

NDU Spirit, a periodical bulletin
about campus life at
Notre Dame University - Louaïze,
issued by the Public Relations Office

December 2002 - Issue N° 26



Consultative Committee
Deans of Faculties



Editor-in-Chief
George Mghames



English Editor
Kenneth Mortimer



Reporting
Ghada Mouawad



With
Representatives of Faculties
and Student Clubs



Layout
Technopub s.a.r.l.



Print
Meouchy and Zakaria



Notre Dame University - Louaïze
Zouk-Mosbeh Tel: (09) 218950/1/2/4/5
Barsa Tel: (03) 749402 - (06)416101/2/3
Shouf Tel: (05)511202-4-5-6

email: nduspirit@ndu.edu.lb

OUTLINE

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

I- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Festive Season	4
International Academic Affairs – Dr. E. Alam	5
Admissions in Action – Elham Hasham	7
Memoranda	12
Distinction for NDU	14
FAAD – Growing Fast	15
Millennium Lecture Series	19
Independence Day Ceremony	20

II- STUDENT AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

<i>Communio</i> Meetings	21
Byron in Japan – Dr. N. Oueijan	22
Science in Shouf	23
Shouf Shorts	24
Student Clubs Recruitment	26
Student Cabinet Election	29
Sports Office News	31
Diabetes – Dr. Sami Azar	34
Requiem for Imad Mansour	35
Birds of Lebanon – Dr. Ghassan Jaridi	36
Litani Prize – Tony Saad	38
Joy Shared – Arrival of Marc	39
Opportunity for Creativity – Dr. Carol Kfourri	40
NDU Choir – St. Teresa and Christmas Concerts	42

III- OPINION AND CULTURE

Gone up in Smoke – Violet Torbey and K.J.M.	43
Willow Tree Lane Pond – Lama Mghames	45
<i>Le Mirage de la vie – poème</i> , Antoine Y. Sfeir	48
A Contradiction of Longing – poem, Valerie Aoun	49
Al-Fitr at NDU	49
Religion without the Church – K.J. Mortimer	50
Be Warned! – Dr. Doumit Salameh	53
Poems – students of Dr. Naji Oueijan	54
Packing my Library – Dr. Norman Nikro	56
Culture.Com – Book Review, Dr. Georges Labaki	58
La Francophonie - Dr. Georges Labaki	60
<i>Nicolas, Le Temps séché... poèmes</i> , Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek	61
Street Language – Joe Chammas	62
NDU Gloom - Caren Attieh	62
Something for your grey matter – crossword	63

IV- BOOK REVIEWS

William Blake and Kahlil Gibran, George N. El-Hage	64
Ordinary Differential Equations with applications - Dr. Geores M. Ed	65

Official photography: Abdo Bejjani



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Amidst great rejoicing the mortal remains of St. Teresa have visited Lebanon, being borne to monasteries, convents and churches that bear her name or belong to the Carmelite Order, among them the St. Teresa Monastery of the Mariamite Maronite Order in Seheileh, in Kesrouan, not far from Notre Dame University. So it is not out of place here to consider some facts about her and what she means to so many Christians.

She was a nun in an enclosed Carmelite convent. The Carmelites had their beginnings at the time when the Crusaders were in occupation of the Palestinian city of Haifa. On Mount Carmel there was an Orthodox monastery. The Crusaders, who were comparative barbarians, with little understanding of ecumenical subtleties, installed monks who imposed a Latin rule on the monastery, giving the eastern monks in possession (and claiming some connection with St. Elijah the Old Testament Prophet, also known as Elias, Elie, Eliya) the choice of becoming Latins or leaving. This seems an unpromising beginning for the Carmelite Order, but its effective foundation came when the Franciscans had returned to Europe and a certain Englishman, St. Simon Stock, became its superior.





With a reputation for poverty and austerity, the Carmelite friars soon spread all over the West.

Following a certain decline, they were reformed in the 16th century by two Spanish mystics, St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila, the first woman to be proclaimed a Doctor of the Church. These two are famed for their sublime literary output in Spanish even among those who do not share their religious faith. The Order has since enjoyed great spiritual influence and, in addition to the friars and the enclosed nuns, there are congregations of Carmelites who combine prayer with educational, medical and similar activity. In Lebanon the Carmelite friars have long been active; there is a flourishing congregation of Carmelite teaching sisters and a strictly enclosed convent at Harissa of the eastern Greek rite which now has numerous Lebanese members, many of whom have joined after qualifying in the universities and liberal professions.

St. Teresa of Lisieux, a town in Normandy in France, was born in 1873. In 1888, when she was only 15 years old, by special permission she eagerly followed her elder sisters into the local Carmelite convent. She died in 1897 when only 24, but not before she had obeyed the order of one of her sisters, then superior of the convent, to write her spiritual diary, subsequently published after her death as the *Story of a Soul*. This made such an impression in the world that she was beatified, after the necessary confirmation of two medically unaccountable cures resulting from her intercession, in 1923, by an exception to the usual delays, and canonised in 1925.

She gave encouragement to ordinary Christians seeking to be closer to God, but unable to engage in heroic activity, by her *Little Way*, a rule of sanctity that consisted of doing the little daily tasks well for love of Christ. But her spirituality was not confined to the convent walls, for she was full of ardent concern for those in

far-off lands who had no knowledge of the True God and of His love for men. For these she prayed fervently and was later proclaimed Patroness of the Missions. So it was that after a few years of life in deep seclusion, she became famous around the world and one of the best-loved of the saints.

Before Teresa died she promised that after death she would scatter a shower of roses, in other words graces, upon the world. But these roses, once scattered, must not just wither and die. Devotion to this little saint must not become a mere orgy of sentimentality. Let people kiss her image if they want to. Let them ask for miracles of healing by her intercession. But what matters is that they should imitate her in her holiness, in her life of prayer, in her love for others, and in her missionary spirit. Some can share her concern for those who know not God only by joining her in prayer, just as she prayed for the world in her cloister. But many others have duties in the world so that with God's help they can carry the divine light out into the world by their action.

Christ alone was the perfect contemplative and the perfect missionary. Some individuals devote their lives to imitation of his life entirely by contemplation and prayer, but never without love and concern for others. Thus the Carmelites of Harissa pray for the Unity of the Churches. Others, by their work and their social connections can be missionary either directly and openly or by the spirit in which they carry out their tasks. But all their efforts will avail nothing, will lead only to pride, selfishness and a spirit of domination, if they do not devote some part of their time to imitation of the prayerful contemplative life of Christ and of the Carmel. 🙏

Rev. Boutros Tarabay
President



THE FESTIVE SEASON

At the time of our present issue going to press, the University has already celebrated Al-Fitr with its Muslim Faculty members and students and now preparations are being made for Christmas.

Those who have seen earlier issues of NDU Spirit will know that while making merry on this special occasion, our students do not forget those who are less fortunate than they are. We hope that when they have gone out into the world our graduates, whatever their religious obedience, will continue to celebrate in this unselfish spirit. It is tragic that in so many countries the feast of Christmas serves only to feed rampant materialism and is even an occasion of gorging and excessive intake of alcohol, while so many in the world cannot feed themselves or their families. This is a recipe for violence, revolution and the collapse of civilisation. May our students always set a good example and celebrate the feasts according to the intentions of the holy messengers of the Almighty Judge. 🕋





INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The following information was kindly supplied by *Dr. Edward Alam*, Director of the Office of International Academic Affairs (OIAA), created by Notre Dame University-Louaize in Fall, 2001. This information covers the period up to May, 2002. As Dr. Alam has had a busy summer, we hope to have more information to pass on in our next issue. –Ed.

The OIAA has launched the Eastern Christian Studies Series. The first two-volume book is now on the world market. This first publication is an annotated translation of the Old Syriac Gospels. The book is bilingual, with the English facing the Syriac. The OIAA has designed a logo and participated in arranging for the proper transcriptions. This marks the first time ever that one can find the Old Syriac Gospels with both the Syriac text and an English translation in the same book. The series is already attracting internationally reputed scholars who wish to contribute.

The OIAA has assembled a high-level Board of International Semitic Scholars to sit on an Advisory Board of the Eastern Christian Studies Series. Some of the most important names in the field are now listed in this advisory board.

The OIAA has made an agreement with Gorgias Press in America to co-publish, market and distribute its books in its Eastern Christian Studies Series. Gorgias Press uses a new print-to-order system which makes for an extremely low initial cost for the University. The books will also be available in e-book/e-secure form. Gorgias Press is promoting NDU by advertising its agreement with NDU worldwide.

The OIAA has facilitated the hiring of an internationally-known Semitic scholar in the capacity of *Research Visiting Professor*. The visiting scholar lives and works primarily in the U.S. and devotes part of his time to research on behalf of NDU.

The OIAA and Gorgias Press have formed a joint editorial office. This joint office has taken over the responsibility for deciding what gets published in the Series and plays the role of editor-in-chief of the Series.

The OIAA invited the Director of International Affairs from Madonna University in Michigan to write a joint-cooperative grant to the Department of State in the United States of America. The two offices worked on a grant for three months and submitted it in January, 2002. Should the grant be awarded, as is most likely, NDU and Madonna University will receive funding over the next three years, beginning in Fall, 2002, so they can strengthen their ties with one another in substantial and meaningful ways.

The OIAA has proposed the establishment of an NDU Center for Digitalization and Preservation. The proposal includes a detailed budget and apparatus for measuring the long-term value and worth of such a Center, with an international component. Contacts for international funding for this Center have already been made.

The OIAA has collected, reviewed and prioritized the files concerning its signed and pending agreements with institutions abroad.

The OIAA has completed an agreement with the Italian Cultural Institute. The agreement is already being implemented.

The OIAA with the creative support of the Dean of the Faculty of Business, has implemented its present agreement with the Bordeaux School of Business, one of the highest-ranking business schools in Europe, and has extended

the agreement to include the offering of joint MBA degrees. This is the first time that NDU will offer joint degrees. Presently there is one candidate at NDU from Bordeaux, one who has done half of his studies at Bordeaux. He will complete his studies at NDU and then receive joint degrees. NDU students will also have the same option. This is a notable achievement for NDU.

The OIAA has begun to assist students seeking to study abroad by creating a database that gathers relevant information and makes it easily available to students.

The OIAA has cooperated with the Dean of the Faculty of Political Science and with the Office of Public Relations in designing a memorandum of understanding between the Japanese Embassy in Beirut and NDU. This agreement includes a protocol and *modus operandi* whereby students at NDU may do an internship at the Japanese Embassy as part of their course of study.

The OIAA has written several letters of introduction to important funding foundations, and has compiled a list of the most relevant foundations, prominent among which is the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in Japan. The latter contact focuses on establishing a permanent fund to support the activities of the **Light of the East Institute**, newly established at NDU. The first event sponsored by the Institute will be a high-level conference on inter-religion relations, scheduled for the Spring semester of 2003.

An agreement was signed with the Assumption University of Bangkok, Thailand, on September 3, 2002.

However, much remains to be done. There is great need to build on the foundations that have already been laid with respect to NDU's relationship with institutions in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and India. 📖

ADMISSIONS IN ACTION!!!

NEWS FROM MS. ELHAM HASHAM, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS



At the NDU stand in Minneapolis: left to right, Fr. Charbel Maroun, Bishop Robert Shahine, Bishop Roland Abu Jaoude, Ms. Elham Hasham, Bishop Munjed El-Hasham

Another academic year is in progress.

The Admissions Office wishes you a prosperous and productive year.

The National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM)

serves as a unifying force among the laity of the Maronite Church in the USA and as a common link between the clergy and laity.

NAM helps preserve the Syriac-Maronite traditions by making people aware of the rich heritage of the Maronite faith and by fostering pride in the Maronite Church.



Ms. Elham Hasham with members of the Board of NAM



After the presentation at the General Assembly of NAM, Ms. Hasham offers NDU publications and the *History of the Maronites* to Bishops Doweihy and Shahine accompanied by Mrs. Martha Michael



The Director of Admissions with His Excellency Bishop Abu Jaoude

Ms. Elham Hasham, NDU Director of Admissions, at the BELMAS conference in Birmingham



The 39th Annual Convention was held in Minneapolis this year, and to demonstrate the academic professionalism and seriousness of NDU we had a booth there and presentations were given to the Board of Directors of NAM, the bishops and clergy, and the young people.

There is enthusiasm not only among the youth but also among older persons to come and learn Arabic at NDU. The NDU logo and website and specifically the Summer Arabic Program are all found on the NAM website (www.namnews.org).

Over 150 clergy from the various eparchies and parishes were present. In addition to **Bishops Dweihy and Shaheen, Bishops Roland Abu Jaoudeh and Munjed El Hachem** attended this year's convention and were happy and impressed to see NDU represented there.

Contacts have been made with the Mid-West and Southern Federations, and both expressed their sincere interest in NDU and in an appropriate orientation for their youth.

The President of NAM, **Mrs. Rosanne Soloman**, visited NDU and was extremely impressed with what NDU has to offer, both physically and intellectually.

While the Director of Admissions, Miss Elham Hasham, was in Leicester, U.K., for her Ph.D. dissertation, she met with **Professor Clive Dimmock**, a renowned

author on educational leadership and Director of the Educational Leadership and Management Department at Leicester University. Professor Dimmock showed enthusiasm for future programs at NDU. He was also delighted to learn that many NDU Faculty are pursuing post-graduate studies at Leicester.

Investigation for the establishment of a Center for School Effectiveness and Improvement at NDU is underway and this would be a pioneer project for Lebanon. This would attract school teachers who want to develop their leadership and classroom management skills. A partnership with Leicester University is feasible, in cooperation with the Institute of Education, University of London. There is also experience to be gained from the ISEIC (International School Effectiveness and Improvement Centre). The NDU Director also met with the Directors of Admissions at both the undergraduate and graduate levels at Leicester University and established links for the future.

Miss Hasham presented a paper on Total Quality Management in Institutions of Higher Education at the BELMAS (British Educational Leadership, Management and Administration Society) Annual Conference in Birmingham at Aston University. It was very successful and was followed by the audience

with interest. The keynote speakers who attended her lecture were all prominent authors on educational leadership and management. Among them were **Professors Peter Ribbons, Gabrielle Lakomski, Alma Harris, Jack Lumby, Chris James,** and **Tim Brighthouse** and **Cathy Jamieson**, Minister for Education and Young People, Scotland.

The Gulf Tour was a very fruitful and successful event and included the following stages:

Abu Dhabi (October 20-23)

Kuwait (October 23-25)

Riyadh (October 25-27)

Jeddah (October 27-29)

The institutions taking part were as follows:

Notre Dame University

American University of Beirut

Lebanese American University

Balamand University

Holy Spirit University

Beirut Arab University

C & E American University

Imam Ouzaii

Lebanese International University

Hawaii University

American University for Science and Technology

The Islamic University of Beirut

The Antonine University

The delegation was accompanied by the **Minister for Higher Education Abd Al-Raheem Mrad** and by media correspondents from Future TV, Tele Liban and NBN. At every stop there was an official program with the National Minister of Education greeting our Minister and with press conferences and receptions and banquets being held in honor of the Minister and the delegation.

The Lebanese embassies in each city were well prepared to welcome us, so adding to the success



The NDU Directors of Admissions and of Public Relations offer the NDU shield to the Lebanese Ambassador in Abu Dhabi, H.E. Mr. Hassan Berro, and his wife, seen with the Consul General, Mr. Fadi Ziade, an NDU graduate



H.E. the Lebanese Minister of Higher Education Abd Al-Raheem Mrad confirms our arrival at Jeddah



The Delegation of Lebanese Universities on the Gulf tour



With Miss Lebanon, Christina Sawaya, at the NDU stand in Abu Dhabi

of the meetings. The Ambassadors and Consuls were all equally cooperative and facilitated procedures. The Lebanese community were very hospitable and appointments for schools were made at every stop. Administrators and students from schools came to enquire about the educational system and admission requirements. Parents and other individuals also came to obtain answers to all their questions.

The NDU stand attracted a great deal of attention and a large percentage were asking particularly for NDU. Many were surprised to learn about the status of NDU and the programs of study offered here, as well as about the facilities and financial aid programs.

At every stop there was contact made with NDU graduates with a view to the establishment of Alumni chapters. Our graduates fill high positions and the feedback on their performance was impressive. NDU has every right to be proud of its graduates.

Contacts were made with **Mr. Michael Farah**, Executive Director of the Lebanon Trade and Information Office. A delegation visited Lebanon for meetings covering official political, tourist, economic, commercial and agricultural matters. It was also invited to visit NDU.

