

# ndu spirit

Issue 46

July 2009

*Educated and proficient, polite and courteous, serious and practical, proactive, courageous, humble, sincere, clear and transparent ...; everyone agrees:*

***this man deserves our love, respect and admiration. He is the new, long-awaited role model for good governance in Lebanon.***

*He is Ziad Baroud.*

*How many other people in the country are like Mr. Ziad? It is really sad not to benefit from their competencies and capacities, good qualities and high values.*

*But who has a deep and steady conviction to give them the opportunity to prove themselves?*

*President Michel Sleiman.*

*The president took on the challenging initiative to put these people in power.*

*Indeed, it was one of the main successes he achieved during his first year in office; he built bridges, inaugurated roads and created safety nets between the national parties and between regional and international policies and interests. This gave the presidency back its role, and the country its presence.*

*We are filled with hope that these successes are deep-rooted, strengthened and move forward, because our future needs nothing more than these successes to prosper and advance. Hence, for the sake of conscious and history, it is our responsibility to preserve these successes and nurture them by adding our own individual successes.*

*Minister Baroud is but one example of President Sleiman's accomplishments - a clear and evident example.*

*May God bless!*

*Editorial Staff*

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## The President's Message

### Facing the Challenge...

**As the end of the academic year approaches**, for some of us time drags and for others it presses. We find ourselves overwhelmed with plans and with worries-preparing and taking finals, presenting and assessing reports, Submitting reports for evaluation. Commencement Day is approaching, the tensely awaited moment. It is the celebration of achievement, and now with summer it is time to rest and enjoy vacation.

However, in the midst of all this excitement the end of the academic year for us at NDU a time to sit together and to reflect on what we have achieved during the past year. It is a time to identify failures and successes, to recognize the former and to celebrate the latter.

Our failures call for us to intensify our effort. **Henry Ford** stated that *failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently*, While **Albert Einstein** added later that *in the middle of difficulty lies opportunity*.

In fact, today's failures become tomorrow's success. Our failures are for us today challenges to be transformed into opportunities. they present the opportunity to discover who we are, the opportunity to improve ourselves, the opportunity to prove our abilities and to uncover our deeper powers, finally the opportunity to succeed. On the way to success, challenges are inherent steps that we cannot avoid; they are the place where courage and knowledge meet. Our success is measured by the obstacles we overcome. As a matter of fact, life is built on challenges that will help to refine it, and the level of difficulties in life determines the level of exaltation whenever victory is achieved. That is how we gain experience! That is how we build our history!

Whenever we are challenged by any difficulty, problem or failure let us not stumble and become paralyzed, rather let us be solution-oriented, let us build the systems to decrease the chance of failure, let us modify our approach.

For failure as defined by the late **William Arthur Ward** is not fatal. Failure should be our teacher, nor our undertaker. It should challenge us to new heights of accomplishments, not pull us to new depths of despair.

Last year, around this time, I reminded you that our mission is to inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, for success is as being born in the womb of dreams. So I invite you to offer a wide horizon for the dreams of our youth and so to pave for them the path to success. This year, I would like to add, paraphrasing America's foremost business philosopher, Jim Rohn, that the path to success requires strength but not roughness, kindness but not weakness, boldness and not cowardice, thoughtfulness and not laziness, humility but not timidity, pride and not arrogance, humor but not folly.

Let us transform failures into success and turn all the challenges we face into opportunities. Let us look to a future filled with hope and the will to achieve.

**Fr. Walid Moussa**  
President

❖ The meeting of the Board of Deans.



## Recent Academic Growth at NDU

**Ameen Albert Rihani, Ph. D.**  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Among the projects that have been completed during this academic year are the ones that might have a significant impact on the future of the University particularly at the curriculum and faculty development levels. The following information might shed light on the nature of the recent improvements:

**1. Faculty Assessment:** Along with the self- evaluation and the student assessment for faculty members, the peer evaluation has been introduced this year as an integral part of the total faculty evaluation. The idea is to be able to reach an updated appraisal for faculty members not only for promotion and/or reappointment purposes, but also for other purposes related to the on-going academic growth of the University. The Presidential Committee on this matter is working on a proposal to review and suggest additional ways and means related to human resource development associated to academic life and performance at the University.

**2. Faculty Recruitment:** Upon the approval of the President, the University has recruited, so far, eighteen new full-time faculty members, the highest score, of faculty growth in its history.

The profile of the newly hired members looks as follows: 100% Ph.D. holders, 50% graduates of American universities, 33% graduates of European universities, 11% graduates of Lebanese universities, and 6% graduates of Far Eastern universities. Total years of experience 55 years with an average of 3.05 years/person. Total research and publications 31 with an average of 1.72 publication/person. The long term plan is to increase the percentage of full-timers and decrease the percentage of part-timers to be able to meet a basic requirement of accreditation. The plan is also to increase gradually the percentage of Ph.D. holders for the same academic purposes.

**3. Additional Programs:** The Board of Deans has discussed and approved new programs for the curriculum, particularly related to Minors in more than one Faculty, and to new Law degrees at the BA and MA levels with a suggested transformation of the PSPA into a Faculty of Law and Political Science. The feasibility studies for these new programs take mainly into consideration the market needs and the supply and demand assessment for offering new degree programs in order to provide our students with a wider variety of academic choices at the

❖ The Workshop for writing research proposals addressed by Dr. Ameen Rihani.

❖ The distinguished Workshop audience.



undergraduate and graduate levels of liberal arts higher education.

**4. Faculty Development:** The Workshop for writing research proposals (May 15, 16, and 22) was organized by the Lebanese Association for Advanced Sciences (LAAS). Facilitators were: Dr. Abdo Jurjus (President of LAAS), Dr. Alissar Rady (WHO), Dr. Nayef Saade and Dr. Fadia Homeidan (AUB). Forty-One faculty members attended the workshop from NDU. It was the first workshop of a kind at our University. The program of this workshop focused on the implementation side, and the best presented written proposals were considered for grant-seeking possibilities. AUB facilitators, particularly the Director of the Office of Grants and Contracts, Dr. Fadia Homeidan, showed great enthusiasm about supporting NDU faculty members interested in research and publications.

**5. Templates for Statistics:** An attempt was made in order to reorganize regular university statistics, on a semester bases. The first series covered Fall 2008 and was published in a special issue of NDU Gazette. These statistics cover the numbers of Honor students, students dropping

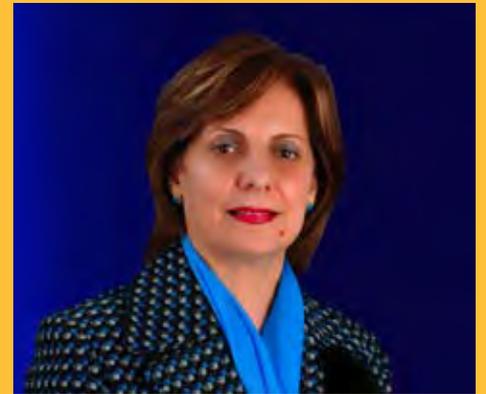
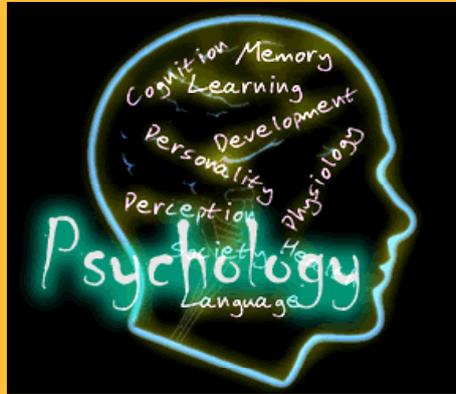
and/or repeating courses, courses offered by levels, per Department, per Faculty. Once this information is accumulated semester by semester, comparative studies will be possible in order to verify the level of academic growth with all the strong and weak areas that should be identified.

**6. Website on-going development:** A quick comparison between the website of this year and last year shows the major differences for each Faculty and Department. Similarly a clear difference is identified concerning the faculty members' profile, including the data for research and publications. The professional links for each Department gave a new perspective to the whole academic atmosphere to which the University is moving. The new sections related to the Alumni Affairs Office, Palma Journal, NDU academic Conferences etc., give a better image of the real developments taking place regularly at the University.

**7. Latest Ranking:** The 4International Colleges and Universities, [www.4icu.org/lb/](http://www.4icu.org/lb/), has ranked Notre Dame University # 3 in Lebanon according to the "Top Colleges and Universities by web popularity ranking". The basic

criteria of the ranking are the quantity and quality of files included in the university's website. The two universities in Lebanon ahead of NDU are AUB and USJ.

Accordingly, NDU has started to build its academic history. What has been achieved in 22 years is remarkable and noteworthy. The few recent achievements are still young, but the steps made are very significant. It is an attempt to carry on the torch and to keep it high. The responsibilities are now much harder, and the legacy is growing steady and fast, thanks to each and every one of you.



## Minors in the Humanities

Students who are interested in pursuing a minor degree in addition to their major for a better future career can now make up their minds.

The Faculty of Humanities is now offering six minor degrees in Psychology, Arabic, Journalism, English Language, English Literature, and Translation.

Students enrolled at NDU may register for minor courses at any time, but may only declare minors once in junior standing and above. Students may consult with the minor advisor and submit the necessary forms and receive the approval of the advisor. They may also declare the minor through a petition in their junior year or above. Each minor shall have a separate contract sheet specified and supplied by the Department or Faculty offering the minor.

There will be a GPA for the minor calculated separately; the GPA shall be considered by the registrar for the sole aim of judging the successful fulfillment of the requirements for that minor. If the requirements of the minor are not completed by the time of the student's graduation, the minor can be independently completed and acknowledged after graduation.

## There are a certain number of credits for minors. A minor shall consist of 15 to 18 credits. A minor may not include more than two courses or six credits which are counted in the student's Major Requirements category. Here is some information concerning the six minors offered in the Faculty of Humanities:

A minor in psychology is merited upon completion of 18 credits in psychology with C as a passing grade per course. The required courses are PSL 201,211, 217, 319, 345 and 481.

Concerning the Arabic Minor, a student must complete 15 credits with a passing grade of C per course. The student should take Arabic 212 and 231. In addition, 6 credits from Arabic 211, 224, 317 and 333 are required. Finally, 3 credits from Arabic 423 or 415 are also required.

Students interested in the Journalism minor are asked to show proficiency by taking a written Arabic test and they must also score a C in English 213. The minor is comprised of 18 credits. Students are required to take COA 201, JOU 210 and 310. Then they choose JOU 370 or 320. Finally, they choose two courses from the following: COA 350,352, 360, 367, JOU 323, 325, 340 or 450.

Pursuing a minor degree in English Language requires a student to score a C in ENL 213. The student must complete 18 credits. ENL 301 is the first required course. The student must complete 9 credits from ENL 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 321, 322 or 324. The student should also complete 6 credits from ENL 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 421 or 430.

In addition, if pursuing a minor degree in English Literature a student must score a C in ENL 213 and must complete 18 credits. The first required course is LIR 214. The second course is a choice of LIR 215, 216 or 217. Then the student can choose four courses from the following: LIR 305, 306, 323, 324, 315, 316, 325, 411, 412, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428 or 430.

Finally, there are two options in the minor Translation which are Arabic/French and Arabic/English and the student is required to complete 16 credits. The student must sit for a proficiency test in Arabic and French. The student must also score a C in ENL 213 for Arabic/English translation. Concerning the Arabic/French translation minor the student must complete TRA 201, 212, 302, 331 and 402. Students in the Arabic/English minor should complete TRA 201, 211, 301, 331 and 401.

In conclusion, the above is a brief description of the minors offered in the Faculty of Humanities. To obtain information and to declare their minor, students may visit the Minor Advisor during office hours.

**Minor Advisor:** Mrs. Mary Khoury  
**Office:** HA 251  
**NDU Phone Extension:** 2403



## Public Relations Office Visit of H.E. Liu Zhiming

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China

On Monday June 1st, NDU was honoured by the visit of H.E. Liu Zhiming, who gave a talk in Friends' Hall on China, its Economy and Diplomatic Relations, of which the text is given below. Present were Dean Elie Yashoui, who presented the distinguished guest, Mr. Suheil Matar, Director General of Public Relations, and Dean Chahine Ghaïth. His Excellency was accompanied by Mr. Tan Banglin, Political Adviser, and Mr. Guo Zijian, Attaché.

His Excellency delivering his speech.

### La Chine, son économie et sa politique étrangère

*Mesdames et Messieurs,*

*Chers amis,*

Je tiens tout d'abord à remercier le rectorat de l'Université Notre Dame de Louaize qui m'a invité à venir vous parler de la Chine.

Mon exposé sera composé de trois parties: quelques généralités sur la Chine; comment se porte la Chine devant la crise financière internationale? Quelle est en peu de mots la politique étrangère de la Chine?

D'abord, quelques généralités sur la Chine. La Chine est un pays qui a 5000 années d'histoire. Elle représente une des plus vieilles civilisations. C'est le 3ème plus grand pays du monde, après la Russie et le Canada. Il s'étend sur 9.6 millions de Km<sup>2</sup> de terre et de plus de 3 millions de Km<sup>2</sup> de mer. La Chine est également le pays le plus peuplé du monde avec une population de 1,3 milliards d'habitants. Mais plus de 80% du territoire chinois est montagneux, 40-45% en est plus ou moins désertique. La Chine ne possède que 7%-9% de la terre cultivable du monde, alors qu'elle doit nourrir 1/5 de l'humanité.

Et chaque Chinois ne dispose que d'un tiers de l'eau de la moyenne mondiale. C'est la raison pour laquelle, depuis l'antiquité, les Chinois sont obligés de travailler ensemble pour survivre. D'où cette culture chinoise dominée pendant plus de 2000 ans par le confucianisme qui préconise essentiellement la primauté de l'intérêt individuel. D'où également cette discipline collective et cet esprit de travailler dur chez les Chinois. Jusqu'en 1820, la Chine était encore une superpuissance non dominante du monde. Elle produisait le tiers de la richesse mondiale, sans s'être emparé d'aucune colonie. Par contre des puissances étrangères l'ont envahie, dépecée, après la première guerre de l'Opium qui a eu lieu en 1840, si bien que la Chine est devenue, petit à petit, un des pays les plus pauvres du monde. Cet état de chose a duré jusqu'à 1949, où le président Mao a proclamé la R.P. de Chine. Après cette date, la Chine a été réunifiée, à part la province de Taiwan. Les Chinois ont retrouvé leur dignité et le développement économique du pays a redémarré. En particulier, depuis la mise en application de la politique de réforme et d'ouverture sur l'extérieur à partir de 1978, la Chine a fait d'importants progrès économiques et sociaux. L'économie s'est accrue en moyenne de 9,8% par an pendant 30

ans. La Chine est aujourd'hui la 3ème puissance économique et commerciale du monde.

Et maintenant j'arrive à la 2ème partie de mon exposé, la situation de la Chine devant la crise financière internationale. La Chine elle-même n'a pas de crise ni bancaire ni financière. Son système bancaire est solide. Toutes les banques sont solvables. Les créances douteuses n'en sont que de 2,5%. A en juger par leur valeur en bourse, trois des cinq banques mondiales sont chinoises. La Chine possède les plus importantes réserves en devises du monde. Le déficit budgétaire ne représente que moins de 3% du PIB alors que les dettes publiques n'en représentent que 20%. Les Chinois épargnent 46% de leur revenu. Il y a suffisamment de liquidités dans le pays.

Mais la Chine n'en a pas été moins touchée par cette crise financière mondiale, dans la mesure où l'économie chinoise est très exportatrice. Et plus de 50% des exportations chinoises sont destinées aux pays de l'Union Européenne, aux Etats-Unis et au Japon. Quand tous nos trois principaux partenaires commerciaux sont entrés en récession, ils achètent beaucoup moins. Faute de bons de commande, un grand nombre d'usines chinoises sont fermées, leurs ouvriers



❖ His Excellency Liu Zhiming at the centre of the podium

réduits au chômage, dont un grand nombre sont des travailleurs migrants, c'est-à-dire des paysans qui sont venus gagner leur vie dans les villes. Ils étaient une vingtaine de millions à avoir perdu leur travail. Cela pose un problème sérieux à la stabilité sociale. La réduction des exportations provoque également toute une série d'autres conséquences, par exemple, la diminution du revenu de certains ménages, ainsi que des recettes fiscales de l'Etat, etc. ... l'économie chinoise se ralentit. D'une croissance de 13% en 2007 ce taux est tombé à 9% en 2008. Au 4ème trimestre de 2008, la croissance n'a été que de 6,8%, alors qu'au premier trimestre de 2009, elle est tombée à 6,1.

Peu de temps après l'éclatement de la crise financière aux Etats-Unis en Septembre dernier, le gouvernement chinois a décidé, dès le mois d'Octobre 2008, de lancer un plan de relance économique d'un montant de 4000 milliards de yuans (c'est à dire environ 586 milliards de

dollars), ce qui représente à peu près 16% du PIB chinois. Donc, la Chine a réagit très vite et avec vigueur. Les idées maîtresses de ce plan de relance sont:

- 1- investir dans les infrastructures qui aideraient à un développement durable de l'économie chinoise.
- 2- Restructurer l'industrie en donnant la priorité à dix secteurs, comme l'automobile, la pétrochimie, le textile, la machinerie, etc. ...
- 3- Encourager en grand les innovations techniques en accordant plus de ressources aux recherches et développement.
- 4- Elargir et améliorer le système de protections sociales en matière de santé, d'éducation, et de revenu minimum, de façon à réduire les soucis pour le lendemain des gens, afin qu'ils osent et peuvent consommer davantage et épargner un peu moins. L'objectif central est de modifier le mode de croissance, c'est à dire de faire de sorte que l'économie chinoise soit désormais

davantage tirée par la consommation intérieure et non pas les exportations.

Ce n'est pas une tâche facile car les Chinois sont trop nombreux, dont plus de la moitié sont encore des paysans qui ne jouissent que d'un début de protection sociale. Même la plupart des citoyens chinois ne sont pas riches. En 2008, le PIB par habitant ne s'est élevé qu'à 3200 dollars, alors qu'au Liban ce chiffre est d'environ 6000 dollars. Donc les Chinois dans leur majorité n'ont pas encore beaucoup de moyens pour consommer comme ils veulent.

La Chine a fait depuis 60 ans beaucoup de progrès mais tous les succès comme toutes les richesses une fois divisée par 1,3 milliards de Chinois, il ne reste plus grand chose, alors que l'on ne peut pas encore partager tout ce que possède l'Etat, parce que l'industrialisation est loin d'être achevée, que le pays a encore beaucoup d'investissement à faire,

beaucoup de besoins à satisfaire, par exemple beaucoup d'écoles, d'hôpitaux, de routes, de chemins de fer etc. à construire.

Mais, malgré tout, j'ai l'intime conviction que la Chine sera l'un des premiers pays à sortir de cette crise.

J'aborde maintenant brièvement le 3ème partie de mon exposé, la politique extérieure de la Chine. Comme vous le savez tous, la politique extérieure d'un pays est généralement le prolongement de sa politique intérieure.

A l'heure actuelle la politique intérieure de la Chine a comme objectif numéro un la modernisation du pays. Et la politique extérieure de la Chine a donc comme mission essentielle d'assurer un environnement international favorable à la modernisation du pays, c'est-à-dire un environnement de stabilité et de paix.

La Chine préconise le respect des principes énoncés dans la charte des Nations-Unis et les cinq principes de la coexistence pacifique, c'est à dire respect mutuel de la souveraineté et de l'intégrité territoriale, non-aggression mutuelle, non-ingérence dans les affaires intérieures et coexistence pacifique.

