

# Word of the President

Our Beloved Alumnae and Alumni,

It is a pleasure to communicate with you all at the occasion of celebrating The University of Balamand (UOB) 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We look with pride at what we have achieved in the past three decades. We look with confidence at what we may attain with your help in the exciting decades that bring us to the midst of the most distinctive century.

Universities and their graduates constitute a continuum in the learning process. The University as such is an academy. Life in post-graduate experience is an academy of a different order. We love for our graduates to think afresh of their alma mater, as we aspire to look afresh at your needs by reorganizing ourselves.

To this end we have recruited a full-time colleague, Mr. Salim Tannous who now heads the Development Office. As a first step in this direction, we established an Alumni Advisory Council (A.A.C) to work regularly with us to keep you informed. The Council shall serve the wider Alumni Network and shall support our current students.

We are currently launching two major projects, the first on the Balamand Hill, the latter in Dubai. On the lower hill by the highway, the University's Medical Center is rapidly taking shape. It is built on highest international standards, and we hope to be the best between Beirut and Istanbul.

In the Emirate, the University of Balamand in Dubai will open its doors in September 2018. This academic Center of ours is in collaboration with the Dubai Investments PJSC. While these two projects exact great efforts on our part, they are likely to enhance UOB's image and extend its propitious regional role.

With this new initiative with you as our academic ambassadors, we expect continuing and fruitful interaction that will enhance the name of the University as to become the academic brand that its graduates deserve.

I am proud of your achievements, and look forward to welcoming you on Campus at your earliest convenience.

# With warm regards,

Elie A. Salem

# Antoinette Sleiman



Head of Projects Department at the Litani River Authority (ONL) since 2007, and Coordinator between members of a multidisciplinary team, supervising studies of two dams on Litani River, and a Project Manager for the Canal 800 project (Irrigation of South Lebanon). Antoinette has a Master's Degree in urban planning from the University of Balamand, Institute of Urbanism, ALBA (2009). She is a member of LCOLD, Lebanese Commission of Large Dams member of ICOLD (International Commission of Large Dams) and a member of the executive committee of women engineers in the order of engineers.

Engineering Manager at MathWorks, a company known for its software products MATLAB and SIMULINK. These products are used in a variety of applications including: robotics, computer vision, data analytics, and machine learning. Camil lives in Boston and has a M.S in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Harvard University (2004) and a B.S. from the University of Balamand (2002). His research project, VocalID, was highlighted at multiple conferences and received the first-place award at the Northeastern University Research Expo in 2009.

# **Carlos Chidiac**



After launching his first startup in 2008, HealthCare Inc., promoting innovative solutions for the EMS & Ambulance departments, handicapped mobility and Simulators for HealthCare Education, he got selected as consultant for Gaumard Scientific's regional business development in MEA in 2010. Carlos joined the Digital Health era in 2016, started up CME Hub MedTec platform in San Francisco, catering the worldwide Continuing Medical Education needs towards Excellence and Globalization.

Graduated in 2002 as MSEE, he started his career with SAKR Power Generation; After 12 years with SPG (his last position was Regional and Distribution Sales Manager), he left to KSA to work with MDSA as Power Division Manager for KOHLER – SDMO. By 2016, Charbel launched MECTRICS, his own company business in the electro-mechanical supply and contracting field.

## Fady Kobersy



Senior Consultant at CCS Gulf, Dubai. He graduated from University of Balamand with a B.S in Civil/Structural Engineering before working for a general contracting company in Saudi Arabia. Fady currently holds the position of Area & Business Development Manager for MENA region.

**George Fares** 

Mechanical Engineer with Western Educated, Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from University of Massachusetts USA, and BSc Mechanical Engineering from University of Balamand Lebanon. George has over 14 years of Leadership, Engineering, Communication, Supervision, Planning, Problem Solving, Claim Management, Sound Commercial Awareness, and Contract Knowledge. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Building - UK.



**Camil Jreige** 



**Charbel Mozaya** 

I got my Master in Urban Planning in 2009 from the University of Balamand, ALBA. This cursus (2004-2009), almost halfway through my professional life, has upgraded me in everything related to software analysis and data processing such as the GIS, the Remote-sensing, and the analysis of how to think a town ... In fact, the subject that I presented as a diploma project, "Sin El Fil between urbanism and chaos", was only a reflection on the improvement of spatial planning in a suburb that has been developed chaotically. This research was a data collection, analysis and future projecting to well takes decisions about how to restore the development of the north suburb of Beirut.