The Annual Hariri Foundation Exhibition was fruitful as usual as a result of combined effort and teamwork.

The annual orientation visits to local schools have commenced and Campus Tours are being scheduled. Upcoming events include interactive sessions with students and parents at the schools and an Open Doors for parents to visit NDU. In addition, there are school visits being scheduled and exhibitions at which NDU will be present in



Left to right: Dr. Kanaan, AUB Director of Admissions, Mr. Suheil Matar NDU Director of Public Relations, H.E. the Kuwaiti Minister of Education, Ms. Elham Hasham of NDU and the Lebanese Ambassador, Mr. Naamani



The President of NAM, Mrs. Rosanne Solomon, visits NDU with Mrs. Mona Kanaan, Secretary of the Board of Directors

Amman (Jordan), Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus and Cairo.

The Admissions Office has initiated membership procedures and NDU is now a member of the College Board that keeps universities abreast of international examinations such as the SATs, TOEFL and GHAT. Moreover, NDU is a member of NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling).

Furthermore, in addition to its membership in the Arab ACRAO, NDU is a member of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). Ms. Elham Hasham was requested to give a presentation on the Lebanese educational system at the Association's Annual Conference.

The Admissions Office Staff at Main Campus, NLC and Shouf are all to be commended for their enthusiasm and commitment to NDU. 🍷



Meeting NDU graduates in Riyadh. Alumni were met at every stop



At the Annual Hariri Foundation Fair

The visit of St. Teresa of Lisieux to Lebanon has been a quite extraordinary event. She is preaching "Live Love!" Without love, what would the world be like? Hopefully, we can all join hands and "Live Love" and surely it will always rain rose petals down on us.

The Admissions Office would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year 2003!



The NDU stand at the BIEL (Beirut International Exhibition and Leisure Center)/ Hariri Fair

MEMORANDA

From the President's Office

08/07/2002

Promotion of Mr. Simon Abou Jaoudeh to the rank of Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, effective 1st October, 2002.

15/07/2002

Appointment of staff members, effective 1st July, 2002:

Mr. Charbel Abi Nakhoul, Receiving Officer.

Miss Valerie Aoun, Translator, Office of Research and Development.

Mr. Joseph Azzi, NDU Representative to the National Security Fund.

Mr. Joseph Mghames, Storekeeper.
Miss Lydia Zgheib, Secretary, Office of Publications.

Appointment/reappointment of Department Chairpersons for the academic year 2002-2003, effective 1st October, 2002.

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, ART & DESIGN

Dr. Farid Younes Chairperson, Department of Architecture
Mr. Habib Melki Chairperson, Department of Design

FACULTY OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & ECONOMICS

Mr. Antoine Khalil Chairperson, Department of Business Administration
Mr. Youssef Zgheib Chairperson, Department of Hotel Management and Tourism
Mr. Rachid Saber Chairperson, Department of Management and Marketing

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Dr. Walid Assaf Chairperson, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Elias Nasser Chairperson, Department of EE & CCE
Dr. Jacques Harb Department of Civil Engineering

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

Dr. Amal Yazigi Chairperson, Department of English, Translation & Education
Dr. Khaled el-Fakih Chairperson, Department of Mass Communication
Dr. Doumit Salameh Chairperson, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

FACULTY OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Dr. Hoda Maalouf Chairperson, Department of Computer Science
Dr. Amer Jajou Chairperson, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Dr. Doris Jaalouk Chairperson, Department of Sciences

FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & DIPLOMACY

Dr. Chahine Ghais Chairperson, Faculty Department
NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay asks all to join him in thanking leaving Chairpersons and congratulating those appointed and reappointed.

30/09/2002
 Appointment of Mr. Salim Karam as Director of NDU-NLC for one academic year 2002-2003, effective 1st October, 2002.

30/09/2002
 Appointment of Mr. Naim Maksoud as Assistant Director of Administration at NDU-SC for the academic year 2002-2003, effective 1st October, 2002.

30/09/2002
 Appointment of General Elias Hanna for one academic year (2002-2003) as Director of the Student Affairs Office, effective 1st October, 2002.

30/09/2002
 Appointment of Dr. Fouad Chedid as Chairman of the Science and Engineering Programs at NDU-SC for the academic year 2002-2003, effective 1st October, 2002.

30/09/2002
 Appointment of Mr. Armen Balian as Head of the Computer Center, effective 1st July, 2002.

21/10/2002
 Appointment of Dr. Edward Alam as Director of International Affairs and Coordinator of the Light of the East Ecumenical Institute (for the advancement of religious and cultural studies), effective 1st October, 2002.

21/10/2002
 Appointment of Mr. Joseph Fares as Assistant to the Director of International Affairs for one academic year (2002-2003) effective 1st October, 2002.

21/10/2002
 Appointment of Mr. Chawki Eid for one academic year (2002-2003) as Assistant to the Director of Administration for evening services, effective 1st October, 2002.

31/10/2002
 Appointment of Father Roger Chikri as the new Director of Administration, effective 31st October, 2002. Gratitude to Father Walid Moussa for his dedication and exertions for NDU over the last three years as Director of Administration.

18/11/2002 Main Campus:

Appointment of:

Mr. Charbel Tarabay, Driver, Public Relations Office, effective 01/06/2002.

Ms. Marise Abboud, Admissions Assistant, Admissions Office, effective 01/08/2002.

Mr. Chadi Bteich, Faculty Assistant, FAAD, effective 01/10/2002.

Mr. Raja Dib, Accountant, DCE, effective 01/10/2002.

Mr. Chawki Eid, Assistant to the Director of Administration, Evening Services, effective 01/10/2002.

Mr. Charbel Abi Rached, Secretary, University Choir, effective 01/11/2002.

Ms. Christine Abou Khalil, Secretary, PVP Office, effective 01/11/2002.

Mr. Dany Azzi, Computer Laboratory Assistant, DCE, effective 01/11/2002.

Mrs. Jessy Hjeily Chammas, Secretary, School of Music (DCE), effective 01/11/2002.

Mrs. Claudine Fahed, University Archive, Administration, effective 01/11/2002.

Ms. Vera Jabbour, Secretary, Dept. of English, Translation & Education, effective 01/11/2002.

Ms. Kamale Moubarak, Secretary, Dept. of Musicology, FAAD, effective 01/11/2002.

Reappointment of:

Ms. Lara Nasr, Secretary, Department of PSPAD, effective 01/11/2002.

Mrs. Diana Sarkis, Secretary, OTME, effective 01/11/2002.

Ms. Suzanne Saadeh, Administrative Assistant, Public Relations Office, effective 01/11/2002.

Mrs. Janane Youness, Secretary, Physical Plant, effective 01/11/2002.



Shouf Campus:

Appointment of:

Mr. Rafaat Nasr, Shouf Campus Services, effective 01/10/2002.

Ms. Micheline Azzam, Secretary, Sciences & Engineering Programs, effective 01/11/2002.

Reappointment of:

Ms. Rania Najem, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Director (SC), effective 01/10/2002.



North Lebanon Campus:

Appointment of:

Mrs. Suzan Maatouk Dandan, Admissions Officer, Admissions Officer, effective 01/08/2002.

Mr. Edgar Sabbagh, Computer Laboratory Assistant, Computer Center, effective 01/10/2002.

Ms. Jackline Fayjaloun, Services Worker, Canteen, effective 01/10/2002.

Mr. Youssef Bou Feraah, Services Worker, Canteen, effective 01/10/2002.

Reappointment of:

Mrs. Jeanette Kadissi Mtanios, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Director (NLC), effective 01/10/2002.

Ms. Nancy Rizk, Officer, SAO effective 01/10/2002.

21/11/2002 Reappointment (Main Campus) of:

Ms. Jocelyne Issa, Public Relations Coordinator, effective 01/11/2002. Also responsible for placement of internship students with Faculties and companies, memo 27/11/2002 of Mr. Suheil Matar, Director General Public Relations and Information and P.C..

Ms Fadia El-Hage, Administrative Assistant, Office of Sponsored Research and Development 01/10/2002.

29/11/2002

Mr. Georges Mghames, Director of Publications and Printed Material.



From the Office of the Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs

23/09/2002

List of Deans in descending order of seniority for consideration in all University services and affairs.

Dr. Boulos Sarru', Professor and Dean, FH

Dr. Shahwan Khoury, Professor and Dean, FE

Dr. Michel Nehmeh, Professor and Dean, FPSPAD

Dr. Jean Fares, Associate Professor and Dean, FNAS

Dr. Antoine Karam, Associate Professor and Dean, FBAE

Dr. Nadim Karam, Associate Professor and Dean, FAAD

Distinction for NDU

A paper of Dr. Fouad Chedid, NDU Shouf Campus, entitled *Artificial Economy as a Vehicle for Designing Approximation Algorithms for NP-Complete Problems*, was recently

published in the proceedings of the ISCA 11th International Conference on Intelligent Systems, which was held on July 12-18, 2002 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

GROWING FAST!

The NDU Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design is undergoing rapid development in order to create challenging programs that will respond to the needs of the future. The Foundation Study program (28 credits) has been revised and is now mandatory for all students joining the Faculty.



Dr. Nadim Karam, Dean of FAAD, presidency

In Architecture, emphasis has been given to architectural design courses and a master's program in Landscape Urbanism, the first of its kind in the region, is planned for Spring 2003.

The number of credits in interior and graphic design majors has been reduced to allow the development of important new programs and a Master in Design has already begun.

The Department of Art and Music opened in October 2002 with three majors in arts and four in music.

THE NEW ORGANIZATION OF FAAD

Department of Architecture

Bachelor Degree in Architecture: **182 credits** (awaiting final approval from the Ministry of Higher Education to replace the previous programme of **191 credits**)

Master of Landscape Urbanism: **36 credits**

Department of Design

Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design: **136 credits**

Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design: **102 credits**

Bachelor of Arts in Photography: **102 credits***

Bachelor of Arts in Fashion & Textile Design: **102 credits***

Master of Design: **36 credits**

Department of Arts and Music

Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art: **102 credits***

Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts: **102 credits***

Bachelor of Arts in Arts and Crafts: **102 credits***

Bachelor of Music in Arabic Musicology (MUA): **124 credits**

Bachelor of Music in Musicology (MUS): **124 credits**

Bachelor of Music in Music Education (MUE): **124 credits**

Bachelor of Music in Musimediology (use of media for music): **124 credits**

Foundation Studies, common to all FAAD majors

Fall Semester: Drawing I (**3cr.**), Design Principles I (**3cr.**), Basic Technical Skills (**3cr.**), Performing Arts and Music (**3cr.**), Art & Culture (**2cr.**).

Spring Semester: Drawing II (**3cr.**), Design Principles II (**3cr.**), Descriptive Geometry (**3cr.**), Introduction to Photography (**3cr.**), Conceptual Communication (**22cr.**).

Literature about these exciting new perspectives is available from the Faculty.

* To receive final approval from the Ministry of Higher Education.



A crowd of students follow Francine Houben with keen interests



Francine Houben makes her point

EXHIBITIONS AND LECTURES

The Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design has created two exhibition spaces within the Faculty premises, the Mood Gallery and the Trashways.

The Mood Gallery displays the work of well-known exhibitors and complements the work and topics discussed in the public lectures.

The Trashways exhibition space, located on the bridge and the immediate surroundings at FAAD, is open for NDU faculty members and students as well as outside exhibitors. This space hosts ephemeral, spontaneous and disposable exhibitions. A written proposal should be submitted to the **ad-hoc** committee of lectures, seminars and exhibitions or sent by e-mail to faad@ndu.edu.lb for review and approval by the Committee and the Dean.

STUDY TRIP TO BERLIN, SUMMER, 2002

Fifteen Architecture students from the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design participated in a group visit to Berlin between the 21st and 31st of July, 2002. The visit was prepared by instructor **Robert Saliba**, Assistant Professor, FAAD, and sponsored and organized by the DAAD, the German Academic Exchange Service. As well as attending the XXI World Congress of Architecture, the students had a fascinating encounter with a major European city, the first that most of them had ever enjoyed.

In fact this was an opportunity to become acquainted at first hand with the latest architecture and urban design projects pertaining to the reconstruction of Berlin over the last decade, as well as to go on study trips to key peripheral sites such as Potsdam and its Sanssouci Historical Park and also Dessau, the birthplace of the Bauhaus, which was the leading school of modern architecture between the two World Wars.

NDU AND THE BIENNALE

NDU has been selected to participate in the First International *Biennale: The Aesthetics and Culture of (auto)Mobility*, which will be held in Rotterdam between 7th May and 7th July, 2003. The *Biennale* is to be opened by **Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands**. The general topic of the preliminary research is "A Room with a View: Exploring the Cultures of (auto)Mobility by Design". A number of universities from around the world will take part in a group research covering the main highways of their respective countries, including China, Egypt, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico and the United States, and Netherlands as the host country. The selection has been made on the basis of the principal cities. The research is open to all universities and individuals through the selected local university. In the case of Lebanon this university is Notre Dame University-Louaize, the research being conducted by the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design. The research director of the project in Lebanon is **Dr. Nadim Karam**, Dean of the Faculty.

Other universities are University Wuppertal (Netherlands), Technological University of Aachen (Germany), Technical University of Berlin, University of California, Tec de Monterrey of Mexico, Ain Shams University of Cairo, University of Tokyo, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, University of Peking, Technical University of Budapest, Bandung Institute of Technology (Indonesia) and Delft University of Technology (Netherlands).

The Director/Curator of the *Biennale* is **Ms. Francine Houben**, founder-partner of a major architectural firm, *Mecanoo Architect*. She has been visiting Lebanon as part of a world trip to coordinate the project and it was with great pleasure that NDU received her in the evening of 14th October, 2002 to hear her give a public lecture in Friends Hall. Among those present was the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Beirut Mr. Michel Rentenaar, representing the Ambassador His Excellency Jan Piet Kleiweg de Zwaan.

Opening the proceedings, Dr. Nadim Karam explained that Francine Houben belonged to the highest circles of the architectural establishment and had just begun courses as Professor of Architecture and Mobility Aesthetics at the Technical University of Delft (Netherlands). In 1999 she had introduced the idea of mobility aesthetics in the framework of spatial planning, on which subject she had won numerous awards. Beirut had been chosen as one of eleven cities taking part in the *Biennale* through the instrumentality of NDU. However, the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design wanted cooperation with other universities and institutes in Lebanon as the *Biennale* was wide enough in its scope to embrace all projects and events presented, even individually by those attending the lecture. Dr. Karam profited from the occasion to thank NDU, in particular the President **Father Boutros Tarabay**,

for the continuous support given to his Faculty.

Francine Houben thanked Dr. Karam for the invitation and said she would try to combine two lectures into one in order to talk about both Mecanoo Architect and about Mobility. She had become a founder-partner of Mecanoo 26 years ago after winning a competition had ensured her reputation and now the office had 70 employees. It was her endeavour to combine architecture with landscaping, urbanism and interior design. Ms. Houben showed a number of major urban projects for which Mecanoo had been responsible. These ranged from a high-speed train system to the Library of the University of Technology of Delft.

The speaker explained "Room with a View" by saying that rooms were not necessarily spaces inside buildings. Looking out of the window of a train or a ship or a car was also a room with a view. Mobility referred to the physical movement of people from place to place. The question was how mobility and its infrastructure shaped and reshaped the city and its landscape in the past and in the future, for mobility was an expression of cultural identity.

She spoke at some length about a disused church in Amsterdam which she had been asked to change into a theatre for a company with limited means. The church was 200 years old of a striking Italian style, with an enormous vault, and in view of the history of the building she felt that she did not want to touch the structure more than was strictly necessary. So she kept the interior space largely intact, using technical installations for light and colour and one piece of furniture in the form of an organ, and leaving the beautiful view through the windows of one of the most famous canals of the city.

Ms. Houben spoke about a chapel for a Catholic cemetery she had been asked to rebuild. She pointed

out that the cities of Holland did not have a millennial history like those of the Mediterranean and that paintings were mostly found in museums. She therefore went to Venice, in whose churches she found units of natural light, golden ceilings and strong colours for the paintings. Thus she was inspired for a project that was deeply emotional and that was selected against competition. She said churches of this kind were not built in Holland any more.

Then the distinguished speaker explained the peculiar challenges of the library for Delft Technical University, with its main reading hall computerized and the volumes kept in a floor below. However, out of the one million volumes she had chosen 80,000 to be exposed so as to give the sight and feel and smell of books in the glass-structured spaces.

