

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

September 2019 – December 2022



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Letter from the President



November 14, 2022

“We are all responsible for the protection and care of the Environment. This responsibility knows no boundaries”- *Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*.

Indeed, we are all responsible, and change starts within. These words of Pope Benedict XVI were re-emphasized by Pope Francis who calls upon all of us to drive change and safeguard our “Common Home” in his encyclical on the environment *Laudato Si*.

I am pleased to confirm that Notre Dame University-Louaize reaffirms its support to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

In this biennial Communication on Engagement, we describe our actions and initiatives to improve continuously the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in our strategy, culture, and day-to-day operations.

Accordingly, we commit to sharing and submitting our Communication on Engagement provided from September 2019 until December 2022.

Sincerely yours,

Fr. Bechara Khoury
President

NDU Commitment Letter



OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM



To : All Deans and Heads of Departments
From : Fr. Pierre Najem, President
Date : October 12, 2017
Subject : Announcement of Environmental Sustainability Task Force
Ref : Pr.O/013/F17

"We are all responsible for the protection and care of the Environment. This responsibility knows no boundaries" *Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.*

Indeed we are all responsible, and change starts from within. These words of Pope Benedict XVI were re-emphasized by Pope Francis who calls upon all of us to drive change and safeguard our "Common Home" in his encyclical on the environment *Laudato Si.*

I was committed as Vice President for Administration and am still committed, today, as President to this. NDU has started years ago environmental initiatives across its 3 campuses, these initiatives should become coordinated and serve one goal: the environmental sustainability action plan. For that, I am announcing the creation of the University "**Environmental Sustainability Task Force**" that I will chair personally with the support of professional and knowledgeable staff and faculty members who are all passionate about the Environment.

This University-wide Task Force committee will support all 3 campuses. Its main mandate is to finalize our environmental sustainability plan (in line with the Strategic Plan section 5.6.8 of Goal V), to monitor, review and evaluate any existing environmental initiative, be it academic or non-academic, to facilitate the creation of synchronized efforts towards the mentioned plan, to lead the way and support all entities as need arises.

The task force will require support from everyone: faculty, staff and students. It is, as of today, your official reference in all matters related to sustainability and will be accountable to leading NDU towards meeting sustainability goals addressing:

- Waste Management
- Water Conservation
- Carbon footprint reduction
- Land use and ecosystem preservation
- Sustainable procurement
- Environmental outreach and service to the community

www.ndu.edu.lb

MAIN CAMPUS
ZOUK MOSBEH, LEBANON
T: +961 9 208 000
F: +961 9 218 771

NORTH LEBANON CAMPUS
BARSA - KOURA, LEBANON
T: +961 6 416 101/2/4
F: +961 6 416 103
P.O. BOX: 72 ZOUK MIKAEL

SHOUF CAMPUS
DEIR EL KAMAR - SHOUF, LEBANON
T: +961 5 511 202
F: +961 5 511 203

WASHINGTON DC OFFICE
SUITE 300, 1629 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006
T: +1 202 349 1705
F: +1 202 331 3759

NDU Mission, Vision, and Core Values

Mission

As a Catholic institution inspired by the cultural and spiritual heritage of the Maronite Order of the Holy Virgin Mary, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) seeks to provide comprehensive quality education that fosters excellence in scholarship, lifelong learning, enlightened citizenship, human solidarity, moral integrity, and belief in God. In designing its curricula, NDU is committed to the philosophy and standards of the American model of liberal arts education. Conceiving itself as an authentic academic community, NDU promotes diversity, respect for human dignity and rights, and concern for the common good. Its profound aspiration is to prepare its students to be future leaders who can exercise reason upon knowledge and shape a world of truth, justice, love, and freedom.

Vision

NDU's vision is to:

- Become the venue of choice as Lebanon's Catholic university, offering students access to the finest faculty and a comprehensive curriculum taught in the Maronite tradition;
- Provide a highly personalized academic experience to graduate and undergraduate students
- Integrate a strong, interdisciplinary, liberal arts core with degree-granting programs that offer preparation for professional careers and graduate studies
- Excel in selected highly specialized areas, including signature programs that enhance the university's reputation and serve as regional models for the delivery of educational development in Lebanon and the region
- Foresee the changing needs with time and develop programs and utilize technologies consistent with those needs
- Create and sustain a community in which all aspects of University life is a reflection of its values.

Values

As a Catholic university offering a higher education in the Maronite tradition, NDU is determined to practice those core values that respect humanity and the dignity of the individual. This helps students on their life path of learning, and allows them to discover their talents through

cooperation while they look for truth, for individual empowerment, and for the enhancement of the world around them. Accordingly, they dedicate themselves to the following core values:

- Faith – As a Catholic university, NDU highlights a strong belief in spiritual motivation and education as a vehicle for a better and more just society
- Excellence – In all activities of university life—teaching, scholarship, service, etc—NDU strives to be a center of quality education
- Scholarship – To seek the truth, with a sense of discovery, through informed and rigorous scholarship, will place NDU among the top-ranking regional universities
- Freedom – Of thought and expression; NDU commits itself to engage and enhance intellectual inquiry in the pursuit of truth by teaching students how to learn, how to think critically, how to conduct responsible research, and how to access and integrate information in preparation for career development and personal growth
- Integrity – Teaching, scholarship, and student service within the university community are characterized by intellectual honesty and a sense of personal morality
- Service – NDU is committed to serve not only its students, faculty and employees, but also society at large
- Diversity – Empathy, tolerance and respect for all people is essential to any university community. NDU encourages students to understand and appreciate the diversity of cultures, which exist locally, nationally, and internationally. It also seeks to promote diversity appreciation through an understanding of the impact human beings have on their environment; and
- Learning for Life – In the tradition of a Catholic liberal arts education, NDU commits itself to lifelong learning, encourages personal responsibility, develops spiritual values, and affirms a philosophy of life which actively supports global economic equity, social justice, and human rights.

Mission Advancement

The Mission Office has the ability to suggest ideas and facilitate their implementation. However, bringing the ideals of the Mission into reality in the daily life of the University depends on the community that embodies it. “It takes a village!” The advancement of the University Mission takes place at various levels: orientation, formation, appropriation, integration and application. Taken together, these five levels reflect our Catholic University’s values that should not only be comprehensively understood, but also capable of implementation.

“Our aim here at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) is to design, develop, implement, evaluate, and coordinate a campus-wide endeavor to integrate the Catholic Identity into the life and ethos of the University. As the Mission Officer, I have crucial responsibilities to develop programs, initiatives, and activities that both educate and engage students, faculty, academic and non-academic staff, and alumni. These initiatives help to further our understanding and embracing of NDU’s Catholic Identity, while maintaining and fostering the inclusivity, openness, and diversity so crucial to our Community.”

Dr. Ziad Fahed
Director - Office of University Mission

NDU Sustainability Statement

As part of its mission, to be a committed and responsible guardian of our planet and people, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) abides by Pope Francis’ Encyclical “Laudato Si”, which is driven towards a change for the better. From innovation to public engagement, NDUsers strive to balance today’s economic, environmental, and social issues with related needs for the future. To these ends, NDU has become a member of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) with the purpose of abiding all internal sustainability-related initiatives that fall under the umbrella of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

NDU Sustainability Model

Introduction

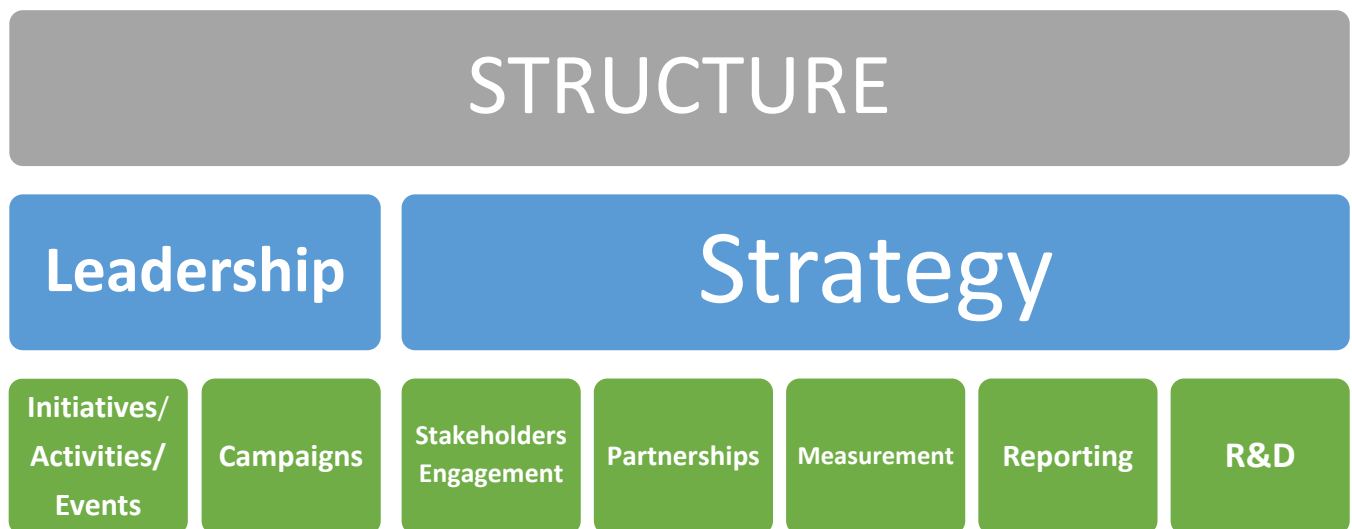
Notre Dame University- Louaize has adopted a sustainability model towards its educational institutions boosting efficiency, engagement, innovation, achievements, value creation, and change.

What made NDU stand out among other Universities in Lebanon is the innovative sustainability model that NDU introduced. This model brings together initiatives, aligning the University mission with Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment and human ecology: “Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si').”

The sustainability model includes the following success factors:

Leadership	Structure	Processes	Strategy
Measurement	Reporting	Partnerships	R&D

The NDU Sustainability Model illustrates numerous characteristics and functions of different components that made this model a benchmark for Higher Education Institutions. Starting with leadership, multidisciplinary nature and passion driven members, the task force fosters Agility and speed. It also reflects other functions: Constant Innovation and Urgency on Big Opportunity, Guiding Coalition of Volunteers, Change Vision and Strategic Initiatives, More and more Volunteers, Barriers knocked down, Wins Celebrated, Relentless action and Changes institutionalized. NDU case would add to all other existing models, clear processes and reporting, Integration in the organization's Strategic Plan, Partnerships and stakeholders' engagement.



Sustainability is defined as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.” It has three main pillars: economic, environmental, and social. These three pillars are referred to as people, planet and profits.

Covering all sustainability aspect, the NDU task force started as an environmental taskforce and while adopting the SDGs it expanded its strategy to comprise all three pillars: environmental, social and economic.



The Environmental Pillar:

The environmental pillar often gets the most attention. Organizations are focusing on managing waste, reducing their carbon footprint, water usage and their overall effect on the environment. Companies have found that have a beneficial impact on the planet can also have a positive financial impact.

The Social Pillar:

A sustainable business should have the support and approval of its stakeholders, employees and the community it operates in. The approaches to securing and maintaining this support are various; it ranges from employees' fair treatment to engaging stakeholders and contributing to the well-being of the community, locally, nationally, and globally.

The Economic Pillar:

The economic pillar of sustainability is where most businesses feel they have solid foundation. To be sustainable, a business must be profitable while considering the two other pillars. "Profit" is not what the economic pillar is all about. Activities that fit under the economic pillar include compliance, proper governance and risk management.

Sustainability provides a larger purpose and some new deliverables for organizations to strive for and helps them renew their commitments to the basics: efficiency, sustainable growth and shareholders value.

Structure

As a committed educational institution towards sustainability an established structure must be created to guide the development and implementation of an inclusive plan, hence the creation of the Environmental Sustainability Task Force (ESTF) in NDU.

NDU started initiating sustainability projects in 2013 when a team of internal experts worked, under

the European Union's TEMPUS program, on a self-study to evaluate and report all potential areas for development and growth in that direction. Given responsibility for sustainability implementation,

the ESTF was created to develop an action plan and ensure that these sustainability projects are considered a top priority across all three NDU campuses.

One of the remarkable initiatives executed was the waste management project, which includes the sorting and handling of general waste, hazardous waste, and e-waste products with the aim of redirecting NDU toward the long-term path of "zero-waste."

To ensure the project's success and its commitment to support the 17 SDGs, NDU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with several reputable NGOs and private companies that focus on environmental issues and sustainability.

The Environmental Sustainability Task Force is composed of NDU staff and faculty members who are charged with implementing internal projects and initiatives towards sustainability. Reporting directly to NDU President, the ESTF is divided into Technical and Outreach subcommittees; the Committee members are as follows:

Technical sub-committee

- Dr. Sophia Ghanimeh (co-chair for technical matters) - Associate Professor, FE, Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Dr. Pauline Aad - Assistant Professor, FNAS, Sciences
- Mr. Omar Sakr - Lecturer, FBAE, Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Mr. Sayed Ghossain - Director, Office of Campus Services
- Mr. Pierre Tannous - Director, Office of Physical Plant

Outreach sub-committee

- Mrs. Rachel Shoucair Associate Director, Office of Communications
- Mrs. Joyce Menassa – Director, Office of Admission
- Mr. Andre Fahed – Director, Office of Communications
- Ms. Nesrine Sfeir – Assistant to the President for University Advancement
- Dr. Lara Khabbaz – Director, Office of Marketing

The Environmental Sustainability Task Force is composed of NDU staff and faculty members who are charged with implementing internal projects and initiatives towards sustainability. Reporting directly to NDU President Father Pierre Najem, the ESTF is divided into Technical and Outreach subcommittees branched into 7 workings groups with initiatives, action plans, champions, timeline and Key Performance Indicators that are monitored by Working Group VII responsible also for reporting.

The focus areas of the working groups are as follows:

- 1. Waste Management**
- 2. Water Conservation**
- 3. Carbon Footprint Reduction**
- 4. Land Use & Ecosystem Preservation**
- 5. Sustainable Procurement**
- 6. Environmental Outreach & Service to the Community**
- 7. Monitoring & Review**

What happened in FA2019 is that **Working Group III was split into two groups: Energy and Transportation and 7 working groups became 8:**

- 1. Waste Management**
- 2. Water Conservation**
- 3. Carbon Footprint - Energy**
- 4. Carbon Footprint - Transportation**
- 5. Land Use & Ecosystem Preservation**
- 6. Sustainable Procurement**
- 7. Environmental Outreach & Service to the Community**
- 8. Monitoring & Review**

The sustainability strategy and anything related to past, ongoing, or planned environmental initiatives are adopted by two sub-committees; the Technical sub-committee and the Outreach sub-committee.

Leadership

The NDU Environmental Sustainability Task Force (ESTF) was created by the University Environmental Sustainability Ad-hoc Committee, which is led and chaired by NDU President Father Pierre Najem, with the support of professional and knowledgeable faculty and staff members.

“To ensure success, we must foster a sense of involvement across the NDU community. It starts with small steps, such as the valorization of our waste through the separate processing of organic and inorganic waste. This approach underlines our target, beyond that of recovery of recyclables only, toward achieving our aim as a zero-waste institution.” – President Father Pierre Najem

FR. Khoury puts sustainability in the heart of everything NDUs do, aiming to make the three campuses “sustainability hubs” in their respective regions.