My thesis was a tool that I offered to my husband during his 2004-2009 terms as Vice President of Sin El Fil Municipality. Antoinette Sleiman

The UOB experience had a deep impact on my life. Family spirit care, devotion, excellence in transmitting knowledge and the endless pursuit of ambitions.

After 16 years, I am proud of my University and the progress it has made through the decades to become one of the most reputable universities in Lebanon and Middle East".

Charbel Mozaya

Carlos Chidiac

My experience with the University of Balamand was highly engaging and interactive on both learning and student life activities. Looking back on my years spent on campus I can proudly see how that experience prepared me well for the professional life journey. Results came along after graduation through engaging other students while finding how UOB taught me the logic of how to think instead of what to think.

Fady Kobersy

I joined The University of Balamand in Sep 1999 and I graduated early 2003. During this period, the University contributed a lot to my educational and professional development because the professors were able to provide the practical experience and knowledge that was lacking from the theoretical courses.

Georges Fares

It was the community, the environment and the culture at the University of Balamand that has encouraged me to enroll in the faculty of science and engineering. The program and curriculum allowed me to explore the faculties and their research as I progressed with my education. It was through the university, at a seminar on campus, I started my profession with one of the pioneering companies in the world when I embarked on a journey that opened many doors of opportunities, globally, and helped develop my skills and competence for a better career.

I am grateful to the life on campus that made me feel at home when I lived far from my hometown. I am grateful to the graduate students who provided an environment rich with knowledge sharing and collaboration. I am grateful to the professors, instructors and advisors who gave most of their time assisting us in the right and necessary decisions. I am grateful to the sports environment that gave me the chance to explore my athletic side representing national and international sides. I am grateful to the university after all that has and still provides diverse opportunities and alternatives to new generations that can influence and make a change somewhere.

Gilbert Haydamous

The years I passed in the University of Balamand are the most interesting, exciting and rich years of my life.

Hana Tayar

While studying at the University of Balamand, I witnessed a great deal of change in my character and attitude towards everything around me. I turned from a little girl to an adult who fears nothing. I learned a lot and met extraordinary people that I am still in touch with till nowadays. UOB is not only about education; it is also about engaging with others and be fully involved in the university life. That's what I did and it was great. If I have a choice, I will go back to study again and live that period of my life all over again.

Jinan Jarrah

My undergraduate education at the University of Balamand provided me with a solid foundation to further my academic career and pursue graduate studies. The authentic mentorship and rich curriculum incubated my intellectual curiosity and amplified my penchant for lifelong learning. I am proud to be an alumna of the University of Balamand.

VP Sales, Marketing & Business Development at ITQAN, UAE, a demonstrated history of leading teams working in the information technology and services industry. Skilled in IT Strategy, Management, System Deployment, Project Portfolio Management, and Business Intelligence.

# **Gilbert Haydamous**

A holder of a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering he is now Vice President of Drilling and Wells within the Energy Division at KONGBSERG in Norway. Prior to joining KONGSBERG, Gilbert spent his career at the drilling technology supplier, National Oilwell Varco (NOV), engineering and designing new systems for the drilling industry. Through many stations with NOV, demonstrating a history of control system designs, field installation, product innovation and product management in various roles.

Mr. Melki was appointed to the position of Managing Director & Regional Head Middle East in September 2017 and since then his effort has been focusing on strengthening S&P's analytical presence in the region along with an expanded program of thematic research and thought leadership within the financial community. Previously Mr. Melki had more than 19 years of experience with Thomson Reuters as the Regional Business Leader Gulf. Hadi's extensive knowledge of capital markets and wealth of experience across business development, risk management, governance, investor and government relations enable him to lead S&P Global

Ratings. Initially educated in Lebanon, Mr. Melki has a Bachelor of science degree in Computer Science from University of Balamand and Master of Business Administration from American University of Beirut.

# Hana Tayar

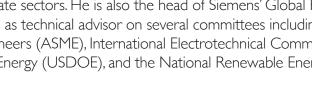
An ALBA graduate with 24 years of extensive experience working on high quality designs of all projects types in Lebanon, France and UAE. She has been design architect in charge and senior design director for very high profile projects involving iconic high rise buildings. She established 109 Architecture in 2008 to create world class architecture especially in the Arab world.