La Chine milite pour l'instauration d'un monde harmonieux, où toutes les civilisations, tous les systèmes sociaux pourraient vivre en bons termes tout en gardant leur différence. La Chine n'exporte ni sa révolution, ni son modèle de développement. Elle joue un rôle stabilisateur et non déstabilisateur dans le monde. On a même parfois l'impression qu'elle est trop discrète. Malgré tout cela, en Occident, il y a des forces qui ont toujours gardé la mentalité de la guerre froide. Ces gens- là n'aiment pas que la Chine reste socialiste. Ils la diabolisent à tout propos. D'autres sont mécontents ou jaloux du progrès qu'a fait la Chine. Ils font tout pour empêcher que la Chine ne devienne un concurrent pour eux.

Tous les moyens sont bons pour harceler et endiguer la Chine. Un des moyens à la mode, c'est d'exagérer outre mesure la montée en puissance de la Chine afin de la présenter comme une menace, ne fût que ce soit potentielle. Je saisis cette occasion pour vous dire, Mesdames et Messieurs, que la Chine restera et restera longtemps encore un pays en voie de développement, qu'il lui faut encore de longues années pour se moderniser.

Oui en Chine il y a des villes prospères comme Pékin et Shanghai. Mais il y a également de très vastes régions en retard à l'intérieur du pays. Les paysans qui représentent plus de la moitié des Chinois ne gagnent qu'un tiers de ce que gagnent les citadins.

Tous ces décalages prendront beaucoup de temps pour disparaître. J'ajouterais que même quand la Chine aura réalisé sa modernisation, elle ne se comportera pas comme une superpuissance expansionniste. Elle a déjà été une superpuissance, mais elle n'a pas été agressive. Quand elle reviendra un jour puissante elle ne le sera pas non plus parce qu'elle n'oubliera jamais les humiliations, les vexations que les puissances étrangères lui ont infligées pendant un siècle. Elle ne donnera pas aux autres ce qu'elle a dû subir.

Je m'arrête là, et je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.

**Liu Zhiming**

# WEERC Seminar

A seminar was held in Friend's Hall, NDU, on March 31st, 2009, to present the results of the project Integrated River Basin Management, Monitoring and Data Management of Nahr El Kalb Water Course and Jeita Aquifer, organized by the Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW), Water, Energy and Environmental Research center of NDU (WEERC), Notre Dame University, AVSI and ICU.

At 15.00 the first session was opened by Mr. Souheil Matar, General Director of Public Relations at NDU. Speeches were delivered by Dr. Fadi Comair, Director General of Hydraulic and Electric Resources at the Ministry of Energy and Water, Mr. Marco Perini, AVSI representative in Lebanon, Mr. Jose Antonio Naya, ICU representative in Lebanon, NDU President Father Walid Moussa and H.E. Alain Tabourian, Minister of Energy and Water.

**16:00 - 17:00**

## Presentation of results

- "Evaluation of the Pollution Load in Nahr El Kalb watershed" by Professor Jacques Harb, Chairperson, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Notre Dame University.
- "Urbanization in Nahr El Kalb watershed" by Dr. Serge Yazigi, lecturer and head of Yazigi Atelier.
- "Impact of Agriculture in Nahr El Kalb watershed", by Eng. Zahi Zind.
- "GIS and map construction", by Eng. Salim Roukoz.
- "Collaboration between NDU students and AVSI", by Mr. Paul Ojeil.
- Discussions

**17:00 – 17:15**

## Coffee break

**17:15 – 18:00**

## Concluding session

- Dr. Alberto Mazzucchelli, Specialist in Water Resources and Hydrology – Milano, Italy
- Eng. Maya Aoun, Project Manager - AVSI
- Dr. Fadi Comair - General Director of Hydraulic and Electric Resources.

## Cocktail





❖ Ekaterina Kovrikova absorbed in her performance.



# Ekaterina Kovrikova

Lebanese Center for Societal Research

❖ A Russian icon for Fr. Khalil Rahmeh.



••• Mr Suheil Farah presents the commemorative shield of the Lebanese Russian House.

Beauty, brilliance and technique came together at Issam Fares Hall on Main Campus when Ekaterina Kovrikova brought the haunting musical inspiration of the vastness of Russia and Central Asia as well as the melodic genius of Vienna. NDU reaches out on all sides and this particular evening of Wednesday, 29th April, 2009, was the fruit of cooperation with The Russian Cultural Center and The Russian-Lebanese House.

••• Ekaterina Kovrikova presents a Russian icon to Fr. Walid Moussa, NDU President.

Kovrikova is the winner of national and international competitions and Senior Teacher of the Tatar State Pedagogical University. Ever since 1993 she has been performing all over Tatarstan, Russia and Europe, including Turkey, both in solo programmes and in performances with leading ensembles of every region. This particular evening showed the wide range of her repertoire. It included pieces by Sergy Rakhmaninov, Milli Balakirev, Alexander Klucharen, Rustum Yahin, Shamil Sharifullin (Tatar), Aram Khachaturian, Mozart, Bach, Listz and Schumann. The applause was such as to demand an encore. Leading members of the University accompanied NDU

President Father Walid Moussa, as well as personalities from outside. Ekaterina Kovrikova was presented with an NDU commemorative shield and she for her part presented Russian icons to NDU President Father Walid Moussa and to Father Khalil Rahmeh, musical director. Another shield was presented to the virtuoso by Mr. Suheil Farah, President of the Lebanese-Russian House.

••• Warm applause.



## LCSR(NDU)-USEK Seminar

On Thursday, April 30th, in the Abou Khater Auditorium of NDU and on May 1st in the Salle des Congrès in the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK), a seminar was held entitled Where are we from the Reflexive Thought in the Contemporary Societies? The NDU body participating was the Lebanese Center for Societal Research (LCSR).

On the first day, sessions at NDU lasted from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with of course a break for lunch. To begin with, Dr. Abdo Kahy, Director of the LCSR, presented the question under study, which followed fifteen years of research by the LCSR and the holding of forty seminars and workshops, with the publication of forty books. This was How to define liberty, equality and justice and economic distribution of wealth and equity in the future.

Welcoming the scholars present from NDU, USEK, USJ and other universities, and from different disciplines and fields, Dr. Assaad Eid, NDU Vice-President for Research and Development, asked them to meet the challenges of bankruptcy and globalization that have deprived

society of freedom of thought and reasoning.

The subject of the first session was Civism and Citizenship on a Local and Foreign Level. This was treated mainly under religious aspects by Dr. Jean-Louis Schlegel, Director of Maison Seuil publishing house, Dr. Mirwan Mzawak, Professor of Social Science at KASLIK, Mrs. Rita Ayoub, Coordinator for Islamo-Christian studies at USJ, Fr. Boulos Wehbe, Senior Lecturer, Social and Behavioral Studies Department at NDU, Dr. Antoine Courban, Professor of History and Philosophy of Bio-Medical Science, and Mr. Souhail Farah Head of the Lebanese Russian House. Subjects raised and discussed were the following:

**Relationship between religion, memory and forgetting (oubli).**

**Religious education in an interconfessional framework.**

**Relationship between power and the human being.**

**How to build a city in the context of contemporary society.**

**The difficulties faced by the urban concept in the framework of modern technology.**

**The impact of the spiritual development on the political level.**

The second session dealt with Human Rights on a Local and Foreign Level. Speakers were Dr. Joël Roman of Maison Hachette and Revue Esprit, Professor of International Affairs Dr Joseph Fadel, Mr. Wadih Asmar, who is Secretary, General of the Lebanese Center for Human Rights, and Dr. Naim Salem, NDU Associate Professor in International Affairs.

The subjects raised were the following:

**The right of the powerless, the suppression of the powerless by the stronger, human rights become advertising tools.**

**Human rights taken by force under lethal weapons.**

**Prisoners of war, POW rights, efforts and rules.**

At the first session, from left to right, NDU: Dr Mirna Mzawak, Dr. Abdo Kahy, Fr. Boulos Wehbe, Mr. Suheil Farah Dr. Jean-Louis Schlegel, and Dr. Antoine Courban.

The specialist audience.



In the Salle des Congrès, USEK, left to right: Prof. Adnan Haballah, Dr. Hoda Nehme, Dr. Mansour Hojeily and Sociologist Jacques Beauchard.



### Human rights violations in some world region: Soviet Union in the 19th and 20th century.

The third session treated Economy on a Local and Foreign Level. Speakers were Sociologist (European scale) Jacques Beauchard and Dr. Elie Yachoui, Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics at NDU.

The subjects were

– **Making Beirut a new urban attraction pole by the commercial function on a regional level.**

– **The need to rebuild the economic structure to better meet the needs of the public.**

At USEK on the second day sessions lasted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The first session dealt with Ethics on a Local and Foreign Level. Speakers were Dr. Ramzi-Roland Geadah, an anthropology and juridical specialist who is Director of the CICERF, Louis Jean Daniel Remond who is Director of European Culture, and again Dr. Antoine Courban.

### Subjects:

**The distinction between morals and ethics as defined down the ages.**

**The concept of social and environmental bonds lacking human ethics.**

**The trilogy ethics-rights-law and how to relate it to the concept of the city.**

At the second session, treating The Human and Environmental Bond, speakers were Dr. Mansour Hojaily, Director of Sesobel, Dr. Adnan Haballah, Neuro-psychiatric professor, psycho-analyst and President of the Arab Centre of Research, Jacques Beauchard, and Ekaterina Kovrikova, distinguished pianist. Dr. Hoda Nehme, Dean of Philosophy and Human Sciences – USEK, as Moderator.

Finally Dr. Abdo Kahy reviewed the speeches of the two days.

The subjects were the following:

**Dangers and risk of pollution become irreversible.**

**Importance of reviewing the marriage concept from a human liaison bond perspective.**

**How to revive human citizenship taking Lebanon as a case study, Beirut in particular.**

**The evolution in Russia and the jeopardy of the academic liberation.**



# Speech of welcome of Dr. Assaad Eid



• Dr. Abdo Kahy and Dr. Assaad Eid open the Seminar.

Honorable Guests, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to welcome you here today. And to our distinguished guests from France I say: welcome to NDU – Lebanon, and thank you for sharing with us your thoughts and the topics that we have chosen for this ‘reflexive’ session.

As you all have come here and you represent a range of scholars and a diverse array of thought, it suggests to me that we are right to organize this session to debate, discuss and exchange views and ideas on serious environmental, social, economic, moral and technological issues that we all face in this age of globalization and technology. Lebanon might be said to be at a crossroads in its history, but I firmly believe that world-wide we are facing challenges to our future existence.

Nowadays, one no longer knows whether globalization is a blessing or a curse to human-kind. It is progressing so quickly; its effect has almost blinded and paralyzed most of us; it has turned into an unprecedented driving force from the gigantic impact of which no one can escape. Tran Van Doan describes globalization as both “the opium and the spirit”. “It reigns,” he says, “with terror and promise, with pain and sweetness. Hence for better or worse, man has to live with it.”

True! Globalization has affected almost all aspects of human life and has redefined significantly the manner in which individuals, institutions and structures perform their social roles and functions. It has affected the environment, health, education and society as a whole. Technology, or what is called the “computer era” or internet technology, with which people worldwide can access information at light speed, is perhaps the most important driver of globalization. This technology has conquered our lives; it has deprived us of our freedom; it has the power to deform us, to convert us, to weaken our social values and traditions, to raise doubt about our capacity to reason and more importantly to shake our beliefs and convictions, thus creating within us a feeling of surrender and defeat. On the other hand, some claim that our society is living a ‘crisis of hope’ and that it is characterized by a form of post-modern individualism fortified, of course, by a very rapid revolution in mobility and communication. They go on to say that this advance of technology came with the bankruptcy of humanity, just as with the advance of reason came the poverty of spirit. So, where do we go from here? How can we restore our freedom? Our hope? How can we salvage our society, our environment, of all the perils and dangers of today?

As scholars, thinkers, and men of letters, it is our duty and responsibility to meet the challenge. As one of you, it is my hope, and no doubt yours as well, that out of this session may come ideas, proposals and/or principles of such clarity and significance that will help us make important steps towards the rethinking of society in the third millennium.

On behalf of all of us here today, I would like to thank Professor Abdo Kahi for providing us with this unique opportunity. I am also grateful to our NDU President Fr. Walid Moussa for all the encouragement and support.

In closing, allow me, ladies and gentlemen, to welcome you again and to wish you a very rewarding and productive session.

Thank you.

Dr. Assaad Eid,  
Vice President, Sponsored Research and Development,  
Notre Dame University - Louaize, Lebanon  
April 30, 2009



Lebanese  
Emigration  
Research  
Center

## LERC lecture: Citizenship in the Arab World.

Wednesday 25th March 2009, LERC, NDU

Reported by Sara Panossian LERC Research Assistant and Elie Nabhan



❖ (From L-R) Ms .G .Hourani at the podium welcoming guests and introducing Dr. Kamal Abouchéid and Professor Gianluca Parolin (Mar 2009)



❖ Professor Gianluca Parolin, author and lecturer, delivers his presentation of *Citizenship in the Arab World: Kin, Religion and Nation State* (March 2009).



❖ Dr. Kamal Abouchéid introducing the works of Professor Gianluca Parolin (March 2009).

Dr. Gianluca P. Parolin, author of *Citizenship in the Arab World: Kin, Religion and Nation State*, gave a riveting lecture at Notre Dame University-Louaizé. Dr. Parolin was introduced by Dr. Kamal Abouchéid, Professor and Director for the Center for Applied Research in Education at NDU. Dr. Abouchéid said Dr. Parolin's work was colossal, since the author compared the citizenship laws of twelve Arabic speaking countries in their original language, i.e. in Arabic. The book had been five years in the making. Fluent in at least five languages, Dr. Parolin had done research, said Abouchéid, which presented a scholarly achievement.

Dr. Parolin then took the platform and explained in particular the difficulty of finding equivalents for certain terms, such as citizenship and Aristotle's polity, in different languages. With the rise of the modern nation-state, what in the past was referred to as nationality is now called citizenship. Parolin stated that in order to understand citizenship in the Arabic speaking nations, he looked at the individual through three dimensions: Kin, Religion and Nation-State. In the twelve Arabic speaking countries that he studied (Egypt, Iraq, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Gulf States, Yemen, Sudan, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria), the rights and

duties of the individual were shaped by his kin, his family, while at the same time the individual was connected to his religious community as well as to the newly formed nation-state. At these three levels of membership the individual has no choice in becoming a member, because these memberships are created and formed at birth.

He stated that in the case of Lebanon the nationality law remained fundamentally dependent on the Decision 15/S of 1925, which was taken under the French mandate, even though it was repeatedly amended. He also stated that in Arabic-speaking countries "members of religious minorities



❖ Dignitaries attending the lecture at NDU (from L-R) Dr. Assaad Eid, H.E. Hameed A. Opeloyeru and Mr. Anthony A. Bosah (March 2009).



❖ Italian visitors Dr. Deborah Scolart (left) and Ms. Fabrizia Agosta in attendance at the lecture.



❖ All attention at the Lecture: from left to right, Mr. Anthony A. Bosah and Mr. and Mrs. Jorge M. Baker (March 2009).

endure limitations of citizenship rights" and that "even in a formally secular state like Lebanon (although based on communitarianism: al-ta'ifiyah), the political, social and demographic equilibrium is so delicate that religion-related aspects of nationality and citizenship stir great political animosity." Dr. Parolin closed by saying that "several questions about the definition

of nationality and citizenship in the Arab world are still open, due to major thorny issues of international law and regional politics."

The lecture was attended by H.E. Hameed A. Opeloyeru, Ambassador of Nigeria, Mr. Anthony A. Bosah, Head of Chancery at the Embassy of Nigeria, Mr. Jorge M. Baker, Counselor at the

Embassy of Mexico, who was accompanied by his wife, the Vice-President for Research and Development at NDU Dr. Assaad Eid, two visiting colleagues of Dr. Parolin, Dr. Deborah Scolart and Ms. Fabrizia Agosta, the Director of LERC, Ms. Guita Hourani, NDU Professors, LERC staff and Friends of LERC.

## LERC continues to develop its dialogue and relations with Japan

Wednesday 8th April 2009, LERC, NDU  
Reported by Elie Nabhan

The relationship between the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and the Lebanese Emigration Research Center has been nurtured and developed over the past four years. Aiming to provide a firm foundation for academic exchange between Lebanon and Japan, Professor Hidemitsu Kuroki of the Japan Center for Middle Eastern Studies in Beirut, invited LERC Director, Guita Hourani, to present two papers in October 2007, at the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. This came to fruition with the visits

of several Japanese scholars to LERC to make use of its resources. Amongst them were Akimitsu Ikeda, a PhD Candidate and Affiliate Researcher at LERC in 2007, Dr. Aiko Nishikida and Dr. Takayuki Yoshimura. To further cement this growing relationship, Professor Kuroki paid a courtesy visit on Wednesday 8th April 2009 to the Lebanese Emigration Research Center, where he was introduced to the Lebanese Emigration Archives and Database by Mrs. Liliane Haddad and was later taken on a guided tour to the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU by Mr. Elie Nabhan.

Professor Kuroki then presented LERC with five books concerning Middle Eastern history and politics, with one publication specifically on the history of the Al-Jisr Family from Tripoli in Northern Lebanon. LERC reciprocated in kind by presenting Professor Kuroki with copies of its own publications. Both Professor Kuroki and Director Hourani discussed future research joint ventures between the two centers on issues related to migration. Dr. Kuroki was astounded by the quality and quantity of material available in LERC's electronic archive and commended LERC's team and NDU for this accomplishment.



❖ Dr. Kuroki examines a collection at the museum during his visit to LERC (Apr 2009).



❖ An exchange of publications between the two centers, Dr. Kuroki (left) with Ms. Abdul Khalek (Apr 2009).

## German Migration Scholars Pay Visit to LERC

Wednesday 22nd April 2009

Reported by Elie Nabhan



❖ Prof A. Escher flanked by (left to right) Mr Nabhan, Ms. Hourani, Mrs. Haddad and Mr. Wischnat (April 2009).

Mr. Andreas Wischnat, a Research Affiliate at LERC, accompanied his professor Anton J. Escher, lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Mainz and Director of the Center for Intercultural Studies (ZIS), on a visit to the Lebanese Emigration Research Center at NDU.

Dr. Escher specializes in global migration networks, the construction of ethnic identity and transnational communities with a regional focus on "The diffusion and function of global Arab Networks with a main link to the Near East".

Director Hourani and Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous provided Dr. Escher with information about LERC research infrastructure, services and affiliation process. Dr. Escher and Mr. Wischnat were later introduced by Mrs. Liliane Haddad to the electronic migration – related collection in the Lebanese Emigration Archives and Database and completed their visit with a tour of the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU which was provided by Mr. Elie Nabhan.

## The Lebanese Feminist Association of Uruguay and the Youth Group 1986 Visit LERC

Wednesday April 15, 2009

Reported by Basma Abdul Khalek



❖ A souvenir picture: from left to right: Fr. Younes, Fr. Semaan, Ms. Abdul Khalek, Ms. Haddad, Ms. Gulpio Lain, Ms. Hourani, Ms. Abi Rizk, and Mr. Khatlab (April 2009).

The Lebanese Feminist Association of Uruguay (Asociacion Libanesa Feminina del Uruguay) and the Lebanese Youth Group 1986 (Grupo 1986) paid a visit to the Lebanese Emigration Research Center at Notre Dame University, thanks to the efforts of the Embassy of Uruguay in Lebanon.

The visitors were Donna Nelly Abi Rizk, President of the Lebanese Feminist Association of Uruguay, Sylvia Gulpio Lain (origin Abdel Hay), President of the Lebanese Youth Group of 1986, and Father Emmanuel Younes, Pastor of the Lady of Lebanon Parish of the Maronite Order of Virgin Mary in Uruguay.

The visitors met with LERC Director Ms. Guita Hourani, Mr. Roberto Khatlab, Ms. Liliane Haddad, and Ms. Basma Abdul Khalek, who were later joined by Father Kamal Semaan, Superior of the monastery of Mar Lishaa, near Bcharre, North Lebanon.

