

**Ambassador of Lebanon to Bulgaria H.E. Mr. Fares Eid and his Spouse,
Mrs. Nariman Baydoun, Visit LERC**

LERC Staff
April 3, 2014

Ambassador of Lebanon to Bulgaria H.E. Fares Eid and his spouse, Mrs. Nariman Baydoun, visited on Thursday, April 3, 2014, the Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU).

Following an introduction to the Center by Mrs. Liliane Haddad, Chief Indexer and Archivist at the LERC, Ambassador Eid and his wife met with Dr. Guita Hourani, LERC Director, to discuss potential collaboration, following his the retirement in October 2014. The ambassador expressed interest in assisting the Center in its mission—an offer that was warmly welcomed and appreciated.



The Ambassador and his wife at the LERC offices, (April 3rd, 2014)

Dr. Hourani suggested to Ambassador Eid that given his vast knowledge of the Lebanese diaspora, he should write about his experiences, especially since he served in Venezuela, Kuwait, Paraguay, and Bulgaria, among others. She also offered him the honorary position of Research Associate to facilitate the writing process. This position entitles him to full access of the Center's holdings. The ambassador appreciated the offer and said that once retired, he would be able to accept this position.

Ambassador Eid previously visited the Center along with his two sons on Monday, August 17, 2009. At the time, he was Ambassador of Lebanon to Paraguay. His first visit coincided with a two-day workshop on Lebanese migration in the world, which was requested by a group of Japanese scholars researching the subject in Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Canada, Nigeria, and other countries. During the workshop, Ambassador Eid explained more about Lebanese migration in Latin America. He spoke about not only the Lebanese community in Paraguay but also about the Japanese community in Paraguay and how the latter had immersed itself in the social and economic fabric of that country.

It should be noted that in 2009 Ambassador Eid started a collection in the archives of the LERC in his and his wife's name. During the visit, the couple promised to expand the collection by adding more documents, photos, and audio-visual material.