# Jacques Walid Nader

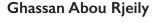
Mr. Nader is the Co-founder of multiple USA based companies including Compotech Inc. and Canyon Creek Capital Inc. These companies are dynamic, multi-million dollar companies focused on the defense and real estate sectors. He is also the head of Siemens' Global R&D Center for wind power. Mr. Nader serves as technical advisor on several committees including the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), and the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL).

# Jinan Jarrah

linan possesses over 14 years of successful and fulfilling experience that have involved her in many different aspects of education management and administration in Lebanon and the UAE. She has acquired a sound knowledge of leading edge education principles, tools, and practices, with emphasis on Higher Education administration aspects such as student recruitment, admission, and registration and students' services systems including advising, counseling, scholarships and grants management.













Hadi Melki

When a man does not know what harbor he is making for, no wind is the right wind." Seneca 4 BC – 65 AD. It has been almost two decades ever since happenstance nudged me towards what would eventually become my Alma Mater. Reflecting back on such a decisive moment, I would not have had it any other way. Within those halls, classes and corridors reside countless "coming of age" stories where the inevitable journey from youth to adulthood happens; where our perceptions, values, and mindsets develop and take root, and our real voyage begins. Academics aside, it was the intangibles of the UOB experience that have had an enormous impact on my journey so far. UOB reinforced the values of tolerance, perseverance, discipline, courage, and excellence; it helped develop an appetite for continuous learning, growth, and innovation; it facilitated the development of unbreakable bonds of comradery; and, ultimately, became the grounding harbor representing all that I define as "home.

Kifah Semaan

Young and full of hope, I embarked on a Computer Engineering studying journey at UOB with little knowledge on what to expect. What a journey it was!

The deeper we explored the fascinating and intriguing binary world; the broader life unfolded its infinite spectrum of states. As nature's seasons took a turn in coloring the beautiful Balamand hill, family, friends, teachers, and science brushed my canvas with their colors. What a journey it still is!

The blessed life I have with my beautiful wife and my adorable kid has some of its roots in the long hallways, endless staircases, and loud UOB classrooms. Thank you my Balamand!

Mario Wehbe

Being a UOB student during its first few years of operation makes me remember the University more as a family than just an educational institution... My years at Balamand University not only gave me the necessary technical skills to continue my studies in one of the reputable universities in the UK, but also helped in shaping my personality in a way that enabled me to build a successful career in both the corporate and professional environments.

After almost quarter of a century, UOB has tremendously grown in terms on size, number of students, and major offerings but was able to keep the family spirit and its focus on the human side of its students and staff.

Years after graduation, I cannot but thank UOB for shaping my career path and after visiting my university lately, I look forward for the responsibilities I bestow myself with towards current students; the future employees.

Nafez Al Morabi

The 8 years I spent watching stable linear growth of an institution and a community, only made me surer that a Pyramidal system is a magical design undoubtedly guaranteeing the highest possible constructions.

Nassim Abi Chahine

I had the honor to be part of the second generation of Electrical Engineers that graduated from Balamand; the University has grown a lot since those days. The first graduates had enormous challenges to prove the value of a degree from Balamand which they did through their hard work and success; and all this credit was transferred to the new graduates. I hope that the university will keep growing and for education to remain its priority and for that we all have to try to offer our best support.

Nazih Jeha

ALBA Students are usually the ones who spend most of their times on campus, studying or working on projects wherever that might be possible. A faculty with such a strong background made our studying experience extremely rich with new experiences and knowledge that we gained directly or indirectly every single day. In short, it was a mind building and an eye opening process. This situation made us, nevertheless, much stronger after the graduation and helped us gain personal skills besides the academic knowledge. I would say that the five years I spent studying Architecture at UOB have offered me most of what I needed afterwards. University Of Balamand was my keystone to France.

Nicolas El Khoury

A temple of learning and an energy center, founded on a rich history of generous, open minded, kind, cross-bridging, and evergiving culture; nestled on a majestic hill overseeing the Mediterranean Sea, UOB has become the lighthouse of the Orient in education, and Lebanon's North Star. Those who follow its emanating light will reach the shore of success, the destination of knowledge and enlightenment, and the height of strength and establishment. Blessed with a perfect healthy learning setting which connects an individual with nature and God, bestows a light that stimulates students' and faculty's minds, and nurtures spiritual resonance, molding well rounded individuals; UOB gave me all that, and much more!

