. Things can now begin to change for the positive. You may feel moved to discuss feelings and issues that have bubbled to the surface over the past weeks. A fresh perspective might be just what’s needed to help you tie up any loose ends. This stirring energy can bring vivid dreams. It would be worth keeping a dream diary, because any guidance might prove very helpful.

**SAGITTARIUS November 22 - December 21**
Things can turn to the positive. You may begin to question some of your everyday assumptions. Reflecting on what makes you tick and what you really want out of life could help you see things in a new way. Your intuition may be enhanced, and it would be worth paying attention if you get a gut feeling to go somewhere or call someone. You may have an opportunity to pare down your contacts list to those who are truly on your wavelength.

**CAPRICORN December 22 - January 19**
Ramp up your energy level and determination to accomplish key goals. If you have something going that needs a lot of attention and hard work, this is the time to go for it. You may find that frustrations and obstacles begin to melt away. Thursday brings a convivial note to your social life and perhaps encouraging you to get out and about more. Sunday may be a tad disruptive, it could also be a lot of fun.

**AQUARIUS January 20 - February 18**
Everything may seem lighter and brighter, and you could feel a lot easier in general. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore new possibilities and traverse new terrain. In addition, you may begin to feel more at ease in yourself, particularly if you’ve been working with a counselor or therapist to sort out any ongoing issues. Do you have a plan in mind? Get organized and your ambitions will be realized.

**PISCES February 19 - March 20**
If your social life has been going through some turmoil over the past weeks and months, you could emerge from this with a renewed sense of who your friends really are. Positive developments may contribute to a greater sense of well-being. If you feel uneasy, consider going to a counselor who can help you work through such matters and lead things to a successful conclusion. Thursday can put into planning mode.

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**Sudoku**

**Easy**

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 5 8 1 2 9 7 4 6 3 6 9 3 8 7 1 2 4
 7 3 9 4 2 8 5 1 6 4 5 2 1 9 3 6 8
 2 1 5 6 3 9 7 8 4 3 8 5 4 2 9 7 6
 4 9 3 8 5 1 6 2 7 2 7 1 9 6 3 5 8
 9 6 7 4 1 3 2 8 5 5 4 6 8 2 7 1 3
 8 4 1 7 9 2 3 5 6 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 4
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**Medium**

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 9 7 4 8 2 3 5 1 6 1 3 6 8 7 2 4 5
 5 2 8 1 9 4 3 6 7 8 1 4 3 6 7 5 2
 6 9 3 5 4 7 2 8 1 7 2 9 1 8 6 3 4
 2 4 7 3 1 9 6 8 5 3 6 8 9 5 7 1 2
 7 8 5 2 6 1 4 3 9 4 9 5 2 3 8 6 7
 1 6 9 7 8 3 5 2 4 9 7 5 4 2 6 8 3
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**Hard**

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 7 6 8 9 5 4 3 1 2 5 3 4 1 2 8 9 6
 9 1 2 6 7 3 5 4 8 3 5 7 8 9 7 4 2
 3 4 1 8 2 7 9 6 5 2 9 6 5 3 1 8 7
 1 7 5 3 4 9 2 8 6 8 6 5 2 7 3 9 4
 4 5 9 2 8 6 7 3 1 2 3 6 7 4 5 8 9
 2 8 6 7 9 1 4 5 3 6 4 1 5 3 9 7 2
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