Strategy

Working Groups

The sub-committees of the NDU ESTF are branched into 8 working groups with the purpose of raising sustainability awareness and engaging into the 8 focus areas mentioned above. Each working group has a leader, a strategy with objectives, action plans and Key Performance Indicators. Progress on the strategic plan of each group is communicated systematically with the

taskforce in the meetings and through Working Group VIII responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Following are the Working groups along with their objectives:

Working Group I: WASTE MANAGEMENT

This working group leads NDU's initiatives toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area I (Waste Management) of the NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Developing the scope and approaches for a comprehensive, university-wide, life-cycle materials management
- Deviating the waste from landfills
- Developing a waste reduction policy
- Processing the biodegradable waste
- Promoting a sustainable food system
- Minimizing the generation of hazardous waste when possible
- Developing a complete strategy for storage, collection and disposal of hazardous waste
- Developing an integrated plan for management of e-waste
- Supporting and enhancing reuse programs
- Evaluating current status of wastewater treatment in all campuses
- Ensuring adequate wastewater treatment and/or discharge
- Reusing the treated water
- Managing the bio-solids properly

Working Group II: WATER CONSERVATION

This working group leads NDU's initiatives toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area II (Water Conservation) of NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Evaluating water usage on campuses
- Reducing water consumption
- Reducing landscaping water use
- Diversifying the sources of fresh water

Working Group III & IV: ENERGY & Transportation

This working group leads NDU's initiatives toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area III (Carbon Footprint Reduction) of NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Establishing a monitoring system for emissions of Greenhouse Gases
- Reducing energy requirements
- Improving energy conservation
- Switching to cleaner renewable types of energy

- Starting incentive programs to offset transportation related emissions

Working Group V: LAND USE & ECOSYSTEMS

This working group leads NDU's initiatives toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area IV (Land use and ecosystem preservation) of NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Increasing green areas
- Adopting an Integrated Pest Management approach, which allows prevention, monitoring and control with a limited need for pesticides
- Optimizing water consumption
- Improving resource conservation

Working Group VI: SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

This working group leads NDU's initiatives toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area V (Sustainable Procurement) of NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Developing a sustainable supply chain system and establishing a management system
- Consulting with and assessing NDU suppliers and help them meet NDU sustainability goals
- Favoring products with lower life cycle impacts
- Favoring local sources and services, wherever possible, to encourage local business and cut down on the need for transportation and distribution
- Buying bulk to reduce the amount of packaging

Working Group VII: ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This working group prepares for the yearly conference of NDU Environmental Sustainability Task Force.

It is an essential component of the communication and outreach activities of the Task Force. Those focus on:

- Turning NDU into a benchmark for environmentally sustainable institutions
- Educating the community through engagement opportunities with student, staff and faculty members
- Providing training and tools for assessment of environmental parameters
- Creating focused programs and competitions
- Providing incentives and rewards

Working Group VIII: MONITORING & REPORTING

This working group assists the other WGs in assessing their performance by monitoring KPIs, analyzing the data and reviewing the adopted methods. The working group also compiles the data and develops semester and annual reports.

It works toward achieving the goals set under Focus Area VII (Monitoring and Review) of NDU Environmental Sustainability Action Plan:

- Defining Key Performance Indicators
- Submitting bi-annual reports to the President of NDU
- Publishing an annual Environmental Sustainability Report online showing our objectives, methods, and progress
- Benchmarking NDU's performance against peer institutions
- Reviewing the action plan every two years and incorporating emerging challenges and opportunities.

Measurement and Reporting

Measurement Technics, Monitoring, Outcomes of Projects, and Reporting are key aspects towards follow-up and assessment for the agenda of Sustainable Development.

As mentioned earlier Working Group VII was created for the purpose of monitoring and reporting and its main objective is to achieve a framework of all working groups' data and indicators, inspired by UI Green Metrics to be able to rapidly and effectively apply to other competitions.

Measurement:

The rest of the Working Groups set KPIs stimulated from the University of Indonesia GreenMetric criteria and indicators that NDU uses as benchmark. They then send the Indicators to WG VII for validation.

The aforementioned actions help identify strong points to be highlighted and shared with the community and stakeholders which will improve NDU's positioning. Furthermore, it will help assess and highlight the facts whereby more than 50% was achieved for funded research for education in sustainability.

Monitoring:

Monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals requires existing data and monitoring capacity. Accordingly, and for tracking SDG progress, three Reporting technics on Sustainability currently are applied at NDU:

1. Communication on Engagement (COE) – a biannual report presented to the UNGC
2. Public Reporting SDGs Wall; an SDG color coded wall in the NDU common area displaying all initiatives, actions and projects executed by NDU Faculty, Staff, Students for everybody to see. This way of reporting raises awareness on the importance of the commitment to achieving the SDGs and the Agenda 2030.



A dedicated page can be found on the University website comprising all info pertaining to sustainability:
<http://www.ndu.edu.lb/sustainability>

Research and Development

In NDU's previous report more than 50 percent of funds were dedicated to sustainability research projects. In this report covering years with unprecedented crises, funds became more and more scarce. The following are externally funded sustainability research projects by NDUs:

YEAR	PROJECT DURATION (YEARS)	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	FACULTY
2018	3	Impact of Integrating Solar Thermal Panels in Lebanese Buildings on the Indoor Environment	CNRS	FE
2020	2	Chemical recycling of oxygenated polymer materials	AUF	FE
2020	3	Urban and transPortation reGeneration for Reducing Automobile Dependency in mEna (UPGRADE)	Erasmus+	FE
2020	3	Sustainable Wastewater Treatment for Hospitals (SWaTH)	Erasmus+	FE
2022	5	The development of polyurethane polymer materials from depolymerised lignin streams	VITO	FE
2022	2	Consultancy for water testing campaigns and a waterwise workshop	ACTED	FE

Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships

Building sustainable relationships with stakeholders



The multiple disruptions that hit the world demonstrated that partnership and collaborations are the main success factors of all activities and initiatives on all levels. Therefore, the upper management and the Office of Public Affairs and Protocol are building fruitful/sustainable relationships with stakeholders (major economic, political, social, environmental and academic players) to create synergy for effectiveness and to reinforce NDU's role as major player in the ecosystem.

NDU SIGNS MOU WITH THE LEBANESE ARMY

Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at the Ministry of Defense, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Lebanese Army. This MoU will serve as an agreement between NDU and the Lebanese Army to provide educational services to military members, active-duty and retired officers, non-commissioned officers, civil servants in staff category A and their families, family members of martyr troops, physically challenged and deceased members of the Lebanese Army.



Fr. Khoury pointed out that this MoU is more than an agreement between two parties, but rather an embodiment of a solid relationship between NDU and the Lebanese Army because both institutions share a joint mission.

Fr. Khoury added, “Strength and knowledge go hand in hand in protecting the homeland”.

For his part, General Aoun thanked NDU’s administration for this significant initiative in helping shed light on the purpose and importance of education in the military institution, and its positive impact on productivity at the national level. NDU has curated an extensive collection of experts and resources that the Lebanese Army can benefit from. Both parties are confident that this alliance will significantly and positively improve the future of civilian–military education.

NDU SIGNED AN MOU WITH THE Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH)

On February 21, 2022, commemorating the UN’s World Day of Social Justice, the Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS) at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH). The agreement took place during a two-hour panel forum, titled “Human Rights, Social Justice and The Digital Frontier”, with the aim of employing mutual resources to conduct research on human rights and social responsibility, supporting the NDU-FLPS students and helping them find ways to establish a promising career in Lebanon.

Fr. Khoury welcomed CLDH and expressed his strong belief in the potential of this cooperation as it provides a wide ranging window of opportunity for both the university and students. He highlighted the merits of institutionalizing human rights. He added, “We acknowledge that educators must first understand what it means to be a socially responsible institution and our role in civil society, and are therefore able to build relations between an academic institution and civil society.”

The meeting concluded with a group picture and the promise of establishing a strong, synergetic partnership between both institutions.



NDU SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH KLOUDR

A feat in building a bridge between the education sector and technology: on Friday, September 9, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the cloud management service, kloudr.

Through the MoU, kloudr will be providing NDU students of Computer Science (CS) and Computer and Communication Engineering (CCE) with opportunities in mentorship, internships, and training, laying the groundwork for them to become certified cloud experts and gaining an advantage in the industry, whether in Lebanon or abroad. kloudr as a company is looking to recruit computer scientists and engineers to fulfill this goal, hence the widening of the scope for CS and CCE students in their career prospects.

In turn, kloudr and NDU will be allocating their joint resources towards presentations, research, and training sessions at the University for the advancement of cloud management and information technology (IT) infrastructure, a necessity in today's fast-developing technology.

A significant perk of working in cloud management is that it can be done remotely. "Our youth need not uproot themselves from their country to progress in their careers," said Dr. Chammas. This sentiment was echoed by the President, stating: "Through commitment and a sense of belonging, we are opening doors for our community so our youth remain rooted in their homeland."

The MoU is the beginning of a five-year relationship between the two parties, promoting and endorsing the talents, skills, and creativity of CS and CCE students as they venture in their respective paths. As an accredited University, such opportunities are paramount in ensuring our programs and students receive the finest education to build a brighter future.



NDU SIGNS MOU WITH BIOLAND

Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bioland, a Lebanese agriculture company, in the presence of NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury, and Mr. Gilbert Khoury, President of Bioland, with an aim to promote mutual aid and collaborations between both institutions.

The terms of the MoU will allow Bioland to supply its resources and facilities to NDU's chemical engineering (CHE) students, including access to the company's farms in Majidiye, Lassa, Hbeline, and Sghar. Moreover, CHE students will be able to receive funding for specific research projects; with the support of Dr. Feghali, who is leading/supporting on the optimal design of the distillation plant of Sghar and the qualitative/quantitative chemical characterization of essential oils and hydrosols products for larger production, that is partially funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Conversely, Bioland will receive key support and contributions from NDU. CHE students are in line to start upscaling and optimizing Bioland's distillation process, in addition to providing industrial consultancy regarding novel distillation techniques, essential oil and hydrosol extraction and processing, and their subsequent analyses.

Future projects on the horizon include designing and enhancing Bioland's farm in Sghar, with the involvement and consultancy of CHE students! The students are also set to update the company's product portfolio and diversify its market. Other students still are looking forward to internships at Bioland, helping to implement the reviewed processes and product designs.



NDU SIGNS MOU WITH CISH-UNESCO, BYBLOS

In line with its continuous outreach, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Center for Human Sciences (CISH), Byblos, under the auspices of UNESCO, on Wednesday, June 15. NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury, met with CISH Director, Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid, for the signing, following a presentation of CISH's history and speeches given both by the President and the Director. The Dean of the Faculty of Humanities (FH), Dr. Kamal AbouChedid, and the Chairperson of the Department of English and Translation (DET), Dr. Maya El Hajj, took part in the ceremony.

Dr. Abi Chedid introduced CISH, citing this event to be the first of many cooperative steps with NDU. Founded by both UNESCO and the Lebanese Government in 1999, CISH has dedicated itself towards education, capacity-building, and research in the Human Sciences, embracing and promoting the role of the humanities in social dynamics, cultural advancement, and technology. The Center's mission aligns with that of NDU in endorsing enlightened and global citizenship, particularly via increasing the national and global relevance of academia.

During his address, Fr. Khoury expressed his enthusiasm for the establishments' collaboration, a conjoining of resources in pursuit of a cultural resurgence in Lebanon. "If an educational institution does not build bridges," said the President, "this institution will remain limited." It is necessary to consistently develop the meaning of culture, and this MOU "cannot be considered a target, but a starting point."

Said starting point is set to kick-off a mutual development of the humanities, restoring its position as a focal point upon which a society is built. The present crises in Lebanon have hit the economy with a historical hindrance, any cultural movement subsequently fading into the background. However, with this MOU, NDU has set a priority that no dimension of society be left to stagnate in the efforts to strengthen Lebanon's character, especially as today's youth will be inheriting the nation's leadership.



NDU SIGNS MOU WITH NATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY OF JAPAN

On Tuesday, July 12, President of Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), Fr. Bechara Khoury, gathered with Dr. Saku Tsuneta, the Director General of the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) dedicated to Research and Academic Collaboration. Fr. Khoury was joined live by the Chairperson of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences (FNAS), Dr. Bassem Sabra, the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA), Dr. Michel El Hayek, and the Assistant Vice President for Academic Support (AVPAS), Dr. Simon Abou Jaoude.

Tuning in via Zoom in Japan were Dr. Tsuneta, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lebanese Republic to Japan, H.E. Mr. Nidal Yehya, his son, Mr. Hadi Yehya, Executive Advisor to the NAOJ Director General, Dr. Kaz Sekiguchi, and Ex-Research Engineer, Mr. Yasuo Torri. Meanwhile, joining remotely from Lebanon were the Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Lebanon, Ms. Minami Kunitomo, as well as FNAS Associate Professor, Dr. Roger Hajjar.

The signing was moderated on the Zoom call by the Master of Ceremony, Ms. Mizuho Matsumoto, Office of International Relations at NAOJ. Ms. Matsumoto introduced the first speaker, Dr. Sekiguchi, whose presentation relayed the history between NDU and NAOJ, first formed with the donation of the Geisei Observatory's 60cm telescope from NAOJ to the Farid & Raphael Moussa Observatory at NDU's Main Campus in 2013. The team at NAOJ made the trip to Lebanon, where they provided technical support to the professors and students in assembling the telescope at the Faculty of Engineering laboratories (FE). By 2014, the construction of the NDU Observatory was complete and the telescope was up and running.

Dr. Sabra's presentation followed, detailing the timeline of NDU's history with NAOJ and the updates since the telescope's installation. Between 2014 and 2019, prior to the Lebanese economic crisis, there were at least 2,000 visits to the Observatory. In those five years, the telescope became a great attraction and the site of several events for people of all ages to enjoy. With no intentions of limiting the telescope's appeal to Campus, Dr. Sabra moved on to discuss the eventual movement of the telescope to a new location, an observatory set to be constructed in Bcharre, at an estimated 3,000 meters above sea level. According to Dr. Sabra, this would render the new observatory to be at the highest altitude in the Middle East, and the 15th-highest worldwide. The relocation project aims to increase interest in astronomy and astrophysics in Lebanon, in addition to promoting astro- and eco-tourism as the chosen location is a prime spot for space observation, winter sports, and other outdoor activities.

H.E. Mr. Yehya was then introduced, expressing his enthusiasm for the signing ceremony and its implications for both NDU and NAOJ, as it is a testament to the mutual cultural influences that Lebanon and Japan have had on one another over time. "I am pleased to witness the

commitment of NAOJ and NDU to establish this collaboration and strong ties to leverage one another,” said H.E., “This signing is both timely and relevant. I am confident that this partnership will drive a new wave towards world-class development.”

The documents were then signed, in different countries and time zones but with a shared purpose.