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# Joelle Hallak



Joelle Hallak, MS, PhD is an Assistant Professor and the Executive Director of the Ophthalmic Clinical Trials and Translational Center in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She completed her Masters of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology at the University of Illinois, where she was awarded the William Haenszel Memorial Scholarship Award for outstanding research and achievement. She is also a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University where she is contributing to efforts in developing integrated learning methods for big data.

Strategy and Operations Executive with over 20 years' experience in ICT, Technology, IoT, and Telecommunications, plus Energy and Real Estate. Khalil has worked on global initiatives for companies including Siemens AG in various roles, Nokia Networks (formerly NSN) as MEA Regional Head of Engineering Stream, and IHS Towers as Group Program Manager for New Businesses and Strategic Projects. He is currently running a private consultancy initiative as Strategic Alliance and Business Developer Partner and Board Advisor for multiple regional companies. He is a holder of an MS in Computer Engineering from UOB, a Marketing Management Diploma from IFA Franco-Libanais and an EMBA from INSEAD.



Khalil El Rassy

# Kifah Semaan



Holder of an MSc in Civil Engineering (2002) and a BSc in the same field (2000). He has diverse experience in the development, construction, infrastructure, and aviation industries. He has been leading and managing large-scale multi-billion dollar (US) complex development programs and contributed to business growth through geographic expansion and introducing new service lines with various international construction and engineering firms in the Middle East, North American, and South East Asia.

With a Masters degree in Computer Engineering Mario moved into the Payments Processing world. For the last ten years, he assumed various roles and responsibilities working for Wirecard Group out of Dubai, UAE. In his current position - V.P.Technology Delivery -, Mario is responsible for the successful delivery of multi-million dollars projects ranging from onboarding new clients to migrating portfolios from competing third parties or acquired organizations.





## Nafez Al Morabi



Nafez holds a BBA from the University of Balamand and a Masters in Accounting and Finance from the University of Lancaster in the UK. In 1997, Nafez started his career with the Savola Group (One of the largest publically listed industrial groups in Saudi Arabia) as a financial analyst and worked his way up to become Chief Investment Officer. In 2011, Nafez joined KPMG office in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia as a Head of Corporate Finance; and in 2017 he became the CEO of KPMG in Lebanon.

#### Nassim Abi Chahine

A European board physician with a Polish medical doctorate since 2002, and a Lebanese neurosurgery diploma from UOB since 2010. In parallel to his residency at St. George Hospital, his work in the field of stem cells emerged in 2009 and appeared to be in fact the earliest in the Near East. He developed a wide series of therapeutic protocols and launched the Regentime® technique from Shanghai China in 2014. He is based in the UK and pioneering the field of Neuroregeneration.



As one of the best in the region, University of Balamand was a fantastic experience overall - excellent learning environment, outstanding professors and diverse engineering program. My comprehensive learning experience has given me confidence and taught me never to stop striving for knowledge and growth.

Rabih Al Najjar

To be successful is everybody's dream, but to make it happen, you should expand your dreams outside your borders. The fantastic academic and multi-cultural environment at the University of Balamand equipped me with the needed weapons to expand outside my borders and not to settle for the easy way. I had the privilege to join the University of Balamand twice during my bachelor and my doctorate studies. My journey at Balamand played a big part in helping me get my current point in life. I learned to see the simplicity in complex patterns and I experienced how science and research are made from within. Rana Sawaya

Today as I look back at the 20 years of my life that I spent at the Magical Holy Hill of Balamand, I feel I never left that place. I can still remember the smell of the pine trees, the sound of my teachers (from kinder garden to university), and the scene of the Balamand Cross on the church with a limitless green view mixed with the beautiful blue Mediterranean sea. My golden days were at the University of Balamand, at its early days between 1991 and 1997; where students used to cross path with construction workers as his holiness Patriarch Aghanatios Hazim was accomplishing his dream to build the campus and monuments along with the minds of students and academics. I feel his spirit till today as my childhood companion in my journey to build my mind, heart and soul.

