

Department of Institutional Research and Assessment

Alumni Survey Analysis Class of 2020-2021

Your suggestions and comments are welcomed. For questions or additional queries do not hesitate to contact us by email : dira@lau.edu.lb or at extensions 1232, 3906, 2338

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ACRONYM

AKSOB	Adnan Kassar School of Business
ARCSON	Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing
SArD	School of Architecture and Design
SAS	School of Arts and Sciences
SOE	School of Engineering
SOM	Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine
SOP	School of Pharmacy
LAU	Lebanese American University

Executive Summary

The key findings based on responses of the graduates of 2020-2021 are summarized below. Findings can be used to predict with 95% confidence the true population statistic within +/- 2.06 percentage points of the sample statistic.

- 74% of LAU graduates were employed within 12 months of graduation.
- Graduates majoring in Computer Science, Applied & Computational Mathematics, General Medicine, Migration Studies, Education, Social Work & Community Development and Fine Arts had a 100% chance of securing a job before graduation.
- To search for their first job, graduates across all majors mainly relied on social media (25.9%), followed by online job search platforms (11.7%), family/personal connections (9.9%), company websites (8.3%), LAU career guidance office/career portal (8.1%), LAU career fair (7.2%), LAU academic departments (6.4%), teachers/faculty at LAU (6.4%), other career fairs (5.9%) and online newspapers (0.1%).
- 27% of graduates sought or earned a master degree/doctoral or post-doctoral degree/second undergraduate degree/post-graduate certification/professional certification.
- Around 75% of graduates confirmed that their first job was related to their undergraduate field of study.
- The vast majority of respondents found their first job in Lebanon (88%) whereas 3% found their first job in the Gulf region, 3% in Europe, 1.5% in North America and 0.7% in each the Levant and Africa.
- External employers had a demand for graduates who majored in Business, Pharmacy, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Fashion Design and English.
- Graduates who were employed in Lebanon were mostly based inside the capital Beirut.
- The industries that employed most of LAU graduates were (1) Business, Management & administration, (2) Education & Training and (3) Marketing, Sales & Services.
- The average starting basic salary for all graduates amounted to \$1,579. The average basic salary in Lebanon where the vast majority of respondents found their job (88%) is \$1,566. The average basic salary ranged from \$1,413 for graduates employed in Africa to \$2,117 for those employed in the Levant. The highest paid graduates were those employed in the Levant followed by those employed in Europe.
- The highest paid majors were: Pharmaceutical Development & Management, Political Science, Applied Economics, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Teaching Diploma, Biological Sciences, Industrial Engineering, Business Law and Education.
- 33% of graduates who had an internship experience were offered a full-time job afterwards in the same company. Graduates who majored in Computer Engineering, Applied & Computational Mathematics, Migration Studies, Education, Fine Arts and

General Medicine were in the majority offered a full-time job after completing their internship.

- 22% of graduates reported their academic experience helped them develop an entrepreneurial mindset to pursue an entrepreneurial career path. Of those, 8% are currently following an entrepreneurial career path.
- When asked about their participation in innovation and research competitions, 24% of alumni reported to have participated. Of those who participated, 50% were males and 50% were females.
- Were they to start again, 82% of graduates would pursue their studies at LAU.
- 96% of graduates believed that the preparation they received is the same or better than that received by their peers from other universities.
- The majority of alumni (70% 82%) believed that their LAU education had a significant contribution to their ability to acquire: Leadership skills/developing management/leadership capacities, listening skills, decision making, positive attitude, flexibility, problem solving skills, public speaking skills, work ethics, time management skills, teamwork, ability to work under pressure, conflict management/resolution skills and communication skills/developing written communication skills.

Methodology

All LAU alumni of the academic year 2020-2021 were invited to participate in the online alumni survey. The alumni survey aimed at determining the employment and educational status of graduates and their views on the added value of internships on employment, when applicable. Alumni perspectives on their level of preparedness for employment reflected in the possession of the required theoretical knowledge and essential soft skill sets were also investigated.

The survey was disseminated by email to 2,147 LAU alumni at three different intervals, with each interval marking 12 months from graduation for the alumni surveyed. Alumni were given three weeks to complete the survey and received two reminders after the initial invitation to participate in the survey. Alumni who did not complete the online survey in person received follow up telephone calls.