After describing how she had brought the scattered facilities of North Amsterdam into one central complex with easy access by public transport, Ms. Houben insisted that land must be treated as an expensive commodity and should not be used in a way that spoils the countryside. She loved to work *with* nature, using open spaces, and was therefore glad that sustainability entered the NDU architectural programme.

Turning to mobility, she pointed out that the theme of the coming research was not simply a matter of avoiding traffic-jams. In Holland there had been the unfortunate idea of putting up buildings like boxes along the highways, leaving the landscape quite invisible behind them. Care had been given to the planning of cities but no care had been given to the planning of routes. Video tapes shot from cars had shown that the roadside views were in no way agreeable. One saw urban sprawl instead of the landscapes with the typical windmills that had always made the charm of the Dutch countryside. She wanted

to concentrate buildings so as to leave room for the traditional panoramas of canals, windmills and tulip fields. So now she had discussed with the mayors of several cities the possibility of building centres with high-rise “Dutch mountains”, as in Rotterdam, where people were now proud of the view.

The solutions that Ms Houben was proposing were specific to Holland. But every country was different and therefore needed its own solutions. Beirut, for example, lay between mountains and sea, so high-rise blocks there seemed inevitable; but she wondered whether people here did not prefer red-roofed villas to ugly concrete buildings, so Beirut’s representation at the *Biennale* was important for the creation of visionary projects that could be implemented in the perspective of solving the problems of mobility. Her appeal for proposals was extended not only to architects but also to landscape designers, urban planners, interior designers, graphic artists, the makers of films and artists in general.

Ms. Houben went on to say that eleven different cities had been chosen around the world for the *Biennale* project in order to obtain a variety of economic and cultural backgrounds. She suggested that research on mobility should be done in various cities and universities so that ideas could be presented to politicians, otherwise there would be enormous problems in the future.

The floor was then open for questions. Ms. Houben kindly presented the Faculty with a copy of her book *Composition, Contrast and Complexity*. 📖

PASCAL TARABAY, LECTURE AND EXHIBITION

Foreplay was the title of a talk given by the designer Pascal Tarabay at 6 p.m. on Monday 18th November, 2002 in Friends Hall, NDU Main Campus, at the invitation of the Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design. NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay attended, together with a number of Faculty members, Administration staff and students.

The Dean of FAAD, Dr. Nadim Karam, opened proceedings with some words of welcome and informed his audience that Pascal Tarabay, born in Beirut in 1970, had studied architecture in Paris and obtained his master’s degree in Design at the Domus Academy in Milan in Italy in 1998. He was project assistant to Andrea Branzi and to Donegani & Lauda. He had worked on architecture, design and fashion projects for Exit, Pandora Design, Ferragamo, Radice and Beirut Municipality as well as winning several competitions of architecture and urban planning.

The guest speaker then spoke about his projects, illustrating his talk with projections of slides showing his designs for furniture, in particular various forms of seating, with special characteristics and incorporating a number of materials and technical elements.

Afterwards, he opened an exhibition in the Faculty’s Mood Gallery presenting examples of his furniture and design. This remained open until November 29th. 📖

Millennium Lecture Series 2002-2003

"CULTURAL VISTAS AND THE 21ST CENTURY"

Paradoxes and Challenges

DATE	TITLE	SPEAKER
Monday, 20/01/03	Relations between Islamic and Christian Cultures	Fr. George McClain
Thursday, 27/02/03	The Future of Christianity in the Middle East: Fears and Hopes	Fr. Samir Khalil
Thursday, 27/03/03	"Musings on the History of Ideas with References to the Early Reception of Kierkegaard's Thought"	Dr. Habib Malik
Wednesday, 30/04/03	The Seventh Door	Dr. Nicolas Ziadeh
Thursday, 29/05/03	"The Muslim Ummah and the Modern World"	Dr. Mahmoud Ayoub
Thursday, 19/06/03	To be announced	Mr. George Hajjar

We are grateful to *Dr. Doumit Salameh* for the above information and are glad that these thoughtful and provoking lectures are to continue, with the lively discussions that follow them. – Ed.

INDEPENDENCE

The flag of Lebanon is raised



DAY

University officials at attention.



Part of a large crowd.



As always, Notre Dame University-Louaize celebrated Lebanese National Independence Day by a simple symbolic ceremony that included hoisting the national flag and singing the National Anthem. This took place at the main entrance, Central Court, on Thursday, November 21st, with the attendance of NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay, administrators, deans, faculty members, staff and students.



COMMUNIO

The first *Communio* meeting of the new academic year was held on October 9th in the office of Dr. Edward Alam (Humanities building) to discuss an article from the international review *Communio* entitled "The Mysteries of Jesus' Public Life: Stages on the Way to the Cross", by Martin Bieler.

Those present were Dr. Edward Alam himself, Father Martin McDermott S.J. of SJU, Mrs. Bridget McDermott-Gemayel, Father Boulos Wehbeh (Orthodox, giving religious and social studies in NDU), Mr. Jean-Pierre el-Asmar (Architecture, NDU), Dr. Joseph Yaacoub (Psychology, NDU), Dr. Doumit Salameh (Chairperson, Social and Behavioral Studies, NDU), Dr. Habib Charles Malek, Dr. Sensenig-Dabbous (BM&E, NDU, of the Anabaptist Reformed tradition), Dr. Ziad Fahed (Ass. SAO, NDU), Father Ross Frey of the Salvatorian Basilian monks (back in his old form after his illness, we are glad to say) and Mr. K.J. Mortimer of NDU *Spirit*.

The subject was to have been presented by Mr. Riad Mufarraj (Orthodox), formerly of NDU, but unfortunately he had an accident with his car while on the way and telephoned to excuse himself, so Fr. Ross Frey stood in for him.

Martin Bieler starts his discussion about the events in the life of Christ with a keynote paragraph: "The mysteries of the life of Jesus are of great significance for the believer. This is because the believer's personal relation to the risen Christ makes no sense without the history of the Risen Christ. The resurrection, in fact, is the eternalization of the *life Christ lived*, with-

out which the Risen Lord would be anonymous. The mysteries enable us to recognize how different stages of the life of Jesus are dynamically, dramatically oriented to the cross and resurrection. They are 'mysteries' because, on the one hand, they make Jesus' life transparent to its divine, triune reality and because, on the other hand, they are specifically *human* openings of the Son of God, through which we are given access to the God who comes to meet us. In the mysteries, God relates to us as man *with his particular history ...*"

Interest in this article in a Catholic publication came largely from the fact that Martin Bieler is a Reformed (*i.e.* "Protestant") theologian with profound insight. The only disagreement with him arose over his apparent belief in a certain diminution of Christ's Godhead while he was on earth, contrary to Catholic-Orthodox teaching, for the second ode of the Byzantine Good Friday service says "The angels were astounded to see you at the same time seated in Heaven with the Father and lying in the tomb on earth."

At the next meeting held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26th discussion was about the *Communio* article "The Word of God in Islam: Some Personal Reflections", by Dr. Mahmoud M. Ayoub (see Millennium Lectures announcement in this issue about the future

appearance of Dr. Ayoub as a guest of NDU.) As far as can be recollected, this is the first time that an article by a Muslim has appeared in *Communio*. Those present were Dr. Edward Alam, Fr. Ross Frey B.S., Dr. Johan Gârde (Sweden Caritas

Administrator for the Middle East), Dr. Mary Ghaleb, Dr. Habib Malek, Fr. Martin McDermott S.J., Mr. K.J. Mortimer, Mr. Riad Mufarraj, Dr. Doumit Salameh, Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous, Dr. Ima Sensenig-Dabbous, Dr. Joseph Yaacoub and Fr. Boulos Wehbeh (now of the Humanities Faculty), who presented the article. It will be seen that Catholicism-Orthodoxy, the Reformation tradition and Islam were all represented.

This turned on the question of the meaning of The Word in Christianity and in Islam, a Person in the first case and a Book in the second. While most agreed that the ideas of Dr. Ayoub, who teaches in the USA, gave hope for the future, there was much discussion about how far his deep spiritual insights were accepted, or acceptable, in the Islamic world as a whole.

Readers of *NDU Spirit* are reminded that *Communio* meetings are held normally in the last week of every month. All believers who attach importance to the intellectual aspect of religion, including students and interested persons from outside NDU, are welcome, irrespective of their religious or denominational membership (not necessarily Christian). Information may be obtained from Dr. Edward Alam or his secretary, extension 2415 or 2502. 📖

BYRON IN JAPAN

Dr. Naji Oueijan, NDU Associate Professor and Byron authority, has informed us about his participation in the 28th International Byron Conference held at Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan, between 30th August and 4th September. He chaired one of the sessions and presented a paper entitled "The Futile Encounters between East and West: Islam and Christianity in Byron's *The Giaour*". Being considered one of the three best presentations of the Conference, this won for its author a financial grant of 50,000 Japanese yen.

Dr. Oueijan discussed with the President and Members of the Executive Council of

International Byron Societies the possibility of holding a Byron Conference soon in Lebanon.

His article "Byron's Notions of the American Revolution" has been republished in a book entitled *Byronic Negotiations*, New York, Peter Lang, 2002: 106-116. He has also received approval for publication of two of his articles: "The Amorous Dynamics of Romanticism", in *The Journal of English and Arabic Studies*, Vol. IV, 2003.

"The Formation of a Universal Self: Rihani and Byron", to be published in a book by Washington University, 2003.



Byron's Notions of the American Revolution

By Dr. Naji B. Oueijan. Abstract:

"I would rather, however, have a nod from an American than a snuff box from an Emperor."

Lord Byron was born in 1788, only five years after the end of the American Revolution and one year after the holding of the American Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. There is every reason to believe that during his lifetime Byron lived the vogue of the American Revolution and the events associated with it. Amongst his relatives and friends there were several who had first-hand experience in the Americas and pushed forward his personal interest

in that new part of the world. Byron had several personal contacts with American travelers in Italy, read extensively about the Americans and their history and culture, and expressed favorable views about the American Revolution and its major figures in his letters, journals and poems. Byron was even on the verge of leaving for the New World to settle permanently in South America. And more than anything else, Byron was constantly vigilant to the political situation across the

Atlantic; he severely criticized King George III of England for trying to suppress the American call for independence. The American Revolution, then, became an integral part of his life, as well as of his works; yet, Byron's biographers had very little to say about his notions of the Americans and revolution, and almost none of them recognized the significant impact of that part of the world and the events associated with it on the poet's personal and poetic development. 📖

The following information was kindly sent us by *Dr. Fouad Chedid*, Chairman of the Science and Engineering Programs at the NDU Shouf Campus, Director *Dr. Assaad Eid*. –Ed.



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING IN SHOUF

Here at the Shouf Campus, the number of students majoring in sciences and engineering is increasing steadily, at a remarkable rate. Our Fall 2002 registration shows that we currently have 155 students majoring in sciences and engineering out of a total number of 250 who have enrolled here. The exact distribution of the Science and Engineering students in their respective majors is as follows: 62 in CCE, 45 in Computer Science, 22 in Business Computing, 12 in Medical Lab Technology, 9 in Mathematics and 5 in Biology.

We are very proud to have some wonderful people on our Faculty. Currently, we have 6 full-time faculty members (3 Ph.Ds. and 3 M.Ss) and 7 part-time members (4 Ph.Ds. and 3 M.Ss.). The main goals set forth by the Administration are to seek excellence in teaching at the

undergraduate level and to encourage research work by having a large collection of periodicals (27 at present) available to our Faculty. In addition, thanks to the Computer Services Division in Main Campus, all our students and faculty members have been enjoying full access to the Internet through a microwave link.

As far as the student body is concerned, we are very happy to have been able to attract some of the best students in the area. Actually, many of our students have been ranked among the top students in the country in the results of the official baccalaureate examination, as is clearly shown in our Dean's list for Fall 2001

and
Spring
2002.

The entire campus here has been constantly undergoing innovation. We are hoping to have our science and engineering laboratories ready by the end of this term. There are also plans to further develop our campus. These and many other developments will be the subject of announcements by the Administration in due course. 🐾

DR. GEORGE M. EID AT SHOUF CAMPUS

Dr. George M. Eid, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, visited the Shouf Campus on Thursday, November 11, 2002. The meeting was an occasion for all Faculty members to discuss with the Provost a number of issues.

After a short welcome by Dr. Assaad Eid, quite a few issues were raised. Among these were the need to offer more Arabic courses, the use of blackboard software for distant learning, the offering of the kinds of majors most needed in the area, the SEED (Learning

Through Services to the Community) program currently implemented in some Canadian universities, the need to offer more scholarships to attract top students, the need to have Teaching Assistants in some courses, the need to establish a Tutoring Center on campus, etc.. Dr. Eid shared with Faculty members his thoughts concerning these and other related topics.

All in all, the meeting was transformed into a brainstorming session on how to make the Shouf Campus a better place for all. 2



Shouf Campus goes Latin with Ray Vega.

SHOUF SHORTS

THE LATIN JAZZ BEAT

After 6 p.m. on Friday, 12th July, 2002, NDU Shouf Campus vibrated to the strains of Latin Jazz streaming from the trumpet of **Ray Vega** of New York.

The proceedings opened with the Lebanese National Anthem followed by a speech by Campus Assistant Director **Dr. Fouad Chedid**. After referring to the cooperation between the U.S. Embassy and the Shouf Campus of NDU, he welcomed **Ms. Smith** and **Ms. Kopty** of the Embassy Public Affairs Office, who had helped organise the musical evening, thanked Ray Vega for his presence

and then wished everybody a thoroughly enjoyable musical evening. Then Ray Vega aroused the enthusiasm of his audience with his music, in particular his rendering of *Autumn Leaves*. The evening ended with him thanking the NDU Campus for its hospitality and toasting to its future.

FATHER RAHMEH "YASHDOU AL-ALHAN"

On August 2nd, 2002, the court before Our Lady of the Hill (Saidat al-Talleh) was like a hive with all the official personalities, clergy and families of every religious obedience come to celebrate together the feast-day of the church of Deir al-

Qamar. In charge of the celebration was the Shouf Campus of NDU. Proceedings started at 8.30 in the evening with the National Anthem, followed by a speech from **Father Boutros Tarabay**, President of NDU. He expressed hopes for a bright future for the rising generations and for the University with its new campuses.

It was then the turn of **Father Philippe al-Hage**, who spoke about the main events in the history of Deir al-Qamar before leaving the stage to the University Choir, conducted by **Father Khalil Rahmeh**, "Shadoua al-Alhan" and pieces from opera.



Always an appreciative audience at Shouf Campus for good music

TOASTING THE MEDIA MAGICIANS

NDU Shouf drank the toast of the audiovisual media people who had contributed to its progress during the academic year 2001-2002 at a dinner held in their honour on August 9th. The guests in their turn thanked the University for its initiative and wished it continued prosperity. They promised publicity of the event in the press and on the small screen in and outside Lebanon.

Lydia Warren stirs the Hill



Lydia Warren conveys the nostalgia of the Blues.

Lydia Warren, an eighteen-year old singer and player who over the last two years has stirred the American musical scene, was the guest of NDU Shouf on October 4th. For the benefit of the students and friends of the University, she gave a soul-stirring performance that echoed like a prayer in the place of worship. Lydia Warren has gained a reputation in particular for her interpretations of 1950 Chicago Blues. Among those present was Ms Suzi Prett of the American Embassy, which had cooperated in making the arrangements..

STUDENT CLUBS RECRUITMENT

Two recruitment days for Student Clubs were held by the NDU Student Affairs Office in the Registration Hall on November 7th and 8th, 2002. The clubs taking part were as follows:

Advertising Club

Founded in Fall 1992, this corresponds to a major offered by the Faculty of Humanities. Its purpose is to promote the importance of advertising as a vital force behind all successful businesses.

OBJECTIVES:

To cooperate with the Lebanese Advertising Syndicate.

To cooperate with the International Advertising Association.

To provide awareness about the benefits advertising brings to our daily lives.

To anchor advertising ethics through education.

To invite speakers to talk on topics related to the advertising profession.

There are numerous co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Advisor: Mr. Kamal Darouny

Art Club

Of long standing, although not very active for several years, the Art Club is a reality again thanks to the students' initiative. It hopes to motivate students to bring more artwork into NDU so that all will want more creativity in their lives, as art is a necessary expression of our humanity, dreams and aspirations.

