

June 1, 2020

Dear AUB Community,

It is with great pleasure that I announce that our alumnus Joseph Otayek has been appointed as Medical Center Director at the American University of Beirut Medical Center, effective June 1, 2020. Mr. Otayek has an unparalleled record of leadership in Lebanon's academic health sector, as well as a proven record in change management in the delivery of healthcare. As Interim Medical Center Director Ziyad Ghazzal will return to his faculty post on June 6, the overlapping days will be used for handover and on-boarding purposes.

Mr. Otayek spent 17 years (1994-2011) serving as chief executive officer of Beirut's Hôtel-Dieu de France (HDF) Hospital, the academic medical center of Université Saint-Joseph (USJ), and he led the team that managed the reconstruction of the hospital after the Lebanese civil war. That team reorganized Hôtel Dieu at both the human and material levels, securing HDF's current prominent position alongside AUBMC among Lebanese university hospitals. He was responsible for introducing many innovations especially in the areas of governance, segregation of duties, financing operations, financing investments, and marketing.

In 2011, Mr. Otayek co-founded APIS Health Consulting Group, a consulting and management firm specialized in healthcare policy making, strategy definition and implementation, and management services. He has worked on successful consulting missions in Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE with private hospitals, investment funds, medical NGOs, the World Health Organization, government ministries, and other governmental bodies. Joseph is a strong believer in the provision of healthcare as a right to all and the transformation of the idea of health from a being risk to an asset that can be realized by empowering patients and their communities.

Joseph holds a BE in mechanical engineering from AUB ('84), a DESS postgraduate diploma in hospital and biomedical engineering from Université de Technologie de Compiègne in France, and an MBA from INSEAD in Fontainebleau. He was nominated by the minister of health to the committee to redesign the financing of the healthcare system in Lebanon whose plan was presented to the Paris II donor conference in 2002.

He also collaborated in the implementation of the healthcare vision 2030 in Saudi Arabia.

He has taught healthcare policy and healthcare institutions management courses in the MBA program at USJ and at the Ecole Supérieure des Affaires (ESA). In 2007, he was made a Knight in the French Order of Merit by President Jacques Chirac. Joseph is married to Roula Srour, and has three children, Catherine, who graduated from AUB's FAS in 2016, Georges, who graduated from OSB in 2017, and Remy, who will graduate this year from the MSFEA.

Please join me in congratulating Joseph Otayek on his new role and in wishing him every success at our AUBMC.

Best regards,

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD  
President