Out of the 2,147 alumni invited, 1,100 responded yielding a response rate of 51%. The generalizability of the results to the population depends on the sample size, which in turn depends on the degree of precision desired, the variability of the data sampled, and the type of sampling employed, namely level of tolerated error accepted. With 1,100 respondents, a 2.06 percent margin of error and a 95 percent confidence interval were generated. As such, one can predict with 95% confidence that the true population statistic is within +/- 2.06 percentage points of the sample statistic.

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Out of the 1,100 respondents, 53.5% were females (Figure 1). Most respondents were graduates from the AKSOB (42.7%), while 28.8% were graduates from the SAS, 10.7% from the SOE, 9.1% from the SArD, 5.5% from the SOP, 2.2% from the ARCSON and 1% from the SOM (Figure 2). These percentages mirror to a large extent graduation patterns at LAU by school. As for the majors of respondents, 32.1% majored in Business, 8.2% in Biology, 5.7% in Bachelor of Architecture, 4.1% in Pharmacy and 3.5% in Civil Engineering, Business Administration, Computer Science and Economics. Alumni who majored in Psychology, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Political Science/International Affairs, Nutrition and other majors also participated in the survey.



Figure 1: Respondents by gender



Figure 2: Respondents by school

Major Findings

1. Employment and Post-Graduation Status

i. Current Employment Status

The current employment status of the LAU Alumni of AY 2020-2021 varies. 50% are employed on either a full-time and/or part-time basis (i.e. 40.3% are currently employed and 9.5% have been employed at least once). On the other hand, 50% of LAU Alumni of AY 2020-2021 have never been employed (i.e. 18% are unemployed but are seeking employment, 15% are continuing their education and 18% are unavailable for work – either for family reasons or other reasons) (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Employment status

ii. Continuing Education

Alumni were asked about whether they had sought further education after they completed their undergraduate studies. 27% confirmed that they had already earned or are currently pursuing a master degree, doctoral/post-doctoral degree, second undergraduate degree, a post-graduate certification or a professional certification. Out of the 60% of alumni who are currently unemployed (i.e. never been employed and currently unemployed but have been employed at least once since graduation), 35% are full-time students. Of the 35% alumni who are unemployed because they are seeking further education, 91% are master students, 4% are seeking a second undergraduate degree, 3% a professional certification,

1% a post-graduate certification, and 1% are doctoral/post-doctoral students. Alumni who opted to continue their education had mostly completed their undergraduate degree in Biology, Mathematics, Engineering (Mechatronics, Mechanical and Civil), Fine Arts, Economics and Hospitality and Tourism Management (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Alumni continuing higher education based on undergraduate degree

iii. Time to first job

When asked about the time spent to find their initial job, 50.5% of alumni reported to have found their first job prior to graduation. Within the first six months after graduation, 88.8% had secured a job. This rate increased to 100% 12 months after graduation (Figure 5).



Figure 5: Employment rates based on initial employment

Based on survey findings, 100% of alumni who majored in Computer Science (MS), Applied & Computational Mathematics, General Medicine, Migration Studies, Education, Social Work & Community Development and Fine Arts were able to find a job prior to graduation. 82%, 74%, 67% and 64% of alumni who majored in Executive MBA, Nursing (BS), Business Law, and Education respectively found their first job prior to graduation. 20-60% of those who majored in Economics, Television and Film, Psychology, Fashion Design, Business Emphasis Hospitality & Tourism Management, Nutrition (BS), Pharmaceutical Development, Business, Interior Architecture, Computer Science (BS), Human Resources Management, Pharmacy (BS), Architecture, Teaching Diploma, Communication, English, Translation, Graphic Design, Mathematics, Doctor of Pharmacy, Biological Sciences, Nutrition (MS), Engineering (Computer, Mechatronics, Industrial, Petroleum and Civil), Business Administration, International Affairs and Graphic Design reported finding a job prior to graduation. However only 7-19% of alumni who majored in Political Science/International Affairs, Engineering (Mechanical and Electrical) and Biology secured a job by graduation (Figure 6).



