

Dean's Update – Issue 2, September 2024

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success"

Henry Ford

Dear SGUB/SGHUMC Community,

It is with great pride and excitement that I share with you the latest developments at the Faculty of Medicine, Saint George University of Beirut (SGUB-FM). Our unwavering dedication to delivering a world-class, innovative medical education continues to drive our progress, and I am thrilled to highlight the remarkable milestones we've achieved together in 2024.

During the academic year 2023-2024, we successfully implemented the MED II curriculum, advancing our commitment to delivering comprehensive and cutting-edge medical education. This was a significant step forward, laying a strong foundation for the progression of our students.

In May, we marked a significant moment with the White Coat Ceremony for our MED II students. This event not only signified their transition into a new phase of medical education but also underscored their growing commitment to the profession. It was a celebration of both the students' hard work and the dedication of our faculty in nurturing the future leaders of healthcare.

We are also pleased to announce the successful launch of our MED III program, which provides our students with immersive clinical experiences, bridging the gap between academic learning and hands-on practice. As we look ahead, our focus is on developing the MED IV curriculum and finalizing important affiliation agreements to offer a diverse range of electives. These efforts will ensure a seamless progression into the final stages of their training, preparing them comprehensively for their future roles as physicians.

One of the most exciting moments on the horizon is the upcoming graduation of our inaugural 2026 class. Their journey through SGUB-FM has been defined by perseverance and excellence, and we are proud to see them prepared to take their place in the medical community as compassionate, well-rounded professionals.

In another major accomplishment, SGUB-FM has been officially recognized by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). This recognition reaffirms our commitment to meeting the highest global standards in medical education and ensures that our graduates are well-equipped to excel in healthcare environments around the world.









Further adding to our achievements this year, SGUB-FM has become an International Training Center of the American Heart Association (AHA). This partnership enables us to deliver advanced life-saving training to both healthcare professionals and students, enhancing the readiness and skills of our medical community.

We have also broadened our clinical partnerships, signing an affiliation agreement with the Karagheusian Association. This new collaboration opens additional opportunities for our students, enriching their clinical training. In tandem with this, we have introduced the Learning Space platform into our MED III Family Medicine clerkship, enhancing the learning experience with advanced simulation exercises.

Another exciting development is the launch of our Standardized Patient Program, which will play a crucial role in our students' clinical education. This program offers our students the chance to refine their clinical skills in a realistic, structured environment, preparing them to deliver high-quality patient care.

At the heart of our success is our exceptional faculty. Acknowledging their vital contributions, we are deeply committed to fostering their professional growth. This year, we proudly celebrated the graduation of the inaugural cohort of our Faculty Development Program (FDP), equipping our educators with cutting-edge teaching strategies to enhance student learning. Building on this momentum, we have officially launched the second round of the FDP, continuing our mission to empower faculty with the tools they need for academic excellence.

In February 2024, several of our faculty members had the privilege of participating in the Simulation Instructor Development: Comprehensive Course at the Mayo Clinic Multidisciplinary Simulation Center in Rochester, Manasota. The experience they gained will significantly enhance our simulation-based education and further strengthen our faculty's expertise.

As we reflect on these milestones, it is clear that SGUB-FM is on a path to becoming a leader in medical education. I extend my deepest gratitude to our faculty, staff, and students for their dedication and commitment to excellence. Together, we will continue to shape the future of healthcare, both locally and globally.

Warm regards,

Dr. Alexandre Nehme