Advisor: Mrs. Linda Choueri

Astronomy Club

The Astronomy Club wishes to help every individual to discover how amazingly rich and exciting the skies can be. It aims at forming its members into a group of advanced ama-

teurs, at educating the NDU community about astronomy and related sciences, and at cooperating with other clubs and groups of amateurs in Lebanon and elsewhere in order to contribute significantly to the international community.

Advisor: Dr. Roger Hajjar

Banking and Finance Society

Founded in Spring 1996, the BFS aims at organizing social and professional activities beneficial to its members and to NDU business students in general. These include promoting the Banking and Finance major and NDU's image in Lebanese financial circles, sponsoring and holding seminars and lectures, creating a supplementary advisory body for B&F students, and obtaining financial and academic support from Lebanese-based financial institutions and from clubs at Lebanese and foreign universities. B&F students are *de facto* members and other Business students are admitted under conditions laid down in the By-laws available from the Advisor.

Advisor: Mr. Antoine Khalil

Camping Club

The Camping Clubs brings students into contact with Mother Nature, discovering Lebanon and its magnificent scenery, and respecting the ecosystem and helping to protect it. It intends to organize all kinds of outdoor activities and extreme sports to encourage feelings of adventure, courage and comradeship. It aims at strengthening the bonds between students and their homeland by conferences about the

history of Lebanon in order to discourage emigration.

Advisor: Dr. Ghazi Asmar

CIR (Club of International Relations)

Its objectives are to let students of the PSPAD Faculty know more about the diplomatic field, to get them involved in it, and to make them aware of current political and international issues while encouraging discussion. The Club of International Affairs deals with politics by staying neutral and outside all political engagements and activities.

Advisor: Dr. Simon Haddad

Computer Science Club

Advisor: Mr. Amine Soueidi



Debate Club

Formed on January 15, 1994 and based on belief in an open, free and pluralist society, the Debate Club discusses issues relevant to Lebanese society and to the present and future of students, as well as participating in many varied activities. Contact 03/403419 or 03/392928 or email: debate_club_ndu@yahoo.com .

Advisor: Mr. Joe Abou Jaoudeh

Drama Society

The Drama Society gives opportunities to all NDU students interested in theatre, acting or performing arts in general.

Advisor: Dr. Khalid El-Fakih

Eternal Club

The objectives of the Eternal Club include developing relations between students and organising various activities, in particular those that heighten students' awareness of the ecological and environmental problems threatening Lebanon.

Advisor: Dr. Edward Sayah

First Aid Club

Activities include campaigns for blood donation to the Red Cross and making a census of the blood groups of students with their telephone numbers to allow aid to be given in an emergency; also, the provision of a student always on duty and ready to give first aid in the event of any accident or emergency, by the intermediary of the Student Affairs Office. It is hoped to provide oxygen equipment in the near future. Contact student: Raline Hage, 03.643514.

Advisor: Dr. Mansour Eid

HTC (Hotel Management and Tourism Club)

The purpose of the HTC is to promote public awareness of the importance of the hospitality industry by bringing together students in a professional, cultural and entertainment environment. Contact Vice-President Elie Melki 03.898163.

Advisor: Mr. Ghassan Beyrouthy

Human Rights Club

From its belief that all human beings have a right to survival and the pursuit of happiness, and the realization that this right is often threatened by other human beings, this club aims to make NDU students aware of human rights and the abuses endangering them in Lebanon. It bases itself on the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Advisor: Dr. Youssef Zgheib



IBM (International Business Management) Club

This aspires to become a highly professional and active club at NDU. It has attracted the interest of many Business students and gained the respect of fellow clubs, faculty members and staff. Its objectives include initiating important and interesting events, acquainting its members with the international business world, emphasizing the importance of professionalism to its members and building close and friendly relations with other NDU clubs.

Advisor: Mr. Kamal Zakhour, e-mail: kzakhour@ndu.edu.lb

LBCC (Lebanon for a Better Communication Club)

Its purpose is to create opportunities for NDU students to meet together, to improve their communication skills and to accustom them to accepting the differences in Lebanese society. **Advisor: Ms. Graziella Daghfal**

MADS (Movement of Awareness for a Democratic Society)

MADS is active along the interface of democracy and culture, providing a creative space for diversity and open discussion and helping to create a culture of democracy at all levels. Currently, MADS is preparing a Film Club and projects concerning 1) minorities and election law, and 2) media literacy, decoding and destructing media messages.

Advisor: Dr. Eugene Sensenig Dabbous



Phoenician Club

The purpose of this new club is to focus on Phoenician civilization, with its beliefs and social and cultural achievements, by presenting exhibitions, inviting specialized scholars, carrying out research, for which a website will be developed, and engaging in various activities, with particular attention to issues of environment and human rights.

Advisor: Dr. Imad Chamoun

Skiing Society

This Society is concerned not only with skiing but also with camping, equitation and adventure in general. It offers such benefits as discounts on clothing, rentals, etc.. Contact Joseph Salameh 03/308363 or Rami Mema 03/783800. **Advisor: Mrs. C. Assaf**



Social Club

This is a non-major club for student welfare and assistance, promoting humanistic and ethical values with respect for Man for who he is and not for what he has. It aims at creating a friendly atmosphere so students will feel that NDU is their second home. Activities are numerous and varied.

Advisor: Dr. Michel Hayek



Traditions Club

This is a nonpolitical club, founded in October 2002 and unconnected with any university major. Its aim is to inform students about all the various sites hallowed by tradition, both inside and outside Lebanon, and to promote appropriate cultural activities. Today it is one of the largest clubs in NDU with 378 members. President: Ramzi Hage. V.-President: Sabin Aaraman. Treasurer George Younes. Secretary George Homsy. P.R.: Fady Aaboud.

Advisor: Dr. Akl Kairouz

TREE Club (Together Restore the Endangered Earth):

The purpose of the club is to raise awareness of environmental issues, to influence people's behavior towards the environment and to take positive steps for its improvement. Objectives include activity inside and outside the campus to improve nature, to empower young people through innovative action and education, to educate people by projects that directly improve the use of resources, to reduce waste and pollution in the University, in the community and in Lebanon, and to encourage an interdisciplinary approach at NDU.

Advisor: Dr. J. Hage

Marketing Club: Advisor: Mrs. Joyce Mnassa

Connection Club

NDU Pastoral Work: this is a Christian source in the academic milieu for giving testimony by one's life. It does ecclesiastical work for spreading the Good News and relates culture and civilization with Christian belief. However, attendance is open to all who believe in Divine Providence and share its moral aims.

Advisor: Father Boutros Bou Nassif MMO

STUDENT CABINET ELECTION

In
conformity
with the

By-Laws of the Student Cabinet, the election of this body was held on 15th November, 2002. Addressing the students, Mr. Suheil Matar, Director General of Public Relations and Information, expressed the University's pride in its students as they were distinguishing themselves by a democratic spirit that would in later life serve in parliamentary elections. NDU President Father Boutros Tarabay urged the students to maintain a positive, healthy and democratic atmosphere so that they could fulfil their role according to their rights in a sporting spirit without outside interference. The results were as follows:



The balloon goes up for the elections!



SAO Director General Elias Hanna presides the debate



An orderly Student Cabinet Debate, November 23rd, presided by SAO Director, General Elias Hanna



The Majority List debating team



All in cheerful good order and sporting spirit



The Freedom List debating team



Casting a vote



Familiar faces ensure the regularity of the proceedings

Senior

- Sohaud Abou Chabke 365
- Elie Khoury 356
- Jean El Gemayel 350
- Sami Chalhoub 347
- Moussa El Khoury 345
- Joseph Lahoud 343
- Georges Wakim 328

Junior

- Anthony Tauk 302
- Miriam Tauk 295
- Raymond Keyrouz 294
- Tony Bismarji 292
- Imade Saade 277
- Wissam Abi Nader 272
- Edmond Boueiz 267

Sophomore

- Dany Tauk 579
- Mario Bou Chebel 550
- Carlos Eid 546
- Elias Abou Jaoudeh 540
- Tony Ghanem 529
- Henry Dahan 527
- Charlie Sarkis 525

The Freedom List were the winners.

INFORMATION KINDLY SUPPLIED BY THE STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE.

SPORTS OFFICE NEWS

Being in the forefront of the university sporting scene in Lebanon, in June of 2002 NDU participated in the annual international sports festival held in Turkey by Bogazici University. NDU was represented by 68 athletes taking part in several different sports. The results were as follows:



The NDU Delegation



Soccer:

First place NDU

1st phase: NDU vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 1-0
 NDU vs. Hass (Hungary) 2-1
 Semi-final: NDU vs. Craiova (Romania) 2-1
 The NDU Football Team
 Final: NDU vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 1-1
 / 3-2 (penalties)

Basketball(Men): First place NDU

1st phase: NDU vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 48/40
 NDU vs. Craiova (Romania) 53/42
 NDU vs Kennesaw (USA) 66/58
 Semi-final: NDU vs. Essec (France) 42/36
 Final: NDU vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 62/56



Basketball, women: NDU with Kennesaw, USA

Basketball (women): First place NDU

1st phase: NDU vs. Kennesaw (USA) 49/38
 NDU vs. Neuchatel (Switzerland) 51/40
 Semi-final: NDU vs. Essec (France) 42/36
 Final: NDU vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 62/56

Volleyball (Men): First place NDU

1st phase: NDU vs. Bogozici (Turkey) 2-0
 NDU vs. Ionian (Greece) 2-0
 Semi-final: NDU vs. Graz (Austria) 2-0
 Final: NDU vs. St. Galian (Switzerland) 2-0

Beach Volleyball (Men): First place NDU

1st phase: NDU A vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 2-0
 NDU A vs. Graz (Austria) 2-0
 NDU A vs. Ghadir Hass (Turkey) 2-0
 NDU B vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 2-0
 NDU B vs. Ionian (Greece) 2-1
 NDU B vs. Bogazici (Turkey) 2-0
 2nd Phase: NDU B vs. Ionian (Greece) 2-0
 NDU B vs. Graz (Austria) 2-0
 Final: NDU A vs. NDU B 2-1

Track & Field:

High Jump: First place: Mario Khoury 1.87m
 Long Jump: Second place: Mario Khoury 6.17m
 Shot-Put: Third place: Nicolas Abed El-Nour 12.85

Swimming:

Breaststroke: Imanda Awdé 4th place
 Freestyle: Aline Majdalani 4th place
 Medley: Hala Lahad 4th place

Karting:

The NDU team came in 4th place out of 12 participating teams.

Team members:

Tareck Karam, Najib Khneizer and Hassan Taha

MVPs:

Paul Rustum (Soccer)
 Rami Akiki (Basketball)
 Rana Abou Hanna (Basketball)
 Elie Nar (Volleyball)

NDU won first place in the overall standings at the Bogazici International Sports Festival.

Muscular events

The Sports Office organized a competition in "Kibach" and Tug-of-war held from 18th to 20th November, 2002. 16 players took part in the *kibach* and 8 teams in the tug-of-war, the results being as follows:

Kibach Quarter-finals:

Nadi Karkaby won *against* Firas Geagea
 Shadi Deeb won *against* David Hounein
 Elie Basha won *against* Nicolas Nammour
 Rabih Mouawad won *against* Mohammad Sabra

Semi-finals:

Shadi Deeb won *against* Rabih Mouawad
 Elie Basha won *against* Nadi Karkaby

Finals:

Ellie Basha won *against* Shadi Deeb

1st place: Elie Basha
 2nd place: Shadi Deeb
 3rd place: Rabih Mouawad and Nadi Karkaby

Tug-of-War:*Semi-finals:*

Debate 2 won against Debate 1

Skiing won against Ghafari

Final: Debate 2 won over Skiing**1st place:** Debate 2 –

Tony Aoun, Pierre Bassil, Charbel

Bou Lahoud, Rabih Mouawad,

Firas Geagea

2nd place: Skiing –

Ramy Mena, Tony Betich, Charbel

Betich, Roland Betich, Tony Bou

Faysal

3rd place: Debate 1 –

Daher Keyrouz, David Hounein,

Mike Khoury, Joseph Atieh, Ramy

Karaky



Upholding the flag of Lebanon

Activities 2002-2003

TIME SCHEDULE

Activity	Trainer	Day	Time	Place
Basketball	Sarkis Korjian (Varsity team)	M-TH	6.00-7.30	NDL School
	Michel Sfeir (Juniors)	M-TH	4.30-6.00	NDL School
	Georges Nader (Women)	W	4.30-6.00	NDL School
Volleyball	Zakhia Mansour (Varsity team)	T-W	4.30-6.00	NDL School
	(Women's team)	T-W	6.00-7.30	NDL School
Swimming	Elias Boutros	M-W	12.00-2.00	Portemilio
Table Tennis	Michel Rizkallah	M-Th	3.00-5.00	NDL School
Tennis	Charbel Tannous	M-W	3.00-4.30	NDL School
Handball	Georges Azzar	T-W	3.30-5.00	NDL School
Judo	Anwar Mortimer	T	6.00-7.30	NDL School
Aerobics	Ivan Korjian	M-W	4.15-5.15	NDL School
Track & Field	Georges Nader	M	3.00-4.30	NDL School
Body Building	Elias Hachem	M-W	4.00-5.30	NDL School
Football	Elias Boutros (Varsity team)	M-W	4.30-6.30	NDL School
	(Juniors)	M-W	5.30-7.00	NDL School
Chess	Hassan El-Joundi	M-Th	12.00-2.00	Main Campus
Aikido	Elias Hachem	M-W	5.30-7.00	NDL School
Folk Dance	Rita Hachem	M-Th	4.30-6.00	NDL School

DIABETES

At the invitation of the NDU Department of Sciences, Dr. Sami Azar gave a lecture about diabetes on Nov 26th, 2002. Dr. Azar is an associate professor of medicine at American University of Beirut, Department of Endocrinology and he is an elect president for the Lebanese Diabetic and Lipid Society. In his lecture, he explained the definition of the term "diabetes", the multifactoral causes, and the recommended drugs.

Here is a brief summary about his talk:

Improper regulation of blood glucose results in either hyperglycemia (high blood glucose) or hypoglycemia (low blood glucose). High blood glucose is most commonly associated with diabetes (technically, *diabetes mellitus*), a disease that affects 7% of the North American population. Of these, it is estimated one-third to one-half of these people do not know that they have the disease. Diabetes leads to about 200,000 deaths each year in North America. New recommendations promote testing fasting blood glucose in adults over age 45 every 3 years to help diagnose these missed cases. The diagnostic criteria based on fasting blood glucose is 126 milligrams per 100 milliliters of blood or greater. In contrast, low blood glucose is a much rarer condition.

There are two major forms of diabetes: **type 1** (formerly called insulin-dependent or juvenile-onset diabetes), and type 2 (formerly called **non-insulin-dependent** or adult-onset **diabetes**). The change in names to type 1 and type 2 diabetes stems from the fact that many "non-insulin dependent" diabetics eventually have to also rely on insulin injections as a part of their treatment. A third form, called **gestational diabetes**, occurs in pregnant women. It is usually treated with an insulin regimen and diet,

and resolves after delivery of the baby. However, evidence of this problem suggests that such women are at high risk for developing diabetes later in life.

Type I Diabetes

Type I diabetes often begins in late childhood, around the age of 8 to 12 years, but can occur at any age. The disease runs in certain families, indicating a clear genetic link. Children usually are admitted to the hospital with abnormally high blood glucose after eating, with ketosis.

The onset of type 1 diabetes is generally associated with decreased release of insulin from the pancreas. As insulin in the blood declines, blood glucose increases, especially after eating. When blood glucose exceeds the kidney's threshold, excess glucose spills over into the urine.

Most cases of type 1 diabetes begin with an immune system disorder, which causes destruction of the insulin producing cells in the pancreas. Most likely, a virus or protein foreign to the body sets off the destruction. In response to their destruction, the affected pancreatic cells release other proteins, which stimulate a more furious attack. Eventually, the pancreas loses its ability to synthesize insulin, and the clinical stage of the disease begins. Consequently, early treatment to stop the immune-linked destruction in children may be important. Research on this is continuing.