Figure 6: Employment rates by degree prior to graduation

For a period of up to twelve months after graduation, all alumni (100%) who majored in Engineering (Computer and Civil & Environmental), Computer Science (MS), Applied & Computational Mathematics, General Medicine, Migration Studies, International Affairs, Applied Economics, Interior Design, Social Work & Community Development and Multimedia Journalism were capable of securing a job. Over the same period, most alumni (50-92%) who majored in Fine Arts, Political Science, Graphic Design (BS), Human Resources Management, Pharmaceutical Development & Management, Communication, English, Architecture, Pharmacy (BS), Biological Sciences, Computer Science (BS),

Translation, Business Administration, Fashion Design, Nursing, Graphic Design (BFA), Education (MA), Nutrition (MS), Teaching Diploma, Doctor of Pharmacy, Executive MBA and Education (BA) were able to find a job. (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Employment rates by degree twelve months after graduation

iv. Job search methods

Alumni reported using a variety of methods when searching for their first job. Alumni mainly relied on social media when attempting to search for their first job (25.9%), followed by online job search platforms (11.7%), family/personal connections (9.9%), company websites (8.3%), LAU career guidance office/career portal (8.1%), LAU career fair (7.2%), LAU academic departments (6.4%), teachers/faculty at LAU (6.4%), other career fairs (5.9%) and online newspapers (0.1%) (Figure 8).



Figure 8: Methods alumni relied on for their job search

Graduates across all majors have relied on LAU job search platforms and services - the career fair, career guidance office/career portal, academic departments, and faculty - to secure employment, particularly those who received degrees in MSE in Computer Engineering, MSE in Civil & Environmental Engineering, MS in Computer Science, MS in Applied & Computational Mathematics, BS in Graphic Design, BA in Political Science and BA in Fine Arts (100%).

In addition, graduates who received their degree in Doctor of Pharmacy (90%), MS in Nutrition (75%), BA in Education (73%), MA in International Affairs (71%), BFA in Graphic Design (64%), BS in Nursing (61%), BA in Translation (60%), Teaching Diploma (56%) as well as MS in Pharmaceutical Development, MS in Biological Sciences, Nutrition & Dietetics Coordinated Program, BE in Mechatronics Engineering, BE in Industrial Engineering, BE in Electrical Engineering, BA in Political

Sciences/International Affairs and BA in English (50%) found jobs using LAU search platforms.

Graduates who received degrees in MD in General Medicine (45%), BA in Psychology (45%), BS in Economics (43%), BE in Mechanical Engineering (42%), MA in Migration Studies (40%), Executive MBA (40%), Master of Business Administration (39%), BE in Computer Science (37%), BA in Multimedia Journalism (33%), BS in Business (29%), Bachelor of Architecture (26%), BA in Communication (25%), BS in Pharmacy (24%), BE in Civil Engineering (21%), BE in Computer Engineering (20%), BA in Television and Film (20%), BS in Nutrition (14%), BS in Business Emphasis Hospitality and Tourism Management (14%) and BA in Fashion Design (13%) were the least reliant of LAU job search platforms to find jobs (Figure 9).



Figure 9: Alumni who relied on LAU job search platforms and services based on degree

2. First Job Experience

i. Type

A vast majority of respondents (72.4%) reported that the first job they had secured was on a full-time basis whereas 12.1% reported that the job was on a part-time basis. More females (74%) secured a full-time job compared to males (70%). The same proportion of females and males (12%) reported having secured part-time jobs (Figure 10). In addition, 15.5% reported to have been self-employed and those mostly majored in Business, Bachelor of Architecture and Translation.



Figure 10: Job type by gender

ii. Correlation of Job to Undergraduate Field of Study

Not all respondents worked in their field of study. In fact, 75% of alumni confirmed that their first job was related to their undergraduate major. Finding a job in one's undergraduate field of study depended on the major.

All (100%) those who majored in Civil & Environmental Engineering, Computer Science (MS), Biological Sciences, Applied & Computational Mathematics, Migration Studies, Nursing, Mathematics, Graphic Design (BS), Interior Design, Engineering (Petroleum and Mechatronics), Television and Film, Political Science, Multimedia Journalism, Fine Arts and Communication secured a first job that was related to their undergraduate field of study.

