



Saint George  
University  
of Beirut

جامعة القديس جاورجيوس  
في بيروت

## Dean's Update - Issue 1, April 2023

*"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it."*

*H.E. Luccock*

Dear SGUB/SGHUMC community,

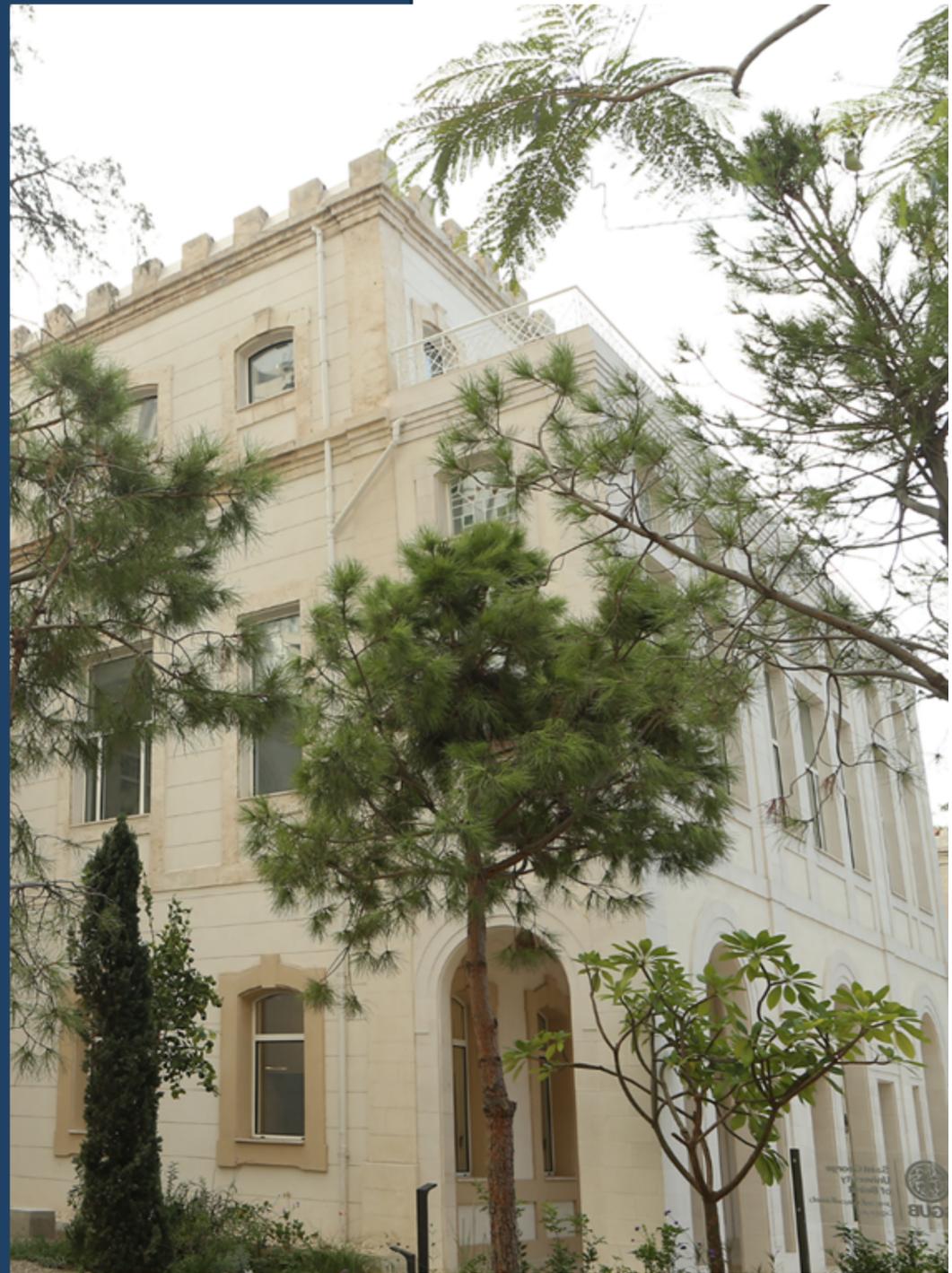
Yes... together we prevailed

I am pleased and honored to provide you with an update on our status and ongoing efforts at SGUB-FM. We have strived so far to offer our students a state-of-the-art curriculum that would allow them to experience the best educational modes of instruction to build their knowledge and enhance their critical thinking. Our dedicated team has been working relentlessly to employ these strategies, and to implement changes that will positively impact both our curriculum and teaching approaches.

We have progressed successfully with the implementation of our Med I curriculum and the first academic year is expected to conclude in July 2023. With a more integrated and clinically focused approach to learning, our curriculum is designed to better align with the needs of today's medical students. Our faculty have been working persistently to ensure that our students are receiving the best possible education and have made great strides in developing and delivering this new curriculum.

Alongside the Med I curricular implementation, our team has been working on constructing the Med II curriculum that builds upon the foundations established in Med I. The second-year program will further integrate clinical experiences and incorporate more opportunities for students to engage in research and scholarship. We are excited about the potential impact this new curriculum will have on our students' ability to become well-rounded and compassionate physicians.

It comes without saying that we recognize that our faculty are the backbone of our educational program, and we are committed to providing them with the support they need to excel in their roles as educators. To that end, we are launching a faculty development program that is tailored to support the implementation of these contemporary instructional strategies, and to contribute to their professional development. This program will provide opportunities for faculty to learn new techniques and approaches to teaching, as well as engage in meaningful dialogue and exchange of ideas with colleagues across the institution.





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Launching a residency program is a significant milestone for any medical institution. With the blessings of his eminence, SGUB-FM has taken the valiant decision to initiate residency and fellowship programs in collaboration with SGHUMC in July 2023. This is currently requiring a great deal of effort and planning to ensure that the program is designed to meet the needs of both the residents and the patients they will serve.

A key element in launching this program is the recruitment of residents. This process requires a comprehensive strategy that is tailored to the needs of the institution and the potential candidates. In order to attract the best candidates, medical institutions must develop a strong brand that reflects the values and mission of the institution.

In addition to recruitment, medical institutions must also focus on curriculum development. The adoption of a competency-based medical education framework is essential to ensure that residents receive the training they need to become successful physicians. This framework emphasizes the acquisition of milestones as they walk along the program rather than simply completing a set curriculum. This also ensures that residents are exposed to a wide range of clinical experiences and receive comprehensive training within the six core competencies of Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Professionalism, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Practice-based Learning and Improvement, and Systems-based Practice.

The residency program requires significant investment of time and resources. However, the benefits of a well-designed curriculum can be substantial, in providing the best patient outcomes, a stronger reputation for the institution, and the development of highly skilled physicians who can make a significant impact on the health of their communities. By adopting a competency-based medical education framework and developing a comprehensive recruitment strategy, medical institutions can ensure excellence in serving the community with the best healthcare services.

All things considered, I am certain that all these initiatives will support us in our efforts to recruit and train the future generation of doctors, as well as make sure that our graduates are adequately trained to meet the changing demands of our healthcare system. We, at SGUB-FM, appreciate your commitment to our medical school community and your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Alexander Nehme