Type 1 diabetes is treated primarily by insulin therapy, either with injections two to six times a day or with an insulin pump. People with diabetes (type 1, as well as type 2) are at a high risk for cardiovascular disease and related heart attacks. In fact, the latest evidence suggests



Dr. Sami Azar can raise a laugh on a serious subject

that diabetes essentially guarantees development of cardiovascular disease. Other complications of diabetes can be degenerative conditions, such as blindness, cardiovascular disease, and kidney disease; all are caused by poor blood glucose regulation. Nerves can also deteriorate, resulting in many changes that decrease proper nerve stimulation. When this occurs in the intestinal tract, intermittent diarrhea and constipation result. Because of nerve deterioration in the extremities, many people with diabetes lose the sensation of pain associated with injuries or infections. Not having as much pain, they often delay treatment of hand or foot problems. This delay, combined with a rich environment for bacterial growth (bacteria thrive on glucose) sets the stage for complications in the extremities, such as the need for amputation of feet and legs.

Current research, such as the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT), has shown that the development of blood vessel and nerve complications of diabetes can be slowed with aggressive treatment directed at keeping blood glucose within the normal range. The therapy poses some risks of its own, such as hypoglycemia, so it must be



Dr. Azar's audience realises the importance of his talk

implemented under the close supervision of a physician.

A person with diabetes generally must work closely with a physician to make the correct alterations in diet and medications and to perform physical activity safely. Physical activity enhances glucose uptake by muscles independent of insulin action, which in turn can lower blood glucose. This outcome is beneficial, but people with diabetes need to be aware of their own blood glucose response to physical activity and compensate appropriately.

Type II Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes usually begins after age 40. This is the most common type of diabetes, accounting for about 90% of the cases diagnosed in North America. Minority populations such as Latino/Hispanic, African-Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders are at particular risk. The overall number of people affected also is on the rise, primarily because of widespread inactivity and obesity in our population. In fact, recently there has been a substantial increase in type 2 diabetes in children, due mostly to an

increase in overweight in this population (coupled with limited physical activity). This type of diabetes is also genetically linked, but the initial problem is not with the insulin-secreting cells of the pancreas. Instead, it arises with the insulin receptors on the cell surfaces of certain body tissues, especially muscle tissue. In this case, blood glucose is not readily transferred into cells, so the patient develops high blood glucose as a result of the glucose remaining in the bloodstream. The pancreas attempts to increase insulin output to compensate, but there is a limit to its ability to do this. Thus, rather than insufficient insulin production, there is an abundance of insulin, particularly during the onset of the disease. As the disease develops, pancreatic function can fail, leading to reduced insulin output. Because of the genetic link for type 2 diabetes, those who have a family history of it should be careful to avoid risk factors such as obesity, a diet rich in animal and other solid fats, high GI carbohydrates, and inactivity, and as well should be tested regularly for hyperglycemia.

Many cases of type 2 diabetes (about 80%) are associated with obesity (especially fat located in the

abdominal region), but high blood glucose is not directly caused by the obesity. In fact, some lean people also develop this type of diabetes. Obesity associated with oversized adipose cells simply increases the risk for insulin resistance by the body.

Type 2 diabetes linked to obesity often disappears if the obesity is corrected. Achieving a healthy weight should be a primary goal of treatment, but even limited weight loss can lead to better blood glucose regulation. Certain oral medications can also help control blood glucose. Sometimes it may be necessary to provide insulin injections in type 2 diabetes because nothing else is able to control the disease. (This eventually becomes the case in about half of all cases of type 2 diabetes). Regular physical activity also helps the muscles take up more glucose and regular meal patterns, with an emphasis on control of energy intake, consumption of low simple carbohydrates, with ample dietary fiber, is important therapy. Distributing carbohydrates throughout the day is also important, as this helps minimize the high and low swings in blood glucose concentrations. People with type 2 diabetes who have high blood triglycerides should moderate their carbohydrate intake and should exercise regularly to maintain an ideal weight. 🍷

Requiescet in pace

At 12 noon on Friday 29th November, 2002, a Requiem Mass was celebrated for the departed NDU student **Imad G. Mansour**. It was attended by members of his family, Faculty members, administrative staff and students.

BIRDS OF LEBANON AND SUSTAINABILITY

REPORT BY DR. LAYLA KHALAF KAIROUZ

In the framework of the series of open lectures planned for Course ENS 201, Introduction to Environmental Science, Dr. Ghassan Jaradi (*Doktorat d'Etat* in Ornithology) was invited by the Department of Sciences (Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences) to give a talk entitled **Birds of Lebanon and Sustainability**. The talk was given on Wednesday, 6th November, 2002.

Dr. Jaradi's lecture included broadly the following:

- A brief review of the birds of the world, with their status from 1000 years ago up to the present.
- Causes of extinction, including hunting, habitat degradation, pollution and alien species.
- Benefits from birds, ecological, commercial and aesthetic.
- Status of birds in Lebanon, the Hunting Law and its compatibility with the sustainability principles.
- Proposed solutions.

Status of birds in Lebanon:

In Lebanon, 327 different species have been recorded, among which there are breeding, resident, migrant and vagrant species.

Since the year 1800, 103 species have become extinct! And in 1994 the number of threatened species was 75 fewer than what it is today.

There are now 17 threatened species in Lebanon, mainly water fowl and migrants. Water fowl are sensitive to water pollution and excessive drying out of wetlands for agricultural use and get shot on a massive scale because of their tendency to form large flocks.



Dr. Ghassan Jaradi's lecture is closely followed

The reasons of this decline:

Habitat degradation caused by forest fires, woodcutting and agricultural practices.

Chemical pollution of the air, soil and sea, specifically in the latter case by oil.

Illegal hunting on an unlimited scale, of any species including even the rare ones, with the use of all sorts of weapons, even military ones, and of illegal traps such as glue, cages and robotics.

The intrusion of alien species that risk reducing or even wiping out the indigenous species and triggering ecological disturbance.

The importance of birds:

Birds in sufficient number are of great eco-socio-economic importance on many counts:

Floral dispersal: seeds are eaten by birds and then excreted far and wide, e.g. dispersal of the tree *Juniperus excelsa* found above the cedar line.

Pest control: birds feed on harmful insect species.

Gene pool: source of new blood and genes.

Biodiversity reservoir.

Bio-indicator and functions (clean Nature).

Medicinal and pharmaceutical uses.

Use as night-guards and producers of fertilizer (guano).

Shooting for sport.

Use of birds in food and in industry for their meat and their feathers.

Commerce and eco-tourism (bird-watching).

Absorption of fuel.

Social value (art, poetry, paintings, Logos).

The scale of hunting in Lebanon:

17% of the population of Lebanon go hunting, the highest percentage in the world, compared to 6% in Finland, reported as the highest elsewhere, and 2.6% in France. Only 5.7% in Lebanon have a legal permit; the rest hunt illegally. On the average, 743,000 birds are killed, all species being targeted without any discrimination.



Dr. Jaradi holds his audience's attention with his projections

The impact:

Disturbance of ecological balance and the food chain.

Outbreak of forest diseases due to proliferation of insects.

Decrease in the number of common species.

Increase in the number of local species whose existence is threatened.

Reduction in the number of breeding species.

Actual extinction of more species.

Conservation tools and sustainability principles:

As for legislation, the law covering hunting in Lebanon presents many weaknesses. It allows the hunting of water fowl up till the end of February and the hunting of pigeons, turtle doves and quails up till the end of May (Article 83). It also allows the use of all kinds of weapons (Article 86) without any restriction on the sites. Thus we have out-of-season hunting, no restrictions as to sites and the use of illegal tools. There are certain measures that must be taken to protect the birds:

Prohibition of hunting during the breeding season.

Prohibition of the hunting of dependent birds.

Prohibition of hunting during breeding passage.

Protection of threatened species.

Law enforcement with an Environment Police.

Ratification of international applications, with both signature and application.

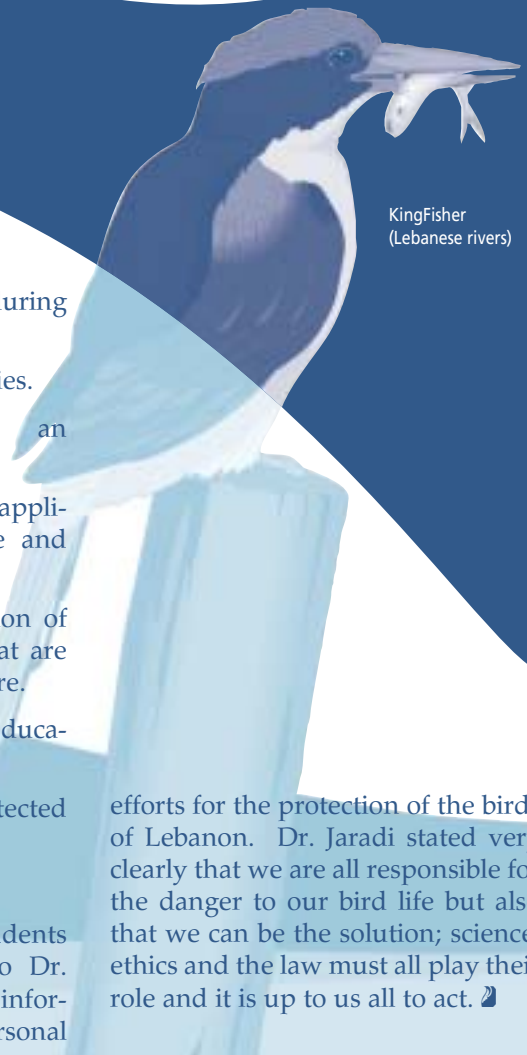
Action plans for the protection of species, particularly those that are endangered, threatened or rare.

Advocacy, awareness and education.

Establishment of more protected areas.

Applied research.

Faculty members and students alike extend their thanks to Dr. Jaradi for his interesting and informative lecture and for his personal



KingFisher
(Lebanese rivers)

efforts for the protection of the birds of Lebanon. Dr. Jaradi stated very clearly that we are all responsible for the danger to our bird life but also that we can be the solution; science, ethics and the law must all play their role and it is up to us all to act. 🐦

Mechanical Engineering student Mr. Tony Saad ID#990658 was awarded the first prize in the Litani Trip Competition organised by the Ibrahim Abd El Aal Association.

The prize was presented by Dr. Muhammad Baydoun, Minister of Power and Water Resources, at a ceremony that took place in the Press Room of the Syndicate of Lebanese Journalists on 29th October, 2002.

It is worthy of note that this is the second year running that a Mechanical Engineering student from NDU has been honoured by the Ibrahim Abd El Aal Association for participation in this competition. We thank Dr. Walid Assaf, Chairman of the Department, for the information. – Ed.

Now for more information from Mr. Tony Saad himself:

For the last seven years the Association of the Friends of Ibrahim Abd El Aal has been inviting around 1,500 university students to a field trip to the Litani River in order for them to discover the importance of its water and “to try to inspire them through these trips,” according to the scientist’s daughter and Association member Iman Abd El Aal.

This year NDU students once again joined the trip to the Litani River, the Qar’aoun Dam and the Ibrahim Abd El Aal power station at Markaba on October 27th.

The Association has been giving annual awards to students based on reports they write about their experiences during their discovery of the country’s water resources and their benefits. This year the first prize of a Certificate of Appreciation, a medal and a certain sum of money was won by Mr. Tony Saad of NDU. NDU follows a policy of encouraging and supporting students in such activities, allowing exemptions from tuition fees to students who distinguish themselves.

LITANI PRIZE



Minister Baydoun making the award to Mr. Tony Saad, with at his side the familiar figure of Dr. Muhammad Baalbaki, President of the Syndicate of Journalists.

MR. TONY SAAD DESCRIBES HIS REPORT ON THE LITANI TRIP:

My report can be divided into three main sections. In the first section I imagined a story about twenty-nine engineering students from NDU who were led by two brave generals (Mrs. Imane Arab and Mr. Ramzi Arab from the Abd El Aal Association) with the assistance of three colonels from NDU. The story states that these students were previously unaware of the importance of the Litani Project in Lebanon and the objective of the trip is to show them this importance. Photos of each stop and an important section of the Litani Project were included with a brief description of what we have learned there.

The second section contains all the scientific and statistical data relevant to the Litani Project, with suggestions about what can be done to improve the Litani Project, such as methods of pollution control, tourist resorts on the Qar’aoun Dam and means of electricity distribution in the area.

Finally, the report concluded with a poem in tribute to Ibrahim Abd El Aal.



Three happy faces from left to right, Dr. Shahwan Khoury, Dean of Engineering, Mr. Tony Saad and Dr. Walid Assaf, Chairperson of Civil Engineering.

What mostly impressed me on that trip was the large scale of the project and the profit it has given or can give to the inhabitants of that region. As a mechanical engineer I understood the role I can play in such huge projects. *I also understood how patriotism can take different forms, meaning that you can be patriotic not only in a political sense; rather, you can be patriotic in whatever way that interests you.* (Italics ours –Ed.) The Litani Project is a great engineering achievement and through this achievement I came to grasp the loyalty I owe to my country, Lebanon, and the sense of preserving its natural resources through my work as a mechanical engineer.

As for the benefits I have gained from winning the first prize in the competition, I have given much thought to an answer to that question (for many people have been

asking it) and the conclusion I have reached is the following: I have gained the respect I would like to have enjoyed a long time ago, respect from both professors and colleagues at NDU, respect for my achievement, respect for the knowledge that I have accumulated already during my short lifetime, respect for who I am.

Some people enjoy respect for their money, physical appearance, cars they own, property they control, authority they have... Knowledge is rarely considered a criterion for respect or for judging a person. I am happy that I won the battle and gained the kind of respect that I wanted. Everything can be done and achieved as long as one keeps one's dreams alive and never kills the child inside.

Finally, I would like to dedicate this success to the Lord. 🙏

N.B. The boldface of the last paragraph is ours, used because of the value of Mr. Tony Saad's convictions. He is also to be congratulated on the clarity of his thought and on his good English in the description of his report; editing of the text has been minimal. Unfortunately many students fail to appreciate the importance of being able to express oneself *correctly and clearly* in any language, whatever one's professional field. –K.J.M., Eng./Fr. Editor)

JOY SHARED

NDU Spirit is happy to announce the birth of a son Marc to Dr. Jean and Mrs. Nadine Jabbour Fares on 20th November, 2002 at St. George's Hospital, Ajaltoun. Dr. Fares is Dean of Natural and Applied Sciences, while Nadine Jabbour has distinguished herself by years of devoted service to NDU. We look forward to having Marc with us here at the University!



EDU OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATIVITY

311



By Dr. Carol Kfoury,
*Assistant Professor,
Department of English,
Education and
Translation*

Edu 311, Child Literature, according to the NDU catalog, is a course that aims to train education students in how to choose relevant literature for children and young adolescents. It also prepares the student to plan teaching activities around the selected literature. Among the subjects treated in the course are: History of Child Literature, Cognitive Development of Language in Children, and The Link between the Librarian and the Teacher in the development of the School Reading Program, among others. Mrs. Leslie Hajj was a guest speaker in the class during the first month and gave an excellent presentation concerning the role of the library and the joys and benefits of encouraging children to love reading. Education literature is unanimous in affirming that children who learn to love reading at an early age have better results in their school careers, not only in language arts but in other domains as well.

When I was offered this course, I was very pleased because not only would it be a new horizon to explore for myself, but also I wanted to try to make the course an opportunity for the students to create and experiment with their own imaginations. During the module devoted to early child literature and fairy tales, we

studied "Little Red Riding Hood." We first studied the story from an academic point of view, and in particular emphasized the many themes that are treated in this story. Obedience to one's mother, respect for animals, helping one's mother in daily tasks, and love for the elderly are only four of the many themes that are omnipresent in children's literature today as well as yesterday. In class discussion I asked the students to imagine another twist to the classic "Little Red Riding Hood." The students came up with very amusing and creative ideas. From the discussion we decided that the next step was to rewrite "Little Red Riding Hood." I told the students that I would do my best to get their work "published."

Below are some very imaginative extracts from the students' work. Read and enjoy.

Maria Margossian wrote a preface to her readers. In it she said,

The text of this publication or any part thereof may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording and storage of information.

Maria introduced a new character into the age-old tale. The wolf was actually a witch in disguise, given

the name of Dibaboo, who scared Little Red to death in the pre-eating scene:

"I will cook you and eat you and then have your pumpkin as a desert," said the witch. Little Red responded by saying resolutely, "I don't want you to eat me; I am still young and I have a life to live."

Diana Deeb did an excellent job of transporting Little Red Riding Hood into cyberspace.

"Take this to grandmother. It will make her feel better," said Little Red Flying Suit's mother. "Pass by Burger King for an ice cream dessert. And don't talk to strangers. I will send your grandmother an e-mail to be waiting for you and make sure not to miss calling me as soon as you arrive."