Afterwards, the NDU President gave his address, describing the long-standing partnership between NDU and NAOJ as impetus for scientific advancement. “The renewal of the MoU is incentive to continue striving for excellence,” said Fr. Khoury, “We are an academic institution, and you are a research entity; we complement each other.” With Lebanon’s current state of affairs, it is necessary not to cease but instead to persist in the development of academics, research, and their intersections, relayed the President: “If we are aware of our history, then we can look to a better future in spite of any crisis.” Upon the MoU signing, Fr. Khoury affirmed, “This morning, we have decided to take a step forward.”

Dr. Tsuneta, in closing the ceremony with his statement, similarly shared his own enthusiasm for the enduring collaboration between the two institutions. He believes that “it is particularly important to maintain our close relationship during these challenging times.”

In this virtual bridge across space and time, the MoU call came to a conclusion. NAOJ is a reputable body, and NDU is eager to yield further results from this partnership, for the mutual benefit of academia, science, and humanity at large, keeping a lens turned skyward for any inspiration passing by.



NDU SIGNS MOU WITH QOOT

Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with QOOT, the first agri-food innovation cluster in Lebanon. NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury, and Mrs. Nadine Khoury, President of QOOT, met for the signing on the opening day of the Agri-Food Innovation Days 2022 (AFID) in Beirut.

Founded in 2019, QOOT is geared towards enhancing the agri-food sector in Lebanon by collaborating with Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), multinational companies, investment entities, and other institutions. Its structure is built on entrepreneurship, food innovation, and cluster management.

Dr. Jessy El Hayek, the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences (FNHS) at NDU, cited the importance of joining both parties' resources for the sake of strengthening the academia-industry linkage, especially during the present economic crisis. This will help focus research efforts on finding solutions to real-world problems, such as food safety and

sustainability. The MoU further aims to raise awareness surrounding the agri-food sector, where the research and development potential of the University will come into play.

Fr. Khoury emphasized the importance of the signing and the University's ongoing initiatives for future collaborations: "The idea of an MoU gives the opportunity to look outward; it means you are ready to go on an adventure, explore other areas, and breathe new oxygen."



The MoU allows the students of the FNHS, particularly those of the Food Safety and Quality Management program, to observe the industry first-hand and enter the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Students will also benefit from projects, research funding, and internships through QOOT.

The collaborative efforts of NDU and QOOT, therefore, aim to establish a framework where the Lebanese agri-food sector can thrive, despite the obstacles presented by economic hardships.

NDU SIGNS MOU WITH ECOSERV TO RECYCLE E-WASTE

Even as other forms of recycling become more and more common, thought is rarely paid to discarded electronic devices, old phones, batteries without charge, and other forms of "e-waste", which, considering their ubiquity and potential to do harm, is a dangerous oversight. To help reduce the amount of e-waste on campus and among its faculty, staff, and students, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ecoserv, a

Lebanese NGO that collaborates on the operational level with internationally certified recyclers to offer e-waste disposal in Lebanon.



The MOU commits NDU to prepare all its e-waste for collection (within and outside of campus), and act as a drop-off point for its faculty, staff, and students. NDU will also work with Ecoserv to hold e-waste awareness workshops. For its part, Ecoserv will ensure that the e-waste is properly disposed of, including the total data destruction of all equipment that could carry sensitive information (like Hard Drives, USBs, etc.).

As a result of this MOU, all members of the NDU community are encouraged to bring their old electronics to campus once the current COVID pandemic is over, where they can dispose of them at the drop-off point: a transparent box opposite the bookstore. A full list of the e-waste that Ecoserv dispose of can be found on their website.

This MOU continues NDU's pioneering work in sustainability, which has already earned significant international recognition. The University has won United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) Milestones Award in Academia two years in a row.

US EMBASSY'S CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER IN LEBANON VISITS NDU

Mrs. Hermila Yifter, Cultural Affairs Officer at the US Embassy, and Mr. Elie Ferneiny, Academic and Outreach Specialist at the US Embassy, visited Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) to meet with the

President, Fr. Bechara Khoury, to strengthen the relationship between NDU and the US embassy and discuss opportunities for future collaborations.

Fr. Khoury welcomed Mrs. Yifter and explained that NDU has a longstanding relationship with the US which concretized following the attainment of the NECHE institutional accreditation. Dr. Asmar highlighted certain research projects that received support from the US and wished to expedite and intensify the relationship with the US embassy in Lebanon and to craft potential partnerships with American universities that carry similar missions.

Dr. Chalhoub highlighted the importance of the NDU-USA relationship and the need to strengthen it. He hoped that NDU participates in US-Embassy and USAID Programs to receive research funding and collaborative research opportunities. He also highlighted the necessity of partnering with American universities that share common values and discussed several emerging topics following the Beirut Blast that he presented to Region 9 - California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CAL-OES) and to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE-CA-USA) that require urgent support.



Mr. Dirani explained the mission of the American Friends of NDU, an organization founded in the US in 2008, with the objective of supporting the higher education industry in Lebanon and particularly NDU.

From her end, Mrs. Yifter confirmed that a lot of opportunities for future collaborations are present and that she is ready to help build the needed connections between NDU and the needed US entities.

A full program was planned to properly introduce Mrs. Yifter to the University which concluded with a short tour to the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum.

Programs

NDU AND SKILD CENTER LAUNCH NEW IDEAL PROGRAM

Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) and the SKILD Center held a press conference to launch the new IDEAL program, a two-year postsecondary certificate program for students with intellectual and development difficulties. The program is offered by NDU in collaboration with the SKILD Center and an accredited American University.

The purpose of the program is to offer a university experience for students with special needs, to enhance their academic, professional, and interpersonal skills, allowing them to lead successful careers in a competitive job market and helping them become productive citizens.

Speaking on the occasion, NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury, explained how inclusion is a core pillar embedded within the University's mission and how he strongly believes in the potential and future of this program. NDU has a strong commitment to providing quality education for all and to an ever-evolving understanding of education, promoting better learning, and fostering a strong sense of citizenship in our students.

Director of the SKILD Center, Hiba Al Jamal, shared the potential scope of this program's impact. "What excites us about this program is how it will integrate academic, social, and career skill advancement for the students. This has an immense capacity to benefit not only their own lives by opening up opportunities and enhancing their personal development, but it also opens the door for enhancing society's development as we learn to become more inclusive, accommodating, and accepting of differences."

Dr. Elie Badr, Vice President for Academic Affairs at NDU, highlighted the importance of this program in offering a unique opportunity and learning experience for the NDU students, overall community, and the students who will join the program as they get ready to join the job market.

Students will undergo a specific admission and screening process as part of the requirements to join the program.

Initiatives & Activities

NDU STUDENTS

A. NDU STUDENTS CREATE CARBON CALCULATOR FOR UNDP FOR THEIR SENIOR PROJECT

Abdo Al Mallah, Mira Bechara, and Amani Nasr, recent Civil and Environmental Engineering graduates from Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), have completed their senior project supported by the Climate Change Division of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Lebanon: modeling a carbon footprint calculator for Universities in Lebanon. Lea Kai Aboujaoude at the Climate Change Projects, UNDP, was the project manager and Dr. Sophia Ghanimeh, Associate Professor at the NDU Faculty of Engineering and co-chair of the NDU sustainability task force, served as the project advisor to the students.

The amount a person, product, or activity contributes to climate change through its release of greenhouse gases (GHG), either directly or indirectly, is known as its carbon footprint. The GHGs, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrous oxide (N₂O), methane (CH₄), chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), absorb and trap energy in the atmosphere causing the greenhouse effect.



A carbon footprint calculator, therefore, is meant to estimate the amount of GHG emissions of the aforementioned causes. Institutions or individuals using the calculator provide it with the relevant information like electricity usage and transportation. Through these calculations, the

users are then able to estimate their contribution to climate change through the total GHG emissions calculated in carbon equivalent.

Al Mallah, Bechara, and Nasr developed their calculator to be as user-friendly as possible. They also included a mitigation action section where institutions are given points for the sustainable/environmental projects and activities they undertake. The aim of this added feature is to universities to compete to be more sustainable.

All three students were enthusiastic about their experience and the chance to make a difference with their senior project.

Reflecting on her work with NDU students, Lea Kai Aboujaoude said, “It was a very productive experience that generated a tool that will be used and further developed by the UNDP climate change team for future carbon footprint reporting. I was impressed by the high level of professionalism, commitment and the excellent technical skills that Abdo, Amani and Mira showed throughout the project, and it was a real pleasure working with them.”

The hope is that the project sees wide dissemination and adoption, and increases awareness that will reduce the impact of GHG emissions.

The calculator has now been handed over to the UNDP Climate Change Division who will finalize, disseminate it to Lebanese schools and universities, customize the tool for the private sector, and adopt it as the official tool for reporting. The division will also engage all three students, Al Mallah, Bechara, and Nasr, in any activity related to training and dissemination of the calculator. As for the team themselves, they will be presenting a paper on the Carbon Calculator at the 113th Annual Conference and Exhibition of the Air and Waste Management Association, June 30, 2020 (<https://www.awma.org/ace2020>).

- B.** Three Chemical Engineering (CHE) students at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) were selected to participate in training sessions as part of the Sustainable Wastewater Treatment for Hospitals (SWaTH) project, a three-year venture co-funded by Erasmus+.



Nour Atallah and Mia Hajj were invited to Finland, where they worked on photocatalytic degradation of pharmaceutical compounds in water in a group led by Dr. Mika Huuhtanen at the University of Oulu. “I was given the chance to work with diverse advanced research equipment,” Nour noted, allowing her to work on the preparation of hydrochar, a solid rich in carbon, from garden waste through hydrothermal carbonization. Her main goal was to find a sustainable adsorbent that can be used to clean wastewater released from hospitals without harming the environment.

Meanwhile, Mia used photocatalysts to work on the breakdown of pharmaceutical contaminants, developing catalysts via wet impregnation and characterizing them using several analysis techniques such as x-ray diffraction. These experiments proved the efficiency of the synthesized catalysts in degrading the pharmaceutical contaminants.

In Spain, Karen Nassif worked on the synthesis of activated carbon (ACs) out of biomass in the laboratory of Dr. Sergio Morales Torres at the University of Granada. For this synthesis, Karen used waste residues generated from industrial distillation to produce ACs. By utilizing hydrothermal carbonization using a high-pressure reactor followed by chemical and physical activation, the outcome of the performed work showed promising results and implications that will subsequently be explored.

“These training sessions permit students to access advanced facilities in renowned European laboratories and universities,” said Dr. Elias Feghali, Coordinator of the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Programs at NDU. Nour, Mia, and Karen’s participation and experiments resulted in positive feedback from the SWaTH international partners, recognizing their devotion and

autonomy. The CHE program continues to rear capable engineers committed to using their skills to benefit the larger society, a testament to their moral integrity as NDU students.

- C. Students at the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics (FBAE), Yara Mouawad and Suzana Semaan, represented Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) at the Foodservice Consultants Society International (FCSI) event in Chantilly, France. The FCSI Europe, Africa, and Middle East (EAME) organized the Student Challenge of 2022 under the theme of Together, Action, Change, Transformation (#TACT2022).



With a focus on sustainability, from May 12 till May 15, participants were involved in a task to provide solid corporate consultancy to promote effectiveness, efficiency, green practices, and social responsibility. After networking with the organizers and other delegates, teams were formed and given a 24-

hour period to propose a sustainability plan for a corporation with 9 thousand workers and several Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets. Each team would be presenting to a panel of seven judges from various industries, as well as the attendees of the conference.

The winners were announced at the evening gala, with Yara and the blue team winning the audience-awarded prize, and Suzana and the green team winning that awarded by the jury.

Yara and Suzana's success at such an international event is a key example of the need for sustainable practices, especially spearheaded by the youth, to mitigate the effects of climate change. The NDU students' involvement shows that each industry can take the necessary steps forward to implement these practices, a portrayal of social responsibility and conscientiousness.

- D. Samer Ibrahim, an Architecture student at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) was exclusively selected, as the only participating Lebanese student, to showcase his project “Beirut Urban Utopia” in the 2021 edition of the MENA Grad Show.



“The Global Grad Show, an initiative by the Art Dubai Group, is a programme for graduates in universities across the world whose research and ideas offer solutions to help solve major social and environmental issues.” Being an annual event, it has become the world’s largest gathering of academic institutions and, to-date, has exhibited over 900 projects from over 300 universities.

This year, the Global Grad show hosted 56 universities from the MENA region that were represented by students addressing global issues through their social impact innovations. The themes of the selected projects were sustainability, innovation and diversity.

Samer’s senior project “Beirut Urban Utopia”, submitted in spring 2021, addresses current difficulties in the cities of Lebanon. For example, how the lessening of green space and agricultural areas forced by urbanization is leading to a rift between man and nature. Through this project, Samer aimed at reconsidering the existing urban fabric and reintroducing farming and greenery into the cities. His project direction was biophilia (love of nature) where he applied biophilic design tools.

With an academic direction from the Department of Architecture in the Ramez G. Chagoury Faculty of Architecture, Arts and Design (RC-FAAD), Samer received the finest academic support in each phase of the project.

E. FAAD NDUERS VOLUNTEER IN THE “BACK HOME” CAMPAIGN

NDU graduates from the Ramez G. Chagoury Faculty of Architecture, Arts, and Design (FAAD) volunteered in the “Back Home” campaign after the Beirut explosion, organized and funded by the Lions Clubs International, District 351 (Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine).. Around twenty alumni and students came together to restore their country and rebuild their cities and neighborhoods.



NDU alumni came out in full force to help the Lebanese people affirming their belief in education, personal responsibility, and a unified Lebanon. The team who assessed the damages were NDU FAAD graduates who combined their architectural expertise and exemplary design skills to repair the damaged houses. During this campaign, our alumni covered the areas of Achrafieh, Rmeil, Medawar, Gemmayzeh, Mar Mkhael, and recently expanded to cover Sin el Fil and Jdeideh with a clear goal of restoring 3,000 homes, including household doors and windows in the damaged regions.

“The volunteer work performed by our graduates is a true source of pride, and their enthusiasm and professionalism are being praised by both their teammates and the organizers,” said Dr. Hani Zgheib, Assistant Professor in FAAD. “It has been a great opportunity to participate in a positive action during these hard times. The community outreach is an important part of the architect’s education and profession, and this experience has offered a great field work and exposure.”

“Lions provided us with an opportunity to rebuild our Beirut, fix the damages that this blast caused, and help people as much as possible! It was a fruitful experience with a great teamwork!” said Yasmina Merheb (BA’20).

Jihane Kabbara (BA’20) stated, “Help to feel grateful continuously, give to draw a smile on everyone’s face; we are all in this together. “Moreover, Samir Abou Shakra (BA’20) pointed out, “Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but Lions provided us with the chance to have this wonderful experience. We learned a lot and it was joyful.”

From his side, Simon Amine (BA’20) explained, “Lions provided for us a platform to help our people and our city. But most importantly, a healthy and motivating environment for us to be able to do so.”