Rayan Jreije

During my study at UOB, I had the chance to work in the IT department where I gained a good experience in the IT systems. Also, during my master's degree studies, I had the pleasure to work with Dr. Hamdi Shawk who gave us, my colleagues and I, the opportunities to work in MEA in the department of airplane maintenance.

#### Riad Mezeraani

Let us admit that our promotion (1992) was the first university seed in Balamand. We had the responsibility to promote the Balamand vision and dreams. Balamand did not only focus on the academic matters but also worked so hard on human development.

Balamand motivated me to be one of the founders of social services clubs that build bonds with plenty of people and students at the same time.

Balamand was my second family; the relationship between me and the professors and students that is made up of respect is still alive till our days. The more Balamand prospers the more grateful and proud I become, especially that Balamand students have mastered their jobs in different fields all over the world. All in all, Balamand is a home, culture, and a vision of building the human mind and soul.

#### Rola El Mourad

I graduated with a Master's degree of Science from the University of Balamand in 2011. I had a great experience at the university where the interaction with the instructors was exceptional. The university life and education has helped in my development to reach the success that i have achieved so far in my career. The instructors at the university, which later became my colleagues and friends, still act as my mentors in life.

Samer Fawaz

As any other alumna, my University life has been an experience of ups and downs. However, the most important thing to remember is that we had wonderful teachers at ALBA who greatly influenced our lives. It is the level of education obtained during our studies that you recognize later, when you meet and mix up with other graduates from different universities. That's the great reward.

Sami Fares



Since my first semester, it was evident that the administration and professors at the Faculty of Business and Management were both dedicated and passionate about making sure I was well positioned for success in my studies, student leadership positions, and future plans. Balamand played a vital role in setting me up for a better future."

#### Nazih Geha

Managing Director and founder of 3e group, established in 2003 and specialized in activities related to Electrical energy efficiency, parking systems, security systems, fire and safety. The company has offices in Dubai, Beirut and Barcelona and worked on major projects including Burj khalifa, Dubai mall, Dubai internet city, Dubai international financial center as well as several airports. The group is a representative and partner of many European factories and is in continuous growth.

# **Nicolas El Khoury**

With a Major in Architecture in 2004, he left to France to study professional Master IPB "Ingénierie de la Production de Bâtiment". In 2005 he joined the leading Worldwide Shipping Company CMA CGM for the construction of their Head Office Tower in Marseille designed by the famous Architect Dame ZAHA HADID. Since 2010, he holds the position of Real Estate Project Manager of several worldwide projects (200 projects / year in 160 different countries) under the direct supervision of the General Management.

Graduated from University of Balamand with a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2002 and holds a Master's degree in Engineering, Refining, and Gas from the École Nationale Supérieure du Pétrole et des Moteurs, ENSPM - IFP, Paris, France. Worked as Lead Design Engineer, Head of Process Engineering Department and currently as Engineering Manager in Chiyoda CCC Engineering Limited (CCEL), part of Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC) group of companies, overseeing all engineering departments and leading Conceptual Studies, Front End Engineering Design, and EPC Detailed Engineering design.

# Rabih Al Najjar

Upon completion of his Electrical Engineering degree in 2003, Rabih worked between Lebanon and Qatar before joining SPXFLOW in 2005 then VERTIV (former Emerson Network Power before its buyout by Platinum Equity) in 2014 in Dubai as Sales Director MEA, heading their Industrial division serving the O&G, PowerGen, Rail and Manufacturing markets. He moved with VERTIV to London in 2017 as the Head of Telecommunications Sector for Northern Europe (UK&I, Benelux, and Nordics).

Holder of a Doctorate of Business Administration degree from Jean Moulin Lyon III and the University of Balamand in 2017. Rana began her career at University of Balamand handling the students' accounts section. In 2007, she moved to the Kingdom of Bahrain where she joined University College of Bahrain where she is the Director of Admission and Registration.

# Rayan Jreije

Rayan incorporated his expertise in 3D (US Patent No. co-inventor), Interoperability (ISO I 5926 Champion), amongst others, into the development of C3D which stands today as CCT's flagship product and state of the art 3D Based Visual Data Analytics and software development framework. He collaborates with US based research institutes and organizations in the Engineering and Construction industry including the University of Illinois (MARS ROVER project and EYE IN THE SKY), as well as FIATECH (a CII Division). Today Rayan leads CCC's Visual Project Control Development, and sits on CCT's Executive Board.