She continued to astonish the reader by having the wolf replaced by a robot.

"It's little Red Flying Suit," said the little girl.

"Come right in sweetie," replied the robot.

Little Red Flying Suit unlocked the door and stepped into the apartment." Oh,Granny, are you chatting, is mommy online?"

"No, my dear, she just went offline minutes ago," replied the robot.

May El Murr decided that her wolf would be a sweetheart rather than an enemy.

And from behind a tree, the Big Bad Wolf appeared. Red was terrified because her mom had previously warned her about the Big Bad Wolf that lived in the forest. She was about to scream when the wolf said, "Don't worry little girl, I'm not going to hurt you." "How can that be?" asked Red. Right then, the wolf started telling her how he was caught in a trap one day and how two lumberjacks rescued him, on the condition that he would not hurt any animal or human from that day on. "I've kept my promise and I am here to help you. Would you like me to carry that heavy basket for you?"

According to May, the wolf and Red lived in perfect harmony with the creatures of the forest and the grandmother.

Nathalie Akl gave Little Red Riding Hood a pet kitten who was a hero and in the end saved the child from harm.

After a long nap, the wolf woke up and realized he didn't feel very well. He walked slowly out of the house into the barn. He was looking for a place to take another nap, and the hay looked inviting...the wolf was so sleepy that he took no notice of the bird and the cat, Lolo, chattering away. If he had listened to what they were saying, he would have taken note. "The pitchfork is ready!" called the mice. "The cord is ready," said the squirrels. "Patience!" said Lolo. "Wait until he's in just the right spot." The animals held their breath and then.....

Mona Bechara made a total transformation by making Little Red Riding Hood wear blue clothes and thus become, Little Blue Riding Hood. With all of that, she also made the wolf look really dumb.

"Grandma, why do you have such big legs?"

"But you are repeating the same things, you have asked that question before.

Don't you want to ask me something else? Like 'Grandma, why do you have.....?' "

"...Such big ears?" replied Little Blue Riding Hood.

"No, big.....Big... It starts with a 'T'."

Little Blue Riding Hood repeated again, "these big legs?"

The wolf jumped out of bed shouting.

"Darn it, this girl is making fun of me. This wise little one doesn't want to say, 'GRANDMA, WHY DO YOU HAVE SUCH BIG TEETH?' SO I CANNOT JUMP ON HER AND EAT HER. I MISS THE GOOD OLD TIMES AND THE INNOCENT CHILDREN WHO WERE SO EASY TO EAT."

Nathalie Nasr replaced the pie and goodies the mother made in the original story with something modern.

Little Red Riding Hood felt uncomfortable as she came in the dark room. She started unpacking the basket on the table near her grandmother's bed. The smell of the hamburgers and French fries filled the bedroom, so much so that the wolf could not control himself any longer. He jumped to the junk food on the table and gobbled it up with an enormous appetite.

Anoush Makarian brought Little Red Riding Hood into the "hood" of Los Angeles. She became "Little Red Cap Nancy" and was as street smart as any child in the world.

Once upon a hot summer day, in a small home in Los Angeles, lived a girl named Nancy and her mother. They were like best friends and always helped each other. Nancy would help Mom put the dishes in the dishwasher, and Mom would help Nancy with her math homework. They would go bicycling every afternoon without forgetting their helmets and safety equipment.

Replacing the classical dénouement, Anoush decided that the little animals of the forest would become little children of a large city.

Luckily, Nancy's friends were clever enough to notice that their lovely friend was being kidnapped by a bad man. So they ran off to a shop and dialed 911. They gave the police correct information and thanked the shop owner for letting them use the phone.

Randa El-Hage set her story between Bekfaya and Beit Chebab.

Little Red Riding Hood lived in Bekfaya and was happy to bring her grandma goodies on her bicycle. Every day she stopped by the Pizza Hut, chose a yummy pizza and strapped it on the back of her bicycle and brought it to her grandma in Beit Chebab. Little Red Riding Hood and her grandma loved eating pizza together and talking about how they were saved from the wolf.

Carol Assaf brought the setting of the story to Kaslik and Zouk. Because the grandmother always wore green, the story itself was entitled, "Little Green Grandma."

One day in autumn, nice green grandma was walking in the forest with her little spotted dog named Fluffy. She felt dizzy and fell down on red flowers. Fluffy, the dog, was astonished and confused; he did not know what to do with an unconscious grandma. He could not leave her alone so he waited for the animal friends to come. Fluffy and his friend, Bibi performed CPR on the grandma and saved grandma's life.

The next assignment in Edu 311 is to choose a piece of fine literature in Arabic, a short story, a poem, an essay and to prepare a lesson plan. Even though this course is given in English from a Western point of view, I am aware that one of the goals of child literature must be to awaken a love of fine literature in the native language of the child. Lebanese school children and adolescents have the best of two worlds; they are able to read the finest literature in Arabic and in English. How lucky they are! 🍷

NDU CHOIR

SUMMER 2002

This summer the Choir of Notre Dame of Louaize had a special *ren-dez-vous*, the long-awaited meeting with Saint Teresa.

The preparations began last August. Father Khalil Rahmeh, the Director of the Choir, wanted the reception to be of a standard befitting the holy visitor.

September 1st was the day of welcome! On the tarmac of Beirut Airport, Father Khalil Rahmeh along with the children's choir welcomed the holy relics of the saint with hymns and praise. During this time, the University choir was preparing itself for the big meeting at the monastery of St. Teresa in Shayle

Here she is, St. Teresa, entering the first religious house to be dedicated to her in Lebanon in seventy-five years! Here she comes to the sounds of praise, jubilation and fervent applause mixed with tears and thrilled cries of joy. *O Teresa rise! O Teresa, from your holy heights shower us with roses of peace!* This is what the choir sang with voices full of love for St. Teresa.

This warm welcome was transmitted through satellite by LBCI, showing the depth of Christianity in Lebanon, deep-rooted like the eternal cedar on the summits.

The choir accompanied the holy relics of St. Teresa in their tour of the land of Lebanon and performed in concerts in many places, Shayle, Bsharre and Harissa among them.

Teresa, the heart of the Church is redolent with the fragrance of your love! May our hearts be redolent of the love of Jesus Christ!

Charbel Abi Rached



The NDU Choir at Harissa with the relics of St. Teresa of Lisieux



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Church of Mar Elias – Antelias and the Choir of Notre Dame University, accompanied by a 20-piece orchestra, under the direction of Father Khalil Rahmeh will present the Christmas 2002 Concert, with the Mozart *Te Deum* and Christmas Carols on December 21st at 8.30 p.m.

The Mar Maron Parish of Tripoli and the Diocesan Cultural Committee extend an open invitation to a Christmas Concert of Eastern and Western melodies to be given by the NDU Choir under the direction of Father Khalil Rahmeh at the International Rashid Karameh Exhibition Site on Sunday 22nd December, 2002, under the patronage of H.E. Mgr. Fouad El-Hage, Bishop of the Diocese of Tripoli.

WHERE'S THE NDU SPIRIT? GONE UP IN SMOKE?



By Violet TORBEY (passive smoker *malgré elle*)

There are many differences between Lebanon and the West. One of the most striking differences is the prevalence of cigarette smokers. It's a fact; Lebanon has one of the highest rates of cigarette smoking in the world, with 50% of adults smoking. It ranks fourth in the world based on consumption as a percentage of GDP. More shocking still is that 47% of 13-to-18-year-olds are smokers of some sort of tobacco.¹ Anyone who visits Lebanon notices the smokers immediately. Any Lebanese having visited a western country will agree that this became obvious as soon as they set foot again on Lebanese soil.

Smoking is bad for your health! No one can argue with that. Yet all over the world people continue to smoke. So what is this article all about? It's certainly not about trying to get people to stop smoking. I believe that people have a right to smoke. This article is not about understanding why people smoke, or about how they can stop smoking. There are plenty of others better equipped than I am to tackle these issues. This article is about trying to stop people smoking indoors so as to improve the environment for the non-smokers of the world.

Non-smokers everywhere are subjected to passive smoking, that is to say smoke coming second-hand, whenever smokers occupy the same air space. What is second-hand smoke? Basically, it is other people's smoke breathed in by passive smokers. Whenever anyone smokes in the near vicinity of another person, the non-smoker will inhale some of the smoke, even if the smoking occurs outdoors! Separate areas within one building can reduce irritation from the smoke,

but does not eliminate the harm. Passive smoking is involuntary. Speaking to many non-smokers around campus, one finds that the non-smoker does not want to inhale smoke whether it comes from cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

If a person chooses to smoke, knowing that it might cause harm to himself, that's his own business. But if one person harms the health of another, it is no longer his own business. Non-smokers who breathe second-hand smoke suffer many of the diseases that smokers suffer from.² There is plenty of evidence that second-hand smoke affects the health of non-smokers. This happens in various ways and the effects may be both immediate and long-term. Here are the main points:³

Immediate effects:

- ▼ Irritation of the eyes, nose, throat and lungs.
- ▼ Headaches, nausea and dizziness.
- ▼ Respiratory problems such as the triggering of asthma attacks.

Long-term effects:

- Heart disease.
- Lung and nasal sinus cancers.
- Bronchitis and pneumonia.
- Middle ear infections and deafness (in children).
- Reduced foetal growth (in the case of pregnant women).
- Increase of risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

You may not always see the immediate effects but you may be sure that the long-term effects are taking hold.

No doubt you know this already. You've heard it all before. If so, then

it is even more puzzling to find so many of the NDU "family" smoking indoors. Nobody has the right to affect the health of others. This should not have to be written in law. This is a clear moral issue.

Just take a look at our own largely so-called Christian community here at NDU. Obviously it is wrong to harm the health of others. Yet very many of our community are doing just that every day. You need only set foot in the Business School – any time – to witness this. People must be accountable for their actions. Complete disregard by certain people for others, whether faculty, staff, students or visitors, is nothing less than abhorrent. In an educational institution, this behaviour is mind-boggling. Where's the NDU Spirit? All gone up in smoke!

What is the appropriate behaviour for smokers? Simply to go outside when they want to smoke.

There is no evidence that anyone ever died from not being able to have a smoke. People survive when a non-smoking policy is forced upon them. For example, chain smokers survive application of the non-smoking policy in aeroplanes. They survive visits to American buildings. In fact, some NDU smokers have said that they wish there were such a policy enforced in their University as it would help them to quit or at least cut down smoking.

Most workers are not in a position to change their work environment or to leave their jobs in order to protect their health. I feel that it is time for this University to take the lead and set an example for others in the country. Charity begins at home!

¹ Prevalence of tobacco use among Lebanese adult population, Dr. Rafic Baddoura.

² World Health Organization, <http://tobacco.who.int>

³ World Health Organization, <http://tobacco.who.int>

Advice from an Old Smoker

When I was doing military service between 1945 and 1948, the harmful effects of smoking were not yet realised. In fact giving cigarettes to soldiers was considered more or less as an Eighth Corporal Work of Mercy, in addition to those such as Feeding the Hungry and Burying the Dead mentioned in the New Testament. So as soldiers on Active Service in the Middle East, we used to receive fifty pretty horrible cigarettes and two boxes of matches every week free and forty good cigarettes tax free (exchangeable against tobacco.) When one was in some benighted camp in the desert, the boredom drove one to smoke. However, I myself limited my smoking and every two weeks I stopped completely for three days. Also I did not inhale. In any case, I very soon switched to a pipe. At present I smoke one pipe a day when working in my office. At weekends and during vacation I do not smoke at all, except for a rare arguileh (hubble-bubble) or a good cigar when I dine out. So you see I am not entirely hypocritical when I give the following advice.

Never, never allow a teenager to smoke. While his physiology is still being moulded, every cigarette will create a REAL NEED for tobacco.

If you have not started smoking yet:

DON'T!

If you have started:

TRY TO KICK THE HABIT!

If you can't kick the habit:

■ **Don't inhale!** Simply enjoy the taste in your mouth. Incidentally, the good old *Tatli Sart* and *Bafra* were much healthier than the highly compressed and flue-dried imported cigarettes.

■ Smoke only when you are completely relaxed, have nothing else to

do and can concentrate your attention on enjoyment of the cigarette. Like this you will be able to cut down your smoking drastically but at the same time get the most out of it. It's ridiculous to smoke while you are swearing at your computer, trying to extract a twisted staple from your stapler, driving a car or fighting your way through a crowd.

■ **Switch to a pipe.** One pipe or at most two pipes a day will satisfy you. You won't inhale but simply enjoy the warm taste in your mouth. If you want to impress the girls, a pipe is much more grandly masculine; incidentally some girls who don't smoke adore the smell of a pipe. Of course, others hate it, so just feel your way and always be considerate to others. A pipe in a small badly, ventilated room is of course overpowering. I used to have a Kurdish pipe about a metre long. My friends back in London remarked that it was a good way of keeping away from tobacco. It was beautifully bound in cloth and was supposed to be dipped in water before one lit the clay bowl. One could even smoke with the bowl outside the window.

■ **Return to the good old oriental habit of making a ceremony out of your smoke.** I learnt the right way to smoke when an elderly Chaldean monk in a cave in North Iraq offered me a cigarette. He slowly drew a packet out of the folds of his robes, touched several cigarettes, finally pulled one out, tried it between his fingers and then, having shown the care he took for me, offered me the cigarette with the most elegant and courteous gesture imaginable. Giving value to each individual cigarette will again enable you to cultivate pleasure and appreciation with moderation. This is true civilisation.

■ **Be clean and civilised in your habits and show consideration for others.** Don't leave cigarette butts on the stairs, on pavements or on lawns. Try to make some arrangement with the University authorities and the personnel of the restaurant and café to have certain places reserved for smokers. If the initiative comes from the smokers

and not from people making complaints, the whole atmosphere will be happier. Do not smoke in lecture halls that are going to be occupied by instructors who will have to speak for hours in succession. Remember that some people, including the young, suffer from asthma and become really ill in a smoke-laden atmosphere. As a result of atmospheric pollution, asthma, once rare has become a very common complaint, affecting a third of the population in some areas. An instructor with a sore throat may be unable to continue with his lecture if there is smoke. If any lady is pregnant, there may be harmful effects on the child.

■ **The arguileh is positively sybaritic for prolonged post-prandial delectation.** But beware of being beguiled by the supposed filtering effect of the water. The arguileh generates carbon monoxide, which is not filtered out by the water and forms a stable combination with the hæmoglobin in the blood. Note that the smoke from *tambak mudabbas* contains sugars.

However, devotees of the arguileh may (or may not) care to try the solution of a certain wealthy gentleman I knew who was a money-changer. He used to sit in front of his open-fronted counting house in Martyrs' Square (*al-Bourj*) and to save himself the effort of heaving his ponderous bulk out of his chair and readjusting his *tarboush* would motion a client to his employee inside. His sons told me that he smoked thirteen arguileh every morning. The carbon monoxide of course seriously affected his heart, but then he hit upon an absolutely brilliant idea to solve his problem. He married his daughter to a cardiologist, so every time he had a heart attack the doctor rushed him to the airport and whipped him off to the London Heart Hospital. I gave the doctor English lessons to help him deal with the doctors and nurses in London. Unfortunately it is difficult to judge the ultimate success of this procedure because on his thirteenth visit to the hospital he suddenly died. 🐦

K.J. Mortimer



WILLOW TREE LANE POND

By Lama Mghames

Holding a B.Sc. degree in "Environmental Science" from NDU-Lebanon, I travelled to the United Kingdom to pursue my postgraduate studies. I came back with an M.Sc. degree in "Environmental Science with Legislation and Management".

The title of my Master's dissertation was "Willow Tree Lane Pond". The Environmental Protection Unit in the London Borough of Hillingdon requested this Willow Tree Lane Pond project at a meeting on 2 June 2002 at the Centre of Environmental Research, Brunel University - London.

The London Borough of Hillingdon is located in West London. It owns an area of public open space at Willow Tree Lane, which is on the site of a former refuse tip that was closed in 1950. The refuse tip was mainly used for household waste. Part of the site was used for housing development whereas the other part was developed as a public park. A pond is situated within Willow Tree Lane Park. The pond has been at the site since the redevelopment of the park and housing in the 1970's.

As a precaution in 1993-1994 the Council installed a gravel-filled venting trench to vent any gas that might be present in the site. But since the trench can be filled with ground water, action had to be taken in order to prevent the water level rising in the trench. As a result, a drainage system was installed within the trench to divert ground water from the trench to the nearby pond.