The visit was an occasion to present the history and the activities of the Association in Uruguay, founded in 1915. Maria Maltash, mother of Nelly Abi Rizk, and daughter of Gerges Bechara Maltach, who migrated to Uruguay in 1886, was one of the founders.

The Association helped Lebanese families who came from Lebanon during World War I and settled in Uruguay.

The Association is still active as a non-profit organization and continues to provide social and health assistance to Lebanese and non-Lebanese families. Ms. Gulpio Lain introduced the activities of the Youth Group 1986, which was established following the Youth Congress of Lebanese Descent in Montevideo in 1986.

The Group brings together people aged between 35 and 55 years old to coordinate youth activities and share experiences between Lebanese in Uruguay, and with Lebanese in other countries.

## Visit of Brazilian Delegation

Friday 24th April 2009

Reported by Basma Abdul Khalek and Roberto Khatlab



❖ A souvenir picture (from left to right): Mr Elie Nabhan, Ms. Guita Hourani, Mrs. Rodrigues, Mr Antonio Rodrigues, Mrs. Beta Satte, Dr. Assaad Eid, MP Mr. Kalil Sehbe (Seba), Mr. Roberto Khatlab, Mr. Claudio Selaimen Satte, Mr. Gabriel Monte Fadel, and Cesar Moinho (Dib) (April 2009).



❖ From left to right: Mr Elie Nabhan, Mr Roberto Khatlab, Mrs. Liliane Haddad, Mr Cesar Moinho (Dib), Mr Antonio Rodrigues, Ms. Guita Hourani, Mr. Claudio Selaimen Satte, Mrs. Beta Satte, MP Mr. Kalil Sehbe (Seba), Mr. Gabriel Monte Fadel, and Mrs. Rodrigues (April 2009)



❖ Members of the Brazilian Delegation meeting with the LERC team (April 2009).



❖ Contemplating Albert Nehme's Brazil collection (April 2009).

LERC was visited by a delegation from the State of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil formed of Brazilian politicians, businessmen and entrepreneurs of Lebanese descent, all of whom were also members of the Lebanese Society of Porto Alegre (Sociedade Libanesa de Porto Alegre - SLPA), founded in 1936 to preserve Lebanese traditions and culture.

The delegation was formed of Member of the Parliament of Rio Grande do Sul Mr. Kalil Sehbe (Seba), President of SLPA Mr. Claudio Selaiman Satte and his spouse Ms. Beta Satte, Mr. Antonio Sérgio Bonilha Rodrigues and his spouse, Mr. Gabriel Monte Fadel, and Mr. Cesar Moinho (Dib).

At the end of the presentation, Mr. Satte and Mr. Sehbe presented LERC with a copy of the book entitled *Una Historia a Ser Lembrada*, which relates 70 years of SLPA's history.

While touring the museum, members of the delegation were very taken by the collection of the late Albert Nehme and were intrigued by a photo of President Camille Chamoun and President Getúlio Vargas of Brazil taken in 1954 during the former's visit to Brazil.

The delegation was impressed by LERC's efforts to document and preserve the history of Lebanese emigration, and expressed their willingness to participate in building up the Brazil collection by sending original material to LERC.



❖ A souvenir picture marking the event (April 2009).

## LERC Award to Mohammed-Ali Fadlallah, Honorary Consul, Kano, Nigeria

Tuesday 28th April 2009, LERC, NDU

Reported by Basma Abdul Khalek

LERC Project Coordinator

In recognition of the accomplishments of a prominent Lebanese emigrant, the Lebanese Emigration Research Center of NDU gave its award to the Honorary Consul of Lebanon in Kano, Nigeria, Mr. Mohammed-Ali Fadlallah, in a ceremony held at Notre Dame University in the presence of NDU President Father Walid Moussa, Vice-President for Sponsored Research and Development Dr. Assaad Eid and the Ambassador of Nigeria to Lebanon H.E Hameed Opeleyeru and members of the Nigerian diplomatic mission in Beirut.

The ceremony began with a tour of the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU, where the guests were guided round the various collections.

The Director of LERC Ms. Guita Hourani welcomed the guests, among whom were the President of the Lebanese-Nigerian Friendship Association (LENIFRA) Mr. Issam Makarem, its Vice-President Mr. Hani Safieddine, and member of the LENIFRA Board of Trustees Mr. Jawad Roda. Also present were members of the Fadlallah family, including Mr. Haidar Fadlallah, the Consul's brother representing him at the ceremony, the President of the Municipality of Jwaya Mr. Sari Fadlallah, and Mr. Mohammed Hassan Fadlallah, as well as NDU staff, and LERC friends.

NDU's President Father Moussa acknowledged Consul Fadlallah as a distinguished member of the Lebanese

community in Nigeria. He added that the Lebanese Emigration Research Center of Notre Dame University had recognized various individuals who had made outstanding contributions to Lebanese migration communities. Two awards have been given so far; the first was given to Mr. Roberto Khatlab, a Brazilian-Lebanese, for his authorship of many valuable studies on the Lebanese emigration to Brazil. The second went to Mr. Victor Sahade, a Lebanese-Australian, for his devotion and services to the Lebanese Community in Australia. President Moussa stressed the success of Mr. Fadlallah in business, his knowledge of Nigeria and his devotion to the Lebanese community in Kano.



❖ H.E. Consul Fadlallah on his first visit to NDU and LERC (March 2008).  
From left to right: H.E. Mr. Fadlallah, Father Moussa, Ms. Hourani, and Mr. Sfeir, Chairman and General Manager of Bank of Beirut.



❖ Gathered around the Nigerian and Brazilian Collections (from left to right): Mr. Roda, H.E. Mr. Opoloyeru, Mr. Makarem, Mr. Fadlallah, Ms. Hourani, and Mr. Khatlab (April 2009).



❖ Ms. Hourani explains to members of the Nigerian Embassy and LENIFRA about some items collected by the Center (April 2009).



❖ A section of the audience listens to Ms Hourani's introductory speech (April 2009).



❖ Mr. Haidar Fadlallah receives the Award on behalf of his brother H.E Mr. Mohamed-Ali Fadlallah, from H.E. Mr. Opoloyeru and Father Walid Moussa (April 2009).

Consul Fadlallah was appointed Honorary Consul in Kano, Nigeria, in 1987, and since then he has dedicated himself to serving and supporting the Lebanese community and to strengthening Lebanese-Nigerian relations. He highlighted the efforts made by NDU to support LERC's research infrastructure and museum and encouraged emigrant Lebanese to join in this effort. Following his speech, Father Moussa presented Mr. Haidar Fadlallah with the Acknowledgment Award.

In the name of the recipient, Mr. Fadlallah thanked NDU and LERC for this noble initiative that recognizes the accomplishments of various Lebanese emigrants. H.E. Mr. Opoloyeru expressed gratitude to NDU for appreciating the role that Consul Fadlallah has played not only in the lives of the Lebanese in Kano but also in sharing his knowledge of Lebanon with those who seek information. H. E. mentioned that when he was appointed to Lebanon he contacted Mr. Fadlallah

to familiarize himself with the country and found him to be very erudite and generous. He ended his speech by emphasizing the successful endeavors of Consul Fadlallah in boosting Nigerian-Lebanese relations. The event was closed by a presentation given by Ms. Hourani showing the electronic collection of the Lebanese Emigration Archive and Database.



❖ Ms. Hourani explains to members of the Nigerian Embassy and LENIFRA about some items collected by the Center (April 2009).

Subsequently, on 27th May, Honorary Consul Mohammed-Ali Fadlallah in person paid a call on the Center and NDU to express thanks for the Acknowledgement Award.

On this his latest trip to LERC, Mr. Fadlallah was warmly welcomed by LERC's Director Guita Hourani and other members of LERC staff.

He then visited the office of the Vice-President for Sponsored Research and Development Dr. Assaad Eid to thank the University. Dr. Eid declared that it was a privilege for NDU to meet and recognize people such as he was, ones who have promoted the image of

Lebanon and dedicated their lives to serving their countrymen abroad. This was then followed by a trip to the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU with Ms. Hourani and Mr. Elie Nabhan. Mr. Fadlallah was shown the new collection of the late Ambassador Mr. Gilbert Aoun. Mr. Fadlallah promised to send some of his own official documents and letters to LERC.

Upon leaving he promised to keep in mind Ms. Hourani's request for his memoires to be recorded and to continue strengthening relations between LERC and the Lebanese Community in Kano.

## Les Amis du Portugal visit LERC

Thursday 21st May 2009

Reported by Elie Nabhan



❖ Visiting the Museum (from left to right): Mrs. Assaf, Mrs. Chelala-Tarazi, Mrs. Vieira-Azar, Mr. Khatlab and Mrs. Haddad (May 2009).

LERC welcomed to its premises the President of the Portuguese-Lebanese Group Les Amis du Portugal, Mrs. Maria Vieira-Azar, Mrs. Nadia Assaf a Lebanese national who has lived in Portugal and in Brazil, and group member Mrs. Najwa Chelala Tarazi, Attorney at Law and Professor of Law at La Sagesse University in Beirut, accompanied by Mr. Roberto Khatlab, LERC's Latin American Liaison Officer. Mrs. Maria Vieira-Azar, who married a Lebanese national and is currently residing in Beirut, comes from a prominent Portuguese family.

The Portuguese-Lebanese group Les Amis du Portugal was announced on June 10th 2008 when members of the Portuguese community in Lebanon, at the personal initiative of Mrs. Maria Vieira-Azar, met together to celebrate with Portugal its national day and culture.

The group recognized that historically Portugal was used as a springboard for Lebanese and a warehouse for trade between Portugal and South America.

The descendants of the Lebanese integrated into Portuguese society and now number many hundreds, including professionals active in medicine, engineering, telecommunications and investment. There are families such as Assaf, Aziz, Fallah, Faour, Hariri, Houry, Saad and Taje as well as the Azar Family. Clearly impressed by LERC's archives and museum, the members of the group stated their interest in assisting LERC in its efforts and promised to send material to the Center.

## Migrant Siblings to Donate Valuable Photos

Wednesday 27th May 2009

Reported by Elie Nabhan and Liliane Haddad



❖ Lebanese Independence Day Celebrations Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1950 including H.E. Youssef El Sawda, Mrs. El Sawda, Consul Melhem Talhouk, Mr. Yafet and youngsters Toufic and Nadia Talhouk (photo donated May 2009).

❖ Recording vital information: Mrs. Talhouk-Assaf (left) and Mr. Talhouk (right) explain details to Mrs. Haddad (center) on the photos donated to LERC (May 2009).

One of the Portuguese Lebanese Group Les Amis du Portugal, Mrs. Nadia Talhouk-Assaf, was clearly impressed during the visit of 21st May by LERC's efforts to collect historical material related to Lebanon and Lebanese Migration and promised to donate photos from her family heirloom.

A week later Mrs. Talhouk-Assaf revisited LERC, this time with her brother, Mr. Toufic Talhouk, carrying with them over fifty original photos of their late father Mr. Melhem Talhouk.

Mr. Talhouk, born in Aley in 1908, was married to Ms. Najla Hassib AbdelMalek, graduated in Law from St. Joseph's University, where he taught before being appointed Secretary General for the State Consultative Council in 1941.

In 1945 he was selected to serve as the first Consul in Brazil. He was then a diplomat in Port Said, Egypt, in Madrid, Spain, and in Alexandria, Egypt. In 1960, he was appointed ambassador of Lebanon to Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

The photos donated to LERC by Mrs. Talhouk-Assaf and Mr. Talhouk span important events in the countries where their father served. Mr. Talhouk is the author of a book in Arabic entitled *The Talhouk Family in Lebanon*, a copy of which was made available to LERC.

During his life Mr. Melhem Talhouk was recognized by many countries and honored with awards from various governments including Colombia, Peru, Belgium, and Italy.

## Stockholm Professor at LERC

Thursday 28th May 2009

Reported by Elie Nabhan



❖ Professor Wardini at the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU (May 2009).

The Head of Middle Eastern Studies at the Department of Oriental Studies at Stockholm University in Sweden, Professor Elie Wardini, specialist in Arabic and Semitic Languages, visited the Lebanese Emigration Research Center of Notre Dame University-Louaize. Professor Wardini was welcomed to the Center by Director Guita Hourani and Ms. Basma Abdul Khalek, Project Coordinator at LERC. In a private meeting, Director Hourani introduced Professor Wardini to the infrastructure at LERC, giving him an overview of its objectives, activities and current research work.

In turn Professor Wardini introduced his work and research in the Middle East and in Lebanon, particularly his published book *Lebanese Place-Names (Mount and North Lebanon): A Typology of Regional Variation and Continuity*, which covers 1724 place-names in the two districts to document the "present etymologies of these names based on the latest findings in Semitic lexicography, onomastics and dialectology."

Discussion also raised the possibility of Professor Wardini conducting a workshop at LERC during his stay in Lebanon, as well as a joint project between himself and LERC concerning migration in Sweden. Professor Wardini was then introduced to the Lebanese Emigration Archives and Database by Mrs. Liliane Haddad and taken on a tour of the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU by Mr. Elie Nabhan.

## Libano-Carioca: Essa Gente Mostrando o Seu Valor Photographic Exhibition in Rio de Janeiro



Event: FotoRio 2009 - Encontro Internacional de Fotografia do Rio de Janeiro

The *Lebanese-Cariocas Show their Value* exhibition in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil from June 18 to July 17, 2009 is, according to Japanese artist photographer Hélio Shiino, “the result of research on the lives of Lebanese immigrants and their descendents in the City of Rio de Janeiro. The images disclose their celebrations, faces, cuisine, dances, and activities.”

The exhibition also “shows their integration into the local population, highlighting the diversity that encompasses nations, cultures and religions.”

This exhibition is the fruit of cooperation between the Photography and General Coordinator Hélio Shiino, and Roberto Khatlab, Liaison Officer for Latin America at LERC-NDU and academic coordinator for the event.

The exhibition, open to the public free of charge, will be held at the State University of Rio de Janeiro - UERJ Space Center MID (Memory, Information and Documentation), Maracanã Rio de Janeiro – RJ, Brazil.

The Exhibit is the outcome of the cooperation of the institutions indicated below. A copy of the photographs will be given by the photographer to LERC.

### **Cultural Support:**

State University of Rio de Janeiro - UERJ  
Sub-Dean for Extension and Culture - SR-3/UERJ  
Cultural Department - DeCult/SR-3/UERJ  
Speed Lab - Professional Photo Lab  
Notre Dame University-Louaize - NDU (Lebanon)  
Lebanese Emigration Research Center – LERC (Lebanon)  
Universidade Federal de Santa Maria - UFSM  
Laboratory of International Studies - Center for Lebanese Studies

### **Institutional Support:**

Network Library of Sirius / UERJ  
Core Memory, Information and Documentation - MID Center / Network Sirius / UERJ

### **Promotion:**

Directorate of Social Communication - Common / UERJ

### **Graphic Design:**

Filipe Chagas

### **Fitting/Montage Procedure:**

Sidiney Rocha Fabíola and Nevis

# Dean's List Presentation

Faculty of Humanities



❖ The students surround the Faculty members.



❖ Humanities Dean Dr. Carol Kfoury with English and Education Department Chair Dr. Mary Angela-Willis.



❖ This year, students have been able to bring their families.



❖ The voice of singer Ingrid Bawab charms Dr. Carol Kfoury, Dr. Joseph Ajami and all the audience.



❖ Ms. Julmar Doueik takes the stand.



❖ Ms. Hiba Achkar has reason to be proud.



❖ Mr. Philippe Bou Malham has something to say.

The Faculty of Humanities hosted the recipients of the Dean's List for Fall 2008 at the annual public ceremony on Friday, April 24th in the Abou Khater Auditorium.

Unlike previous years, this time family members were invited to attend. Students took advantage of this opportunity to introduce their parents to the University surroundings. For many, it was their first visit and they

were impressed by the view from the foyer of the Abou Khater Auditorium, where the refreshments were served. Dr. Joseph Ajami, Chair of the Mass Communication Department, served as Master of Ceremonies. Ingrid Bawab opened the ceremony by singing a modern song, her enchanting voice entrancing the full auditorium. Ms. Julnar Doueik and Mr. Philippe Bou Malham made short speeches in which

they stressed the importance of striving for academic excellence as one of their major goals as university students. Dean Carol Ann Goff-Kfoury encouraged students on the Dean's list to be role models for other students, to continue to work hard and to discreetly pass on their secrets to others through good example.

## Dr. Edward Alam in Vietnam



❖ Eminent Catholic philosophers of East and West on the podium.

In February, 2009, Dr. Alam delivered a paper at an historic international conference on Social Responsibility in the Context of the Market Economy. His paper was titled “Freedom and the Free Market Economy: Philosophical Explorations in Catholic Social Doctrine.” The conference, sponsored by German Catholic Action, The Catholic Episcopal Conference of Vietnam, and the Vietnamese Academy of Social Science, was just the second of its kind in Vietnam, as the country has only recently started opening up to constructive criticism of its governmental and economic structures from the international community. The setting, the beautiful coastal town of Hải Phòng on the South China Sea, was perfect for the purposes of the conference, as the participants had just the right amount of time between sessions for reflection and contemplation. Here is an excerpt from Dr. Alam’s paper:

“Modernity is characterized by an unprecedented occupation (perhaps obsession) with freedom as the absolute good and defining value. Among other things, this has led to a reformulation of the very purpose of government, whose main task now is not the pursuit of the good, but the pursuit of freedom. And this is as true for Communism as it is for Capitalism. After all it was not Adam Smith but Karl Marx, while expressing his own dreams of what freedom would feel like in a future society, who said, “to do one thing today and another tomorrow; to hunt in the morning, fish in the afternoon, breed cattle in the evening and criticize after dinner, just as I please. . .” By investigating the history and concept of freedom in modernity I hope to show that the notion has been progressively stripped of its deepest meaning and reduced to the mere rights of individual liberties. In the light of

this rather myopic account of freedom I then hope to show, by contrast, how Catholic Social Doctrine and the view of freedom it espouses offers attractive alternatives that can be appropriated by all the peoples of the world. A corresponding claim is that such appropriation does not require peoples to give up their unique cultural differences but can actually augment these differences in the context of a rich complementarity, and can help promote richer, more humane and more realistic notions of freedom worldwide.”



❖ Dr. Edward Alam enjoying the natural beauty of Hai Phong, port of Vietnam



❖ Against the background of modern Vietnam.



❖ Dr. Edward Alam of NDU delivering his paper



❖ Who wouldn't want to be a philosopher!

# IEEE Student Branch at NDU: Workshop on Ethical Hacking

Faculty of Engineering



❖ The IEEE NDU Student Branch Committee, Hikmat Ajaltouni, Richard El Asmar, Fadi Khattar, Robert El Chabb and Dr. Elias Nassar, Dean, FE



❖ Mr. Sawma with some of the workshop attendees.



❖ Mr. Victor Sawma explaining the techniques of Ethical Hacking.



❖ A very attentive audience.



❖ Full house in Friends Hall for the workshop

On March 28, 2009 the NDU IEEE Student Branch organized a workshop on the topic of Ethical Hacking. This new field of work for engineers and computer scientists is intended to help companies test their computer systems for security against intruders and hackers.

The speaker for the workshop was Mr. Victor Sawma, Lecturer in the FNAS. Mr. Sawma gave a very dynamic and interactive presentation which included hands-on exercises in testing of security measures for a hypothetical company.

The workshop was attended by more than 100 students from six universities in Lebanon including NDU, AUB, LAU, USJ, AUST and BAU as well as several engineers and scientists from industry.

The event was co-sponsored by the IEEE Lebanon Section, Mideast Power Systems, ADKOM, Strategic and Net Design Plus.