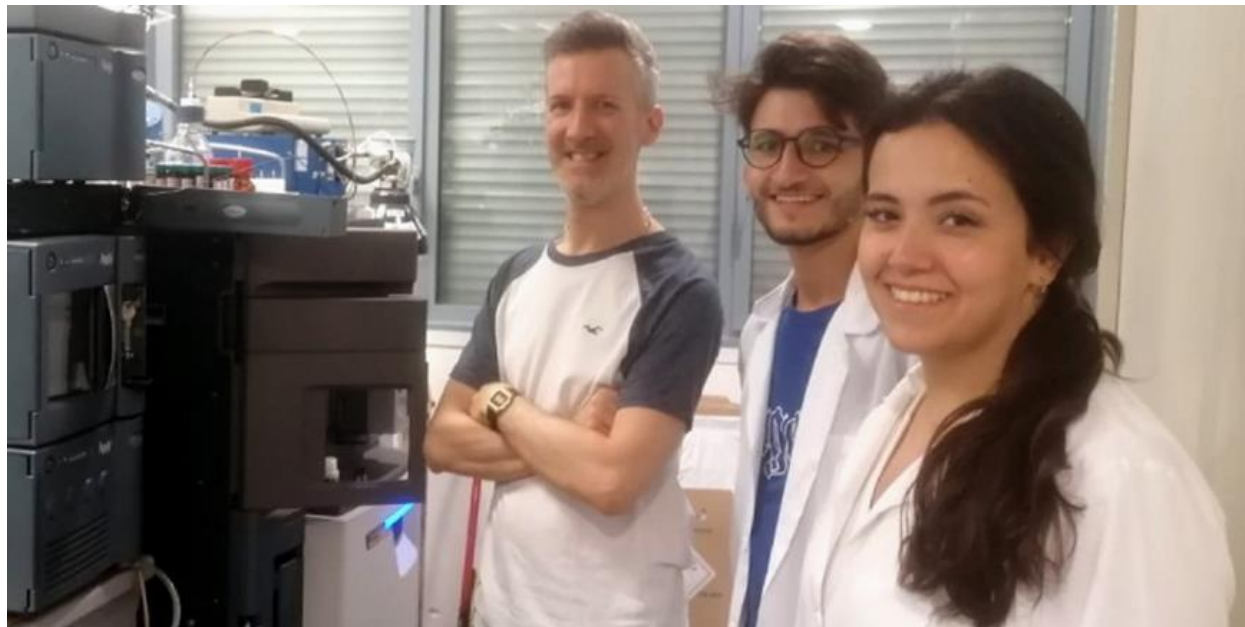
NDU will continue to meet the urgent needs of Lebanon and we are very proud of our students and alumni for their active participation.

- F. At Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), Dr. Elias Feghali, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Engineering (FE) and coordinator of the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering programs, is currently leading the efforts towards the development of chemical recycling methods that facilitate the decomposition of waste polymers into high-added value products that could be subsequently re-polymerized to generate an array of functional materials.

The widespread utilization of polymer materials results in millions of tons of waste plastics every year. Over the last decade, converting waste plastics to valuable resources has been a primary objective for researchers; nevertheless, most plastic recycling methods still rely on mechanical processes that are limited to relatively pure polymers.

Since 2019, with the support of Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Dr. Elena Baranova of the University of Ottawa (UO) and Dr. Henri Wortham of Aix-Marseille University (AMU) have been collaborating on a research venture titled, “Chemical recycling of oxygenated polymer materials into high added-value products.” The topic inspired several senior projects of Chemical Engineering (CHE) students at NDU, particularly following a webinar delivered by Dr. Baranova herself.

Dr. Feghali and his students set to develop a depolymerization mixture at the University. As the research unfolded, so did the opportunities: two CHE students, Joelle Kazan and Charles Der Boghossian, visited France for an internship at AMU's Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry (LCE), accompanied by Dr. Nathalie Hayeck, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the Lebanese American University (LAU). The purpose of the internship was to analyze the prepared mixture, allowing the students to witness the process first-hand and use advanced chemical characterization equipment, such as HPLC-UV-MS.



Student Christy Abou Saab similarly received an internship, although at a different institution. Given NDU's long-standing relationship with the Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO), Christy was able to work along with Dr. Feghali for two months on VITO's Sustainable Polymer Technologies (SPOT) team, led by Dr. Karolien Vanbroekhoven, exploring the potential of chemical recycling through solubilization processes.

NDU's approach to chemical recycling of plastics creates sustainability in the life-cycle management of plastic waste, with wider uses than current recycling methods. With the involvement of renowned international researchers, the ultimate aim is to create a viable and sustainable solution for a global problem, while exposing NDU students to the most recent technologies in the field.

NDU Alumni

- A. NDU Alumna [Doris Saba](#) (BA'16) and MA student in Media Studies, has been selected to participate in the regional storytelling project by the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, in collaboration with UNESCO and Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, at the American University of Beirut to serve as a positive role model that would inspire young Arab women and girls in their career choices.
- B. NDU Alumni, Naja Bou Khalil (BE'21) and Deema Khaleel (BE'21), were contracted by Engineering World Health (EWH), a non-profit based in the U.S, with the support of Dr. Naji Khoury, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Engineering at NDU, to be facilitators for a virtual exchange program sponsored by The Stevens Initiative.



The exchange program brings together students from the U.S, Lebanon, and Jordan to learn more about health technology, innovation, and cultures. Naja and Deema participated in this exchange program back in summer 2020, and were recently contacted to take part in this project once again following its overall success.

In light of this positive experience, Naja stated, “You have the chance to meet different people, get to know their backgrounds, and learn innovative problem solving techniques in the

healthcare industry within low resource environments. I was also able to develop my interpersonal skills throughout my participation as a student and as a facilitator by dealing with the different stakeholders in an international environment.”

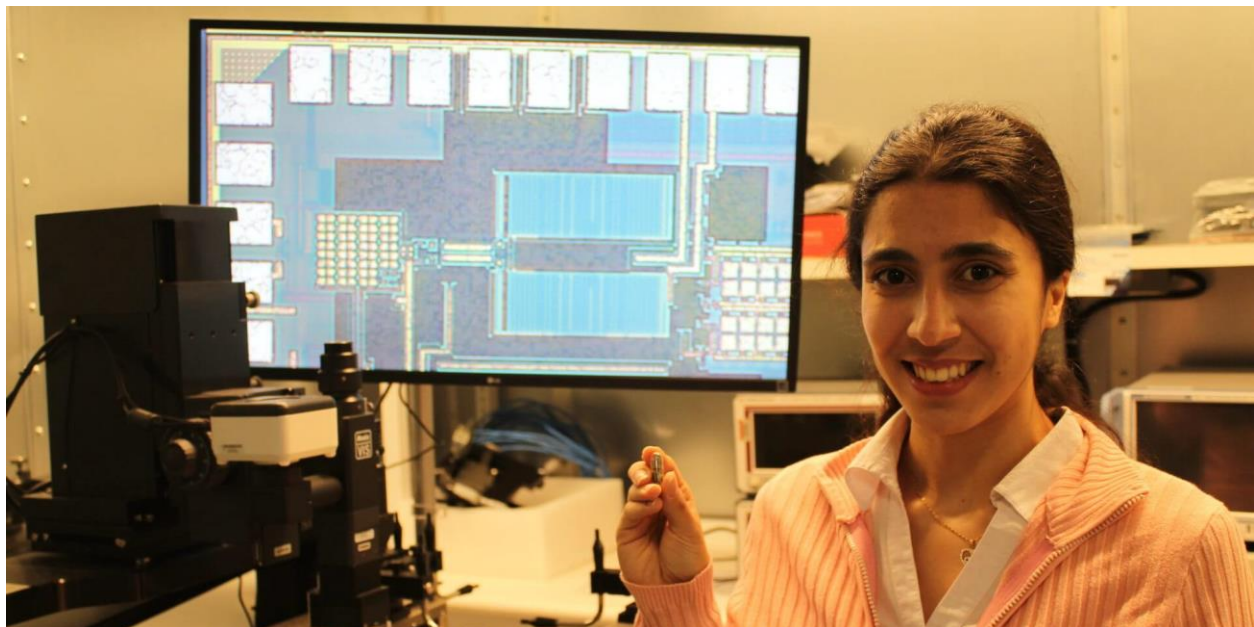
Deema described her overall experience by stating, “Throughout my EWH Virtual Exchange Program, I had the chance to work with people from different backgrounds, which made the sessions culturally diverse and enabled me to strengthen my intercultural communication skills. As an engineer, I witnessed first-hand that challenges are the driving force of solutions, and I look forward to challenging myself even further.”

The Stevens Initiative, which sponsors the Engineering World Health (EWH) exchange program, wrote a success story about the alumni’s involvement and shared it with the US Department of State and EWH:

<https://stevensinitiative.org/impact/former-participants-become-facilitators-and-continue-their-virtual-exchange-journeys/>

- C. NDU alumna, Michella Rustom (BE’17), shares her experience as a PhD student in the University of Southern California while designing her first ever integrated circuit.

She considers NDU to be the foundation upon which she has built her academic career and seeks to use her extraordinary learning experience to support young Lebanese students and help her country. <https://bit.ly/3fNiHEt>



- D. NDUer Zakhia Abi Raad, (BE'19), was exclusively selected out of 600 applicants by the Erasmus Mundus European Masters for Energy Efficiency as the only Lebanese to be awarded a full scholarship in the Master of "Management and Engineering of Environment and Energy" (ME3+).



With an academic direction from both, Dr. Najib Metni, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Engineering (FE) and Chairperson at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr. Charbel Bou Mosleh, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Engineering (FE), Abi Raad's concentration will focus solely on energy efficiency in buildings and industries as well as data analysis,

energy networks, modelling, and management for smart cities and smart grids, and most importantly the integration of renewable energy systems. Zakhia aims to work alongside governmental agencies as well as impactful companies on energy transition projects to reduce carbon emission and integrate new environmentally friendly energy sources to transition into a cleaner and more sustainable future.

Campaigns

NDU BRIDGING HEARTS

In the wake of the catastrophic blast that struck Beirut, around 300,000 families have partly or fully lost their homes and workplaces.

To help with the relief effort, NDU is launching "NDU Bridging Hearts": a charitable campaign offering support in the form of in-kind donations and on-ground work for those who have been hardest hit.



NDU encourages all our faculty and staff to take part in the following lines of support:

1. Donating non-perishable foods (cans, rice, pasta, etc.) and water.
2. Donating everyday household items (shampoo, soap, detergents, cleaning equipment, etc.).
3. Donating clothes and with the following requirements: the donated clothes need to be clean, in good condition, and sorted in bags according to the intended age and gender. Gender and age should be mentioned on each bag.
4. Helping on-ground in partnership with the Maronite Archdiocese of Beirut in collaboration with Maronite Patriarchal Youth Department.

All donations should be dropped off at the Student Affairs Office Conference Room for NDU Faculty, Staff, and Students, while the broader community should drop off their donations with the main security booth.

NDU'S NISRINE EL TURKEY LAUNCHES BRIDGING HEARTS WEBSITE TO FACILITATE THE RELIEF EFFORT

On September 9, 2020, with the Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) Bridging Hearts relief campaign fully under way, Nisrine El Turkey, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Electrical, Computer and Communication-Faculty of Engineering (FE), has rallied together students and fellow faculty to develop a website, www.ndubridginghearts.me, for the initiative in collaboration with Lebanese telecom company, Spectre S.A.L.

El Turkey worked with Sabine Terky, part time faculty member at the Faculty of Natural and Applied Science, along with a cadre of NDU students to help develop and maintain the website, and follow up on the aid provided. NDUsers Christina Raad, Hadi Zaarour, Tatiana Saba, Elio Tannoury, Kenny Karam, Rebecca Abi Fadel, Elie Matta, and Michel Akl Fares all contributed. El Turkey trained Raad and Zaarour to write the Machine Learning Algorithm (MLA) of the system,

with support from Spectre S.A.L Engineers, and Abi Fadel, Fares, and Matta worked as Full Stack Developers.

Spectre S.A.L., a telecom company that specializes the Internet of Things, Machine Learning and Cloud Computing, offered to host the website free of charge, donated 200 food boxes, and shared their expertise in Web Development.

The finished website contains two forms: one for those who need help and one for those who want to donate. The MLA then automatically searches for matches between the requests for donations and the donations provided and notifies the team, who then set about fulfilling the request. The platform thus facilitates donating by matching the donors to those in need directly, with the team on standby to deliver the aid.

NDU'S PES "WE FUEL LIVES" INITIATIVE MERGES WITH NDU'S "BRIDGING HEARTS" BRIDGING RELIEF TO THOSE AFFECTED BY THE BEIRUT EXPLOSION

Students from the Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) Petroleum Engineering Society (PES) have joined their "We Fuel Lives" initiative to NDU's broader "Bridging Hearts" campaign.

"We Fuel Lives" began in May of 2020 with a proposal made by the PES's advisor, Dr. Naji Khoury, Associate Professor at the NDU Faculty of Engineering (FE), to the society's officers, Jerome Sfeir, Omar Abou Nader, Gaelle Chouiery, Anthony Matar, Fatima Abed-UI-Sater, and Weam Haidar.

Remembering the start of the initiative PES Vice President, Omar Abou Nader, said, "PES met virtually several times, discussing Dr. Khoury's proposal and brainstorming about ways to help the people suffering from the pandemic. We wanted to act as responsible and caring citizens as well as competent professionals. We decided to launch an initiative to help Lebanese families most affected by the pandemic and economic crisis by delivering boxes of food."

"We wanted the initiative to be well planned and organized so it would have maximum impact," said Jerome Sfeir, PES President. "Our ideas and actions were developed and shared under the Office of Student Affairs (SAO) and University's supervision since they would be our biggest source of support for the campaign."

The objective of the initiative was to raise funds in order to buy food and distribute it to people in need. "A fundraiser link was ideal," said PES Secretary, Gaelle Chouiery. "The link helped motivate people to get involved, made it easier to share on social media for larger support and showed how much we collected."

“The goal of the initiative was to provide as much food as possible to help the people in need. Families were struggling with ever increasing prices due to inflation,” said PES Officer and treasurer, Weam Haidar. “We also provided basic sanitary equipment to help mitigate the spread of this pandemic”.

PES members worked together as a team advertising the fundraiser, and collecting and organizing supplies. Within a month, a large sum of money was collected along with in-kind donations. NDU’s community and clubs and the University itself made generous contributions. A combined total of 2 tons of essential food divided was collected and purchased through the initiative. The food was divided into 100 boxes for distribution.

Senior PES Officer, Fatima Abed-UI-Sater, suggested the distributions be split into two phases and locations, saying, “Distributing the supplies in two phases would allow us to reach different communities and make a broader impact.” With approval from the SAO, the first phase saw 50 boxes distributed within the Zouk area with the support of “Lajnet El Mahabbe – Saydet El Wardieh”.

When they heard the news about the explosion, PES’s initiative was well underway. They were ready to provide aid almost immediately. “Distributing boxes to Beirut became a must! A lot of families living there were suddenly in need and, with the boxes ready, we were in the best position to intervene as quickly as possible,” said Anthony Matar, a senior PES officer, during an urgent society meeting held after the blast.



We Fuel Lives merged with NDU's Bridging Hearts campaign as part of the relief effort, making use of the broader initiative's contacts to ensure the aid was properly distributed.

Reflecting on the results of the initiatives, Haidar said, "We consider the initiative a success; it met the goals we set. With the donations we received, we managed to make and distribute 100 food boxes weighing between 20 and 27 kilograms, containing basic foodstuffs, such as beans, pasta, flour, sugar, etc. We also managed to secure over 1000 top grade surgical masks to distribute with the food boxes."