The following spring (1995), at the northwest corner of the pond, a reed bed was established in order to filter the water entering the pond from the drainage trench so that the pond water quality could be maintained.

In July 2001, a fish kill occurred in the pond. Many large fish had died. Following this pollution incident,

the Hillingdon Council was advised to seek a review of the efficiency of the reed bed in purifying any water from the landfill trench as well as monitoring the general pond water quality.

The Borough of Hillingdon and more specifically the Environmental Protection Unit asked the author to carry out a water-monitoring in the Willow Tree Lane pond and to determine the leachate levels entering the pond and the dispersal within it.

In order to achieve this, the report focused on the pond water and the reed bed quality. This was to be done by carrying out a methodology designed and conducted by the author for water monitoring in the pond and by determining the leachate levels entering the pond and the way it dispersed within it, and by evaluating the uptake levels of contaminants by the reed bed.

The way the project was to be implemented was to be dealt with in greater depth in the following chapters.

Chapter 1 dealt with the legislation perspective concerning contaminated land and more specifically water in ponds. As shown throughout this section, the pond is not under con-

trolled waters regulations, allowing the site to rest under the Hillingdon Council's responsibility rather than that of the Environment Agency.

Chapter 2 described the pond's characteristics and features.

The pond being studied was considered to be old since it was present as early as the 1970's. This Willow Tree Lane Pond has an approximate area of 320m² and contains two islands. It is an enclosed and shallow pond with a depth reaching 80 cm in the centre and about 60 cm at the edges, being even shallower at some points.

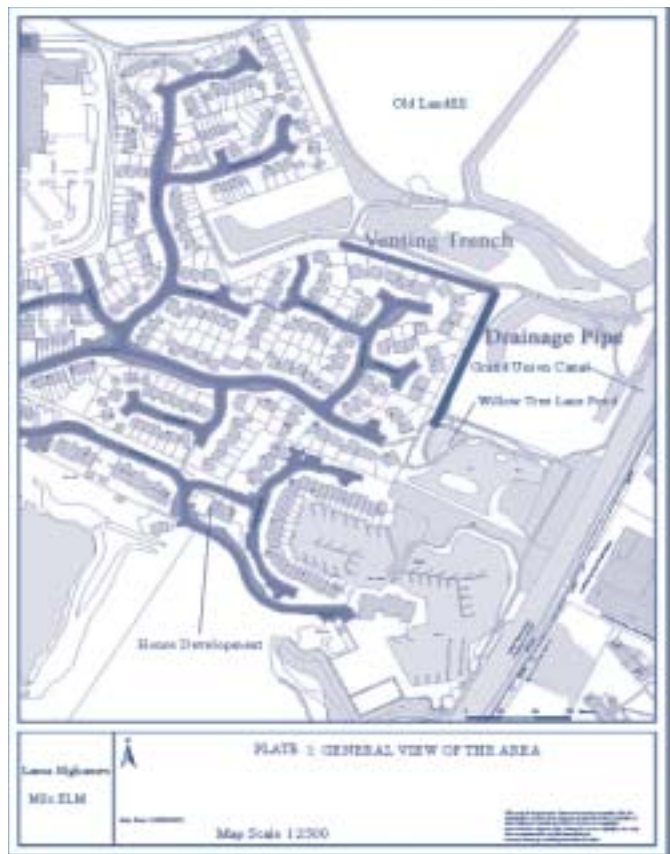
The pond is an attractive wildlife feature. Its ecosystem is characterized by the presence of animals and vegetation. More specifically, it was noticed during the pond's survey among the animals and insects living in the pond and at its edges were ducks, fish (mainly carp and rudd), water spiders, dragonflies, daddy long-legs, bees, butterflies, ants, ladybirds, flies, earthworms and spiders. The types of vegetation, distributed on the two islands and at the edges included willow trees, reeds, grass and various wild flowers. During the survey, it had been noticed as a result of questions and observations that some human entertainment occurred at the site.

Fishing, sports practices, boating in a nearby canal, feeding the ducks, for example, were some of the leisure activities practised. But it is to be mentioned that the fishes were not caught for consumption but simply for amusement. Other than these activities, the pond had been also used as a refuse site by visitors, as bottles, plastic bags, and other items were to be found floating at the surface or settling at the bottom.

Throughout the survey it was seen that the water in the pond was more or less static although a slight movement of water occurred from the reed bed towards the southern part of the pond. At this southern part the fully static water was characterized by a high turbidity, shallow depth, brown colour, algal growth, and no presence of fish. But no odour was noticed.

Chapter 3 focused on the reed bed of the pond and the general theory of this technique.

In short, reed beds are an excellent natural and attractive method of treating domestic, industrial and agricultural organic liquid wastes. Reed beds use common reed plants (*Phragmites communis*) to filter out solids in a confined area. They perform three basic functions: (1) dewatering the sludge, (2) transforming it into mineral and humus-like components, and (3) storing sludge for a number of years.



Chapter 4 basically; set up the background of the water and soil condition at the site

defined the methodologies for each measured parameter. As a monitoring of the pond water quality was asked for by the Hillingdon Council, a sampling strategy had to be developed by the author. In order to identify the migration of the chemicals and contaminants throughout the pond, and in order for the samples to be unbiased, it was essential to develop a grid system over the pond. The water samples were mainly taken from the drainage outfall, the reed bed and the pond, and the soil samples were taken from selected locations. The results were examined in conjunction with previous samples in order to establish any significant trends. Also they were examined in conjunction with their location in the pond to understand the reed bed's efficiency. The samples were collected by lowering a clean sample bottle into the water to the

required depth. The bottle was then hauled back to the surface and closed. The process was then repeated from any position, and to any pre-determined depth, using a clean sample bottle each time. Once the water, soil and sediment samples had been taken, the analyses started at the Centre for Environmental Research, Brunel University Laboratories. Since the analyses of these samples required many experiments, demanding a long time, the samples were all the time stored in the refrigerator in order to be cooled and maintained. The author had to measure and analyse the following features in the water: soil and sediment samples; pH, Temperature and Conductivity, Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Anions (Chloride, Sulphate, Phosphate, nitrate), Cations (sodium and ammonium), and Metals (Boron, Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Nickel, and Zinc).

and describe the water and soil standards in order to evaluate the significance of the results. The standards were derived from the European Commission in the form of Directives, international agreements or national legislation. For instance, the permissible used limits are from UK national standards (such as ICRCL) and international standards (such as EQS).

The main findings of the field, laboratory and desk studies of the pond water are listed below.

Since 1995, the pH has been decreasing throughout the years, to be now at an acceptable range. So, the temperature and the pH of the water are acceptable for the freshwater aquatic life.

The water, especially towards the south of the pond, where it is shallower and static, is not transparent and has a high turbidity.

Since the water is not turbulent, there is a slow transportation of nutrients and gases.

The DO of the water is below the required levels, showing that there is an oxygen deficiency in the pond.

The BOD has decreased compared to previous years, showing that the pond is losing large quantities of oxygen. Since the measured BOD is low, it shows that the actual break down of the organic matter by the bacteria is slow.

As the water flows from the mouth of the drainage outfall out from the reed bed, most of the anions and cations decrease in concentration. But even though the sulphate concentrations decrease outside of the reed bed, they are still higher than the standard, putting the aquatic life, such as fish, in danger. The high levels of sulphate in the water can be a result of a bacterial action or of the ash content of the gravel-fill materials.

The results showed that the phosphate concentrations are negligible and the nitrate concentrations are below the standard. But these results do not justify saying that there is no eutrophication potential, since some parts of the pond are suffering from an algal bloom. So, eutrophication in the pond is at its early stages as a result of the combination of some factors such as lack of oxygen, settling of nutrients in the south part - since the water carries the nutrients from the reed bed towards the south to become static - and insufficient sunlight at the south because of big trees that overshadow the water



The metals dissolved in the water are in low concentrations. However, the settled metals in the sediments show higher levels than the standards, which may affect some of the aquatic creatures that live at the bottom of the pond. The analytical results show the presence of metals in the leachate and the sediments of the pond but do not indicate that the concentrations detected are sufficiently high to justify the expression "This pond water is contaminated with heavy metals."

Chapter 5 highlights the possible remediation methods, and discusses the maintenance procedures for the reed bed. Following the evaluation of water and soil quality, the reed bed functioning had to be monitored. It appeared that the reed bed had been and was still cleaning any contamination from the landfill drain to the standard required even though it needs maintenance every year or so.

The assessment and management of the Willow Tree Lane pond risks involvement of three main components:

The source of contamination (i.e. the landfill gas, contaminated ground water, leachate or others)

The pathway (the route by which a receptor could come into contact with the contaminating substances) and

The receptor (i.e. the entity that could be adversely affected by the contamination)

After identifying the source-pathway-receptor scheme in the pond water, it was beneficial to have an overview about the possible and most convenient control methods. In other words, it was essential to break the pollutant linkage in order to control the pond.

To conclude, the quality of the pond water at present does not give cause for concern, but further

monitoring is advised of the groundwater, landfill gas, etc.

Regular monitoring should be continued across the site with particular attention paid to the groundwater quality, the quality in the boreholes and the migration of landfill gas.

After conducting the field, laboratory and desk studies, and once the results of the water, soil and sediments samples analyses were obtained, risk assessment and management of the pond had to be overviewed in order to minimize or break down the source-pathway-receptor linkage. 📌



LE MIRAGE DE LA VIE



Je n'ai plus cette force de suivre le mirage
D'un amour trompeur qui me tient en lacet.
Dans le silence des soirs, oublions le visage
De l'être aux mille visages! Effaçons sa tracée.

* * *

J'ai vécu en çoufi dans le monde d'ici-bas;
J'ai cru au beau, au bien, aux valeurs humaines.
Utopique voyageur, par les hauts et les bas
D'une mer agitée, quitte ta barque, pleure ta peine!

* * *

Ballotté par les vagues d'un océan houleux,
Par une nuit sans lune, sur une mer sans fond,
Tu scrutes l'horizon, troubadour malheureux
D'une chanson perdue dans les plis des bas-fonds.

* * *

Mon âme cependant, que berce ton idylle,
Offre à mon coeur meurtri l'élixir de l'amour.
Ne forge point leurs cages à ces oiseaux des îles!
Au séjour des mortels, n'espère guère leur retour!



1969-1970
Antoine Y. Sfeir
Visiting Lecturer

A CONTRADICTION OF LONGING

*It's the longing that drives you crazy,
I found out ...
The deep sense of loss and unfamiliarity.
The state of addiction,
And then ...
Withdrawal.
The seeking ... that leaves you gasping – for air.
A shadowless search for personification.
An oxymoron,
A dichotomy of mind.
An implosion of thoughts,
A deafening silence
For that ... there.
A need – dire,
For concreteness.
Anything would do,
In the end.
The mere riddance of absence, of want.
Taking recourse in indulgence,
Letting loose,
Yielding to craving,
Pandering to our basest instinct.*

Valerie Aoun,
B.A. NDU
Translation
and
Interpretership

AL-FITR AT NDU

A university for all

Under the patronage of NDU President **Father Boutros Taraby**, The Student Affairs Office directed by **General Elias Hanna** organised an Iftar celebration at 5 o'clock in the evening of Monday, 2nd December, 2002.

Those present also included **Dr. George M. Eid**, P.V.-P. for Academic Affairs, **Dr. Ameen A. Rihani**, V.-P, for Sponsored Research and Development, **Mr. Suheil Matar**, Director General of Public Relations, deans of the faculties, heads of the departments, the president and members of the Student Cabinet and about one hundred other students.

In his address to those present, Mr. Suheil Matar remarked that this gathering to celebrate the Noble Ramadan expressed the climate of the University of Our Lady of Louaize, which counted students of all confessions from all parts of Lebanon. The word University itself described human unity with variety of religion, without which Lebanon would have no role in the Middle East.

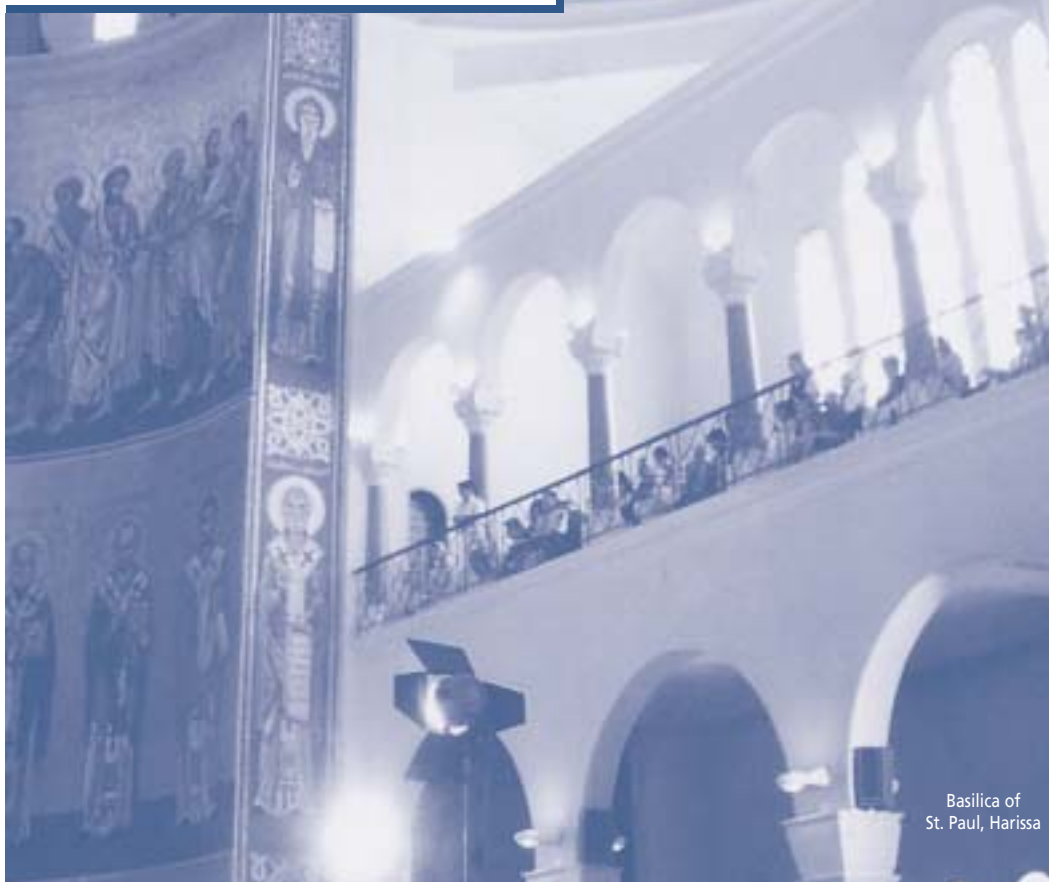
Finally, the students present the NDU President with a tablet inscribed with The Vers of the Chair taken from the **Merciful Koran**. 📖



RELIGION WITHOUT THE CHURCH

K.J. Mortimer

“I can pray to God without the Church!”
Two kinds of people say this; some are people who do pray to God outside their church, and even fast during Lent, and others don't want to pray in any case. Most of us have friends and relatives who fall into one or other of these two categories, people whom we love and respect, so we don't want to mentally hand them over to the bonfires of the Inquisition. Perhaps we may win them over with the sweet voice of reason.



Basilica of St. Paul, Harissa

Can we continue to pray without needing the Church? Yes, perhaps for one generation, when we have already received a Christian education, thanks of course to the Church. But what about our children and grandchildren? Children need good habits formed early in life and follow the example of their parents. It's all very well to spend Sunday frying oneself brown in the sun by the swimming pool, but if in the early morning or the previous evening there has been no attendance at Mass, the children will go out into the stinking moral cesspool that the world has become without any moral principles and habits of piety, firmly held and loved, to protect them from corruption and from the misery and despair that loose morals bring in their wake. Religion, whether considered as the product of two million years of human experience and acquired wisdom, or as a divine gift, will have no relevance for them.

As our children grow and their imagination is tormented by their passions, they will see religion only as an obstacle to enjoyment. They cannot understand that happiness comes only after moral effort, self-discipline, devotion and sacrifice. They do not know the misery of children whose parents have divorced for want of spiritual strength. They do not know the desperate plight of children growing up under the legal protection of same-sex couples, as some Western nations now allow, and helpless against their elders' sexual perversions. Adolescents do not know about the real situation of children of "one-parent families". They do not see the exhausted mothers unable to work for sufficient wages and at the same time to look after their home and their youngsters, and often obliged to bring in other men who hate the brood of the first partner and kick them out in the streets.