## IEEE Distinguished Lecturer Christos Christodoulou Visits the Faculty of Engineering



❖ Dr. Christodoulou giving his presentation



❖ Engineering students and faculty listening attentively to Dr. Christodoulou



❖ Dr. Christodoulou receiving a token of appreciation from Dr. Elias Nassar, Dean, FE and Chair of IEEE Lebanon Section.

On March 30, 2009, Professor Christos Christodoulou, IEEE Distinguished Lecturer, gave a lecture at Notre Dame University on the topic of:

### Reconfigurable Multifunctional Antennas Research

In his talk which was sponsored by the IEEE Lebanon Section, Dr. Christodoulou presented and discussed several reconfigurable antennas. The antennas presented covered a wide range of designs such as fractal antennas, triangular antennas, dipoles and monopoles with variable sleeves. All these antennas make use of MEMS, PIN switches, photoconductive switches or rotating feeds to make them reconfigurable. Some of the challenges that the designer has to face in biasing and integrating these switches with the antenna were also presented and discussed.

Dr. Christodoulou also expressed his satisfaction with the outstanding performance of NDU Engineering graduates currently pursuing their PhD degrees at the University of New Mexico, USA. Dr. Christos G. Christodoulou received his Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 1985. He served as a faculty member in the University of Central Florida, Orlando, from 1985 to 1998. In 1999, he joined the faculty of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department of the University of New Mexico, where he served as the Chair

of the Department from 1999 to 2005. He is a Fellow member of IEEE and a member of Commission B of USNC/URSI, Eta Kappa Nu and the Electromagnetic Academy. He served as the general Chair of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society/URSI 1999 Symposium in Orlando, Florida, as the co-chair of the IEEE 2000 Symposium on Antennas and Propagation for wireless communications, in Waltham, MA, and the co-technical chair for the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society/URSI 2006 Symposium in Albuquerque.

# ASME Student Section, NDU



As recognition from the ASME (USA), the following plaque has been awarded to NDU

The ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) Student Section at NDU was awarded the privilege of organizing the first Student Professional Development Conference (SPDC) for the ASME District J (Middle East & Africa), and the conference took place on May 14-16, 2009 at NDU. Students from Egypt, Jordan, and, of course, Lebanon attended the conference but only Lebanese students (from AUB, LAU, and NDU) participated in the different competitions held during the conference. The list of winners is as follows:

Student Design Competition (Design of a radio-controlled vehicle to retrieve small rock samples: A NASA/ASME project in which students have to compete at a district level first, and then the winners in each district are invited to participate in the finals to be held in the USA – November 2009)

**1st: US\$1500 + Travel Allowance to the USA**

**Team:** Snickers Rocks (Notre Dame University), Alain Achkar

**2nd: US\$ 1000**

**Team:** Genius NDU (Notre Dame University), Charles Haddad, Georges Akiki, Jessica Ghobril

**3rd: US\$500**

**Team:** LAU's Team (Lebanese American University), Jad Sahyouni, Elios Saad, Johnny Farhat, Georges Rahal

Old Guard Oral Competition (Presentation about a mechanical engineering topic: An ASME activity in which students have to compete at district level first, and then the winners in each district are invited to participate in the finals to be held in the USA – November 2009)

**1st: US\$1000 + Travel Allowance to the USA**

**Carmen Chraim (American University of Beirut)**

**2nd: US\$150**

**Myriam Arajy (American University of Beirut)**

**3rd: US\$100**

**Ihab Musharrafieh (Notre Dame University)**

**Best Technical: US\$50**

**Myriam Arajy (American University of Beirut)**

Old Guard Poster Competition (Poster about a mechanical engineering topic: An ASME activity at a district level only)

**1st: US\$200**

**Patrick Jreijiri, Notre Dame University, US\$100 and Sarah Karam, American University of Beirut, US\$100**

**3rd: US\$500**

**Team:** LAU's Team (Lebanese American University), Jad Sahyouni, Elios Saad, Johnny Farhat, Georges Rahal

Mechatronics Competition (Design of a mechatronics board: An activity proposed by the local ASME section at NDU)

**1st: US\$100**

**Alain Achkar, Notre Dame University, US\$100**

Also, the NDU ME student Charles Haddad has been elected chair of the newly created ASME district J's Student Board for the academic year 2009-2010.

Last but not least, the conference was sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (USA) and local sponsors, namely, Banque Libano-Française, Xerox, and Copytech.

Congratulations to the winners and to NDU, and special thanks to the organizers for their efforts and time.

**Michel Hayek, Chairperson**

Mechanical Engineering Department  
Notre Dame University - Louaize,  
Lebanon.

# Democratic Elections

Maritta Sislian

On Thursday March 26, 2009 the faculty of PSPAD cordially welcomed LADE (Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections), a Lebanese NGO which gained official recognition for monitoring the Lebanese elections in June 2009. Two officials from LADE, Mr. Riyad Issa and Miss Rasha Majdi, gave a presentation on the observation and monitoring of the upcoming parliamentary elections. The conference was held in Abou-Khater auditorium at the NDU main campus and a number of students attended.

Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous welcomed LADE in an opening speech and left the floor to Mr. Riyad Issa, who explained the aim of this association, which was improving the Lebanese electoral system

and reinforcing the fair and democratic practice of elections in Lebanon. He clarified in detail the content of the new electoral law and the multiple reforms it covered. The reforms deal with the right of out-of-country voting, lowering the age of voting to 18, and voting by passport or Lebanese I.D. as a step to preventing fraud in the elections. He also talked about the responsibilities and duties of media coverage of electoral campaigns as well as the transparency of election expenditure for each and every candidate. He listed as well new reforms that are needed, which vary from banning a majority representation, applying a quota system for women and establishing an independent council specialized for elections.

Miss Rasha Majdi talked more precisely about the skills, responsibilities and duties of the students who are interested in applying as monitors. She further explained about two workshops that students must attend if they are willing to be committed monitors. Finally, an application form was distributed to all students.

The presentation was indeed beneficial not only for PSPAD students but for every Lebanese citizen, who should have a clear idea about the regulations the new electoral law contains. Understanding our responsibilities and duties definitely paves a way to a democratic election such as we were looking forward to this June.

## FSPAD at PHOENICIA Elections Workshop

Zara Zgheib

The Phoenicia Intercontinental Hotel, Beirut, was certainly not anticipating the arrival of a group of eighteen young FPSPAD students who were invited by their professor, Dr. Sensenig-Dabbous on Wednesday April 8th, 2009. The purpose of the "field trip" was to participate in a workshop on the main issues and challenges of the June 2009 elections.

The workshop began with a keynote address given by His Excellency Minister of the Interior Ziad Baroud, who undertook to explain how this year's elections were going to work, and what made them so different from all the other elections held since 1973.

Mr. Baroud also discussed the aspects of the elections that are still in need of reform, such as the whole majoritarian system the Lebanese electoral law relies on, which Mr. Baroud believed should be replaced by a more representative system so as to guarantee minority rights, especially in a country as diverse as Lebanon.

Another regrettable problem which the Ministry was unable to resolve was that of preprinted ballots, with names and pictures of all the candidates.

Despite many efforts to terminate this custom, the current parliament refused to pass the necessary legislation to make this possible.

Mr. Baroud stressed the importance of action plans to be undertaken after the elections were over.

These were as follows:

- 1- Reexamining the Constitution and adapting it to Lebanon's current needs and demography.
- 2- Reforming the entire electoral process, and moving from a majoritarian system to a more representative one.
- 3- Establishing ways to deal with and counter corruption within the executive as well as judicial branches of government.

Following Mr. Baroud's impressive speech, a number of experts on the matter undertook to briefly touch upon several aspects of the 2009 elections.

Mr. Richard Chambers, IFES country director, for instance, gave a brief and concise overview of the mapping of candidates and the lists by district, noting the high density of candidates per number of seats: 702 candidates for 128 seats! Mr. Chambers also pointed out that of the 128 MPs in our current parliament, 100 are incumbents in the June elections.

Mr. Oussama Safa, LCPS Director, discussed the key races and contested districts expected in these elections. He mentioned six hotspots where the battles will mainly take place, namely Baabda, Beirut I, Jbeil, Saida, Metn, Zahle. Ms. Marguerite Helou, a professor of Politics at the Lebanese University, touched upon the role to be played by women in the upcoming elections. She

also discussed the demographic change in the political elite since the 1990s, despite the generally poor performance of women in Parliament, who failed to raise women's issues and work for equality in the Parliament.

Ms. Sandrine Gamblin, senior analyst at the ICG, proceeded to discuss potential hotspots and crises at the different levels, local, national, regional, and international.

It was, all in all, a rich and enlightening workshop, which brought the importance of these elections, and their implications, not just for Lebanon but on the entire region, to light. During the workshop, we mingled, discussed, debated, but mostly listened and learned. We learned a lot by listening to these distinguished speakers, who helped us apply the concepts we had learned in the

classroom to the real world. This is what politics are all about. To quote Mr. Paul Salem, CMEC Director, it's about "restoring democratic legitimacy to a country which has lost it since 1972."



- ❖ Minister Ziad Baroud gives the keynote address.
- ❖ A large attendance for the workshop.

## German Professors to Discuss Solidarity and Economics



❖ Facing the camera from left to right, speakers Samir Makdisi, Marcus Marktanner, Michael Däumer, and Jörg Winterberg (photo courtesy of KAS).

NDU professors Dr. Edward Alam and Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous were invited to attend the high-level workshop on the “Social Market Economy – A Concept for Stability in Times of Crises?”, organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Issam Fares Institute and AUB. Taking place on Thursday April 30, 2009, the workshop was hosted by German economics professor Marcus Marktanner of AUB’s Department of Financial Economics.



❖ Workshop participants, Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous left in the foreground (photo courtesy of KAS).

The social market economy concept attempts to unite the best of a competitive, liberal capitalist system, on the one hand, and the solidarity and subsidiarity of Christian social theory, on the other. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) has cooperated with NDU in highlighting the role of Christian, and more specifically Catholic, traditions of economic development over the last several years.

## Third German Educational Fair at NDU

By: Dr. Layla Khalaf Kairouz  
and Dr. Marwan Bou Sanayeh

The Third German Educational Fair was held at NDU this year on Tuesday, the 21st of May 2009. The DAAD “Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst”, Goethe Institute and the Konrad Adenauer foundation were represented. During the fair, a presentation was given by Dr. Layla Khalaf Kairouz on research and advanced learning for faculty members in Germany sponsored by DAAD. The presentation was attended by both Faculty members and students.

The special event of this year was the visit of two representatives of the University

of Ulm in Germany (Ulm is the city of birth of Einstein). Since 2005 NDU and Ulm University have closed an agreement for research and student exchange, especially in the field of electrical and computer communication engineering. The representatives of Ulm University were well received by NDU. The visit program included presentations on the master’s programs at Ulm and on advanced research topics in waves research and technology for medical applications. On the last day of the visit, Dr. Marwan Bou Sanayeh and the IEEE-NDU students

branch organized an excursion to the beautiful Lebanese mountains and the Bekaa valley. The trip had environmental, scientific and recreational aspects. The Beit el-Dine historic castle, Shouf Cedars Nature reserve, Kefraya Winery and the Quaraoun Dam on the Litani river were visited. The trip added an important social aspect to the visit, whereby it brought in close encounter the students who are planning to pursue their Master studies in Ulm with the German representatives.



❖ Students visiting the fair



❖ Audience for the presentation of Dr Layla Khalaf Kairouz.



❖ Literature available for Germany.



❖ Literature and attractive posters.



❖ Germany is famous for eating as well as learning.

## Christian Democratic NGO Present at NDU Bildungsmesse 09



❖ Highlight of the fair were the grilled German Bratwurst, served by the "Club for International Relations."

The Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the development and training NGO of the German Christian Democratic Union (CDU), had a table for the second time at NDU's Annual Educational Fair, highlighting universities in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and South Tirol/Italy.

The KAS has been focusing on the Social Market Economy (SME) concept in the Middle East for several years. In cooperation with the Faculty of Political Science, Public Administration, and Diplomacy, KAS distributed various publications on the topic, including its new SME dictionary and a selection of brochures. KAS funding is available for German students who wish to study or research at NDU.

The Christian Democratic NGO also offers a limited number of scholarships for talented NDU students looking for research or training opportunities in Germany. Through its German speaking professors, the FPSPAD has enjoyed a close working relationship with various NGOs and universities in Europe. KAS focuses on building bridges to intellectuals and academic elites in the MENA region and has been very supportive of both students and professors at NDU. This tie to Germany should help to increase interest within the NDU community for the culture, politics, economy, and technical achievements in Germany, and Central Europe as a whole.

## NDU at UNESCO- Byblos Seminar «La démocratie: nouvelles approches, nouveaux défis»

Centre International des Sciences de l'Homme  
International Center for Human Sciences



❖❖ CISH seminar participants (photo courtesy of CISH).



❖❖ Dr. Abdo Kahy, first on the left (photo courtesy of CISH).

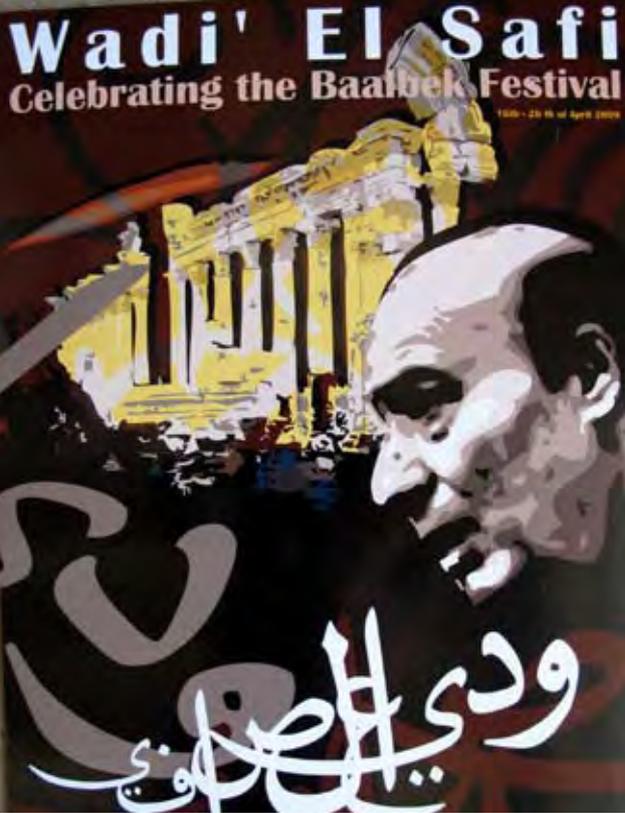
The Centre International des Sciences de l'Homme (CISH) organized a seminar at the UNESCO Center in Byblos on 7 May 2009 on "Democracy: New Approaches, New Challenges".

NDU was represented at this forum, which aimed at debating future discourse on democracy in the MENA region, by two of its research centers and one of its faculties.

UNESCO consultant Joseph Maïla chaired the session, which included participants from various Lebanese and European universities, as well as the United Nations.

Dr. Abdo Kahy participated for the Lebanese Center for Societal Research (LCSR). Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous represented both the Lebanese Center for Emigration Research (LERC) and the Faculty of Political Science, Public Administration, and Diplomacy (FPSPAD).

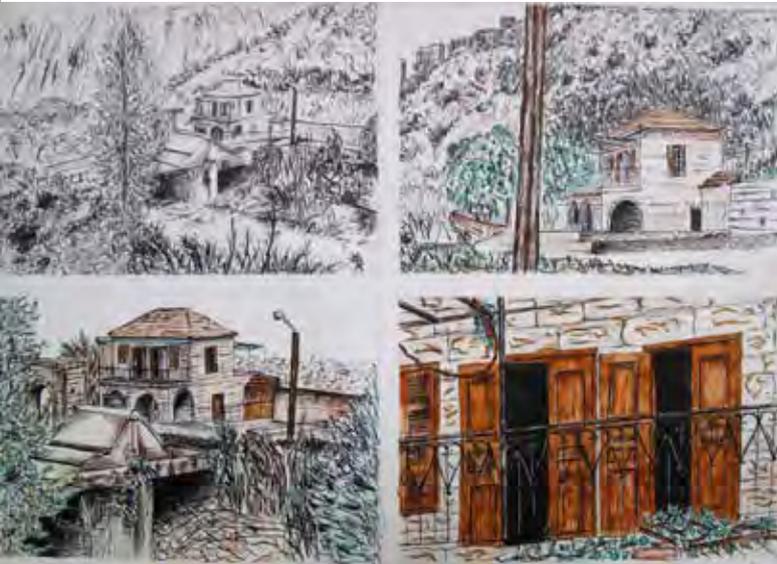
The NDU participants suggested various topics for future research by CISH, including the impact of globalization and migration on Lebanese democracy, the relationship between religion and politics, and discourse between Europe and the Middle East on alternative models of the secular in civil society.



## FAAD

Digital Media and Drawing Exhibition,  
FAAD First Year Students, Spring 2009

Roula Majdalani, FAAD Sp09



A Digital Media and Drawing Exhibition was held from 13 to 27 May at the premises of the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design.

The Faculty students provided the viewers with a broad perspective of their academic, artistic and graphic styles by conveying visual interest and pleasure alongside a solid conceptual framework.

This remarkably representative exhibit of 200 works within the Faculty juxtaposed graphic and digitization skills using Photoshop Illustrator programs along with manual drawing endeavors using gouache, watercolor, charcoal, pastel, pencil, felt pen, and mixed media.

The presentation of these two means, computer and manual work, showed the parallel between them.

'Digital Media is where arts, design, and technology meet,' explained Ms. Rima Saab, Conceptual Communication instructor. *'Using computer graphics software, digital photography, multimedia, and digital prints, the student is able to learn the latest trends in creating concepts and virtual imaging. We are working with our design students at NDU to introduce them to this new medium; it is a new medium that widens their creative potential to a vast field of possibilities in the production of contemporary artwork and design. It is an untraditional medium added to traditional methods of painting, drawing, collage, and sculpture. Through digital media the student gets familiar with animation art, installation art, net art, in addition to digital imaging.'*

Two digital projects were displayed in this exhibition:

- Virtual Still Nature: students took multiple digital pictures of a specific item, and by using Adobe Photoshop tools, they combined and blended various forms, conditions, color and light levels to portray a virtual perception of an ordinary object.

- Poster Design for a Musical Concert: In this project, students applied their knowledge of their Illustrator skills and the design principles to visualize musical sound and rhythm.

Themes in Drawing 1 and Drawing 2 courses covered perspectives of NDU indoors such as atmosphere at cafeteria, outdoor landscapes of Lebanese villages, quick figures sketches, still life using various media, and different studies on various shapes and items.

When asked to specify the target that she wants to reach with her students, Ms Ghada Jamal, Drawing instructor, answered: *'I always seek with my students a balance between searching of identity including personality, character of each potential designer, and the skills needed to help them clarify their ideas.'*

Students in both cases experimented values, contrast and colors, matched to their creativity within principles of design and art forms.

Each of the participants helped to bring out the best in others' work - some are old friends - some are new friends - but all connected on an academic and artistic level, shown through their different subject matter, yet similar use of drawing skills and computer programs and tools, with their own personality and characters.

Students in this group obviously enjoy each other's work and company - and that camaraderie was as noticeable as many of the striking works of art.

There is a line in Dostoevsky's *The Idiot* where the Prince says, *'I believe the world will be saved by beauty.'* They all have a 'natural' beauty that comes through in their work.

*'I feel this kind of exhibition will call upon the students and NDU community's sense of creativity and beauty reflecting our ongoing commitment to growing FAAD by always broadening our approaches. It is both a source of motivation to our students and also to others casually passing by, who might become interested by taking the courses as GER or within a minor. This was the purpose of settling our six new minors,'* said Nadim Matta, Design Department Chairperson.