# Rana Sawaya





# Nizam Salem



For young people, there is no question more critical than which University to enroll in. Majors, curricula, years of study, syllabi and campus life are all becoming increasingly similar. For me, the question of which university to go to wasn't a simple one. Do I move to a different city? Do I go abroad? Or do I look closer to home? Looking back, I couldn't have made a better and wiser decision. The University of Balamand nearer to my home in Tripoli and Al Ayoun my adorable village gave me the extended family I needed for an eventual life abroad. From faculty and staff to students, Balamand gave me the roots I needed to grow bigger and higher. The bonds I developed there from day one lasted forever. As the line from the Eagles' song Hotel California says "you can check out anytime you like but you can never leave". This is how Balamand University is and this is what makes its experience so unique.

Tarek El Mourad

#### In three words: I miss it!

My experience in the University of Balamand shaped me to who I am today as a person and as a professional. This institution gave me the family feel, without compromising on the professionality and the high level of education provided to me. The people are great, the environment is positive and fresh, and the professors where beyond supportive in all aspects. I am proud to be an alumnus of this respected institution, and I believe this is still the tip of the iceberg for UOB. I am confident that the further upcoming success of this University has no boundaries! Also; a razorback for life!"

Tony Sarkis

UOB was my only choice of application after I finished my High school. At the time the reputation that the university has built in a short period was an attraction to me and it was obvious that the strategy and the goals set were moving the university in the right direction. University life was so rewarding for me giving me a chance to meet and interact with students from different countries and with various skills and potential. I met my better half (my wife) there and made friends for life. Our professors were well experienced and were exemplary in their teaching styles. They gave us challenges that helped us build, explore, and shape our personality and successes in future endeavors.

Toufic El Saifi

My experience at the University was unique since my promotion was the first to graduate from the Main Campus. Furthermore, I was a member of the OSA family where I worked as a student for 3 years which helped me a lot in my communication skills with people. Additionally, my friends and I built a team called the Adventure Club related to outdoor sports. We did many activities such as hiking, biking, skiing, and camping with the help of Coach Nabil Nasr. Also as a club we had the chance to go biking from France to Switzerland as a fund raising event for "EMAL NOUR" (drug rehabilitation center for young people). Due to my active role in the university, I currently inspire a lot of people to go outdoors. I even took certificates in the sports field (L1 bootcamp and L1 Crossfit) in order to change people's life and make it more healthy and active.

Wafaa El Hassan

"I had a great experience during my stay at the university, and I do consider UOB as the place where I got not only my degree but also the most important experience I had in my life"

Walid Achkar

Being a Balamand alumnus brings me great proud, especially after graduating in '13 from its first classes of chemical engineering. Every time I come back and visit Lebanon, I make sure to drop by the university and check on my professors. It delights me to see the advancement occurring and the research that is growing. I also check on the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) where I spent a lot of time when I was the President of the Engineering Students Society (ESS) and a member in the Red Cross-youth department. Balamand has shaped who I am today and I will be forever grateful to what it offered. Yasmine Hajar

Being a member of class 2000, I belong to the second promotion graduating from the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Balamand. As a student majoring in Medical Laboratory Technology, my three year journey was rich and diverse focusing on understanding the core biological and technological principles of the profession as well as preparing us to be versatile candidates for a dynamic and continuously advancing job market. My experience was further enriched by the active student life reflected by the diversity of clubs, programs and activities that were designed to answer the needs of the students as well as the social communities surrounding us. Through such programs I got the opportunity to serve as the treasurer of the graduate club which focused on exposing students to the different career avenues available after graduation.

### **Riad Mazraani**

Specialized in water and air quality hygiene for hospitals, clinics and children care centers, Riad designed and implemented for the first time in Lebanon a system to disinfect water germs using thermal disinfection at Nini Hospital-Tripoli. Head of Engineering and Maintenance at Nini Hospital for 4 years and recently Facilities Manager at MMG-Holdings. He is a registered and authorized Fire and Life Safety Mechanical Engineer at BatiPlus Mediterranean and a Third Party Life safety consultant for Vertical transportation systems according to the Lebanese Norm: EN81-1.

# **Rola El Mourad**

Founding Member and President of Afaq Association since 2005, an NGO for developmental and capacity building activities focusing on Akkar. Rola has been involved in the Social work for more than 12 years founding and directing many organizations and projects focused on the empowerment of women, children, athletes and the illiterate. Rola is also the founder and president of the first Lebanese women party and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in strategic and diplomatic studies.