Most alumni (60% - 97%) majoring in Translation, Executive MBA, Economics, Human Resources Management, Education (BA), Business, Fashion Design, Engineering (Industrial, Computer, Electrical, Mechanical and Civil), Education (MA), Computer Science (BS), Teaching Diploma, General Medicine, Business Administration, Architecture, Doctor of Pharmacy, Graphic Design (BFA) and Pharmacy (BS) reported securing a first job in their undergraduate field of study.

This percentage dropped to 57% and below for alumni who majored in International Affairs, Computer Engineering (MSE), Pharmaceutical Development & Management, Nutrition (MS), Applied Economics, Business Law, Nutrition & Dietetics Coordinated Program, Social Work & Community Development, Political Science/International Affairs, Interior Architecture, Nutrition (BS), Psychology, Business Emphasis Hospitality & Tourism Management and English (Figure 11).



Figure 11: Employment in jobs related to undergraduate field of study by undergraduate degree

iii. Location

The vast majority of respondents (88%) found their first job in Lebanon whereas 3% found their first job in the Gulf region, 3% in Europe, 1.5% in North America and 0.7% in each the Levant and Africa (Figure 12).



Figure 12: Employment by job location

All the majors offered by LAU were found to correlate positively with the demands of the Lebanese labor market. All alumni (100%) who graduated from SOM reported being employed in Lebanon. This percentage dropped to 94.4% of alumni who graduated from ARCSON and to 92.1% for those who graduated from SArD and 88.1% for those who graduated from SAS. Similarly, this percentage further dropped to 87.8% for those who graduated from AKSOB and 86.5% for those who graduated from SOP, 86.8% for those who graduated from AKSOB and 86.5% for those who graduated from SOE. External market demands varied according to the region. Employment outside Lebanon was found to be highest for graduates of SOE (13.5%) followed by AKSOB (13.2%), SOP (12.2%), SAS (11.9%), SArD (7.9%) and ARCSON (5.6%) (Figure 13).



Figure 13: Employment rates by school and location

Majors seen to be the most requested by external employers include Business, Pharmacy, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Fashion Design and English. Employers based in Africa have recruited alumni who majored in Business and English. Employers from the Gulf region mainly recruited Computer Science along with Civil Engineering and Business. As for employers based in North America, they have mainly recruited from Business along with some in Fashion Design, Computer Engineering and Computer Science. When it comes to Europe, employers have mainly recruited Business and Fashion Design. As for the Levant, employers have mainly recruited Mechanical Engineering and Pharmacy graduates (Table 1).

Table 1: Alumni employed abroad by degree

Program	Africa	Europe	Gulf region	Lebanon	Levant (Jordan, Syria, Palestine, Iraq)	North America	Other, specify
BA in Communication			7%	0.6%			
BA in Education				2.3%			
BA in English	25%			0.6%			
BA in Fashion Design		14%		1.0%		13%	
BA in Fine Arts				0.2%			

BA in Interior							
Architecture		7%		0.2%			
BA in Multimedia							
Journalism				0.6%			
BA in Political Science				0.4%			
BA in Political							
Science/International			5 0/	1 50/			504
Affairs			7%	1.7%			5%
BA in Psychology		7%		1.9%			5%
BA in Social Work &				0.00			50/
Community Development				0.2%			5%
BA in Television and Film				1.0%			
BA in Translation		7%		0.8%			
Bachelor of Architecture				8.1%			
BE in Civil Engineering			13%	3.5%			
BE in Computer							
Engineering				0.8%		13%	
BE in Electrical							
Engineering				1.2%			
BE in Industrial Engineering				0.8%			
BE in Mechanical				0.070			
Engineering				1.9%	50%		5%
BE in Mechatronics							
Engineering				0.4%			
BE in Petroleum							
Engineering				0.2%			
BFA in Graphic Design				2.3%			
BFA in Interior Design		7%					
BS in Biology				1.4%			
BS in Business	75%	36%	13%	28.2%		63%	53%
BS in Business Emphasis							
Hospitality & Tourism							
Management				1.4%			
BS in Chemistry				0.2%			
BS in Computer Science		7%	27%	4.1%		13%	5%
BS in Economics			7%	2.7%			
BS in Graphic Design				0.2%			
BS in Mathematics				0.2%			
BS in Nursing			7%	3.5%			
BS in Nutrition				1.4%			