*'I believe that this exhibition is inspiring to those who can achieve such high level characteristics,'* expressed Maria Awad, a Design student.

Diana Ayoub, another design student added: *'These exhibitions are a source of pride to every student who sees his hard work hung up on the walls, being appreciated and valued. I suggest that next time we should spread it out through the whole campus because every one should see the extent of creativity and talent our students have.'*

Similar, Cybel Taouk added: *'It is a great opportunity to show students' work and talents and an encouragement for us to do better. I am very glad that I was able to be a part of it.'*



Finally Mr. Suheil Matar, Presidential Advisor and Director General PR and Information, expressed:

ليس المعرض مجرد مناسبة سنوية، تختصر بساعات وأيام.

إنما هو معرض لكل ساعة ويوم:

هؤلاء الطلاب، بطبعهم، فنانون؛ في منازلهم، كما في الجامعة،

كما في المجتمع. علينا، كأساتذة، وإدارة، إكتشاف هذه المواهب وتشجيعها،

واحترام نزعة الإختلاف البارزة في لوحات الطلاب وأعمالهم المختلفة.

إنني، إذ أفرح، بكل فنّ جميل، أهنيء عميد الكلية، أشدّ على أيدي الأساتذة،

و أوّكد إيماني بدور الطلاب في نشرالجمال، وفي إبراز صورة الجامعة.

فشكراً للجميع.

سهيل مطر

في 2009/5/29

Best wishes and thanks to all who participated to the success of this exhibition: Danielle Zaccour, Ghada Jamal, Nada Sakr Bechara, Rima Saab, Mirna Fawaz, Hamparsoum Atamian, Cybel Taouk, Patil Gaboudigian and Jessy Nicolas.

#### Six new FAAD Minors:

- Graphic Design
- Studio Art
- Photography
- Studio Art, emphasis in Painting
- Studio Art emphasis in Photography
- Studio Art emphasis in sculpture

## GAUBE COLLECTION WORKSHOP

30 & 31 March 2009



In the FAAD Department of Architecture, in Spring 2009, the students of ARP 586 Topics in Lebanese Architecture and ARP 424 Bioclimatic Architecture held a workshop entitled "The Gaube (Photographic) Collection Workshop" in collaboration with the Mariam and Youssef Library. Students "hunted" down some of Gaube's images and analyzed their current state; i.e. if still existing, conditions, new additions, etc., studying how the climate shaped these traditional Lebanese structures.

Between 1969 and 1975, the American University of Beirut had among its members Pr. Heinz Gaube, who visited Lebanese villages in all districts, taking photos of houses that caught his attention. But what started as a hobby resulted in what is now known as The Gaube Collection.

The Gaube Collection, recently bought by the Mariam and Youssef Library of NDU, includes photos of old Lebanese houses (3200-3500 in number) along with information about each house. A database is being created by accumulating information relevant to these structures. Researchers, students or any persons willing to contribute to the development of this database, have the opportunity to upload information about these or any historic Lebanese houses and will be given credit.

The first to gather information were the students of the two courses mentioned earlier. Starting with Kesrewan, every student chose a village in which he/she surveyed three houses included in Gaube's collection. The students' findings were exhibited as posters with clear division between Gaube's information and the current analysis.

The organized workshop was divided into three parts. The first on March 30th, 2009 included presentations by Pr. Anne Mollenhauer (PhD thesis on "Beirut, Damascus, Jerusalem. Central hall houses in Bilad al-Sham (1840-1918)"), a representative of Pr. Gaube; Mr. Youssef El Khoury, an NDU alumni pursuing his PhD in Germany; Pr. Robert Saliba (PhD in Urban Planning); Mr. Danny Azzi, a representative from the Computer Center; and Mr. Habib Melki, Acting Dean of FAAD.

After talking of her work with Pr. Gaube for her PhD, Pr. Mollenhauer described her current work, which is a site management concept for the Byzantine-Islamic city Resafa in north-eastern Syria, a cooperation project of the German Archaeological Institute (Berlin) and the Syrian Department of Antiquities.

Mr. Youssef El Khoury exposed the subject of his PhD using some examples from Gaube's photos as visual aids.

Pr. Robert Saliba gave a lecture investigating the impact of Western industrialization at the turn of the 20th century on provincial domestic architecture in the Eastern Mediterranean region, taking Beirut as a case study. The lecture surveyed the progressive transformation of pre-industrial urban dwellings into suburban bourgeois residences, then into rental apartment buildings under the impact of urbanization, importation of mass-produced material and changes in lifestyles. Many questions were raised on the level of typological adaptation of traditional models, the hybridization of building technology and know-how, and cultural permeability to Western influences.

Mr. Habib Melki stressed that the evolution of the traditional Lebanese houses has seemed to come to an end and that concrete is improperly and excessively used without considering ecological architecture and equilibrium to the environment. Although, these vernacular structures have almost disappeared, we still can trace their evolution and be aware of their natural environmental character and concepts. Mr. Melki also noted that Education is one of the most effective methods to explore passive concepts used by past generations and improving them with the acquired scientific knowledge of the present.

Finally, he emphasized that this Collection is a starting point for a growing database on Lebanese traditional architecture and is open to not only Architects but to a wide range of disciplines.

Mrs. Leslie Hage presented how the Gaube Collection was purchased by the NDU and how it will be preserved and made accessible to those interested.

The Computer Center representative, Mr. Danny Azzi, explained the developing database system. The second part of the workshop on March 31st was the exhibition of the posters prepared by the students, followed by a visit of some of the houses with Pr. Mollenhauer and Mr. El Khoury in the Kesrewan area.

This event was of great benefit to the architecture students. Learning how our ancestors built their houses in harmony with nature, taking into consideration environmental factors, allows us to use this knowledge along with today's technology to build in a sustainable manner for future generations. Finally, a word of thanks from the FAAD to those who made this event possible:

The NDU Administration,

Mrs. Leslie Hage and the NDU Libraries,

Center for Digitalization and Preservation Fr. Jean Abou Chrouch, Mr. Walid Morad and Ms. Rita Azar,

Division of Computing Services and e-Learning Center Mr. Fawzi Baroud and Mr. Dany Azzi.

Last but not least we thank Pr. Heinz Gaube, Pr. Anne Mollenhauer and Pr. Youssef El-Khoury.



Report prepared by students Noelle Homsy & Remy Safi  
FAAD – Spring 2009

BEFORE (1970)



TODAY (2009)



# Communio Meeting

On April 30th, 2009, the *Communio* circle once again enjoyed the hospitality of Dr. Doumit Salameh, this time to hear a presentation of Dr. Eugene Sensenig Dabbous concerning the editorial article Fundamentalism and the Catholicity of Truth in *Communio* issue 29. This time, among those taking part was the distinguished scholar Father Richard Price, Latin-rite Catholic English priest professor of Early Christian History at Heythrop College, which is Jesuit operated and attached to the University of London. Erudite in Latin and Patristic Greek, and practiced in Russian, Old Slavonic, German, French and Italian, he has prepared a definitive English translation of the minutes of the first Ecumenical Councils.

We hope he will make longer visits to Lebanon in the future.

Fundamentalism in this context had of course nothing to do with the mountain peoples of Pakistan or the hill-billies of Kentucky. The article explained Fundamentalism as a "Modern Anti-Modernism". It said that what modernity means by "science", far from being an unprejudiced explanation of the facts of "nature" as they really are, is the attempt to make the secularized Christian world viable without the inconveniences of Christian dogma. It also admitted that theologians had been to blame for separating nature and grace and so handing nature over to a "reason" that was to become a distortion of reason, neutrality being confused with objectivity.

Dr. Sensenig (of Anabaptist tradition) pointed to the two manifestations of the Divine Word, the Word of God in the Bible (and Holy Koran) and Christ the Word of God, and went on to deal with the Church as the Mystical body of Christ, according to St. Paul.

Father Price remarked that the Council Vatican II had opened windows for those inside the Church, but unfortunately many looking out onto the secular world for the first time had got lost.

**N.B.** Communio meetings are open to all, whether members of the NDU family or of other universities, or simply members of the public interested in the more intellectual aspects of religion. The invitation is extended to the faithful of every religious adherence, for Orthodox and Reformed participate regularly and in the past Muslims have made interesting contributions to the discussion.

Information may be obtained from  
**Dr. Edward Alam, 09.218950...5, ext 2405,**  
and also from his website  
**ealam@ndu.edu.lb .**

**Associated websites of interest are**

<http://www.communio-icr.com/circles.htm>

[http://www.metanexus.net/globainetwork/societies\\_detail.asp?SocietyID=77](http://www.metanexus.net/globainetwork/societies_detail.asp?SocietyID=77)

<http://www.metanexus.net/institute/> .

# SAO Activities

## SAO



This year the student activities at NDU Main Campus have been as varied, entertaining and successful as ever. All clubs were active, creative and original, showing a high level of responsibility and leadership. Together with some three hundred daily events, there were important ones such as the Christmas Fiesta, Beyt el-Kehen Camp, Turath Day and Founder's Day.

### **Club Recruitment Days:**

These were held in the Exhibition Hall on October 30th and 31st with the participation of more than thirty clubs and societies.

### **Christmas Fiesta:**

On December 18th and 19th students had stands giving out presents, candies

and cookies. Outstanding was the BLESS Project, for which, after having been taken on a tour of the stands, elderly people were served lunch by the HTC, entertained and offered gifts by the Student Union.

### **Beyt El Kehen Camp:**

For the weekend January 10th and 11th, some seventy club members camped at the little village of M'aad, with Mass, sports, games, competitions and a camp fire.

### **Turath Day:**

This took place on Friday, March 27th, with nineteen clubs participating. Each club did research and prepared interviews, documentaries and photos on the food, agriculture, tourist sites, festivals,

families, etc., of Ksara, Taa'nayel, Zouk Mosbeh, Ain 'Ebel, Jdita, Kfarzghab, Shahtoul, Faraya, Britel, Gemmayzeh, Beit Shebab, Ehden, Jbeil, Aanjar, Riye' and Harissa. Guests came from the villages concerned and there were varied performances.

### **Founder's Day:**

The 22nd anniversary of NDU was celebrated on Friday, May 8th, with twenty-two clubs taking part following the theme Roll Out Hollywood's Red Carpet, each club decorating its stand according to a movie.

Celebrations started after Mass at around 12.30, with NDU President Father Walid Moussa presiding, and continued until 3 a.m. next morning.

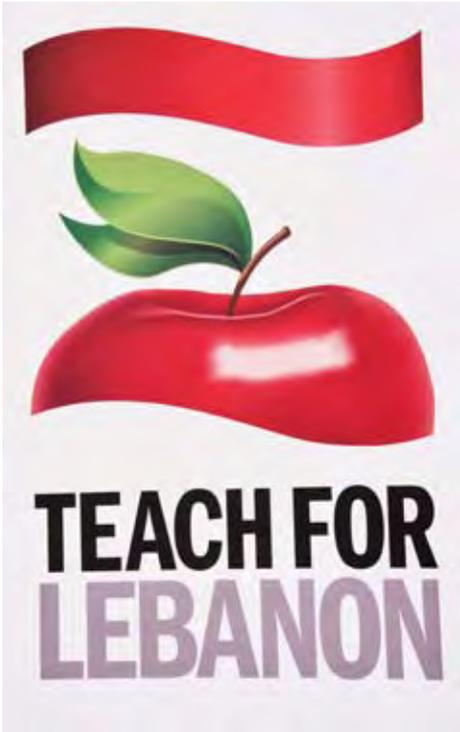
Think big, believe big, act big,  
and the results will be big – Anonymous





## Community Service Office

CSO



❖ Students are encouraged to Teach for Lebanon.

❖ Faculty support for CSO. The BLESS project covers improving education for the underprivileged.

This May, Notre-Dame University-Louaize celebrated its 22nd Annual Founders' Day in typical NDU fashion: a general outpouring of energy, teamwork, and creativity from students, clubs, faculty, and a few special guests.

Appropriately, the student committee belonging to the NDU Community Service Office (CSO) participated in its first on-campus activity on the anniversary of the NDU tradition, in anticipation of being a consistent member of this tradition.

The CSO set up a booth where student members sold raffle tickets and cotton candy. The proceeds of the booth are entirely dedicated to funding the Building Lebanon by Employing to Self-Sufficiency (BLESS) project, which was

introduced early in the fall semester as the CSO's first project. The booth also served as a platform of introduction for the CSO. Committee members distributed leaflets describing the CSO, its objectives, and the vision behind them.

The CSO student committee has taken its first steps as the newest member in the NDU student body family on the day the NDU family was founded. The goals the CSO has adopted are ambitious, and our combined efforts will surely bring them into fruition.



❖ Faculty support.



❖ Fr. Salim El-Rajji with students listen to Mr. Ali Dashkieh.



❖ Mr. Ali Dashkieh (TFL-CEO) and Mr. Majed Bou Hadir, CSO Director.



❖ Mr. Ali Dashkieh presents CSO's cooperation with Teachers for Lebanon and CEO.



❖ CSO and BLESS cooperation.



❖ SAO support for the CSO

# NDU Honored Sri Lankan Workers

STAFF



❖ Ambassador Mahroof (centre with microphone) and Mr. Premarathna and son with Father Bshara Khoury and Ms. Jocelyne Issa.



❖ Graceful Sri Lankan dancing.



❖ At lunch.



❖ Sri Lankan ladies show the beauty of their national costume.

With the collaboration of the Sri Lankan Embassy the Administration of Notre Dame University celebrated Labor Day in honor of all workers on May 4, 2009 by organizing a special lunch at the University's cafeteria.

On behalf of the President of NDU, the Director of Finance Fr. Bechara el Khoury welcomed the ambassador H.E. Meerasa-hib Mahroof, accompanied by Mr. W.M. Premarathna, Counselor (Employment and Welfare) in the embassy of Sri Lanka with his son, and thanked them for their presence at the University. He also addressed the workers and thanked them for all their efforts

and hard work that they are offering to keep the University clean and shiny on a daily basis.

Ambassador Mahroof thanked the University Administration for organizing this special celebration and addressed all the workers by first thanking them for all their efforts and holding them responsible for their attitude and behavior toward the University. He also added that the Sri Lankan people are characterized by their commitment and honesty toward the people that they work with.

On behalf of the Sri Lankan community working at the University, Mrs. Karuna Gunas Akara thanked the embassy guests

and NDU administration and expressed the wish that this event would continue to be an annual ceremony.

One of the Sri Lankan workers at NDU Ms. M.P.D.C.P Latha performed a special dance by holding candles as a symbol of a Thank You prayer followed by three other dancing performances; five artists invited upon the request of the Ambassador presented three traditional Sri Lankan dances.

The guests were all invited to lunch afterwards.

At the end of the celebration each worker got a gift from the sponsors of the event and all were invited to dance.

## Easter Spiritual Retreat

Fadia el-Hage



❖ Starting with Holy Mass.



❖ The attendance.



❖ Blessed Father Yaacoub.



❖ Sister Mona explains.



❖ Under the statue of Blessed Father Yaacoub.

Every semester the NDU Administration invites the members of the NDU family to attend a spiritual retreat for recollection about themselves and their purpose. So before Easter we were all invited to the Holy Cross Monastery founded over Jal ed-Deeb in 1921 by the much-loved Capuchin friar Blessed Father Yaacoub. We started at 9 a.m. with half an hour of prayer led by Father Roger Chikri and Father Fadi Bou-Chebl.

We then received an explanation through Powerpoint from Sister Mona Saad about the writings of Father Yaacoub and his devotion to Jesus Christ as expressed in his work, his charity and his prayer. His favorite invocation was, "Oh God, enlighten my mind, purify my heart, and sanctify my soul!"

His writings convey his whole attitude to work:

- Purpose of work: we must labor with faith and hope, otherwise work will enslave us if done only for our own satisfaction. Work done merely for ourselves is evil.
- Sanctification of work and through it of ourselves: our will should always conform to the will of God.
- Importance of work: laziness leads to misery and "the devil finds work for idle hands to do."

Jesus Christ sanctifies our work when we start it with prayer and perform it with faith, hope and love. In brief, work sanctifies us through God's free gift of grace. We should think of Our Lord before taking on any task as this will protect us from the wiles of the devil, help us avoid sin, strengthen our faith, and encourage us in our efforts.

We have a vertical relation with God, He who gave Man sovereignty when He created him and a horizontal relation

with others since we must cooperate and share with them in order to achieve great things. Every part of the body has its particular work to do, and likewise when all work together peace may be achieved.

This inspiring session lasted for an hour, to be followed by coffee break and then another projection that showed us the great realizations of Father Yaacoub. He founded an order of sisters, religious houses, hospitals giving physical and psychiatric treatment and care for the elderly, schools, and various humanitarian institutions, to be found all over Lebanon and in Jordan and Egypt as well. We thanked sister Mona for her explanation of the great personality of Blessed Father Yaacoub the Capuchin, and then sat down to lunch with our two priests, to whom we owe many thanks for the enjoyable and spiritually profitable time we spent together.

## Award for Spirit's English Editor

Georges Mghames, General Editor



❖ A smiling trio, Father Walid Moussa, Mr. Kenneth Mortimer and Mr. Suheil Matar at the presentation of the plaque.

At midday on Monday June 15th, 2009, an Award Ceremony was held by NDU Public Relations in the Abu Khater Auditorium to honor Mr. Kenneth Mortimer and thank him for his devotion as English and French editor of NDU Spirit. Those present included Administration officials, monastic and lay, professors, administrative staff, and members of his own family with their spouses and relatives and friends, not forgetting the five-month-old twins, Geoff and Jade, son and daughter of his son Anwar civil engineer and international judo referee – they remained as good as gold throughout the proceedings!

All the speakers insisted on Kenneth Mortimer's passion for good, elegant English correct in every detail, including punctuation. Most speakers, including Mr. Mortimer himself, made humorous mention of his love-hate relationship with his computer – for when he started school in 1931 computers were not in the program! They further insisted on his contribution to an atmosphere of culture, religious faith and moral concern in our University and on the humor he brought to every subject. Every speaker spoke with a laugh on his lips and total lack of conventional solemnity.

Ms. Guita Hourani as chairman opened the occasion, thanking Mr. Mortimer on behalf of the Lebanese Emigration Research Center for his care in publishing news of its activities and his help in assuring an English in its documents and external letters that would maintain its prestige.

A comic film taken from a past Audio-Visual student project was projected in which Mr. Mortimer took the part of the inventor-scientist who provided James Bond, played by Mr. Tony Gunstone, with his box of tricks. Grand-daughter Romy Zalloum projected a clip considered highly professional and covering old photographs of Mr. Mortimer's grandparents, parents and years of childhood and military service. Dr. Edward Alam spoke of occasions when he had shared enjoyment of poetry with Mr. Mortimer and of the latter's fidelity to his convictions concerning life, faith, beauty, courage and reason despite having lived through all the tragic events in Lebanon over the recent years.

Speaking extempore in Arabic despite his familiarity with the English language, NDU President Father Walid Moussa



Ms. Guita Hourani, Director of LERC, opening proceedings.



❖ Left to right: Edward Mortimer, his son Kenneth and spouse Irène, Mohana (spouse of Anwar), Maureen Zalloum, Mrs. and Mr. Mortimer, Fr. President Walid Moussa, Anwar Mortimer, daughter Rouaida mother of Maureen and Romy, Romy Zalloum, Archimandrite Elie Aghia, Dr. Sola Khoudary and Dr. Doumit Salameh.

remarked how Mr. Mortimer's influence was generated from a small and modest office where he drew no attention on himself. The NDU President thanked him for his help in assuring that his own doctoral thesis was free from any ambiguities of style or expression.

Dr. Doumit Salameh raised many a laugh by giving examples of bad English usage, coming from British and Americans who should have known better, that had aroused Kenneth Mortimer's derisive contempt. One case in point was the advert in Time magazine "More people smoke Marlboro than any other cigarette"; by comparing people with other cigarettes, this meant that people were cigarettes and cigarettes smoked Marlboro.