Samer has worked as a consultant for the European Commission where he was assigned to the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, he assisted in drafting a strategy for the national transport strategy that is supposed to reshape the transport sector of the entire country. He currently holds the position of the general manager of Fast Engineering, a leading construction company in UAE.

# Sami Fares

After obtaining his degree in the early 1990s, Sami started his career at "Claude Missir Interiors". The agency conceives and executes projects across Europe and the Middle East; from luxurious hotels and boutique hotels to numerous interior architecture projects for boats and luxurious yachts. Sami has been with the company for the past 22 years.

# Shady Hallab

A seasoned management consultant at PwC Canada since 2015. He spent a decade assisting organizations across seven countries to solve complex problems in governance, risk, and performance. Before PwC, Shady worked for Deloitte Middle East starting 2009 where he co-created a document cataloging risks within higher education institutes. In 2012, Deloitte formally adopted the document as a global industry standard in higher education. Shady was named as "Global Leading Voice" in risk by PECB.

# Tarek El Mourad

Advisor to the President for the Federal National Council (Parliament) of the UAE, Tarek established and led key organizational units within the government, including building a Performance and Project Management Office from scratch for a 15000-employee organization. He received various international awards on Excellence in Performance Management from Palladium at Harvard Club and from the Government of Abu Dhabi.

Tarek holds Master of Business Administration, from the American University of Sharjah and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from University of Balamand.









Samer Fawaz



# **Tony Sarkis**

As professional that has been working in the marketing/communication industry for many years, Tony has handled a large portfolio of local and global clients. He was the Integrated Media Manager for Coca-Cola before moving to Reckitt Benckiser and managing the Regional Reckitt Benckiser portfolio. Tony was featured in Campaign Magazine under the "22 under 30" most promising media professionals.

# Toufic El Saifi

Toufic graduated with an MS in Computer Science in 2000. He worked for 17 years at the American University of Sharjah United Arab Emirates as an IT Manager, an MIS instructor and a Director of Events management. Currently he holds the role of Director of Corporate services of the College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario where he is in charge of the corporate service department, information system and management, the facilities management and the daily operations of the organization.

After completing her BS degree in Nutritional science, Wafaa has been working for the past five years in Food service management and as the head Dietitian of the Dietetic department in Al Koura Hospital. She built a whole new system based on the latest standards and regulation in the food and dietetic sector.

Over 18 years of experience in the IT field, technical consultancy, Process Automation, Project Management, Enterprise Content Management (ECM), SharePoint, Mobile Banking, Corporate Online Banking, Service Desk, IT Support. Graduated in 1997 with a BS in Computer Science Working in Byblos Bank S.A.L. since 1999, he is currently Head of Commercial Support.

Yasmine Hajar is a third year PhD student at University of Ottawa-Canada. She holds both BS and MS in chemical engineering from Balamand university and Queen's university-Kingston, respectively. She currently works in the Electrochemical Engineering Laboratory on electrochemical promotion of nano-catalysts. Her project has an environmental aspect with a focus on increasing catalytic efficiency at lower temperatures, while reducing noble metal content. Yasmine is socially active. She is a member at the Air & Waste Management Association-Ottawa Valley Chapter.

# Youmna Kfoury

After a rigorous training in molecular oncology as a PhD. student at the University of Paris 7 and in hematopoietic and mesenchymal stem cell biology as a research fellow at the Harvard stem cell institute, Youmna is currently an instructor at Harvard medical school and an Assistant in Biology at Massachusetts general Hospital. Over a decade, her research has been supported by awards from the Dubai Harvard medical research foundation, the aplastic anemia and MDS international foundation, the Leukemia Lymphoma society as well as the STARR cancer consortium.











# Wafaa El Hassan



# You have a success story that you want featured in our newsletter

- You are interested in becoming a mentor to one of our current students
- You can provide internship opportunities to new graduates
- You can provide job placement to new graduates and/or Alumni
- You want to deliver a seminar or a workshop or a master class on campus
- You have a project to present to the University
- You want a point of contact with a fellow alumni abroad or in Lebanon

# Please contact us at:

# development@balamand.edu.lb



# Office of Development

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