BS in Nutrition &					
Dietetics Coordinated					
Program			0.4%		
BS in Pharmacy			5.2%	50%	11%
Doctor of Pharmacy			2.1%		
Executive MBA			2.1%		
LLM in Business Law			0.4%		
MA in Applied Economics			0.4%		
MA in Education			0.8%		
MA in International Affairs			1.4%		
MA in Migration Studies			1.0%		
Master of Business Administration		7%	5.4%		5%
MD in General Medicine			2.3%		
MS in Applied & Computational					
Mathematics			0.2%		
MS in Biological Sciences			0.4%		
MS in Computer Science			0.2%		
MS in Human Resources Management	7%	7%	0.2%		
MS in Nutrition			0.8%		
MS in Pharmaceutical Development &					
Management	7%		0.2%		
MSE in Civil & Environmental					
Engineering			0.0%		5%
MSE in Computer Engineering			0.4%		
Teaching Diploma		7%	1.7%		

As for alumni who were employed in Lebanon, most were based inside the capital Beirut (82.7%) and an additional 5.4% and 5.1% were based in the Mount Lebanon and North Lebanon Governorates respectively (Figure 14). Employment opportunities ranged from 3% to 1.3% in South Lebanon, Nabatieh and the Bekaa. Employment trends have changed over time. The percentage of alumni employed in Beirut increased from 68% for graduates of 2012- 2013 to 73% for graduates of 2016-2017 to 76% for the graduates of 2017-2018. It increased again to 83% for the graduates of 2018-2019, then decreased to 78% for the

graduates of 2019-2020 and then increased again to 83% for the graduates of 2020-2021. Figure 15 gives trends in employment opportunities of LAU graduates by governorate.



Figure 14: Employment by governorate



Figure 15: Trends in employment by governorate

iv. Industry

Alumni were asked to provide the industry of the company they were employed in. The "Business, Management & administration" industry employed the most alumni (25%), followed by Education & Training (10%), Marketing, Sales & Services (8%), Architecture & Construction (7%), Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (5%), Hospital & institutional settings pharmacist/clinical other (hospital pharmacist) (5%). Finance/Banking (3%), Non-governmental Organization (3%). and Health Science/Medical (3%). On the other hand, 14% of respondents indicated that the industry of the company they were employed in belongs to other categories such as Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Real Estate, Lebanese Army and Translation (Figure 16).



Figure 16: Employment by company industry

v. Starting Basic Salary

The average starting basic salary for all alumni respondents amounted to \$1,579. The average starting basic salary for males is \$1,575, which is slightly lower than that of the average basic salary for females of \$1,582 (Figure 17). Comparing to previous year, there was a significant increase in the average starting salary for females (\$1,253 in 2019-2020)

to \$1,582 in 2020-2021). On the other hand, there was no significant variation in salaries offered to males (\$1,584 in 2019-2020 to \$1,575 in 2020-2021).



Figure 17: Trends in average starting basic salary by gender

This observation is reinforced by looking at the starting basic salary brackets. We can notice that 50% of males earn within the low starting salary brackets \$700-\$1,200 versus 46% of the females. Similarly, when it comes to salaries between \$1,201- Above \$3,000, females constitute 54% versus 50% of the males. For instance, it is worth noting that almost an equal percentage of females (10%) earn a salary between \$2,001 and above \$3,000 in comparison to 11% males. (Figure 18).



Figure 18: Starting basic salary brackets by gender

Alumni employed in the Levant are earning the highest starting basic salaries. On average, they are earning a starting basic salary of \$2,117, followed by \$1,761 for those employed in Europe, \$1,708 for those employed in the Gulf region and \$1,644 for those in North America. Employees in Africa are earning the lowest starting basic salary of approximately \$1,413 (Figure 19).



Figure 19: Average starting basic salary by region

Respondents who majored in Pharmaceutical Development & Management, Political Science, Applied Economics, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Teaching Diploma, Biological Sciences, Industrial Engineering, Business Law and Education earned the highest starting basic salaries. On the other hand, respondents who majored in Mathematics, Chemistry, Mechatronics Engineering, Applied & Computational Mathematics, Translation, Biology and Psychology earned the lowest starting basic salaries. Figure 20 gives the average basic starting salary by degree program.