Then Mr. Suheil Matar, NDU Director General of Public Relations, brought Mr. Mortimer to the podium for Father Walid Moussa to present him with a fine bronze plaque bearing his photograph and expressing the love in which he was held. Anwar Mortimer thanked NDU for the event and spoke of his father's character and devotion to his family, and then granddaughter Maureen added her word.

Archimandrite Elie Aghia, Superior General of the Greek-Catholic Missionaries of Saint Paul, Harissa, said that he had known Mr. Mortimer and his family for forty years, since he himself had been a seminarian, and known also his passionate love and devotion for the Eastern Churches (having transferred from the Latin to the Melkite rite.)

When it came to his turn to speak, Kenneth Mortimer thanked the Presidents and officials of NDU for their support. He thanked those who contributed to the Spirit and who urged their students to do so, while he had a special work of thanks for Ms. Fadia el-Hage, who rushed to his help whenever he was at loggerheads with his computer.

He said only God's Providence and the protection of Our Lady could account for how NDU had flourished in trying times and emphasized its religious role, one which some Catholic universities around the world sadly neglected. One could see in Lebanon how people who were close to God were close to each other, whatever their religious confession. Mr. Mortimer pointed out that a University was not merely to prepare students for earning money but should teach culture, refinement, good taste and elevation of mind, with its staff setting an example for the students in contact with them. He warned the Lebanese against the worldliness, snobbery and moral corruption that had brought civilizations down.

God cared for those who loved Him, His law and their fellowmen. In the post-Christian West, crime and corruption existed as never in the past. An eminent Muslim scholar had said that Britain had been living after the decline of its Christian faith on its Christian capital but this was now exhausted. With the revival of the Eastern Churches in recent years, all of NDU had a world mission before them.

Mr. Mortimer finally repeated some lines he had composed and published in NDU Spirit in 1998:

**1998 The New Campus, Honouring the promoters of NDU**

K.J. Mortimer

I

Look on this mountain by the shore,  
shaken by the tractor's roar.  
Gone the dragon from our coast,  
gone the mythic hero's boast.  
New monsters crawl with iron tread  
and move the earth in giant spread.  
Long arms of steel from wheeling tower  
vie with Hercules in power.  
That king of Tyre would stand amazed  
to see the burdens that they raised.  
They labour hard for NDU  
and build for it a campus new.  
A bishop's vision crowns the height  
with spacious halls of gleaming white.  
Two presidents have shared his zeal  
till now this year has set its seal.

II

Another building nearby tells  
of monks at prayer in their cells;  
with fire from heaven they ignite  
the torch of learning to burn bright,  
where holy truth from heaven came  
to make it gleam with purer flame.  
Now students strive with honest toil,  
burning late the midnight oil;  
But not alone for sordid gain,  
for they must have a higher aim:  
refinement of the heart and mind  
with culture of a nobler kind,  
as taught by ancient Rome and Greece  
and Chinese scholars from the East.

III

But mandarin and Stoic stern  
for themselves alone did learn;  
to keep their learning pure and fine  
they cast not pearls before the swine.  
But for himself no man should live,  
each scholar has a store to give;  
He has to learn to take the cross  
and not fear mere earthly loss,  
that all may see in him reflected  
God's love for man and be affected.  
So let example loudly speak  
to those who higher wisdom seek.  
Thus when we watch that hilltop scene  
with all its busy workers keen,  
to NDU we give ovation,  
remembering its true vocation.

NDU Spirit, K.J. Mortimer

# NLC School Visits

## North Lebanon Campus

Father Samir Ghsoub and Mr. Edgard Harb continued their visits to secondary schools in the North Lebanon, as shown in the accompanying photographs. They were everywhere warmly welcomed without discrimination of community.



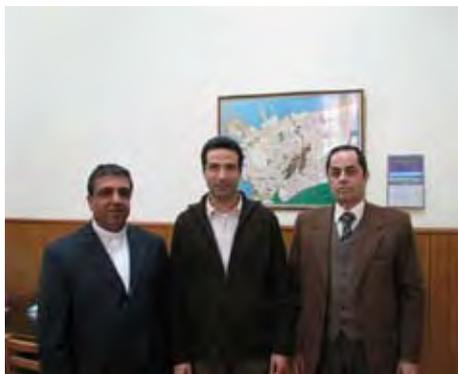
❖ Fr. Samir Ghsoub with Mme. Thérèse Sarkis, Principal of École André Nahas.



❖ Fr. Samir Ghsoub with Mrs. Victoria Ramadi, Director of École Nationale Grecque-Orthodoxe.



❖ Fr. Ghsoub with Mr. Mohamad Bader Kamar el Dine, Principal of Hassan Hajji Official Secondary School.



❖ Fr. Ghsoub and Mr. Edgard Harb with Dr. Jamal Bitar, Director of Tripoli Evangelical School.



❖ Fr. Samir Ghsoub, and Fr. Elie Barrou, Director of École des Pères Carmes, Tripoli.



❖ Fr. Samir Ghsoub and Mr. Edgard Harb with Mr. Mohammad Mikati, General Director of Rawdet El-Fayhaa Secondary School.



❖ Fr. Samir Ghsoub and Mr. Edgard Harb at École des Saints-Coeurs, Tripoli.



❖ Fr. Ghsoub with Mr. Elias Bitta, Principal of Orthodox School, Kobbe.

## School Principals' Dinner

### North Lebanon Campus

Following the yearly custom, on 2nd May, 2009 North Lebanon Campus invited the principals of the secondary schools of the North to dinner, this time at Batroun Village Club. NDU President Father Walid Moussa and Mr. Suheil Matar,

Director of Public Relations, and of course NLC Director Father Samir Ghsoub joined the party to cement the friendly relations already existing.



## Human Rights Of Migrant Workers

### North Lebanon Campus

This was the topic of the conference held on Wednesday, 6th May, 2009, under the auspices of Caritas in NDU-NLC. Promoted by the Student Affairs Office together with Caritas Migrants Centre, the conference approached the problem in its different aspects. A comprehensive study was presented of our migrant workers in Lebanon, Ethiopians, Sri Lankans, Nepalese, etc..

The discussions involving the students were very revealing. There certainly exists here a humanitarian problem to be considered with attention and seriousness. Our illustrations show Miss Nouha Kweiss with the microphone explaining the concern of Caritas for the migrant workers and the officials and students of NLC following her with keen interest.



## NLC Open Doors



Singer Miss Grace Deeb and Sawan El Sayyed of the Arab Woman channel (Al Maraa Al Arabia) graced with their presence the NDU-NLC March of the Open Doors on Friday 27th, 2009, when North Lebanon Campus received seven hundred secondary students from eighteen schools. Télé Liban was there to record the event.

At 9:00 a.m. the schools began to show up. The eight NLC students' clubs were there to welcome them. Two conference rooms had been equipped with computers, LCD projectors and a small Awareness campus movie to receive the visitors. The program commenced with a movie followed by explanations from each of the seven Faculties, the coordinators of which were present in the hall to answer the students' questions.

Finally there was a tour of the Design Department, the instructors' office, the video conferencing room, the studio, the computer centre, the science and engineering labs, the library, the amphitheatre, the cafeteria and the newly built gymnasium.

It was a festive occasion for NLC, with varied activities and an atmosphere of joy and friendship. Father Samir Ghsoub, Director of NLC, was all over the place directing, encouraging, giving interviews, mixing in at the clubs and talking to students. The day ended at 17:00 hours with the reception of the last school, a very special day that will not be easily forgotten.



## Discovery of H.M.S. Victoria Commemorated



- Projected on the screen is an old illustration of H.M.S. Victoria before launching. With a return to the galleys of ancient times, the first steam-driven "iron-clads", made in the Laird shipyards in Scotland, had a beak in the prow for ramming and were called "Laird rams".

On June 22nd, 1893, the battleship H.M.S. Victoria, pride of the British Royal Navy, was sunk as the result of a collision caused by a false manoeuvre ordered by Admiral Sir George Tryon during fleet exercises near the coast of Tripoli. A number of sailors were drowned. The stupidly accidental sinking of a ship named after the Queen-Empress Victoria, approaching the sixtieth year of her reign which saw Great Britain dominating the world thanks to her sea power and ocean commerce, was



- Mr. Edgard Harb of NLC with Mr. Christian Francis and his team.



- A crowd come to hear about diving and about naval history.

a blow to the national pride and not to be admitted in the official records.

However, interest revived thanks to the zeal of the Lebanese-Austrian diver Christian Francis, who with his team discovered the wreck in 2006. This was celebrated on Wednesday, 13th May, 2009, when the team were invited to give a talk at North Lebanon Campus.

## Sickle Cell Disease

Under the auspices of the Freewill Club and the PR Office, on Wednesday May 20th, Adlette Inati Khoriaty M.D. lectured at North Lebanon Campus on sickle cell disease, which affects mainly the populations of the Mediterranean Basin, including a certain number of people in Lebanon. Dr. Adlette Khoriaty

is head of the Pediatric Hematology Oncology Division and Medical Director of the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases at the Rafik Hariri University Hospital in Beirut. She is also member of several international medical and scientific societies.



- Dr. Adlette Khoriaty and her audience.



- Mr. Edgard Harb with some of the students listening.



- Spreading information about sickle cell disease.

## NLC Dean's List

Some sixty were on the Dean's List for the Fall-Spring semester 2008-2009.

The distinctive certificates were delivered by Director Fr. Samir Ghsoub in the presence of the outstanding students' parents and other relatives, together with faculty members and staff of North Lebanon Campus.

The ceremony ended with a general get-together and refreshments.



❖ Fr Ghsoub presents her certificate to Eugene Maroun, GPA 4.0.



❖ Proud and happy families look on.



❖ Father Samir Ghsoub addressing a happy crowd.



❖ Mrs. Loubna Rizk, GPA 4.0.



❖ Mis Joelle Klat, with happiness shared, GPA 3.93.



❖ Mr. Michael Hajj speaks.

## The Murder of English

K.J.M. (*Vox clamans in deserto*)

Regretfully, in these days of declining standards those who wish to improve their English cannot always take as a model the English written by British or American authors, even if supposedly educated. One result of radio and television is that bad neologisms and clichés spread rapidly and become a deplorable fashion.

According to the website [bbcnews.com](http://bbcnews.com) of 23rd March, 2009, the Local Government Association of Great Britain has made a list of two hundred common expressions that henceforth should be banned from official writing. There are perhaps two main motives for such high-sounding jargon, either a desire to impress or a desire to camouflage. An example given on the BBC program Business Daily (to be congratulated for its clear language) was “subprime mortgages”, which are in fact junk mortgages, ones that stand little chance of being paid off. But with the more pretentious adjective of “subprime”, there was a better chance of selling them to the gullible, including representatives of the great financial houses! Words may also camouflage bad failures of those responsible, such as “slippage” for delay. Many expressions listed by the Local Government Association are in fact quite meaningless.

Here are expressions used in official writing that the LGA wants banned: level playing field, re-baselining, benchmarking (i.e. measuring), seedbed (i.e. idea), mainstreaming, holistic, contestability, synergies, blue-sky thinking, can-do culture, coterminosity, improvement levers.

One of the qualities of English is that it can be very concise. Try saying “British cars were priced out of the market” in any other language (*Les voitures britanniques furent battues sur les marchés par la concurrence des prix inférieurs!*) So it is contrary to the spirit of the language to say “a greater number of” or “a higher level of” instead of

the simpler “more”. “A period of time” has become a common cliché despite the redundancy; can one have a period of space? “Absolutely” is being wrongly used to mean “certainly”. One often hears mention of “a greater level” although all levels are infinite in all directions, so they can only be higher or lower.

**Notice:** *convent* is used only for convents of women. For men use *abbey*, *monastery*, *friary*, *coenobium*, *skite* or *religious house* as appropriate.

**We repeat:** *In case* does not mean *if*. It means for fear that. E.g. I don’t think it will rain but I am taking an umbrella just in case it rains. If it rains I will take an umbrella, otherwise I won’t bother.

### Punctuation of defining and non-defining relative clauses:

E.g. His brother who\* lives near Baalbek has a farm. *I.e. he has several brothers, one of whom lives near Baalbek.*

**Defining clause.** It says which brother has a farm.

*\*Who may be replaced by that.*

His brother, who lives near Baalbek, has a farm. *I.e. he has only one brother.*

**Non-defining relative clause** simply adding parenthetical information.

*Who, whom, which may not be replaced by that or omitted when complement of verb or preposition.)*

### Short, simple, clear sentences.

The longer and the more complicated your sentence, the more likely it is to contain mistakes.

Do not add words that really have no meaning in the context.

Do not put phrases between subject, verb and object.

Bad: The policeman saw before he arrived at the car-park which was attached to the hotel two men fighting each other.

**Better:** Before even reaching the hotel car-park, the policeman saw two men fighting.

Arabic writing at present contains a lot of *hushwe*. But this is not good Arabic and translations into English or French should be concise.

### Inverted commas for names.

Names of ships, books, films or plays should be in *italics* and not between inverted commas. In handwriting or texts typed on an old-fashioned typewriter, or to indicate a different face when proofreading, one may underline. Inverted commas often indicate falsity or imitation. E.g.: I saw the “Arab” drinking whisky at the bar. This means not a real Arab but a European or American dressed as an Arab, perhaps at a party.

### A few, a little, few, little.

This is another source of error that keeps coming up. *A few, a little*, mean not much but sufficient.

Examples:

They are taking a little food with them, so they won’t go hungry.

He has a few friends, so he doesn’t feel too lonely.

They have little food with them and are in danger of starvation.

He has few friends and leads a very lonely life.

The same difference exists in French between *un peu de, quelques and peu de*.

### A green line under words does not always mean that you have made a mistake. It is only a warning for you to check what you have written.

Computers are machines and cannot think. For example, in this sentence *My uncle and my friend work in Beirut*, the computer has put a green line under *My* although the capital M is justified in this case. It might even put one under *work* because it takes into account only the noun *friend* immediately preceding, which is singular, and not *uncle*. So do not be unduly puzzled or alarmed.

# Recent Developments in "Finance" Explain Better the Current Crisis

By Dr. Louis Hobeika

Professor of Economics and Finance at NDU.

The current financial crisis occurred during a period of strong macroeconomic growth and low interests. It surprised financiers and regulators alike.

The turbulence was triggered by a sudden and widespread loss of confidence in securitization and financial engineering and by the failure of respected statistical models for assessing and pricing credit risk. The crisis happened too because of failures in corporate governance, in particular lax board oversight of risk management and executive compensation practices that encouraged risk taking.

The current global international financial and economic crisis has pushed academicians to expand different theories which may better explain what has happened in markets since August 2007. Today's global crisis is, in fact, the worst since the 1930s. Unless countries succeed in stabilizing their financial systems, a sustainable recovery will remain out of reach.

## **There are many reasons for the downturn in the global economy:**

1. Global imbalances in trade and capital flows that began in the latter half of the 1990s.
2. Chronic lack of savings in the US and some industrial countries.
3. An increase in savings in emerging markets which resulted from rapid economic growth in high-saving East Asian economies and an increase in oil revenues due to high oil prices.
4. The persistent current account deficit of the USA forcing it to borrow from Asia. A large portion of that capital was not properly invested.

Traditional theories or "Homo-economicus" have assumed that a combination of market forces plus evolution should produce a world similar to that described in an economic textbook. Economic agents were blessed with unbounded rationality which allowed them to make optimal decisions. Lucas maintains that people make economic choices based on all information available to them and learn from their mistakes.

Economists now realize that even in financial markets there are important limits to the workings of arbitrage. Herbert Simon suggested the term "bounded rationality" to describe a more realistic conception of human problem-solving capabilities. Real humans, even when they know what is best, sometimes fail to choose it for reasons of lack of self-control.

Humans understand for example the need to save, but fail to do so. People are sometimes overconfident and may therefore behave excessively in their market decisions. People are "boundedly" selfish as they take sometimes selfless actions and act with altruism.

New developments in finance are going in two directions. First, "Behavioral Finance" adds psychological factors to economics to understand the behavior of economic agents. A moderate level of emotionality is necessary for balanced reasoning, but peaks of hope and fear have destructive potential.

Any ignorance of our financial emotions can be very costly over time. Second, "Neurofinance" considers the power of the brain as a major determinant of individual choices. In both theories, economic agents cannot be expected to

maximize behavior as they are influenced either by their feelings or by the power of their brain.

Behavioral finance is in fact the combination of psychology and finance that investigates what happens in markets in which some of the agents display human limitations and complications. Investors sometimes do foolish things. In fact two aspects of efficient markets are not always valid and are challenged by "Behavioral Finance":

1. Prices are correct, or asset prices reflect the true value of the security.
2. In an efficient market, it is not possible to predict future stock price movements based on publicly available information.

Neurofinance assumes that the brain directs the person towards choices. Different brains lead to different decisions among the same set of choices.

People recognize that chemistry drives their brains, moods and behavior and that chemistry can change them.

Companies have started to conduct neuromarketing studies and measure brain activation while individuals are presented with various products.

Individuals are not therefore fully responsible for their actions because they are dictated by their brain created by God and not of their own choice or making.

The G20 has met twice so far, first in Washington DC and then in London in April 2009. Countries realize that to solve the international crisis they need to address the following issues:

1. Solving once and for all the problems of financial institutions that are too big to fail.

2. Strengthening the financial architecture in its rules, system and conventions that govern trading payment clearing and settlement in financial markets to make sure that it functions well under stress.

3. Reviewing regulatory policies and accounting rules to ensure that they do not induce excessive pro-cyclicality.

In other words, making sure that they do not overly magnify the variations in the financial system and the global economy.

4. Considering whether the creation of an authority specifically charged with monitoring and addressing system risks would help protect the system from financial crisis like the one we are currently experiencing.

Introducing behavior and brain into financial analysis complicates science further as empirical work is harder to

do. American and European scientists are working through tests in laboratories to understand and model the behavior of agents. It is in any case the right way to go in order to understand what really happened in financial markets and specially what to do to avoid a repetition in the future.

## Carte de Route Economique pour la période post-électorale

Par Dr. Louis Hobeika

Professor of Economics and Finance at NDU.

Les élections législatives auront lieu le 7 Juin. Un nouveau Parlement sera élu et un nouveau gouvernement sera formé par la coalition gagnante. La partie perdante doit assurer une opposition efficace pour surveiller le travail du gouvernement et pour présenter à l'opinion publique toutes les erreurs ou infractions commises ainsi que des recommandations.

Le Liban a toujours besoin d'une partie qui gouverne et d'une autre qui s'y oppose et qui travaille pour gagner les prochaines élections.

Ce sont les règles normales d'une démocratie parlementaire moderne qui se base sur le travail sérieux et transparent d'un gouvernement et d'une opposition.

Les deux parties libanaises qui font la concurrence doivent essayer de gagner

tout en évitant les messages de peur et de haine qui ne s'oublient pas. Quelques soient les résultats, le Liban continuera et les Libanais resteront dans leur pays pour y vivre et travailler.

Les résultats seront toujours bons a condition qu'ils soient décidés par les libanais dans les meilleures conditions de transparence, de liberté et de légalité.

Le choix du peuple sera toujours le meilleur car les citoyens, comme la plupart des politiciens, souhaitent voir le Liban stable et prospère. Si une vision gagne, c'est parce qu'elle a pu mieux convaincre dans les conditions électorales et politiques actuelles.

Une fois les élections terminées, les modérés prendront en charge les portefeuilles et postes clés. Des reformes constitutionnelles doivent être envisagées

en vue de rééquilibrer le système politique et moderniser les institutions. Les deux parties sont conscientes que les relations économiques et financières du Liban sont d'extrême importance pour la survie du pays.

