

Brazilian Professors, Luiz Carlos Merege and Marcia Moussalem visit LERC

Friday 16th July 2010, LERC, NDU

Reported by LERC staff

Brazilian professors Dr. Luiz Carlos Merege and his wife Dr. Marcia Moussalem paid a visit to the Lebanese Emigration Research Center accompanied by Mr. Roberto Khatlab, LERC's Latin American Liaison Officer.

The couple, who reside in Sao Paulo, Brazil, had already visited le Centre des études et cultures de l'Amérique Latine (The Study and Cultural Center of Latin America-CECAL) at the Holy Spirit University in Kaslik, where Mr. Khatlab is a director.

Professor Merege is of Lebanese descent, originally hailing from Dhour el Shoueir, and is a professor of Economy at the renowned Brazilian institution for higher education, Fundação Getulion Vargas (FGV), founded in 1944. Professor Merege is founder and president of the Instituto de Administração para o Terceiro Setor (IATS) in Sao Paulo. He is the author of the book *Terceiro Setor-a arte de administrar sonhos*, a copy of which he donated to LERC.

His wife, Professor Marcia Moussalem, also of Lebanese descent, and originally from Zahle, Lebanon, is a sociologist and professor at the renowned Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Sao Paolo, and the Coordinator General at IATS, again in Sao Paolo, Brazil. Professor Moussalem is also an author in her own right within the social and sociological fields.



Professors at LERC: (from left- right) Dr. L.C. Merege, Dr. M. Moussalem, Ms. G. Hourani, Dr. W. Pearlman, Mr. R. Khatlab (July 2010).

The professors met with LERC's Director Ms. Guita Hourani, who welcomed them to the Center, and were then given a presentation of the materials collected in the Lebanese Emigration Archives Database. This was followed with a tour of the Lebanon Migration Museum at NDU with Mr. Khatlab explaining the finer points on LERC's collection of originals.



Dr. L.C. Merege (middle) with Dr. M. Moussalem (right) being shown the materials on LEAD (July 2010)

The professors were delighted with what they were shown, commending LERC “for all the scientific work done to relate the history of the Lebanese emigrants” and promised to send materials to LERC concerning Lebanese migration to Brazil.