MS in Pharmaceutical Development & Management	\$3,000						
BA in Political Science	\$3,000						
MA in Applied Economics							
MSE in Civil & Environmental Engineering	\$2,501						
Teaching Diploma	\$2,189						
MS in Biological Sciences	\$2,175						
BE in Industrial Engineering							
LLM in Business Law							
BA in Education							
MA in International Affairs	\$1,984						
BS in Economics	\$1,564						
MA in Migration Studies							
Executive MBA							
Doctor of Pharmacy							
	\$1,862						
BS in Business Emphasis Hospitality & Tourism Management	\$1,810						
MS in Human Resources Management	\$1,801						
BE in Mechanical Engineering	\$1,791						
Master of Business Administration	\$1,791						
BS in Nutrition	\$1,779						
BA in Fine Arts	\$1,751						
BE in Computer Engineering	\$1,730						
BA in Political Science/International Affairs	\$1,712						
BFA in Graphic Design	\$1,695						
BA in Television and Film	\$1,680						
BA in Communication BA in English BA in Interior Architecture	\$1,638						
BA in English	\$1,613						
	+						
BA in Multimedia Journalism	\$1,567						
MSE in Computer Engineering							
MA in Education	+ = + = = =						
BS in Business							
BS in Pharmacy	<i>T</i> - <i>/</i> ·						
MS in Nutrition	+-,						
BA in Social Work & Community Development	\$1,426						
MD in General Medicine							
BE in Electrical Engineering							
BS in Computer Science	\$1,398						
BA in Fashion Design	\$1,376						
Bachelor of Architecture	\$1,359						
MS in Computer Science	\$1,351						
BS in Nutrition & Dietetics Coordinated Program	\$1,351						
BS in Graphic Design	\$1,351						
BS in Nursing	\$1,320						
BE in Civil Engineering	\$1,235						
BA in Psychology	\$1,173						
BS in Biology	\$1,151						
BA in Translation	\$1,120						
MS in Applied & Computational Mathematics	\$1,101						
BE in Mechatronics Engineering	\$976						
BS in Chemistry	\$851						
BS in Mathematics	\$700						
:	\$0 \$500 \$1,000 \$1,500 \$2,000 \$2,500 \$3,000 \$3,500						
	Salary						
	,						

Figure 20: Average starting basic salary by degree

When comparing average starting basic salaries across industries, alumni employed in other pharmacy related industries (\$2,501) earned the highest average starting basic salary followed by alumni employed in Information Technology (\$2,175), Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources (\$2,125), Pharmaceutical Industry (\$2,117) and Cosmetics Industry (\$1,988) (Figure 21).



Figure 21: Average starting basic salary by industry

Earnings varied based on time needed to secure employment. Alumni who were able to secure a job before graduation earned an average starting basic salary of \$1,577. The average increased to \$1,604 for those who secured a job within less than three months after graduation but steadily decreased to \$1,382 for those who secured the job in 3-6 months. The average starting basic salary significantly increases to \$1,748 for those who secured their first job within 6 - 12 months after graduation. Figure 22 gives the average starting basic salary based on time from graduation.



Figure 22: Average starting basic salary with respect to time from graduation

vi. Other Company Characteristics

The vast majority of alumni (93%) reported being employed in a private company (Figure 23). In addition, 34% reported having worked in international or regional companies (Figure 24).



Figure 23: Company type



Figure 24: Company classification

3. University Experience & Skills Acquired

i. Internship Experience

When it comes to respondents' experience prior to graduating, 32% reported having taken an internship while completing their undergraduate studies at LAU. Out of the alumni who had an internship experience, 33 % were offered a full-time job afterwards in the same company. Those who majored in (1) Computer Engineering, (2) Applied & Computational Mathematics, (3) Migration Studies, (4) Education, (5) Fine Arts and (6) General Medicine were in the majority offered a full-time job after completing their internship (Figure 25).



Figure 25: Alumni who were offered a full-time job after completion of internship by degree

ii. Participation in Innovation and Research Competitions

When asked about their participation in innovation and research competitions, 24% of alumni reported to have participated while 76% did not participate (Figure 26). 50% of those who participated in innovation and research competitions were males and 50% were females (Figure 27).