Quelque soit la partie gagnante, des spécialistes connus et acceptés du monde extérieur et des organisations internationales prendront charge des portefeuilles clés tels que les Ministères des Finances et de l'Economie.

Les bons éléments sont heureusement nombreux des deux côtés. Malgré la fuite des cerveaux, le Liban reste toujours riche de cadres compétents et honnêtes. L'avenir du Liban sera bien pris en charge par les gagnants sous la supervision proche et professionnelle de l'opposition.

Dans le cadre des besoins économiques grandissants, le nouveau gouvernement doit s'occuper principalement des problèmes suivants:

1. Prendre toutes les mesures nécessaires pour relancer la croissance sérieusement affectée par la crise financière internationale. Les leçons des expériences passées sont très riches et se basent sur l'ouverture, c'est à dire sur le développement des marchés extérieurs pour nos exportations.

2. La dette publique ne peut continuer à augmenter de près de 4 milliards de dollars chaque année. Il faut mettre des limites au déficit budgétaire et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour réduire le stock de notre dette publique, principalement à travers la privatisation. La réforme fiscale doit être envisagée pour améliorer l'efficacité, la stabilité, l'égalité et la collecte des impôts. La rationalisation des choix budgétaires est une priorité et ne peut se faire

qu'avec de grands sacrifices aux niveaux des emplois et des dépenses dans les services publics.

Toutes les institutions créées depuis 1975 pour remplacer les ministères doivent être annulées pour redonner à ces ministères plus de pouvoir et de rôle. Un conseil des experts économiques doit être créé pour assurer la coordination entre les différents ministères.

3. La réforme administrative, au service de l'économie, doit commencer. On ne peut continuer avec une administration qui ne rend pas des services acceptables aux Libanais. Si nous comparons les coûts aux avantages, nous trouverons que c'est une des administrations publiques les plus coûteuses du monde. Confronter la corruption grandissante dans nos services publics est une des priorités du prochain gouvernement.

4. Prendre connaissance des besoins sociaux et estimer le taux de chômage. On ne peut continuer à vivre sans des

statistiques régulières, complètes et correctes. Le prochain gouvernement doit reconnaître l'existence de gens pauvres qui ont besoin d'aides matérielles et sociales. Les besoins de santé et d'éducation doivent être soigneusement évalués. La satisfaction d'une partie de ces besoins par l'état doit être étudiée en fonction des coûts, de l'impact et de la qualité.

5. Le gouvernement doit veiller à l'amélioration de notre infrastructure, surtout le transport et les télécommunications. Nous ne pouvons attirer les investissements étrangers avec l'état lamentable de l'ensemble de nos services publics.

La liste est encore plus longue. La partie gagnante aura beaucoup de travail et de défis.

# Gouverner le Liban c'est réussir à affronter les problèmes.

## Gouverner c'est servir.

### Les risques politiques sont très grands, mais sont bien couverts par des gains potentiels encore plus importants.

# Engineering Tools

Dr. Walid Assaf



At the outset, the teacher said: "Engineering tools are for figuring designs. Designs are needed for making things. Things are made to satisfy human needs. Satisfying human needs come at a price. This means that a lot of money would be changing hands making some people rich! Isn't engineering wonderful?"

The teacher was right. Some people do benefit beyond their wildest dreams out of selling their engineering skills. Accumulated skills in manufacturing and contracting are sold and bought at attractive profitable margins. It could be that for this reason many aspiring families push their reluctant children into the technical and engineering fields.

The "old" slide rule used in calculations plus hand made drawings produced detailed instructions to technicians. Some drawings for machine parts were made in full size, leaving very little to the imagination of the machinist. For long-term keeping, these drawings were inked on drawing cloth, rolled up, placed in metal cylinders and sent to the "archives" for safe keeping. When a new job came in that required modifications of an older design, the inked drawings were retrieved, traced in pencil with the needed changes and sent to the machine shop for implementation.

The laborious tools of the trade have gradually yielded to electronic computing and storage. Computers communicate with machines that in turn cut, shape and weld to form finished parts without the presence of a human. So many of the calculations are now handled by computers, by sight unseen.

Herein lies the problem in computing. Young engineers and junior executives succumb to the pressures of the work place and end up using "tanked" electronic tools without really knowing what approximations and real data have been stored in these codes. Costly errors in, over or under design are a natural result of this ignorance in number grinding. It is not surprising, therefore to note that contractors in the defense industry employ experts to continuously check the validity of the computing routines and their proper convergence as compared with experimental test data.

Here in the Third World, campus pressures to publish have pushed individual investigators into realms of machine routines well beyond their fair competence level in computing. When some of them are asked if they are aware of the detailed material properties and assumptions that are built into these routines, few respond in an assuring manner.

Both the faculty and campus administrators concerned claim that the publications that are issued have been cleared by expert referees.

Compared with the considerable checking that is done by professional contractors for the US Navy, as an example, on computers and their use, I believe that it is fair to think that "the referees" have limited resources and are no better informed than the faculty whose publications they audit!

Some engineering faculty members, in Lebanon, would have a strategic advantage if they cooperated with local industry. In this way, computing and design work would follow naturally as the result of solving real problems. Test data would be readily available for comparison with computer results.

Publications based on factual data would follow. Peers, referees and University administrators would have an easier time judging the value of the work.

# Should a supervisor be allowed to read a subordinate's e-mail?

Khayrazad Jabbour

Lecturer, Business computing advisor.  
Notre Dame University - Shouf

As computing becomes widespread, it is having a revolutionary impact on the world and on the way people live. The computer gradually becomes an essential part of the methodology of performing the job. We know that computing technology is being employed in a given situation, but we are puzzled about how it should be ethically used, in other words about the extent to which we can make ethics control computing in order to lead us to a better world or at least prevent us from falling into a worse world.

The Computer Ethics Institute came up with The Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics in 1992. The intent behind the creation of these Ten Commandments was to establish a set of standards to instruct people to use computers ethically. Following is a list of the ten commandments of Computer Ethics:

1. Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people.
2. Thou shalt not interfere with other people's computer work.
3. Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's files.
4. Thou shalt not use a computer to steal.
5. Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness.

6. Thou shalt not use or copy software for which thou hast not paid.

7. Thou shalt not use other people's computer resources without authorization.

8. Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output.

9. Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you write.

10. Thou shalt use a computer in ways that show consideration and respect.

Then again can a supervisor be allowed to legally and technologically access a subordinate's e-mail and all other electronic data located at a subordinate's computer at work? And the answer is unquestionably YES.

When you use a computer at your work place, that computer belongs to your company. And since the employer owns the computer network and the terminals, he/she is free to use them to monitor employees and that covers, for example, installing spyware as either software or hardware that enables monitoring what is on the screen or stored in the employees' computer terminals and hard disks. That spyware could easily be logging every website you visit, every mouse movement you make and every keystroke you type. Also if an e-mail system is used at a company, the employer owns it and is allowed to review its contents.

Messages sent within the company as well as those that are sent from your terminal to another company or from another company to you can be subject to monitoring by your employer.

This includes web-based email accounts such as Yahoo and Hotmail as well as instant messages. Electronic and voice mail systems retain messages in memory even after they have been deleted. Even if you're using your own computer, you're still using your company's network, and your network traffic can be monitored.

In general, employees should not assume that these activities are not being monitored and are private. Several workplace privacy court cases have been decided in the employer's favor.

# Students face lawsuits for actions online

Khayrazad Jabbour

Schools are filled with potential Internet criminals unaware of the consequences of their online activities. Not long ago parents worried about their kids hitting a ball through the neighbor's window. Now the Internet has given our children much further reach.

It has provided access to powerful tools, some of which can seriously harm other people and so harm the unsuspecting users. Added to these dangers is the fact that many school students and parents do not believe that the ethical rules they live by also apply to technology. They separate the online world and the offline world, because there is a sense of anonymity online. Online anonymity has opened up an entire new avenue for online Internet crimes.

When children and teenagers cross the line on the Internet, the legal consequences can be severe. In some cases, parents can even be held responsible for their kids' actions, whether the parents know about the actions or not.

I want to share brief stories that point up some issues of Internet ethics.

**Story #1:** In Lebanon on January 10, four young men from Université Saint-Joseph's Zahleh campus were held in Zahleh prison on charges of making rude and harassing remarks on a Facebook group dedicated to a female student at the university.

**Story #2:** Recently a teenager in Russia found a way to hack access to the database of a large U.S.-based company that sells compact disks online. The teenager stole several hundred thousand credit card numbers, and then tried to blackmail the company.

When these efforts were unsuccessful, the hacker released the numbers on the Internet, forcing major credit card companies to replace tens of thousands of cards for customers who had used the site.

**Story #3:** In USA, a high school student was arrested for online investment fraud. The 14-year-old had recently purchased inexpensive stocks, lied about their potential value in an investment chat room, and reaped hundreds of thousands of dollars when other investors bought his lies and the stocks.

The growing problem related to Internet ethics failures involving teenagers is becoming severe and difficult to control. Internet safety issues and problems will continue to grow as new technologies emerge.

On the other hand children will live up to or down to our expectations, which is why it is critically necessary for educators to establish a culture of proper application of technology and Internet ethics in their curriculum and to apply the lessons in ongoing programs.

As educators, we should not give the example of inappropriate behavior but instead we should reinforce proper behavior and treat offenses as mistakes rather than crimes, especially in the beginning.

Also we must promote Internet safety education for parents and guardians as well.

# First World Fair Trade Day in Lebanon

Toufic Ahmad, FPSPAD



❖ Dr. Sensenig-Dabbous presents the idea of South-South Trade

It is vital to correct the imbalance in trade that leaves millions of people living in poverty, with the threat of climate change and a financial crisis hanging over us all. But a movement known as “Fair Trade” took shape as early as the 1960s and has now spread to Lebanon.

Globally, the Fair Trade movement is complex and organic. It has emerged over time and spread to all the continents. The Middle East is the last region to introduce Fair Trade.

As the name implies, Fair Trade is a trading partnership based on dialogue, transparency and respect. Its overall aim is to achieve greater equity in global trade between the so called First World and the Third World. It contributes to social justice and sustainable development by offering better trading conditions and guaranteeing the rights of producers and marginalized workers, particularly in the Global South and the developing world, that is to say Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

World Fair Trade Day was celebrated this year by a variety of organizations and “Namlieh” is just one of them.

Throughout the work of its activists with rural women cooperatives and producers in Lebanon, there were strong indications of a need to engage in a learning and dialogue process around Fair Trade. Such processes ideally involve multi-stakeholders with a view towards teasing out prospects for developing local Fair Trade initiatives benefiting rural women.

This practice is addressed to various individuals and organizations involved and/or interested in Fair Trade. It aims at engaging in a constructive dialogue on experiences in Fair Trade and opportunities available for exporting Lebanese products with a particular focus on women producers organized in rural women’s cooperatives.

Another organizer of the World Fair Trade Day was “Fair Trade Lebanon”. In Lebanon the feeling is that Fair Trade is needed to support Lebanese farmers,

women producers, and underprivileged communities living in remote areas. Therefore Fair Trade Lebanon was established to create a link between these communities and the market, providing an opportunity for the less privileged societies to benefit from their products and so to be in a position to sustain their communities.

Together, Namlieh, Fair Trade Lebanon, CRTDA and Fair Trade Liban at NDU joined forces to do something about the disastrous living conditions in many remote villages in Lebanon. They work hand-in-hand with farmers, local civic organizations, and various NGOs to establish networks of support and production, while, by financing the projects and developing new markets for their products, they offer quality products selected with care according to international standards for the benefit of all parties.

# Academic Visit of the Rihani Museum

Jennifer Dagher



It was the 9th of May, 2009, when my teacher, Dr. Naji Oueijan, my classmates and I decided to take the trip to Freyke so that we might visit Ameen Al-Rihani's Museum and house. To be precise, it was on a Saturday, not a very pleasurable day for a student to go on an educational fieldtrip; however, I did not regret it and will remember it for years to come.

We left N.D.U. at 9.30 a.m. and started the fieldtrip in a good exciting mood that quite awakened us. After we had spent about half an hour on the road, we got to the house of Professor Ameen Al-Rihani's, the nephew of the great and legendary Ameen Al-Rihani. Prof. Rihani was waiting for us in the garden and here I must insist that he was a very friendly, smiling host. I was absolutely thrilled! After this marvellous welcome, the tour began. First, we were introduced into the front garden that Ameen Al-Rihani had built, organized, and decorated with his own hands. There, the Professor explained how Rihani spent an hour every day at around 6 o'clock in the afternoon walking back and forth and meditating and thinking about his life and the world. What was most interesting about this garden is that it faces the valley which inspired Rihani throughout his life and made him come up with such remarkable perceptions and philosophies. It was a heavenly view! Also, what interested me very much was what his nephew added to this garden.

That is, on one side of the garden's hallway, he hung up excerpts or quotes from Rihani himself; those were extracted from his many works, such as "I deposit in many banks including the bank of wisdom. The more I draw on my accounts... the bigger my balance becomes", and my favourite "My American walking shoes are new, and my Oriental eyes are old." On the side facing Rihani's quotes were hung quotes by scholars and critics about Ameen Al-Rihani.

Afterwards, Professor Ameen Al-Rihani led us to Rihani's Museum, which lies in the lower part of his house. This museum was established by Albert Rihani, Ameen's brother, in 1953. As I entered, I could smell the extravagant odour which I noticed to have transformed his nephew's features into intimate ones longing for the memorable past. It would be interesting to mention all that we encountered throughout this tour; unfortunately, it would be impossible, for Rihani had innumerable essential memories which up until now still carve his physical existence in his house, his town, and his country! To begin with, the museum was divided into corners. In each corner a certain part of his life is embodied. The first corner is "The beginnings 1876-1905", which is the period from the year of his birth till his return to Lebanon. There, family photographs are hung up over a small closet where his first Arabic and English books lie. The second corner

was "The years of Khaled 1905-1911", a period during which his novel, *The Book of Khaled*, was first published in New York. Near this novel, a beautiful quote extracted from it stands on a big pamphlet: "Our country is just beginning to speak, and I am her chosen voice." In this same corner I gazed at an amazing bronze bust presented to Rihani by the Italian sculptor G. Mallozi. After that comes the third corner, "The Experience of the West 1911-1921", during which Rihani returned to New York and published several Arabic and English books that are displayed in this corner along with several dedicated drawings, such as that of Walt Whitman by S.J. Woolf and many more.

Then there is "The Arab Dream 1922-1928" corner that includes letters and photographs such as those of King Hussein of Hijaz, King Faisal of Iraq, etc. This corner also includes Rihani's series of Arabic and English works on Arabia prompted by his tour of the Arab countries. There is a very fascinating piece that caught my eye, the Hebrew translation of *Muluk Al-Arab*. This was first translated into Hebrew due to the fact that Rihani actually participated in some panels between Arabs and Jews, where he represented the Arab point of view.

Then comes his office, which includes his desk, typewriter, and a part of his library where a part of his prayer "Al Najwa" stands on a huge broadsheet, which he

used to pray every day. Here, I have to mention Dr. Naji Oueijan's attractive explanation of "The Byron Marble" which lies on Rihani's desk. He said that Rihani used to believe that only letters with good sense are placed under it; that is to say that whoever's writing was put under this marble was considered by Rihani very valuable. After that comes the most amusing part of the museum, Rihani's bedroom. What was so awesome about it was the way his bed, suitcases, cabinet, etc. still exist there without being touched or moved. Then we moved on to the seventh corner of the museum, which is the "The International Horizons 1928-1940", which is the period of the last twenty years of Rihani's life during which he became very famous in the West. This part holds letters, photographs, and gifts from Western kings and scholars, one of which is a piece from the Ka'ba cloth. It says: "A unique gift presented to Rihani by His Majesty King Hussein of Hijaz. It is presumably the only one of its kind from the sacred Mecca presented to a Christian." I found this an amazing and extraordinary fact which made me tremendously proud.

Finally, I come to the last few corners which are sort of interrelated. They include the art section where the lower row holds some of the sixty-six paintings that Rihani executed, and the upper row holds Rihani's portraits by selected artists. Moreover, another part would be that

of his wife Bertha Case which includes her portraits and art work. Last but not least comes the section including the archives of Rihani, such as translations, dissertations, and books written about him, documents, theses by students, and several portraits by Kahlil Gibran (1911-1915). The most surprising part of the museum was the last part where my eyes caught the sixteen Eastern and European languages in which Ameen Al-Rihani was spoken about in the World Press, namely Arabic, Armenian, Danish, English, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Czech, Turkish, and Urdu.

Moreover, after each one of us signed his/her name in the guests' notebook, we all went up to Rihani's house, now his nephew's house, for some coffee, being welcomed by the Professor's lovely wife. There, Professor Rihani was asked questions by some of the students. One of these was about how Professor Ameen Al-Rihani copes with the fact that he is Rihani's nephew and how he deals with it. His answer was simply: "It is a joy and a burden to be his nephew."

By this he meant that for him the challenge is always there at more than one level.

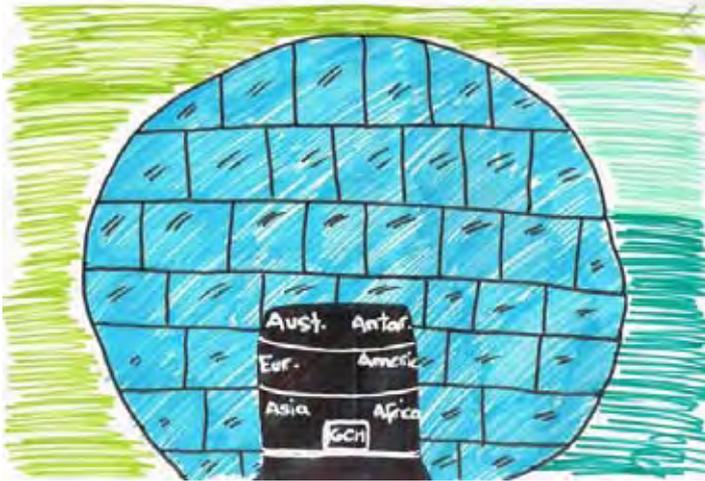
That is, at the personal level where he constantly has to improve himself to be able to stay in this educational and

important zone, and on the overall level where he has the huge responsibility of keeping the heritage of Rihani and taking care of it.

In conclusion, to be honest, at first I thought that the fieldtrip would turn out to be an educational burden in which all we had to do was attend and present a report. However, it turned out to be the complete opposite after getting to know who Ameen Al-Rihani actually is in normal life and not only in the works he wrote. I was really happy to perceive the very same valley which inspired Rihani's hymns and opened out the door to his inner thoughts to expand into the whole world and let every corner of this world know who the Lebanese Ameen Al-Rihani really is and how much a regular person who lives in a far out village in an under-developed country has potential to actually change some of the world's view on life! It was an extraordinary experience, and I was truly honoured to meet Rihani's close and intimate relatives. What a day !!!

# The Global Cultural Museum

May Karim and Toufic Ahmad



Our first rough sketch.



The Global Cultural Museum from the front.

We all dream of the perfect world at peace.  
All the continents united in one location. No walls,  
no wars, no boundaries separating the countries.

As senior Advertising and Marketing students at NDU, we were given a brief of our senior project: "NDU wants to transform its museum into an international one that will unite the global cultures of the world and the Lebanese emigrants. Our role as Advertising and Marketing students is to sell this property worldwide and encourage people and countries to fund and support the project."

Throughout the project development, Dr. Kamal Darouni was supporting us and leading us, and without him this successful project would not have gained its value.

## The targets and aim of the museum we have in mind

Our targets include Lebanese emigrants who love Lebanon and long to return, and political and opinion leaders who want to spread the culture of their country.

Our aim is to unite the Lebanese emigrants and invite them to share their cultural experiences abroad, in addition to uniting all the cultures of the world under one roof FOR THE LOVE AND PEACE OF OUR PLANET.