"We Fuel Lives was our first initiative, but it won't be our last," said Abou Nader. "After this extraordinary experience and the gratifying success of our initiative, we hope to continue fueling lives starting with the relationships the PES members forged with our fellow students and the Lebanese people. We are working to become accredited as a branch of the official Society of Petroleum Engineers, which should deepen the impact of our next endeavors."

Dr. Khoury spoke of his pride in the students during an address to the PES. "You fought against a pandemic, using the letters of its name COVID: courage, objectivity, volunteering, inclusivity and determination, to fuel your fight. You raised funds to provide 100 food boxes and more than 1,000 masks to people who otherwise were suffering during this pandemic and blast. Your work will continue to inspire and fuel lives for generations." Khoury went on to thank the University and SAO for their support and contributions to the initiative.

National and International Recognitions PRO SUSTAINABILITY

NDU WINS SDG AWARD FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING

On October 14, 2019 and for the second year in a row, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) has won the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Milestones Award in Academia for pioneering work in sustainability.

The award ceremony was held at the Grand Serail, under the patronage and in the presence of H.E. Saad Hariri, Prime Minister of Lebanon. The event saw over 700 attendees from activists, to politicians, corporate social responsibility teams of prominent organizations in Lebanon, to ambassadors from across the world. Notable members present included: Lise Kingo, CEO & Executive Director of United Nations Global Compact; Philippe Lazzarini, Deputy Special Coordinator, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator; H.E. Fadi Jreissati, Minister of Environment; H.E. Dr. Richard Kouyoumjian, Minister of Social Affairs; H.E. Violette Khairallah Safadi, Minister of Economic Empowerment for Women & Youth; MP Prof. Dima Jamali, President of Global Compact Network Lebanon.

The award was presented by the Global Compact Network Lebanon (GCNL) Board – the Lebanese network of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) – to NDU President, Fr. Pierre Najem.



NDU's application for this year's award included an evidence file of over 70 pages charting the University's exceptional record in pioneering sustainable solutions and its projects over the course of the 2018-2019 academic year across all the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. When coupled with two consecutive SDG milestone awards, NDU's efforts cement its place as a leading university in sustainability in Lebanon.

GLOBAL UNIVERSITY RANKING

NDU submitted an application to UI-Green Metric World University Ranking on sustainability, administered by University of Indonesia (UI) for AY19-20. The ranking process relies on six sustainability areas: setting and infrastructure, energy and climate change, waste, water, transportation, education and research. NDU won the second position in Lebanon. NDU was ranked 2nd in Lebanon.

Highlighted Events

SKILD CELEBRATES 10TH NATIONAL DAY FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

April 22, 2022 marked the 10th anniversary of the National Day for Students with Learning Difficulties. Organized by the SKILD Center, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) held an event to celebrate the occasion in the presence of Dr. Hector El Hajjar, Minister of Social Affairs, and Director of the British Council in Lebanon, Mr. David Knox, among other distinguished guests.

The event was moderated by Ms. Hiba El Jamal, Director of SKILD, wherein she introduced each subtopic of the conference and the representatives of various schools and institutions in Lebanon dedicated to promoting inclusive education for students with special needs. The introductory phase included a word from the keynote speakers: Coordinator of the National Day and SKILD President, Dr. Nabil Costa, TV presenter, Ms. Elsa Zgheib, Director of the Counselling and Guidance Department at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ms. Hilda El Khoury, and NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury.



Dr. Costa's speech emphasized inclusive education as a duty, particularly on the level of policy-making, stating that "God created these children in His image . . . We need to discard this language of pity and sympathy, and focus on executing policies, the public and private sectors working hand-in-hand." Similarly, Ms. Zgheib underlined this responsibility on the parental level. Ms. El Khoury then summarized the progress of the MEHE in the past 10 years in increasing inclusivity in Lebanese schools, with a target of completing this implementation in each institution by 2030.

Fr. Khoury related the topic to NDU's Mission, affirming that the uplifting of the individual is inherent in the University's structure: "When we recognize these differences, we no longer judge the other as good or bad. Instead, we can clearly see that each person is valuable in their own right." In addition, Mr. Knox asserted that the measure of a society's progress has everything to do with how it treats the vulnerable.

Phase 1 of the conference began with Dr. El Hajjar outlining the efforts of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA), reinforcing that educational inclusivity depends on legislation. He stated: "Once the MSA had established that this is a policy issue, we were able to take the necessary steps to advocate for these children." Dr. Leila Akouri Dirani, President of the Lebanese Order of Psychologists, brought attention to the factors contributing to the development of learning difficulties, including genetic predispositions, environment, and social support. The phase concluded with Dr. Reem Maouad, founder of Step Together, an association dedicated to working with NGOs, civil societies, and ministries to advance the progress of inclusivity.

Phase 2 described the training workshops and modules for teachers and specialists, presented by Ms. Rania Ghoussoub, Head of the Pre-service and In-service Training Bureau at the Center for Educational Research and Development in Lebanon. Ms. Ghoussoub shed light on the need for academic assistance for school teachers and principals, a point reinforced by Ms. Tatiana Salloum, National Consultant for the Development of Inclusive Education Policy to the MEHE. Wrapping up phase 2 was Director of the Department of Special Education at Azm School, Ms. Khouloud Khouja, who explained the subtypes of class inclusion, namely: total inclusion, partial inclusion, parallel classes, and special classes.

The conference in Phase 3 focused on special education programs available at Lebanese universities. NEXT STEP is a service provided by the American University of Beirut (AUB) and directed by Ms. Mona Maktabi, INCLUDE at the Saint Joseph University (USJ) coordinated by Ms. Claudine Moubarak, LEAP presented by Dr. Hiba Othman of the American University of Science and Technology (AUST), and the IDEAL Program of NDU, directed by Ms. Lama Badaoui.

Dr. Fadi Maalouf, Head of Psychiatry at AUB, shifted the focus in Phase 4 from children with special needs to their parents, teachers, and specialists, highlighting the burnout they experience that is often undermined and dismissed. He further discussed the process of diagnosis, administered by pediatricians, pediatric neurologists, and child psychiatrists. Dr. Maalouf concluded his talk by answering key questions from Director of the North Autism Center, Ms. Sabine Saad, and Director of the Special Education Department at Shouf National College, Ms. Haifa Chahib, regarding the administration of medication to children and parental support.



The event ended with a heartfelt experience shared by Ms. Betty Maamari, the parent of a child with learning difficulties, who showcased the struggle of parents in similar situations and the lack of social support that they receive when raising their children. Ms. Maamari shared the weight of this responsibility and how it permeates other areas of parents' lives, including marriage and their other children. Seeing this lack, she founded Parent2Parent, a social support group where parents can meet to discuss their struggles, worries, and insecurities in raising their children with various disabilities, providing them with a space that bears no judgement and encourages their efforts.

NDU LAUNCHES THE UNESCO CHAIR ON OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

On February 20, 2020, Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) has been working to promote open education since 2014, with Dr. Fawzi Baroud, Assistant Vice President for Information Technology at NDU, spearheading a culture of openness on campus. Since then, 17 courses across 6 departments – some 7000 students – at NDU have benefitted from OER, saving \$450,000 on university books alone. February 20, 2020 saw NDU take its position as a pioneer in education in the region still further with the establishment of the UNESCO Chair on OER for Access and Success covering Lebanon and the MNEA Region with Dr. Baroud acting as chairholder. In so doing, NDU joins 14 other UNESCO OER Chairs programs as the holder of the 15th OER chair in the world, all of which work to strengthen international cooperation between universities and establish

networks to enhance institutional capacities through the exchange of knowledge and collaborative work.

The launch took place at NDU's Abou Khater Auditorium, in the presence of the Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for Education in the Arab States, Dr. Hamad bin Saif Al Hammami, and NDU President, Fr. Pierre Najem. The ceremony was attended by a number of academics, students, and broader educational and media figures, including former Minister, Dr. May Chidiac.

Fr. Najem began his speech by highlighting how the establishment of the UNESCO OER Chair at NDU reinforces the University's position on sustainability with particular regard to SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. "Today, after six years of continuous work, we are honored to join with an international organization that affirms in its founding charter that human dignity requires the spread of culture and the formation of all people on the principles of justice, freedom and peace. This is a sacred duty for all nations to be conducted in a spirit of mutual cooperation."

Dr. Al-Hammami thanked Dr. Baroud and discussed UNESCO's commitment to building a knowledge society and spreading a culture of peace. UNESCO has translated the culture of peace through its five sectors: education, the humanities, natural sciences, culture, and science and technology.





Dr. Baroud highlighted how his own work at NDU aligns with the five Axial Objectives of UNESCO's final OER recommendations as approved by all Member States. Dr. Baroud emphasized the benefits of adopting OER – increased access and equity, up to date course content, lower course drop rates etc. – and his work drafting policies and offering training to mainstream OER at the national level. "Future directions lie in NDU sharing its expertise in the OER," said Dr. Baroud. "[NDU serves as a] launch-pad and research mechanism for Lebanon and the MENA region, and will continue to support open educational resources to reach its full transformational potential to achieve the SDG4."

SDG Initiated Activities and Events adopted by the NDU Community (Faculty, Staff, and Students)

Faculty, staff, and students at NDU are embracing and contributing through their actions to create a University-wide sustainability culture to advance toward the achievement of the 17 SDGs by 2030. The following projects, events, and actions, communicated through the various NDU media platforms, contribute towards the achievement of the 17 sustainable development goals of the agenda 2030.


The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development aims to promote the entire cluster of 17 SDGs. Following are the SDG Initiated events divided by Event Title, Organizer, and Date:

SDG 1 - No poverty			
The NDU Alumni Association UAE Chapter UAE Gala Dinner fundraiser aimed at providing current NDU students with financial aid https://bit.ly/3WMcL2P	Office of Development and Alumni Affairs	November 3, 2022	
The Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences at Notre Dame University-Louaize, North Lebanon Campus (NDU-NLC) launched "Christmas At Heart", a fundraising initiative.	Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	December, 2021	
NDUers Loyal Beyhum and Teresa Hojeily launch "Lebnéné Élé": an initiative to support vulnerable families facing the current economic crisis.	NDU Students - Success Story	September, 2021	
As part of the University financial strategy during the current difficult circumstances, NDU increased its financial aid through the "tuition fee assistance" program exceptionally for the academic year 21/22 for students with proven financial need.		July, 2021	
NDU's Bridging Hearts , a campaign launched by NDU calling members of the NDU family to warm all hearts on Christmas 2020 by providing families in need with donations of food and toys.		December, 2020	
www.ndubridginghearts.me , a website that connects the victims of the Beirut explosion in need with donors willing to help, with a team of #NDUers on hand to help with the requests. https://bit.ly/3izYssJ		October, 2020	
SDG 2 – Zero Hunger			

Join the live webinar to learn about "Monitoring the right to food in Lebanon" which will be facilitated by Dr. Eugene Sensenig from the FLPS in the presence of H.E. Abbas Mortada, Caretaker Minister of Agriculture, H.E. Mr. Raoul Nehme, Caretaker Minister of Economy and Trade, and four speakers from the United Nations.	Faculty of Law & Political Science	August, 2021
NDU's Bridging Hearts , a campaign launched by NDU calling members of the NDU family to warm all hearts on Christmas 2020 by providing families in need with donations of food and toys.		December, 2020
SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-being		
Health Communication in Lebanon – Lesson Learned by the Pandemic https://bit.ly/3tmlo5u	Faculty of Nursing & Health Sciences	November, 2022
The Scars You Cannot See – Torture and Its Impact on Mental Health https://bit.ly/3G1gCD5	Faculty of Law & Political Science	November, 2022
Fertility Connected Care Ecosystem – powerful Patient Offer for Excellence and Personalization https://bit.ly/3DXgtzq	Faculty of Nursing & Health Sciences	November, 2022
Chemical Engineering students, Nour Atallah, Mia Hajj, and Karen Nassif, were invited to the University of Oulu, Finland, and the University of Granada, Spain to participate in SWaTH training sessions where they developed various methods to break down pharmaceutical compounds and waste residue in hospital water. https://bit.ly/3Ch9zEc	Faculty of Engineering	September, 2022
FNHS Researchers, Dr. Christelle Bou-Mitri, Dr. Christelle Saleme, and Christy Raad, successfully developed a dairy-free labneh alternative made entirely from peas, lupin, and beans. https://bit.ly/3dbpZUn	Faculty of Nursing & Health Sciences	August, 2022
Jerome Sfeir (BE'20) won the Pivot 2022 Research Competition	NDU Alumni – Success Story	July, 2022
Grade 11 and 12 students were invited to an easy rundown of nutrition and health at the first #FNHS Nutrition Summer Camp, "Eat, Cook, and Exercise,". https://bit.ly/3y7RmWv	Faculty of Nursing & Health sciences	June, 2022

Dr. Esther Ghanem of the FNAS was invited by the University Of Cyprus to speak at the MediEuro Network Workshop 2022, organized by Biobank.cy . Dr. Ghanem plans to install a biobanking unit right here at NDU to aid the advancement of treatment for various illnesses. https://bit.ly/39a6ASg	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	June, 2022
The Institute for Internet and Technology Addiction at NDU organized a two-day webinar on the impact of digital devices on our society. https://bit.ly/3Nj36Lw		May, 2022
"Unlocking the Potential Towards Sustainable Food Systems" with Dr. Patrick Cortbaoui	The Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	March, 2022
Dr. Joe Salloum, President of the Order of Pharmacists of Lebanon (Ordre des Pharmaciens du Liban), visited Notre Dame University-Louaize where he and NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury , discussed the drug and hospitalization crisis in Lebanon. They addressed the number of challenges pharmacists and citizens are facing, the establishment of a sustainable drug policy, supporting local industries, laboratories and research offices, the health ID system, and how NDU will play a pivotal academic role in future collaborations with the syndicate.		February, 2022
Food Safety and how to deal with it during the current situation? FAIR TRADE LEBANON-COMMERCE EQUITABLE LIBAN		November, 2021
The Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences at NDU, organized a webinar titled Actuarial Challenges in South African Micro Insurance, Compounded by Covid-19 with Mr. David Kirk as the guest speaker. https://bit.ly/30Duilo	Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences	
Psychological disorders, or mental disorders are abnormalities of the mind that result in persistent behavior patterns that can impair day-to-day function and life (Depression, Anxiety, OCD, Personality Disorder...) The Learning Accommodation Service (LAS) at NDU supports students with special needs to help them fulfill their academic potential. https://bit.ly/3DnNrX1		October, 2021
During "La Semaine de la Francophonie Scientifique" conference held in Bucharest, organized by l' Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Dr. Patricia Eid, Associate Professor of Psychology at NDU and Dr. Dany Azzi, Assistant Director for E-Learning at the Office of IT, presented their research project which aims to offer specific solutions to address the difficulties that faculty members face as they migrate to online teaching methodologies. https://bit.ly/2YahZfh		September, 2021
In light of the current food safety challenges in Lebanon, the Caretaker Minister of Public Health, Dr. Hamad Hassan, assigned a scientific committee to propose a national strategy to establish and implement effective food safety solutions, and Dr.	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	September, 2021