Figure 26: Participation in innovation and research competitions



Figure 27: Participation in innovation and research competitions by Gender

iii. Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset

22% of respondents reported that their academic experience helped them develop an entrepreneurial mindset that would allow them to pursue an entrepreneurial career path in contrast to 78% who reported it did not (Figure 28). Of the alumni who reported that their academic experience helped them develop an entrepreneurial mindset, 8% confirmed that they were currently pursuing an entrepreneurial career path while 92% said they were not (Figure 29). 51% of those who reported pursuing an entrepreneurial path were females as opposed to 49% who were males (Figure 30).



Figure 28: Developing an entrepreneurial mindset to help you pursue an entrepreneurial career path



Figure 29: Alumni currently pursuing an entrepreneurship path



Figure 30: Alumni currently pursuing an entrepreneurship path by Gender

iv. Satisfaction with University Experience

When asked about the university they would choose if they had to start their undergraduate studies over again, 82% of alumni responded that they would pursue their studies at LAU. Of those, 17% would pursue the same degree they have earned whereas 65% would pursue another degree at LAU. Only 18% would choose a different institution (Figure 31). Female respondents seem to be slightly more satisfied than their male counterparts with their LAU experience as 84% would pursue their studies at LAU should they start again compared to 80% of males who would do the same (Figure 32).



Figure 31: University choice of alumni were they to start again



Figure 32: University choice of alumni where they want to start again at LAU by Gender

Alumni who were mostly satisfied with their experience in their programs majored in Mutaz & Rada Sawwaf MA in Islamic Art and Civil & Environmental Engineering as all respondents from those majors (100%) would pursue their studies at LAU and pursue the same degree were they to start again. A majority (50% and above) of alumni who majored

in Political Science, Social Work & Community Development, Human Resources Management, Pharmaceutical Development& Management, Computer Engineering, Doctor of Pharmacy and Multimedia Journalism also would pursue the same degree at LAU. Figure 33 gives the percentage of alumni expressing an interest to pursue the same degree at LAU should they start again by degree.



Figure 33: Alumni expressing an interest to pursue same degree at LAU should they start again by degree

v. Job Preparation

45% of respondents believed that they were sufficiently prepared to obtain their first job. Females seem to be slightly more confident than males with respect to this aspect (Figure 34). All alumni (100%) who majored in Civil & Environmental Engineering, Pharmaceutical Development & Management, Applied & Computational Mathematics, Mathematics, Interior Design, Political Science and Fine Arts shared the view that they were sufficiently prepared to obtain their first job. In addition, a majority of alumni (50% - 86%) who majored in: Communication, Interior Architecture, Engineering (Mechatronics, Computer and Civil), Executive MBA, Applied Economics, Education, Biological Sciences, Television and Film, Doctor of Pharmacy, Multimedia Journalism, Human Resources Management, Nutrition (MS), Migration Studies, Nursing and Pharmacy (BS) (Figure 35) were also satisfied by their level of preparation for the job.



Figure 34: Alumni who believed they were sufficiently prepared to obtain first job by gender



Figure 35: Alumni who believed they were sufficiently prepared to obtain first job by degree

Alumni who had employment experience were asked to compare their job preparation they had received at LAU to the preparation received by other graduates from similar programs they had encountered at work. In total, 96% of alumni believed that the preparation they received is the same or better than that received by their peers from other universities. (Figure 36).



Figure 36: Comparison of job preparation received by LAU alumni to other graduates

vi. Skills acquired

When asked about the extent to which their LAU education contributed to the acquisition of major skills, the majority of alumni (70% - 82%) believed that their LAU education had a significant contribution to their ability to acquire: Leadership skills/developing management/leadership capacities, listening skills, decision making, positive attitude, flexibility, problem solving skills, public speaking skills, work ethics, time management skills, teamwork, ability to work under pressure, conflict management/resolution skills and communication skills/developing written communication skills. Figure 37 gives the percentage of alumni expressing to what extent they think LAU's education has contributed towards their acquisition of major skills.



Figure 37: LAU's contribution to acquisition of skills by alumni