## The Idea

In order to advertise and sell a product, one should at least know its real dimensions and characteristics.

We paid an imaginary visit to the NDU museum to see what could be put there, going through its contents and studying its location. This helped us in our several brainstorming sessions that we had together.

The museum that we created in our minds should be independent, standing alone in one unique location at NDU and called The Global Cultural Museum. We drew a simple sketch to express how we wanted this museum to look:

- Having a spherical shape simulating the planet Earth.

- Covered with glass to avoid barriers between the interior and exterior of the museum.

- Divided into three floors inside for Asia and Africa (first floor), Europe and America (second floor), Australia and Antarctica (third floor).

- Consistent design: no sharp edges, no blocks, everything clearly visible from the inside and outside of the structure.

We were advised not to implement our ideas virtually due to its cost. However, we decided to "go big" and implement it professionally. For this reason we contacted an architects' office, URTEC, where Mr. Louis El Khoury was our direct contact. He made several architectural refinements related to the construction

of the Global Cultural Museum. When the virtual construction was accomplished, we searched for a voice to communicate in English with an Arabic accent for the movie-making, a voice that would be smooth, mature, and inspiring trust, and found that the tone of Dr. Kamal Darouni's was the one we were searching for.

The final finished movie turned out to be an animated infomercial of four minutes that will encourage people to fund the Global Cultural Museum.

When we finally submitted our senior project, we were chosen to compete at NDU where our project was selected as well as the project of another colleague.

The Vice President of Research and Development (Dr. Assaad Eid), the Chairperson (Dr. Joseph Ajami) and Dr. Kamal Darouni were the judges.

After the presentation of each project, we were announced winners of the senior project for the Fall semester 2008.

Finally, we hope that our two names 'May Karim' and 'Toufic Ahmad' will always be mentioned whenever this project is used for conferences, events, or any other future project, for we are proud of our achievement.

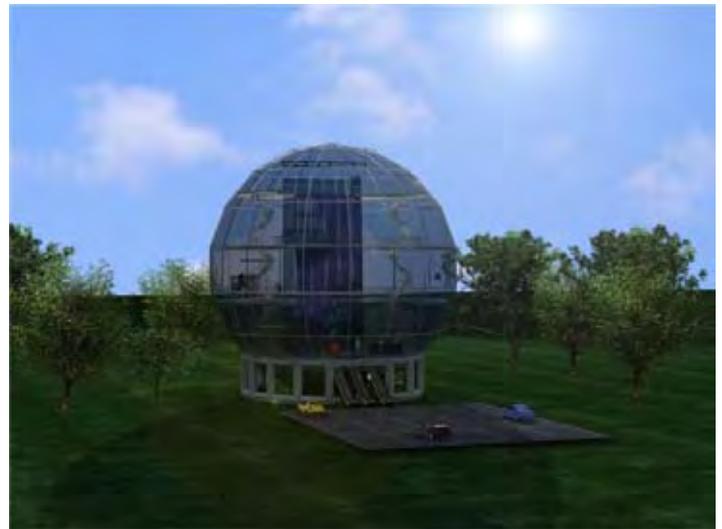
We hope that we shall witness the construction of the Global Culture Museum the project that will express

the dream for a Perfect World at Peace, where all the continents will be united as one, and where no walls, no wars, no boundaries will separate countries from each other.

As once our Phoenician ancestors spread the alphabet over the ancient world, we meet here once again on the same shores to initiate the Global Culture Museum and bring all the cultures together.



•• From the inside.



•• The Museum from the back in its setting.

# War on games: digital games and intercultural understanding.

Prepared by Millie Achar, Najwa Mallah, Layla Khoury  
Spring 2009

When participating in the Discussion Panel III, Bridging between Cultures, under the subject of "intercultural understanding", we issued digital games and questioned how these can articulate intercultural expressions and understanding.

According to Marshall McLuhan, author of books and essays about electric informational media, games and media are social and cultural extensions. He wrote: **"Societies have always been shaped more by the nature by which man communicates than by the communication itself. Electric technology fosters and encourages unification and involvement in our societies today through media. It is impossible to understand social and cultural changes without knowledge of the workings of media."**

Accordingly, we can say that, considering the nature of digital games as an interactive medium, the game is a tool of unification between the player and the context or concept of the game itself through the process of interaction and exchange between the two sides. In consequence, an interaction and maybe understanding between different users is generated.

In addition, **"games are reactions to the main drive or action of any culture,"** as McLuhan further stated. This clarifies that games are the reflected reaction of what we feel or think towards the events and happenings of our society and environment. Consequently, games are dramatic models of our psychological lives providing release of particular tensions. This explains that digital games are the image of a particular culture, society or thoughts, for they do not come from nowhere. They derive from the way their creators live, believe and feel. They are the simulation of our cultural, social and psychological status, allowing us—users—to touch and experience a certain reality.

Why are games dramatic models? Simply because they reflect our reality in a, maybe, exaggerated way, pointing at the major issues of our societies. They really are our reaction to what happens around us, picturing the reality we want or would love to see and spread. In other words, digital games have become cultural experience as we move into the 21st century and form part of our social life. In fact, digital games are the image of our social and cultural life, and this image allows us to feel and interact with our proper figure but in the way we like or enjoy, or maybe sometimes dislike.

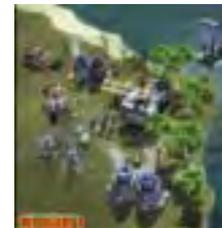
It is therefore important to take a look at some numbers concerning their audience. Although PC players are commonly thought to be mostly children and teenagers, statistics done by Nick Yee in 2004 show that the average age of computer games players is 26; 15% of players work full-time, 36% are married (22% of whom have children). So the issue of digital games concerns a large section of society.

In our area of interest, the relation between digital games and culture is revealed through factors such as wars, cultural revolutions and civil uprisings; we can find an infinite number of games using wars as concept and subject of reaction and interaction between the creator of the game and the user. This is where the user, whether he is familiar with the concept and origin of the game or not, gets in touch and feels more towards this particular culture, discovering and maybe feeling the tension of the political crisis of this society.

Capitalism is another issue of computer games and culture. This is where the producers of PC games want to dominate a certain society by marketing their ideology through the games. This provides them a double-sided benefit: a material

benefit and an ideological and "propaganda" benefit through the spread of a certain idea or message (this is the case of Hezbollah's game Special Force that we shall see later).

Wars, revolutions, civil uprisings are the interfaces within the new environments created by digital games. In our presentation, we are highlighting the way digital games express different cultures and develop mutual understanding between cultures through the reflection of political crisis revealed in games created by different sources. We shall see and explore examples of digital games reflecting a political crisis.



## Red Alert

In the storyline of Red Alert 2, the Soviet Union invades the United States of America, using mind control technology to capture US forces

This game expresses a mutual revenge between the two troubled nations.



## War on Terror

War on Terror was invented primarily as a reaction and a challenge to modern day events, in particular the 2003 invasion of Iraq and the counter-productive pursuit of the War on Terrorism itself. The basic goal is to dominate the entire world. The scope of War on Terror stretches to cover all aspects of war-time politics, not just battlefield tactics. It is a satisfaction showing the greed reflected in today's political crisis whereby one political country or nation intends to dominate the entire world.



### Special Force

Hezbollah, which battled Israel in the 2006 bloody Lebanese conflict, has published an anti-Israeli themed game. The point of the game is to engage and destroy Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), capture soldiers, destroy tanks, and launch terror attacks using Katyusha rockets directed at Israeli towns. A message on the cover of the game's box says: Be a partner in the victory. Fight, resist and destroy your enemy in the game of force and victory. This game is resisting the Israeli occupation through the media. [...] In a way, Special Force offers a mental and personal training for those who play it, allowing them to feel that they are in the shoes of the fighters.



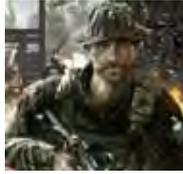
### Sock and Awe

Following in the footsteps of the Iraqi journalist who hurled his shoes at US President George W Bush, anyone can take a virtual swipe at the US leader. The aim of Sock and Awe, is to knock Mr. Bush out with a shoe. It was in protest against the Bush Administration's Iraqi policy. The people who do not like Bush's political strategy will enjoy playing this game.



### Theatre of war

Theatre of War is A strategy game centering on the decisive battles in the European Theatre of World War II 1939–1945. The game allows the player to control armed forces of either France, Germany, Poland, the USSR, United Kingdom or the United States. It has become a cliché in a way that everyone today hates colonialism. Through this game, there is a culture of hatred and revenge that arises as one experiences the theatre of war.



### Call of Duty

In this game the British missions fight against an entire regiment of Soviet tanks. The game's goal of is to provide an immersive and realistic experience. The game shows how different cultures used to fight for their independence and survival even without machinery.

### Events that the games depict

These games manifest the idea that digital games increase dialogue between cultures and societies. Digital games which create a kind of increased participation, responsiveness and dialogue have accompanied discussion of interactivity.

The interactivity created between the player and the game enhances an understanding of culture through media. They are a role of communication in society as a whole. The social practices of one generation tend to get codified into the "game" of the next. Because war has become a culture today, the digital game shall express from one generation to another how the war culture was perceived.

The interactivity of digital games is something resembling rather more of a break of everyday life. There is a sense in which it might be argued that the player is allowed a contact with the image that is more intimate. Reduces the monotony of life, personal involvement and implies participation. The need of new culture is expressed through the player actively participating in the digital game. Moreover, digital games encourage people to be active in a physical and mental sense, and it can be a successful brainwashing mechanism.

In conclusion, war games are becoming a language through which cultures communicate. It may be the only language that provides an understanding and relation between some cultures. Some games depict exactly the same

meaning in one region with another region, for example, there are some games, socially, like poker that are played at ex-like poker that are played at exactly the same time by different individuals that do not even know each other from all over the world. It is a competitive game, the same applies politically to war games where by different people facing same war challenges are exposed to a war game that depicts the culture of political crisis that they probably have or are experiencing; here, the language of war is the main cultural exchange between different players from different societies.

Games are a situation contrived to permit simultaneous participation of many people in some significant pattern of their own corporate lives.

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# The Dark Force

By Hani Zarrini

Industrial Psychology Program



At some point in our lives we all get consumed by anger, distress and morbidity. Our aimless lives drift away from any objective, and we surrender to the current situation. Despair, wretchedness and misery are all characteristics of some period in our lives when we combine the elements of our disjointed personality and use the scope of negativity as a tool for assessment.

Thus the conditions that govern our state of mind become parallel with the feelings and emotions that accompany the losses we experience, the sadness we repress and the anger we give way to. We find ourselves in the twilight zone, dusk and dawn never meet in our world, and those hours of infertile thinking consume us. Then we turn our faces to a different vision where there is no morrow.

No day is allowed to come into our lives and light, however strong, is dim for us because we choose it this way. We simply drift into a stillness which however encourages a metamorphosis to take place. It comes with a prior invitation for which we have prepared the way. We manage to invite it into us and once it does come it will spread and consume us. Misery likes company.

We cannot hear it at first, for laughter drowns its distant sound, the noise and commotion around us mutes it and it is by nature hostile and anti-social, not liking people. Our ears do not perceive the difference to begin with, our hearts cannot feel it yet and we are insensitive

to its callings. Its voice trembles, trying to lure us into listening, but we do not answer its invitations nor do we heed its warnings. We know too well that at this instant our lives are full of actions and reactions. We barely take time off, seeking attention from other sources, yet it waits.

It waits, it is patient, sits still and observes, analyzing, taking notes like a diligent student preparing a test. More and more, observation becomes a process, noting the faculties underlying behavior. Every move counts while it awaits the right moment, the appropriate time, awaiting our surrender but not causing it.

We become a mirror of our weaknesses, of our hopelessness, and we turn all our joys into doubts. We are human and fragile, on the edge of an abyss, like leaves in a tempest, not because we despair but because we refuse hope, which demands work and creativity. It is easier to destroy than to build.

We are all keen on our core values, our identity and our traditions, whatever organizations we belong to and whatever our profession or trade. But there is one principle that we all share, and that is greed. Psychology offers no cure for we have too many emotions for it to assess or interpret. But it offers the way to a solution that can teach us to be humane, virtuous and upright in a world that lacks sight, that is blinded by false lights, where wickedness soars and anger roars.

# Experience

Marcelle Najem

There are certain life-enhancing experiences that one must go through in order to "see live and understand its many mysteries." For me, my "eye-opener" was rather tragic and dark. It was the death of my dearest Floarea, my beloved grandmother (may God rest her soul in peace). She passed away on the 21st of May, 2005, at 5:15 in Bucharest, Romania. The first thing that strikes me is that the number 5 appears everywhere in that date, and today as I write this it is the 5th -03 (March) and my age is twenty-one (21).

Now, I am not a superstitious person by nature, but the day she died was also five (5) days after my birthday. I was supposed to call her on the day of my birthday, but I was always busy and always putting it off – a typical "I will think of it tomorrow", Gone with the wind! Not calling my grandmother on her birthday as I had promised her scarred me for life and made me realize how some things cannot be postponed. The people whom you love should know about your love, and feelings like hatred, harbored resentment and revenge are too expensive to be carried in one's soul for long.

Following that day, I became another person. In that specific moment I felt myself aging a hundred years, while my body still gave the illusion of my being eighteen years old./ Even though she was miles and miles away, back in Bucharest, I felt as if her spirit had flown over land and oceans to be with me one last time.

The first five minutes were the hardest. I remember I was breathing heavily, everything around me a complete blur, for the realization of that one phone call we got from my grandfather was devastating. I was so attached to FloArea that I truly believed she was my soul mate. I had got along with her so well and our aspirations, dreams and fears were so alike.

I was devastated when she was gone, and the cancer that took her brought

about a dreadful grudge against God in my heart. I felt he had unfairly ripped away from me a heart so tender that got along so well with mine. I felt anger in its purest form, hatred in its darkest truth, pain in its most atrocious form and remorse which gnawed at my soul without mercy.

Time is a healer and so a mercy from God. I do not blame anyone for Floarea's death, and God is no longer a cruel spirit. I learned to heal my wounds and to make my first encounter with death into a life-enhancing experience. I have learned to love life and not to search for answers when I cannot see the larger picture. I still have some regret about not having called Granny when I had promised to do so, but then again I would have regretted not calling her also the day after, and the day after that, until five days later. I will not question the tears in my life or hold a grudge against anyone for long. I have learned the secret of forgiveness and I find it much easier to forgive now. I try to live in the present and not worry TOO much about the future. I must always act true to my heart and fear nothing, for this life is so short. Actually, if we take a deep breath to look around, really look around, then we notice the magic in little things. Life is way too short, so I learn to cherish every moment, every sensation, the feelings of cold, heat, hunger, fulfillment, joy, sadness, for they most make me feel fully alive.

There is no good time to say Goodbye. Now all that I have left of my grandmother is a lock of her hair, her pearls, a picture and a dried flower, all of which I keep in a "memory box". As I write these last few lines another thought strikes me and once again a veil drops from my eyes. I must let go of the strings that attach me to the past and it is time that I let my memory box slip back into the past where it belongs. You see, if you let yourself think beyond your space, if you let your soul take hold

of your body, it will be easier for life to work its miracles on you. God bless you all! And here is a poem I wrote to honor my grandmother after she passed away.

## When She'll Be Gone

*I've cried oceans to ease the pain,  
But the truth remained: my loss was  
more than my gain.  
I've wondered silently how I would feel  
If I chose death to make it heal.  
I've prayed for a chance to say goodbye,  
Not even this did I get... what more  
can I try?  
Her pictures I've hung all around me,  
Hoping that through them she'll see  
All the love and the pain that is  
mingled inside.  
Show me dark eternal skies where  
I can hide,  
Call me weak, a coward... I wouldn't  
mind,  
For I ceased to live long ago  
When I was told... she will go!  
At night heaven's eyes have glittered  
at me,  
Whispering silently that I must see  
The golden path she's meant to lead,  
To hang on to her would satisfy only  
my greed.  
I can only let the sunset die out,  
And muffle right out my anguished  
shout,  
For in truth when she is gone  
She will live deep inside me  
And that is the closest she ever could be!*

# Oh Lord of Heaven, Give Us....

Fadia El-Hage



Oh Lord, please give us power  
to overcome our weakness;

Oh Lord, please give us mercy  
to make us merciful;

Oh Lord, please give us humility  
to eradicate our arrogance;

Oh Lord, please give us love  
to spread it to others;

Oh Lord, please give us patience  
to attack our impatience;

Oh Lord, please give us faith  
to love YOU more;

Oh Lord, please give us forgiveness  
to overcome disdain;

Oh Lord, please give us generosity  
to replace all harshness;

Oh Lord, please give us honesty  
to deter dishonesty;

Oh Lord, please give us courage  
to become YOUR own soldier;

Oh Lord, please give us strength  
to sacrifice for others;

Oh Lord, please give us purity  
to cleanse our contaminated feelings

Oh Lord, please give us compassion  
to show kindness TO other;

Oh Lord, please give us righteousness  
to praise YOU more often;

Oh Lord, please make us forbearing  
not to judge others;

Oh Lord, please give us freedom  
from the temptations of life;

Oh Lord, please give us obedience;  
to serve YOU always better;

Oh Lord, please give us sincerity  
to defeat insincerity;

Oh Lord, please give us happiness  
to pour joy over resentful hearts;

Oh Lord, please give us peace  
to abide in faith;

*Oh Lord, please forgive our sins; take away from us anxiety, anger, falsehood, deceit, depravity, extravagance, greed, revenge, temptation, swearing.*

*The following verse has been translated into 1100 languages worldwide:*

***“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”***

# Something for your grey matter

1	2	3	4	5		6		7	8		9
10							11	12			
13						14			15		
		16			17						
			18						19		
20		21						22			
		23						24		25	
26							27	28			
		29			30						
							31				
32			33	34		35					36
		37						38			
39											

## Clues

**Across:** 1. ladies 7. demands 10. time of choice 13. full of substance 14. wandering 16. – and behold! 17. border, allowance 18. religious song 19. infection of the eyelid 20. factual 22. preposition of movement 23. on the side 26. coverings 27. Orient 29. more than royal 31. sound of a falling drop 32. flies like a butterfly 37. The Vikings’ road 38. wake of a ship 39. audacity

**Down:** 1. populist rule 2. beer 3. repast 4. external tissue 5. home for a sow 6. marine growth 8. Japanese cult 9. person who put his name 11. standard 12. droop in the middle 15. light fog 17. where one can get lost 21. mountaineering 24. jump 25. dance form 28. permits 30. optic organ 32. grease 33. for holding a ball 34. road surface 35. rodent 36. timid

## Answers for issue 45

**Across:** 1. dead end 5. pass 7. euro 9. veal 12. eulogy 14. enrapt 17. led 18. LA (Los Angeles) 20. latter 21. emit 23. Oc 24. M.A. 25. ash 26. ptarmigan 31. Che (Gevara) 32. Seine 33. A.C. 34. origins 36. gala 38. not 39. gin 40. opines 41. gas 42. pretty 43. grass

**Down:** 1. developed 2. apart 3. N.E. 4. due 5. pole 6. stylish 8. rule 10. enact 11. lat. 13. ode 15. pemmican 16. train 19. atheist 22. machine 27. as 29. geology 30. nailing 35. noses 37. agar 41. G.P. (General Practitioner)

28. allows 30. eye 32. fat 33. tee (for golf) 34. tar 35. rat 36. shy  
9. signer 11. norm 12. sag 15. mist 17. maze 21. alpinism 24. leap 25. step  
**Down:** 1. democracy 2. ale 3. meal 4. ectoplasia 5. sty 6. coral 8. Shinto  
27. East 29. imperial 31. plop 32. flitters 37. sea 38. wash 39. temerity  
hold!) 17. margin 18. psalm 19. sty 20. real 22. to 23. lateral 26. caps

## Answers to issue 46: