

PREFACE

On behalf of the Lebanese American University (LAU), I am pleased to present the LAU Fact Book for 2020–2021. Compiled by the university's Department of Institutional Research and Assessment (DIRA), the Fact Book (which is published annually) portrays the academic year in facts and figures in a way that is easily accessible to anyone interested in learning more about the institution, from both a historical and current perspective.

DIRA's mission is to collect, analyze, warehouse, and disseminate data about various aspects of LAU's institutional life. The department ensures the integrity and consistency of available information for official reporting purposes, providing support for administrative planning, policy formulation, assessment, accreditation, and institutional effectiveness initiatives. DIRA is therefore uniquely positioned to prepare the information in the current Fact Book, which is based on meticulous research and analysis and is relied upon by university decision-makers as they strive to advance LAU on all fronts.

The Fact Book puts forward a comprehensive picture of LAU, through various lenses, and serves as a data resource capturing both statistical and historical information about the institution.

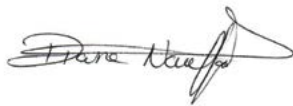
Those wishing to gain a thorough understanding of the university's academic programs, services, students, faculty, staff, facilities and finances need only open its pages to obtain the necessary data.

As always, a printed copy is available upon request, as is an online downloadable version in PDF format (<http://dira.lau.edu.lb/fact-book/>). Given that LAU is a dynamic and continuously changing institution, I also encourage you to visit the general DIRA website for the most current information about the university (<http://dira.lau.edu.lb/>).

The preparation of the Fact Book involves many members of the LAU community and I am very grateful for the assistance provided to DIRA as we undertake this monumental effort. Each year, the Fact Book incorporates new information as requested by various university constituents.

As always, the department welcomes comments and suggestions for the Fact Book's continued enhancement. Please address all comments and inquiries in regard to this year's edition to me at extension 1232 or by e-mail at diane.nauffal@lau.edu.lb. Looking forward to hear from you,

Sincerely yours,



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