

The Growth of NDU

While entering the Main Campus, the visitor will immediately become aware of the immense size of phase two of the NDU construction plan. This covers the three buildings of the dorms (for male students, female students, and faculty) and the Performing Arts Center, including two theaters (one seating 400, and another 800) that could be used also for international conferences and symposiums, together with the infrastructure of the University that covers all the entrance roads leading to, and surrounding, the main gate. In the sports area, we hope to launch the Tennis courts by the end of this coming spring, after having inaugurated the Basketball grounds last year.

With this good news, it is crucial to highlight the fact that this expansion does not represent the complete the final extension of the university, nor does the regular increase of the student population mean that full capacity will be reached. A significant growth is attained only when a considerable development in academic and human resources has taken place. This endeavor needs a serious revision and reevaluation of our rules and regulations, our curriculum, our research capacities, our publications, and our administrative procedures. In order to do that, we need the combined efforts of every one of us, no matter what our position is. We need a sense of commitment that makes each one of us the first and final evaluator of our individual good performance. We need a certain awareness of the level of productivity that may or may not satisfy us as a young, ambitious university in the service of its surrounding community in Lebanon and its wider community in the Middle East.

I know there are many administrators, faculty and staff members who are all willing to express this sense of commitment in their daily work and responsibilities. But I would like to know also that every individual on campus carries a sincere pledge, and a genuine undertaking that such a commitment shall be expressed in all possible ways and means, and on a daily basis, because our University is our second home, where we spend more hours of production than we spend at home.

This sense of commitment involves the proper spirit that urges us to seek to perfect our selves exactly as we are seeking to build up our beautiful campus. The vigorous construction of excellent facilities that we are observing every day cannot mean anything complete without a parallel continuous construction of the eminent minds and outstanding intellects that we would like to see growing constantly on campus. This is the spirit that I would like to see prevailing inside and outside our classrooms, offices, and assembly halls. I have started to see it growing, and I am sure I will witness this as a permanent feature of our University.

Rev. Fr. Walid Moussa, M.S.D.
President