Layal Karam, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences at NDU, was designated among eight industry experts as a member of this committee. This committee is also commissioned with delivering continuous scientific contributions with the assistance of the universities and providing solutions in emergency situations.		
Dr. Layal Karam, Assistant Professor at the FNHS, discusses the issue of safety of food, and several cases of food poisoning, diarrhea, and vomiting that were increasingly reported due to the devastating situation and power outages in Lebanon.	NDU Faculty of Nursing & Health Sciences	
Vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech) was available for new students		August, 2021
Dr. Antoine Aoun, Associate Professor (FNHS) at NDU discussed this issue MEEDA (Middle East Eating Disorders Association) in the International Conference on Eating Disorders (ICED), hosted by the Academy for Eating Disorders (AED). https://bit.ly/3i5E9Fo	Faculty of Nursing & Health Sciences	July, 2021
On the occasion of World Food Safety Day 2021, the Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences (FNHS), organized a photo competition whereby any person can participate because "Food Safety is Everyone's Business."	Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	June, 2021
NDU presented a webinar by FNHS's in collaboration with the USAID-LINQ project on Quality Assessment of Honey.	Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	April, 2021
Dr. Jackie Maalouf - Founder & President of DiaLeb and Nassif El Kalaany - Head of Volunteering & IDF Young Leader in Diabetes, held a webinar to learn about "Diabetes Facts and Challenges "on April 14 - noon to 1 p.m.	Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	April, 2021
NDU Introduced "A Break with My Colleagues" a series of talks on a variety of topics to help faculty and staff reconnect after almost a year of lockdowns and teaching/working from home.	NDU – Office of Human Resources	March, 2021
While there was no evidence that COVID-19 can be transmitted through food, the lockdowns caused by the pandemic alongside the national economic crisis have caused an increase in food safety alerts. Dr. Christelle Bou Mitri of the NDU FNHS, went through the dangers posed and what can be done to help.	Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences	January, 2021

NDU FNHS's held a workshop in collaboration with the USAID-LINQ project on olive oil quality assessment.		February, 2021
Dr. Antoine Aoun, Associate Professor at the NDU FNHS and University Physician, answered NDU community pressing questions on the pandemic, with the most up-to-date information from the AAFP, CDC, UpToDate and WHO.		February, 2021
In light of the growing need for Oxygen Concentrators for COVID-19 patients, the NDU Alumni Association had launched the Oxygen Concentrator Initiative to provide O2 Concentrators free of charge to patients in need. Priority will be given to the NDU community at large, students, alumni, faculty or staff. https://bit.ly/2KC3Dxp		January, 2021
Dr. Antoine Aoun, Associate Professor at the FNHS shared his expertise in lifestyle medicine at the Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine 2020. NDU is a pioneer in lifestyle medicine and was the first university in Lebanon to launch a dedicated conference back in October 2019. Many important lessons can be learned from Dr. Aoun and several other national and international experts particularly during the current difficult circumstances. https://bit.ly/2JliVGr		December, 2020
SDG 4 - Quality Education		
NECHE re-Accreditation	Office of the President	November, 2022
AACSB Accreditation	Faculty of Business Administration & Economics	October, 2022
ABET: re- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.	Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences	August, 2018
CILECT: Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinéma et de Télévision	Faculty of Humanities	March, 2018
ACCA: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	Faculty of Business Administration and Economics	April, 2018
Introduce Open Educational Resources (OER) for teaching & research	Office of Academic Affairs	October, 2017
NDU faculty and staff participated and received certificates in the three-day Design Thinking Workshop	USAID – HECD	October, 2022
DAVA students Kassandra and Charbel were selected to participate at the SIFF from among 43 countries and 95 films	NDU Students - Faculty of Humanities - DAVA	October, 2022
Jad Samaha, NDUser and math prodigy, consistently ranks on top at five UCMAS competitions. https://bit.ly/3fHLA8h	NDU Student – Faculty of Natural & applied Sciences	October, 2022

NDU Radio/TV alumnus, Tarek Yassine (BA'21), had his short film script presented at the seventh Torino Talents and Short Film Market (TSFM), held this year in Cyprus.	NDU Alumnus Success Story - Faculty of Humanities - DAVA	October, 2022
NDU was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of its outstanding contribution and unparalleled dedication to facilitating quality higher education from Anthology Together Middle East 2022 – Dubai		October, 2022
Dr. Nadim Nassif, Associate Professor of Physical Education and Sport, has received an official Letter of Endorsement for his research study from the International Federation of Physical Education and Sports (FIEPS)	NDU Faculty Members – Success Story	October, 2022
Dr. Eugene Sensenig of the FLPS recently co-organized a panel at the 28th International Sustainable Development Research Society conference in Stockholm, Sweden, and presented his paper on the intersection between economics, technology, and faith in Lebanon. https://bit.ly/3CmuTsb	NDU Faculty Members – Success Story	August, 2022
NDU is one of six Catholic universities in Lebanon to receive the joint support of the AUF and L'Œuvre d'Orient for the advancement of higher education, particularly during the economic crisis. L'Œuvre d'Orient et l'AUF partenaires pour soutenir les 6 universités catholiques du Liban - L'Orient-Le Jour (lorientlejour.com)		June, 2022
Dr. Elias Aydi (MS'14), NDU Alumnus and Hubble Fellow receives a Scholarship from NASA Élias Aydi, premier Libanais à décrocher une bourse de la NASA - L'Orient-Le Jour (lorientlejour.com)	NDU Alumnus – Faculty of Natural & Applied Sciences	April, 2022
Radio/TV students, Yara Lahoud, Maryline Naaman, Tracy Bou Farah, and Guibert Najarian, have secured major wins for their short films at local and international festivals. https://bit.ly/3SanwJm	NDU Students – Faculty of Humanities - DAVA	September, 2022
Students of the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences have won prizes for their project entries to the Murex Awards 2022. https://bit.ly/3dkDNfX	NDU Students - Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences	September, 2022
Dr. Nazir Hawi, the Chair of NDU's Institute for Internet and Technology Addiction (INTA), and Vice Chair Dr. Maya Rupert, were listed among the World's Top 2% of Scientists according to Stanford University's	Faculty of Natural & Applied Sciences	November, 2022


annual, ranking based on the Scopus Database. https://bit.ly/3UUPqu2		
Senior Architecture Student Jamil Georges Labaky has made it to the finals in the Inspireli Awards Competition. He is now competing against 24 other finalist.	Ramez Chaghouri Faculty of Architecture Arts & Design	September, 2022
Senior Architecture Student Lea Hage has made it to the finals in the Inspireli Awards Competition. She is now competing against 24 other finalists.	Ramez Chaghouri Faculty of Architecture Arts & Design	September, 2022
An outstanding achievement from NDU Alumna Nour Bou Abboud (BA'19), who recently scored the highest ranking in the Lebanese Bar exam in the country. https://bit.ly/3uNWMog	NDU Alumni – Success Story	July, 2022
Visiting the Universidade de Lisboa were FAAD Faculty members Dr. Karen Boujaoude, Dr. Christine Mady, Dr. Nadine Hindi, and Mr. Elie Hawi for a mobility session on NDU's role in advancing research in design as well as the upcoming City Street ⁵ Conference in Lisbon. https://bit.ly/3Rxs90p	Ramez Chaghouri Faculty of Architecture Arts & Design	July, 2022
NDU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Youssef SADER Foundation and Librairie SADER Editeurs, the leading organizations in legal literacy and publishing in the Middle East. The collaboration of the institutions able to provide FLPS students with internship opportunities and access to legal tech as of January 2023. https://bit.ly/3O5Ugdh		November, 2022
Dr. Eugene Sensenig and Rouba El Helou partook in the Political Science–Integration and Governance (PoSIG) sessions in Salzburg, Austria, with workshops and discussions pertaining to curricula development in higher education. https://bit.ly/3dq7FXW		June – July, 2022
Nutrition and Dietetics students have achieved a 100% success rate on the Colloquium exam	NDU Students – Faculty & Nursing & Health Sciences	July, 2022
NDU Professor and MA in English Literature students participated in the 15 th International Student Byron Conference in Messolonghi, Greece. https://bit.ly/3zkwyN0	NDU Professor & Students – Faculty of Humanities	July, 2022
A Grant Writing Workshop was organized by the Higher Education Capacity Development Program . NDU representatives received realistic training in proposal writing, and their participation shows a commitment to improving their professional skill set. https://bit.ly/3nnbcrH		June, 2022
Rita El Sokhon (BS'97) and Marc Tarazi (BS'02), have recently been appointed President and Treasurer, respectively, at the Lebanese Association of Actuary.	NDU Alumni – Success Story	July, 2022

Chemical Engineering student and President of the AIChE NDU Student Chapter, Rebecca Wakim , spent the Spring 2022 semester at Tennessee Tech University as part of the reputable Global Undergraduate Program. https://bit.ly/3zg0CK3	NDU Student – Success Story	June, 2022
Elie Nader , Chemical Engineering student at NDU, has received the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master’s Degree scholarship to enter the Bioref European Master 2022-2024 . https://bit.ly/3lqJbOW	NDU Student – Success Story	May, 2022
Karen and Jeanne, Chemical Engineering students, have won first place in the 2022 L'Oréal Groupe Brandstorm Competition in Lebanon.	NDU Student – Success Story	May, 2022
Alexandre Havard, founder of the Virtuous Leadership System, visited NDU and presented his vision on cultivating the virtues of the Ancient Greek School as the root of a successful leadership strategy.		April, 2022
Anthony Nassour, Marilyn Nassour, Ruby Sleilati, and Christopher Assily won the Hult Prize Foundation Competition . The team will move on to compete in the Hult Prize Regional Summit. https://bit.ly/3JHoYPm	NDU Students – success stories	March, 2022
A webinar titled “The Rise and Adoption of Metaverse and Human Behavior” was facilitated by Dr. Rajab Ghandour, a Senior Lecturer on Digital Marketing, E-Commerce, and Social Media at the University of Westminster, UK.		March, 2022
In an effort to reinforce its support to students, NDU joined forces with Hungary Helps Agency to launch a named scholarship, dedicated to support students in need; thus, enabling them to continue their education. https://bit.ly/3tgkw4s		March, 2022
Associate Professor of Physical Education and Sports at NDU, Nadim Nassif, makes the International Sport Press Association (AIPS Media 1924) front page. Having founded the World Ranking of Countries in Elite Sport (WRCES), Dr. Nassif and his team published the 2021 edition of the WRCES.	Faculty Member – Success Story	January, 2022
NDU alumna, Michella Rustom (BE’17), shares her experience as a PhD student in the University of Southern California while designing her first ever integrated circuit. She considers NDU to be the foundation upon which she has built her academic career and seeks to use her extraordinary learning experience to support young Lebanese students and help her country. https://bit.ly/3fNiHEt	NDU Alumni – Success Story	January, 2022


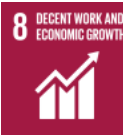
Associate Professor of Biology from FNAS at NDU, Dr. Esther Ghanem, was invited to share institutional and faculty practices on Digital Higher Education in the MENA during COVID-19 in the German #DAAD Alumni Conference held in #Amman on December 4, 2021. https://bit.ly/3Fq43OH	Faculty Member – Success Story	December, 2021
NDUers have achieved a 100% success rate on the Colloquium exam: the national exam administered by the Ministry of Education, which provides healthcare professionals their license to practice in Lebanon.		December, 2021
The Society of Actuaries (SOA) recognizes NDU as one of the Universities and Colleges with Actuarial Programs (UCAP) with an Advanced Curriculum (UCAP-AC). The SOA is a global professional organization for actuaries that advances actuaries as leaders in measuring and managing risk to improve financial outcomes for individuals, organizations, and the public. https://bit.ly/3qhGa5v		December, 2021
For the second consecutive year, Dr. Nazir Hawi, Chair of the Board of Directors of INTA - Institute for Internet & Technology Addiction and Professor at the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences at NDU, was recognized among the top 2% scientists in the Social Sciences field by #Stanford University's "Updated science-wide author databases of standardized citation indicators." His pioneering research on internet and technology addiction helped him bypass more than 20K scientists on the list from last year. Dr. Hawi is still ranked as #1 in both Education and Clinical Psychology Research. NDU congratulates Dr. Hawi on this great academic achievement.		December, 2021
Marie-Noël Al Sayah, Financial Engineering student at NDU came second at the MENA Refinitiv/Reuter's competition on November 30, 2021, out of more than 70 participants and 10 finalists from 7 countries and 17 renowned universities.	NDU Student – Success Story	December, 2021
Samer Ibrahim, an Architecture student at NDU was exclusively selected, as the only participating Lebanese student, to showcase his project "Beirut Urban Utopia" in the 2021 edition of the MENA Global Grad Show . https://bit.ly/3IE5Y47	NDU Student – Success Story	December, 2021
Chiara Abou Elias, Food Safety and Quality Management student at the Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences, for winning the 2021 Volunteer of the Year award in the Farmer to Farmer Food safety and quality program funded by USAID - US Agency for International Development and implemented by Land O'Lakes Venture37.	NDU Student – Success Story	December, 2021
Two NDUers, Cynthia Daoud and Zeina Shoujaa, attended the Erasmus+ Exchange Program at the Ca' Foscari University in Venice. https://bit.ly/3IjpoLC	NDU Students – Success Story	December, 2021

DR. Maya El Hage Zahran , Chairperson Department of English and Translation at the Faculty of Humanities (NDU), hosted as a keynote speaker at the Universidad Autonoma de nuevo Leon- facultad de filosofia y letras (UANL), MEXICO. https://bit.ly/30dalC3	Faculty Member – Success Story	November, 2021
NDU research project at l'Ecole polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne at CISBAT 2021. https://bit.ly/3Bd6XmY		October, 2021
Bring a book, get a book @ your library. Be part of the book exchange event at the Mariam and Youssef Library at NDU, Main campus: https://bit.ly/3GIT4a3		October, 2021
NDU Alumni, Naja Bou Khalil (B.E'21) and Deema Khaleel (B.E'21), were contracted by Engineering World Health to be facilitators for a virtual exchange program. https://bit.ly/3AX78mq	NDU Alumni – Success Story	October, 2021
NDUer Joey Geha , majoring in Financial Engineering won the first prize among finalists from different universities in the National Virtual Stock Exchange competition organized by BLOMINVEST Bank.	NDU Student – Success Story	September, 2021
NDUer and Mechanical Engineering student Ryan Tabet was selected by the International Credit Mobility (ICM) to spend a year in the Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro (UTAD), Portugal as part of the Erasmus+ Program (JAMIES 2020). https://bit.ly/3s6la11	NDU Student – Success Story	August, 2021
Dr. Maria Bou Zeid, Associate Professor and Chairperson at the FH at NDU, was selected among 18 international scholars to participate in the 2021 Study of the United States Institutes (SUSI) – Scholars Program / Journalism and Media section. https://bit.ly/3xulMhP	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	August, 2021
#NDUer Karen Atallah was exclusively selected to spend one semester in the University of Alabama through the Global Undergraduate Exchange Student Program sponsored by the U.S. Embassy. https://bit.ly/3kU085l	NDU Student – Success Story Faculty of Engineering	July, 2021
NDU alumna, Lynn Chlela (BA'20) was awarded the Fulbright Program Scholarship, an educational and cultural exchange program led by the U.S. government in partnership with 160 countries worldwide. https://bit.ly/3x3ZYdP	NDU Student – Success Story	July, 2021

NDU Wins Prestigious 2021 Blackboard Inc. Catalyst Award for Optimizing Student Experience. https://community.blackboard.com/catalystawards https://bit.ly/3jAEYbD		July, 2021
Assil Khalifeh, Audio Visual Arts and Film student at NDU is now the third NDU student to get her film shortlisted for the prestigious British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards 2021. https://bit.ly/3wwsoxU	NDU Student – Success Story	June, 2021
The ASME NDU and Consulting Club NDU at NDU organized their fifth edition of the Student Leaders Training (SLT) weekend, an immersive two-day experience to work on global challenges and build professional networks. https://bit.ly/3476CEI	ASME NDU	May, 2021
Dr. Charbel Bou Mosleh, Associate Professor at FE, ASME NDU Advisor & Student Regional Advisor for Middle East and Africa, won the 2021 Outstanding ASME Student Section Advisor Award while Michel Khoueiry, President of the 2020-2021 ASME NDU Committee, won the Charles T. Main Honorarium Student Section Leadership Award.	NDU Faculty Member & Student – Success Story	May, 2021
The Department of Physics and Astronomy and the Office of Public Affairs and Protocol (PAP) at NDU partnered with the Russian House in Beirut for talk with Russian Cosmonaut and former ISS Commander Anton Nikolaevich Shkaplerov titled “Living in Space and the Future of Mankind.” https://bit.ly/33Sihqt		May, 2021
Alumna Lise Medawar (BBA’18) attained the highest mark in Lebanon in the ACCA APM paper and the highest mark in Lebanon and the region in the AFM exam, and to Alumna Maria Al Naddaf (BBA’20) for successfully completing the ACCA Ethics and Professional Skills Module (EPSM) along with fellow alumna Alondra Mady (BBA’20) who passed the Strategic Business Leader exam as well. https://bit.ly/3flgW0H	NDU Alumni – success Story	May, 2021
Associate Professor at the FE is one of 3 researchers to complete Intellectual Property Valorization Program. Dr. Salem designed and optimized a Concrete Masonry Unit (CMUs) enhanced with Micro Encapsulated Phase Changing Materials for a better envelope thermal resilience. https://bit.ly/3eW9qsl	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	May, 2021


NDU Alumnus Elias Bou-Harb (BS'09 in Computer Information Systems) was named director of the University of Texas at San Antonio Cyber Center for Security and Analytics. https://bit.ly/2ZigVTH	NDU Student – Success Story	February, 2021
NDU alumnus Ronald Boueri (BBA'94) was named among the Forbes Top 50 Executives Regional Executives Heading International Companies.	NDU Alumni – Success Story	December, 2020
Dr. Fawzi Baroud, Assistant Vice President for Information Technology at NDU and UNESCO Chair for Open Education Resources (OER), was invited to give a workshop on the Creative Commons (the CC) and the Open Educational Resources (the OER) at the research center in the Institute of Social Sciences - Lebanese University - to discuss the benefits and importance of using OER as a teaching tool.		December, 2020
FBAE Dean, Dr. Viviane Naimy was selected for the International Academic Board of Exponential Education joining three Nobel Prize winners. https://bit.ly/3nLg2wP	Faculty of Business Administration & Economics	November, 2020
Celebrating Teachers Around the World," featured Dr. Rosine Zgheib Abi Rizk, teaching the EDC (Education Development Center)'s Work Ready Now job readiness and work-based learning course (ENL 231) at NDU along with Mrs. Nathalia Geha. Dr. Zgheib joins educators from EDC's global education projects in sharing what teaching means to her. https://www.edc.org/celebrating-teachers-around-world...		October, 2020
NDUers with a B.Arch. can practice their profession or pursue their graduate studies in France without hesitation as the French Ministry of Culture recognizes the degree as equivalent to the "Diplôme d'État d'Architecte Français" https://bit.ly/3jb9ZQn	Ramez Chaghouri Faculty of Architecture, Arts & Design	September, 2020
SDG 5 – Gender Equality		
NDU Faculty Member, Dr. Claudette Hajj, participated in the TechWomen program in San Francisco, California, where she received an award from the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. TechWomen selects emerging leaders from around the world to be role models for girls and women in STEM from the	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	October, 2022

Middle East, Africa, and Central and South Asia.		
NDU Alumna Doris Saba (BA'16) and MA student in Media Studies, has been selected to participate in the regional storytelling project by the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, in collaboration with UNESCO and Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, at the American University of Beirut to serve as a positive role model that would inspire young Arab women and girls in their career choices.	NDU Alumni – Success Story	January, 2022
The Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS) at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) organized a webinar titled “Women Promoting Coexistence from Afar”. https://bit.ly/3ooZfmo	Faculty of Law and Political Science	December, 2022
SDG 6 –Clean Water and Sanitation		
FE Associate Professor Dr. Talal Salem and Instructor Dr. Claudette Hajj visited the Universitat de Lleida (UdL) in Spain as part of the SWaTH mobility on Life Cycle Assessment for the purpose of promoting sustainable wastewater treatment solutions in Lebanon. https://bit.ly/3Qa3oqu	NDU Faculty Member – Faculty of Engineering – Success Story	June, 2022
NDU hosted the Erasmus+ Info Day Speakers from various universities presented the latest updates on improving wastewater treatment, urban planning, and health services in Lebanon. https://bit.ly/3MADR7t		May, 2022
Dr. Claudette Hajj and NDU students celebrated International Water Day on March 22 by visiting the wastewater treatment facility at the Clemenceau Medical Center in Beirut for an activity organized by the Sustainable Wastewater Treatment for Hospitals project. https://bit.ly/3Kfl2pg	Professor & Student – Faculty of Engineering	March, 2022
Within the scope of the Sustainable #Wastewater Treatment for Hospitals (#SWaTH) project, Ms. Claudette Hajj, Laboratory Instructor at the Faculty of Engineering at #NDU visited the University of Granada in Spain, as part of the SWaTH Erasmus Plus Project #Mobility to Granada, for a training on the different types of catalysts and newest	Faculty Member – Success Story - Faculty of Engineering	January, 2022


technologies to treat waste water. https://bit.ly/32krtqt		
ESCWA , the Ministry of Energy and Water in Lebanon, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) & Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) held an initial consultation meeting on “Increasing the Resilience of Nahr El Kalb Watershed to ClimateChange ”, during which participants discussed community-based challenges affecting their ability to cope with the environmental crisis.		February, 2022
SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy		
NDUer Zakhia Abi Raad, (BE'19), was exclusively selected out of 600 applicants by the Erasmus Mundus European Masters for Energy Efficiency as the only Lebanese to be awarded a full scholarship in the Master of "Management and Engineering of Environment and Energy" (ME3+). https://bit.ly/2TOo4LW	NDU Alumni – Success Story	June, 2021
NDU successfully recycles 100% of its wastewater on campus. https://bit.ly/3g7MO9x		Ongoing
Solar Power Heating on NDU Campus		Ongoing
SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth		
BMB Hiring Campaign	Career Center	October, 2022
Following the twin explosions that devastated the city of Beirut on August 4, 2020, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) at NDU completed the rehabilitation of an art workshop, where an elderly man finds joy in teaching others the art of painting.	NDU Students – ASCE	July, 2022
Partnership with USAID Community Support Program. Students and fresh graduates apply to 6-month paid internship opportunities at various USAID project sites in Lebanon, in partnership with the USAID Community Support Program.	NDU & USAID	July, 2022
The Eurisko Mobility team visited the Main Campus to introduce their academy to the student body, where they shared ideas and experiences regarding career training and entering the workforce.	NDU Career Center	May, 2022

Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) is committed to providing opportunities for students and employers to connect. As such, the Career Center invites Hospitality and Tourism Management students and fresh graduates to an in-person event with ADDMIND Hospitality, who is offering 500+ entry level and managerial positions in Lebanon.	NDU Career Center	March, 2022
In an effort to reinforce its support to students, NDU joined forces with Hungary Helps Agency to launch a named scholarship, dedicated to support students in need; thus, enabling them to continue their education. https://bit.ly/3tgkw4s		March, 2022
Entrepreneur, honorary consul of Lebanon in Nevada, and member of NDU's Board of Trustees, H.E. Philippe Ziade , visited NDU to launch his new project "CareeOn" that targets the Lebanese youth and seeks to help them access job opportunities in foreign businesses while living in Lebanon. Ziade then had a motivational talk and shared his personal journey with the purpose of motivating the students and encouraging them to set clear goals for their future. He also provided the opportunity for the attending students to share their CVs to possibly fill 10 current vacancies within his team.		January, 2022
As part of the IDEAL program training activities, Mr. Antoine Khoury was invited as a career exploration guest speaker to discuss concepts about labor law, contracts, and essential workplace principals. All the activities aim to prepare our students for their future jobs.		December, 2022
The NDU Career Center organized a hiring event with MUREX, a global fintech leader in trading, risk management, and processing solutions for capital markets. More than 140 students attended the event and started applying to different job openings immediately.	NDU Career Center	December, 2022
NDU partners with Webedia Arabia Group to launch the new Webedia Arabia Group Scholarship along with exciting new internships and career opportunities for students and alumni alike. https://bit.ly/3hQdOge Webedia Arabia		June, 2021
The NDU Department of Career Center organized an exclusive workshop titled "Career Today" with KPMG.	NDU Career Center	May, 2021
The NDU Department of Career Center organized an exclusive workshop titled "Where Talent & Opportunity Meet" with INDEVCO.	NDU Career Center	April, 2021
The NDU Department of Career Center organized an workshop titled "Passion for Purpose, What Impact Will You Make?" with Deloitte.	NDU Career Center	April, 2021

The NDU Department of Career Center organized an workshop titled “Personal Brand Workshop” with EY.	NDU Career Center	
NDU Model United Nations (MUN) is a replication of the United Nations in an academic setting, which permits student to debate issues at the forefront of international relations. It has organized and participated in many International and local activities.		
SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure		
A webinar on “The Rise and Adoption of Metaverse and Human Behavior” was hosted by NDU and facilitated by Dr. Rajab Ghandour, a Senior Lecturer on Digital Marketing, E-Commerce, and Social Media at the University of Westminster, UK.	Faculty of Business Administration & Economics	March, 2022
For his environmental engagement, entrepreneurial spirit, and focus on social involvement, NDU Alumnus @chrisarida (BE'17) has been selected from Lebanon as a 2021 JCI Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World (JCI TOYP) Honoree in the category of Business, Economic, and/or Entrepreneurial Accomplishments. https://bit.ly/2Y9dstA	NDU Alumni – Success Story	September, 2021
As Co-Founder and CEO of Anghami, Alumnus Eddy Maroun (MBA'09) shares the secret formula to the success of Anghami and discusses the track record of successful milestones in the second issue of NDU's Alumni Spotlight e-newsletter. https://bit.ly/2VmrwOU	NDU Alumni – Success Story	September, 2021
The results of NDU's joint project with the University of Grenoble Alpes, USJ and Lebanese University were featured at the annual meeting of the Seismological Society of America. https://bit.ly/3f78mCF		May, 2021
NDU Alumna Sara Dsouki (BArch'18) won the 14th MIT Enterprise Forum Arab Startup Competition with her project Speetra, a FashionTech startup that works with fashion designers to digitize their design process through an AI-Powered Platform, and optimize their manufacturing through 3D Printers. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li2GudHEcYY	NDU Alumni - Success Story	April, 2021
Dr. Pauline Aad, Associate Professor at the Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) Faculty of Natural and Applied Science (FNAS), received this year's Arab Organization for Agricultural Development	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	April, 2020



(AOAD) Prize for Scientific Innovation, awarded by the Arab League, for her work on improving the local Awassi sheep breed. https://bit.ly/2XIEyVN		
Christopher Khoury, a student enrolled in the Computer and Communication Engineering program at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), was part of the team to win 1st place in Lebanon in this year's Google HashCode 2020. https://bit.ly/340hLG2	NDU Student – Success Story	Match, 2020
NDU Alumnus Jean-paul Abdel Nour (BA'20) whose reimagining of Beirut's Burj el Murr into a PTSD rehabilitation center was selected as one of the 50 of the best impact innovation projects at the inaugural MENA Global Grad Show Exhibition 2020. https://bit.ly/3m0nq6h	NDU Alumni - Success Story	December, 2020
Dr. Michel Chalhoub, Associate Professor at the NDU Faculty of Engineering, lent his engineering expertise to the Beirut relief effort. https://bit.ly/2HLAfDg	NDU Faculty Member – Success Story	October, 2020
SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities		
NDU – SKILLED IDEAL Program	NDU & SKILLED NGO	Ongoing since 2019
Higher Education Financial Aid (HEFA) Initiative was launched by USAID Lebanon in partnership with Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) under the HECD Program. Through the HEFA Initiative, up to 400 enrolled students will benefit from partial scholarships for two academic years.		August, 2022
NDU announces that its tuition fees will remain in Lebanese Pounds. https://bit.ly/3RbTOPd		July, 2022
NDU has always and continues to fight for inclusion in higher education, welcoming all regardless of their specific challenges, and ensuring that they are given every means to pursue their dreams. Joelle Beainy, a graduate of the Bachelor of Arts in Fashion Design, speaks of her experience at NDU as a student with a hearing impairment.		June, 22
NDU welcomed H.E. Mr. Martin Yttervik, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Lebanon, Mr. Svenn Husem Wroldsen, Deputy Head of Mission at the Norwegian Embassy and Ms. Benedicte Hafskjold, Country Director in Syria and Lebanon for the Kirkens Nødhjelp to address inclusivity in higher education. https://bit.ly/3QdPkw4		June, 2022


In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the National Day for Students with Learning Difficulties, NDU held a conference organized by the SKILD Center to discuss the promotion of educational inclusion for students with special needs. https://bit.ly/3wbmun1		April, 2022
In an effort to reinforce its support to students, NDU joined forces with Hungary Helps Agency to launch a named scholarship, dedicated to support students in need; thus, enabling them to continue their education. https://bit.ly/3tgkw4s		March, 2022
The Faculty of Law and Political Science at NDU recently published a research study on “Gender Mainstreaming Oil and Natural Gas in Lebanon”, an organizational research study about gender, youth, inclusion, social inequality and good governance in the Extractive Industries (EI) sector – rethinking workplace diversity management in Lebanon and in the MENA region. https://bit.ly/350Ec2g	Faculty of Law and Political Science	February, 2022
NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury , welcomed Mrs. Katia Yammine, founder of MYKA Foundation . Among all her humanitarian activities, Mrs. Yammine gives education great importance, since she believes that the young generation is a guarantee for the future and sustainability of the nation. Fr. Khoury thanked her for her generous contribution aimed at supporting NDU students facing financial difficulties.		January, 2022
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a common condition among children and adolescents and can even go onto adulthood. Individuals with ADHD have trouble focusing, following directions, are easily distracted, and might be impulsive and hyperactive. The Learning Accommodation Service (LAS) at NDU supports students with special needs to help them fulfill their academic potential. https://bit.ly/3DnNrX1		September, 2021
Did you know? Physical impairments are any impairments which limit the physical function of one or more limbs or motor ability and other areas of a person’s daily life including sensory impairments (visual, auditory). The Learning Accommodation Service (LAS) at NDU supports students with special needs to help them fulfill their academic potential. https://bit.ly/3DnNrX1		September, 2021
Students with special needs will get the chance to experience what university life feels like, all while learning skills that will allow them to hold jobs and live a lot more independently. https://bit.ly/3zfUMpc		August, 2021
Peer mentoring, as part of the IDEAL program, allows NDUsers to support other students with learning disabilities in various activities. It is an excellent method for peers to develop the capacity to learn effectively from their on-ground experiences in an inclusive environment and to provide appropriate behavioral models.		July, 2021



The UNESCO Chair on Open Educational Resources (OER) for Access and Success is now housed at NDU and covers Lebanon and the MENA region, with Dr. Fawzi Baroud as chairholder. https://bit.ly/2PpBEQL		February, 2020
Dr. Charles H. Malik has many significant contributions on both the Lebanese and the international level, including co-authoring the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To highlight Malik's achievements and the values that informed them, The Institute of Lebanese Thought at NDU has partnered with Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) to launch the "Dr. Charles Malik: The Human Rights Legacy of Lebanon" online conference, to highlight Malik's achievements and values.		November, 2020
SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities		
LEED introductory Training https://bit.ly/3UBManB	Career Center	November, 2022
Associate Professor, Pauline Aad, was invited to Washington, D.C. to present her ongoing PEER research venture on the state of Baladi Goats in Lebanon, sustainable farming, and the welfare of farmers in a changing climate, in collaboration with Dr. Joan Burke of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.	NDU Professor – Faculty of Natural & Applied Sciences - Success Story	July, 2022
FBAE students, Yara Mouawad and Suzana Semaan won the audience and jury awarded prizes at the FCSI EAME Student Challenge in Chantilly, #France . Yara and Suzanna won the lead consultancy proposals in their respective teams to promote sustainable practices in a Food & Beverage firm. https://bit.ly/3RkST4j	NDU Students – Success Story	July, 2022
Faculty of Engineering Professor and Dean Jacques Harb joined the #SWaTH mobility in La Rochelle University, France, with the intention of implementing new water-testing technology and improving environmental capacity-building here at NDU. https://bit.ly/3QTW5lr	Dean, Faculty of Engineering - Success Story	June, 2022
In an effort to reinforce its support to students, NDU joined forces with Hungary Helps Agency to launch a named scholarship, dedicated to support students in need; thus, enabling them to continue their education. https://bit.ly/3tgkw4s		March, 2022
The Department of Management and Marketing, Faculty of Business Administration and Economics at NDU organized a webinar titled Going Green Between Theory and Practice with the guest speaker Dr. Nabil Aouad, Entrepreneur and Co-Founder of	Faculty of Business Administration & Economics	November, 2021

SWIM (Sustainable Waste Intercity Marathon) Initiative. https://bit.ly/3cWu9MH		
The Faculty of Humanities (FH) at NDU and أكشن إيد المنطقة العربية ActionAid Arab Region organized a webinar titled: Participation of Local & International Civil Society in the Beirut Port Blast Response. The findings of the policy brief launched by ActionAid-Arab Region and prepared by Dean of FH, Dr. Kamal Abouchedid and Chairperson, Dr. Maria Bou Zeid Farah was discussed. https://bit.ly/3mVASLd	Faculty of Humanities	October, 2021
NDU Alumnus Habib Akiki (BA'20) was selected by UNESCO, in collaboration with Voice of Lebanon radio station إذاعة صوت - 100.5 لبنان, to launch a youth talk show titled Sawt Jdid. https://bit.ly/2X7LbD7	NDU Alumni – Success Story	October, 2021
NDU FAAD graduates came together to restore and rebuild their cities and neighborhoods in the “Back Home” campaign organized and funded by the Lions Clubs International, District 351 (Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine). https://bit.ly/3we61vX	NDU Students – Faculty of Architecture, Arts & Design	July, 2021
The restoration and digitization of the Lebanese film archive is well underway and taking place under the supervision of Sam Lahoud, Director of NDUIFF and Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Humanities (FH) and Marwan Kassis, part-time faculty member at NDU (FH). https://bit.ly/3uaZxwV	Faculty of Humanities	May, 2021
Layla Jabbour, architect restorer and senior lecturer at the FAAD Department of Architecture, represented NDU as one of the founding members of the Beirut Urban Declaration, a coalition of the OEA and Faculties of Architecture across Lebanon presenting a unified vision to rebuild the capital in the wake of the port explosion.	Ramez Chagouri Faculty of Architecture, Arts & Design	December, 2020
NDU's new major in Entrepreneurship allows students to build their curriculum from a variety of cross-disciplinary courses emphasizing social responsibility and sustainable business practices. https://bit.ly/3lld1CW	Faculty of Business Administration & Economics	November, 2020

NDU Alumni Jihad Saadeh (BA'12), Daniel Seif (BA'17 MA'20), Mohammad Sammak (BA'17), and Masters student Eva Oueiss (BA'17), launched #badnanefroz , a national recycling and waste management campaign, which sheds light on the field's pioneers and the many ways in which Lebanese citizens can participate.	NDU Alumni – Success Story	October, 2020
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SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production		
<p>Environmental Sustainability Plan:</p> <p>Sustainable Procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a sustainable supply chain system and establishing a management system • Consulting with and assessing NDU suppliers to meet NDU sustainability goals • Favoring products with lower life cycle impacts • Favoring local sources and services to encourage local business and decrease need for transportation and distribution. • Buying bulk to reduce the amount of packaging. <p>Waste Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the scope and approaches for a comprehensive, university-wide, life-cycle • Deviating the waste from landfills • Developing a waste reduction policy • Processing the biodegradable waste • Promoting a sustainable food system 	Faculty of Engineering	
SDG 13 - Climate Action		
Natalie El-Bittar, current NDU master's student in Biology, has been nominated by the National Delegation at the Ministry of Environment to participate in the intensive Climate Youth Negotiators Program, where she will be representing Lebanon at the 27th Conference of the Parties, a part of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, until November 18 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.	Faculty of Natural & Applied Sciences	November, 2022

In a step towards decreasing plastic waste, Chemical Engineering students, Joelle Kazan, Charles Der Boghossian, and Christy Abou Saab, with Assistant Professor Dr. Elias Feghali, were able to develop a novel chemical recycling method intended to decompose plastic waste and turn it into functional materials, a venture made possible via collaborations with the AUF, University of Ottawa, Aix-Marseille University, and VITO. https://bit.ly/3BGfkuG		September, 2022
The Department of Management and Marketing, Faculty of Business Administration and Economics at NDU organized a webinar titled Going Green Between Theory and Practice with the guest speaker Dr. Nabil Aouad, Entrepreneur and Co-Founder of SWIM (Sustainable Waste Intercity Marathon) Initiative.	Faculty of Business & Administration Economics	December, 2021
NDU Alumni Jihad Saadeh (BA'12), Daniel Seif (BA'17 MA'20), Mohammad Sammak (BA'17), and Masters student Eva Oueiss (BA'17), launched #badnanefroz , a national recycling and waste management campaign, which sheds light on the field's pioneers and the many ways in which Lebanese citizens can participate.	NDU Alumni – Success Story	October, 2020
NDUers Mira Bechara and Amani Nasr, FE students supervised by Dr. Sophia Ghnaimeh, give an interview about their carbon footprint calculator on Télé Liban's #أعلى صباح	NDU Students – Success Story	October, 2020
NDUers Abdo Al Mallah, Mira Bechara, and Amani Nasr have completed their impactful senior project developing a carbon calculator for Lebanese Universities in partnership with the UNDP Climate Change Division in Lebanon, under the supervision of Dr. Sophia Ghanimeh at the Department Civil & Environmental Engineering. https://bit.ly/31ALg26	NDU Students – Success Story	October, 2020
SDG 15 - Life on Land		
The first conference on goat parasites and their environmental impact in Lebanon, a research endeavor led by FNAS Associate Professor, Dr. Pauline Aad, and NDU students, in collaboration with USAID, PEER, and LARI. https://bit.ly/3taoJWU	NDU Associate Professor & students – faculty of Natural & Applied Sciences	June, 2022

FAAD students won the first place at the Land Art project in Bkassine, selected by the #UN World Tourism Organization as one of the “Best Tourism Villages” worldwide. https://bit.ly/3M8OA9e	NDU Students – Success Story	May, 2022
NDUer Riwa Melki provided her views on the Earth Charter in an excerpt from her essay written for her ethics course “ENS 205: Environment, society and ethics”. https://bit.ly/3jERmVc	NDU Students – Success Story	October, 2020
SDG 14 – Life Below Water		
Diaries of the Ocean Youth Hub, a workshop to learn all about to be involved in increasing transparency in the Lebanese petroleum sector, the multi-stakeholder engagement, and the environmental and social considerations therein	Faculty of Law & Political Science - Diaries of the Ocean and Publish What You Pay	October, 2022
SDG 16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions		
Law student, Ray Robert El Khoury, and prospective NDUer, Mary Elias Akiki, for receiving this year’s Annual Jocelyne Khoueiry Award. https://bit.ly/3DvnkOR	NDU Students - Faculty of Law	November, 2022
The Compliance Advisor/OMBUDSMAN (CAO) Dispute Resolution Functions - on how organizations mediate in complex disputes with social and environmental impacts	Faculty of Law & Political Science - World Bank Group Mediation Services	October, 2011
America Votes 2022 – The US Elections and the Role of Out-Of- Country Voting https://bit.ly/3DI8DtM	Faculty of Law & Political Science	September, 2022
Dr. Eugene Sensenig of the FLPS recently co-organized a panel at the 28th International Sustainable Development Research Society conference in Stockholm, Sweden, and presented his paper on the intersection between economics, technology, and faith in Lebanon. https://bit.ly/3CmuTsb	Faculty of Law & Political Science	August, 2022
The Maronite Archbishop of Tripoli, Youssef Soueif , visited Notre Dame University-Louaize, North Lebanon Campus to discuss the nature of philosophy and its role in the education of citizens about enlightened citizenship, freedom and human dignity. https://bit.ly/3sWDJra		May, 2022

NDU Professors were invited to speak at a three-day conference titled “Stories Shaping Peace” at the LCC International University in Lithuania.		April, 2022
NDU signed an MoU with QOOT Agri-Food Innovation Cluster at the Agri-Food Innovation Days 2022, to establish a framework where the Lebanese agri-food sector can thrive, despite the obstacles presented by economic hardships.		March, 2022
On the occasion of the "World Day for Social Justice", the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences at Notre Dame University-Louaize and the Lebanese Center for Human Rights organized a hybrid two-hour panel forum on "Human Rights, Social Justice, and the Digital Frontier".	Faculty of Law and Political Sciences	February, 2022
In commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Institute of Lebanese Thought (ILT) at NDU, in cooperation with the U.S. Library of Congress (LOC), organized a screening event at The Library of Congress to premiere the documentary: “Charles Malik: A Universal Person.”		December, 2021
The German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst DAAD) highlighted NDU’s ongoing research project on sectarianism and coexistence during its regularly scheduled “Heidelberg Talks Online” series.		September, 2021
NDU-FLPS, Rider University and Deputy Leader of the Norwegian Nobel Prize Committee Asle Toje, joined forces to set up the first Model Nobel Peace Prize (MNPP) competition 2022.	Faculty of Law & political Science	July, 2021
<div><div>SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals</div><div><div>17</div><div>PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</div></div></div>		
Signed (MOU)s with the following institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concordia University in Canada “Agreement of Academic Cooperation in Education and Research.”• The ICT Institut Catholique de Toulouse,• The University of Dayton (UD), Ohio - USA• The McDougall School Of Petroleum Engineering, University Of Tulsa (TU) – USA,• Lebanese American University MoU on educational, training, and research cooperation.• Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus• The American Institute of Architects• Ovidius University of Constanta, Romania• University of Nottingham Ningbo China• The University of Illinois		



NDU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Youssef SADER Foundation and Librairie SADER Editeurs, the leading organizations in legal literacy and publishing in the Middle East. The collaboration of the institutions able to provide FLPS students with internship opportunities and access to legal tech as of January 2023. https://bit.ly/3O5Uqdh	November, 2022
NDU and kloudr have signed a Memorandum of Understanding. kloudr, as a cloud management service will be providing several opportunities for Computer Science and Computer and Communication Engineering students to build their skill sets and careers. https://bit.ly/3xcEXAz	September, 2022
The USAID - US Agency for International Development -funded #FarmertoFarmer Lebanon program collaborated with Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) and Lafst , to deliver a seminar on “US Labelling Requirements and Imports Rejection” to around 50 food safety professionals, representatives from food industries, university professors and students.	September, 2022
NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury , virtually met with the Director General of the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), Dr. Saku Tsuneta, to sign an MoU building upon the two institutions’ ongoing partnership since 2014, with the attendance of the Lebanese Ambassador to Japan, H.E. Mr. Nidal Yehya, and the Second Secretary to the Embassy of Japan in Lebanon, Ms. Minami Kunitomo. https://bit.ly/3PoeN5c	July, 2022
NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khoury , and Director of CISH-UNESCO Byblos , Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid , signed an MoU in order to restore and promote the role of the humanities in the advancement of education, culture, and academic research. https://bit.ly/3yrpA8w	June, 2022
NDU and Bioland signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand their collaboration in research and educational activities in the field of chemical engineering and essential oils production. https://bit.ly/3DECTn0	April, 2022
Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Lebanese Army - الجيش اللبناني . This MoU serves as an agreement between NDU and the Lebanese Army to provide educational services to active-duty and retired military members, and family members of martyr troops. https://bit.ly/3sGYBD6	March, 2022
Commemorating the UN’s World Day of Social Justice, the Faculty of Law and Political Science at Notre Dame University-Louaize signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lebanese Center for Human Rights. https://bit.ly/3JGuTUg	February, 2022
NDU President Fr. Bechara Khoury received a delegation from the Catholic University in Erbil - CUE , headed by the Most Reverend Bashar Warda, Archbishop of the Chaldean Church in Erbil, to discuss future collaboration between NDU and CUE.	February, 2022
NDU recently signed an MoU with Novelus. https://bit.ly/32JnJii	January, 2022

NDU signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with e-Ecosolutions, the international sustainability consulting firm, agreeing to become a Green School Partner.	June, 2019
The U.S. Embassy Beirut in Lebanon's Cultural Affairs Officer, Mrs. Hermila Yifter, meets with NDU President, Fr. Bechara Khourey to strengthen the relations and discuss future collaborations. https://bit.ly/3a9c6l5	October, 2021
NDU and the Archdiocese of Sarba signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to launch the annual Jocelyne Khoueiry award organized by the Women's Pastoral Committee. https://bit.ly/3zw9APR	September, 2021
NDU-FLPS and Universität Salzburg Successfully start Their Third Year of Cooperation Despite the Lockdown. https://bit.ly/3eZomaq	July, 2021
NDU partners with Webedia Arabia Group to launch the new Webedia Arabia Group Scholarship along with exciting new internships and career opportunities for students and alumni alike. https://bit.ly/3hQdOge Webedia Arabia	May, 2021