Now let us come to the point. **Not one child in a hundred is going to form a strong, disciplined, unselfish character as a result of reading the Holy Gospels, the Merciful Koran or the Buddhist or Hindu scriptures or Plato or Kant.** The normal human being needs to be brought up in a community according to its customs and morals and to be taught by his or her elders. How many ever read serious books unless obliged or taught to do so? Therefore everyone stands in need of a religious **community**, Christian or anything else. A certain Cardinal Lavignerie, Archbishop of Algiers in the 19th century, learnt this lesson. During a famine, he picked up starving Algerian children from the streets, saving them from death. Naturally, with the helpers available, the only education he could give them was French. About half these children on becoming free adults chose to become Christians. But being outside both the French and the Algerian Muslim communities, they became criminals. So when he founded the Society of Missionaries of Africa, popularly known as the White Fathers since their habit was the dress of the North Africans (now a third of them are black!), he insisted that African converts should keep their own culture and not be Europeanised. He preferred a small native Church under native African bishops to millions of converts under white bishops.

But there is a most important point that is simply ignored by those who want religion without the Church and Holy Scripture without priests. Without the Church, without the bishops who succeeded the Apostles, without the Church Fathers, without the Councils of Ephesus and Constantinople I, without the monks copying in their monasteries, they would never have received Holy Scripture and learnt about Christ and his example and his preaching. They would never have known which writings were inspired by the Holy Spirit, which reflected the teaching of Christ, which were good reading but not inspired and certain, and which were pure fantasy, like the Gnostic lives of Christ. In fact hardly anybody would ever have heard of Christ. Neither Christ nor the Apostles were famous aris-

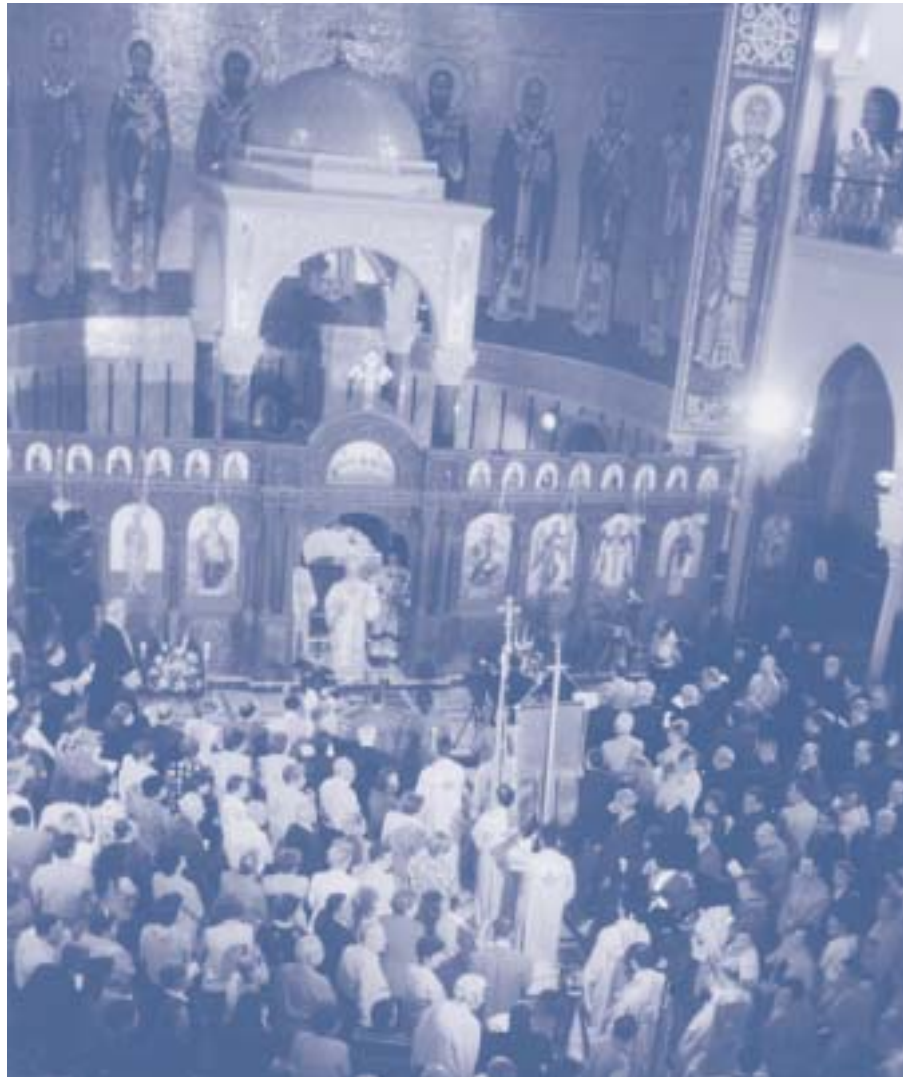
tocratic intellectuals and scholars at the court of the Roman emperor, like Seneca, following classical literary models. The Apostles did not go round handing out bound pocket editions of the Holy Bible to the few people who would have had the ability and the time and leisure to read and study it.

The fact is that they dictated to professional copyists who wrote on papyrus scrolls whose manufacture was time-consuming and expensive. The original gospels and epistles were to be found in different places far apart. Copying was the arduous work of expert scribes. It is a miracle that they survived at all and that we have a fragment of St. John, the Ryland Fragment, that dates back to 125 A.D. About the fourth century bound books with parchment pages were invented, making it possible to have at least the Four Gospels under one cover, of which two copies have survived. But preparing even one page of parchment demanded considerable labour, from skinning the slaughtered sheep to polishing the treated surface. Copying onto the parchment was a highly skilled and lengthy operation. Only institutions with a large work force, or very rich nobles, could enjoy the luxury of books. Not until the perfection of movable-type printing in the late 15th century could the Holy Bible be produced as one volume which contained all the books of the Old and New Testaments. Even then the Bible was so bulky and so expensive that it could belong only to parish churches, to the very rich and to communities. Cheap small bibles were possible only with the invention of paper in rolls and of rotary presses in the 19th century.

One must have a sense of realism. After the collapse of the Roman Empire, most of Europe was inhabited by shifting, restless tribes of sometimes unspeakable savagery. How was it that after a few generations they produced the glories of medieval Christendom? It was simply because bishops and monks built churches and monasteries from

which they taught the tribes the arts of civilisation and the love of Christ. The monks copied and read the manuscripts of Holy Scripture and then passed on their contents in their preaching and in the liturgical offices. One has only to compare King Alfred the Great's treatment of his pagan enemies with their own atrocious customs to see the role of the Church. How could the gospel message have become known without the Church? The fact that any degree of literacy existed among common people in the Christian and Islamic worlds is due of course to the clergy of the two religions. In Christian regions it was possible for the sons of poor peasants to become learned priests and monks and even bishops and patriarchs and popes. One must not be bound down in one's ideas to one's present place and time. Could the Spanish who conquered Central America have converted the Indians from their exceedingly cruel religion, with its massive human sacrifices, by giving them bibles to read?

Of course, the enjoyment of a position of authority leaves one open to the temptation of abuse of power and not every religious superior is a saint. Enmity to the clergy is often justified rightly or wrongly by a corrupt association between religion, state and social order, as in eighteenth century France. Sometimes individuals have been in bitter conflict with a particular cleric who has not lived up to the standards of his religious teaching. One is reminded of the mother who said to her children, "Do as Daddy says but not as Daddy does." But the clergy are human beings open to the temptations of the world. Clearly it is a duty of the faithful always to pray for them, to give them moral support and to encourage high-minded young people to join the clergy. This is easier in the Eastern Churches than in the West, as they accept married priests, a fact which resolves certain family problems. Anybody who does not pray for the



clergy or give them moral support or play an active role in the Church has no right to complain.

Being an atheist may mean flying in the face of logic, philosophy, the conclusions to be drawn from science and psychology, and the facts of history. But at least it is logically consistent. What is not logically consistent is to pick out a sentimental Jesus from the whole Gospel reality. If God exists, it is the most important fact of our own existence and his message is to be taken in its entirety, whole-heartedly; we cannot pick and choose. Christ spoke with authority and founded a teaching missionary Church to which he gave authority (e.g. Matt. XVI, 18.) He promised that it would not fail and that he would be with it all days even until the end of the world. St. Paul said that we are members of the Church as members of the body of Christ. So we must live its life by praying with our fellow-members as a community and "supporting one another". The idea of a world of Christians following Christ by individual Bible-reading and interior spiritual inspiration, without instruction or community membership, is totally unrealistic and contrary to the words of Christ. It takes no account of the history of the Church, either during the first, second and third centuries or during the centuries that came after.

There can be no Christianity without the Living Church and there can be no living Church without our prayers and work for it. But Christ's promise will not fail. 📖

BE WARNED!

... ED.

We often notice that students have little regard for correct punctuation. They seem to think that these silly little dots can't really be very important. But even a comma inserted or omitted can change the whole meaning of a sentence. We owe this illustration to the kindness of **Dr. Doumit Salameh**.

Before mounting in the church pulpit to read the announcements, a near-sighted minister glanced hastily at the note that Mrs. Jones had sent him with an usher. The note read: "Bill Jones having gone to sea, his wife desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

Failing to observe the punctuation, he startled his congregation by announcing: "Bill Jones, having gone to see his wife, asks the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

We also thank Dr. Doumit Salameh for passing us the following. We hope it will prove a moral booster. 📖

PERSPECTIVE

There are two ways to look at every situation in life:

Is the cup half empty?

Or is the cup half full?

It is amazing how our perception can be changed by our attitude.

For example, think about **God** and then look at these letters:

N-O-W-H-E-R-E

You can assume that God is **NO WHERE**.

Or you can believe that God is **NOW HERE!**

Follow this advice and you can improve your life:

Always remember that you are loved, even when it doesn't seem like it.

Believe in yourself and your values. Don't sell out when things go wrong.

Don't let anything get you down; always bounce back up.

Set goals for your future and never settle for anything less.

Realize that there are others in the world with much bigger problems than you.

Appreciate the good things in life, and be thankful for the time you have with your loved ones.

Spend more time with your family and friends.

Appreciate the simple things in life, and don't get caught up in material things.

If you follow that advice you can't go wrong!

So the next time you are looking at a situation in your life:

Is the cup half empty?

Or is the cup half full?

Be an optimist and see the cup as being half full.

Before long, your attitude will rub off on others.

You can make the world a better place by simply making yourself a happier person. If you see someone without a smile, give him one of yours.

Here's one to get you started.

Have a terrific day! 📖



STUDENT POEMS

Work of Dr. Naji Oueijan's class

MATANEDU

Treacherous heart stop beating now;
Your journey is destined to fail somehow.
So why with knowledge you still wildly beat?
Why won't you stop your course or your high speed?
The great distance between heart and mind
Is pushing a dream to run full stride;
But like a wild horse some things are meant to stay
Untamed for life or sometimes a day.
My love, don't blame me for my senseless heart;
It is not I who controls God's art.

LA VIDA, POR FAVOR

Sometimes I wonder about everything;
About life, death, even beauty queens.
Questions pass by full of "how" and "why",
But the reason I ask, and an answer, I try.
Don't I only think in wonder.
Nothing seems rational or logical to me,
All is complicated, with no purpose they seem to be.
Why live if you die? Why laugh if you cry?
Why wake up if you sleep? Why kiss if you don't mean?
Why smile when you're sad? Why accept when you're mad?
Why whisper when you shout? Why slouch when you're proud?
Why walk when you fly? Why agree when you deny?
How "why" comes always first?
Why "how" ends with thirst?
Life is complicated.
But, who is, without obstacles, created?

Sandra Bechara

HEART RAIN

It is raining in my heart,
As it rains on the boulevard.
Rushing to find another shelter,
He left my heart with a laughter;
Widely open for violent winds,
Carelessly passed like reckless winks.
Stepping on my bloody veins and stamping,
As in muddy avenues are people striding.
Thunder stimulating my memories as flashbacks,
My striking heart into pieces cracks.
After a good rain, the sun shines again,
But is my fading sun able to do the same?

Céline Eid



BLUE BIRD

Smoothly roving,
I'm my Blue Bird calling;
Mildly its wings riding,
Lightly flying,
Firing rocket.
The world invading;
Tanned,
Oily body in the sun lying;
Aromatic,
My perfume exhaling;
Compass,
The only guard, my star wandering.

Céline Eid

ALONE IN THE DARKNESS

Alone in the darkness, searching for a glimpse
of light,
Waiting for Hope to rescue my fear.
Alone in the darkness, sweating with tears,
Waiting for someone to come.
A sleepless night it is,
A race between Life and Death longing for my
agonized soul,
But whoever shall knock on my door first
Is something I still know not.
Laying on my bed, gazing with eyes of rain,
Was it pain or fear ... well maybe both
Dying thoughts traveling in the darkness,
Helpless lost and filled with confusion;
What to do, where to go?
Should I wait or should I fight?
A shadow of madness invaded my mind;
I could hardly breathe, and I felt blind.
Suddenly the clock started screaming tic tac
tic tac ...
"O God, please make it stop!"
Then, silence haunted the place again,
Followed with a knock on my door.
That moment I knew my suffering was about
to end.

Reina Abi Aoun

PACKING MY LIBRARY

By “Saadi” (Dr. Norman) Nikro

THE PRIORITY OF THE SELF IS AS
UNTRUE AS THAT OF ALL WHO FEEL
AT HOME WHERE THEY LIVE.
ADORNO, MINIMA MORALIA

While packing my modest library of books into the impersonal space of cardboard boxes (six of them, collected from a local supermarket), I felt sad when I thought that these precious texts would have to spend the next two months or so beyond the view or interest of a reader – just as sad as when, over two years ago, I left them behind as I embarked on an indefinite stay overseas. I have now returned to Sydney for a short visit. During my absence my books were looked after by a close friend, who kept them amongst his own on a few shelves against a wall, as most people keep their books. But having now decided to live for a while in Beirut, I want my books there, which is why they now lie, uncomfortably piled on top of each other, in cardboard boxes.

There is nothing particularly special about my books, no first copies or rare texts. They are all paperbacks, reproductions printed any number of times and editions. And yet, despite that, I somehow regard them as singular, specific to a reading brought to bear on them by my developing self, as they speak to me not only of certain insights established by their writing, but also of an emerging sense of myself through my reading. It is as though these texts, though bound by a front and back cover, some of them with a declared beginning and end, remain irredeemably incomplete, always unfolding to the rhythm of a wavering movement in time, and to a variable experience of space. I have a feeling, with some consternation, that once they arrive in Beirut my books will not be identical with those I packed in Sydney. They will have developed a certain strangeness or unfamiliarity, as though they are to be read again for the first time, transported into the fugitive passage of their further reading, the fugitive passage of their becoming sense.

For texts are never hermetically sealed boxes containing merely timeless messages inscribed by the apparent intention of their writing. Like a photograph coming into view in a tray of chemical solution, texts continually develop their sense in the context of their variable reading.



These particular books have somehow decided to leave Sydney, where they were first read, and cross the seas to make their home in Beirut. It is not that they have now become fugitives, wanderers, or exiles, for they were always such, always unfolding their pages across an unsettled cultural landscape which, despite both grand and wide subtle claims of historical origin and fixed subjectivity, remains adrift on a turbulent sea. The texts, that is to say, develop themselves through their undeniable moments of senselessness, just as, for example, a certain writing of Australian history inscribes itself through the discoveries of its forgetfulness.

To some extent it is I – the many sounds, moods, thoughts, sometimes screams, partly digested experiences that make up my self – that develops a sense of this forgetfulness, which is at once both personal and political. I develop myself, my somewhat vagrant place in history, through my reading of my books. And it is this conversation that comes to betray any familiarity I, in my forgetfulness (in my fore-getting), might sometimes assume.

Stranger still is that almost all my books come from abroad. Very few of them developed their writing by way of a direct experience of the Australian cultural landscape, so that their reading has taken the form of a tentative translation, relating a largely abstract language to the local context. Strange as well is that those of them that do emerge from the local experience – *Birds of Passage*, *An Imaginary Life*, the poetry of Antigone Kefala, to name but a few – seem particularly concerned not only with themes of displacement, exile, and a seeming refusal of the desire for belonging, but their very form of composition – fragmentary, discontinuous, self-consciously playing with a gap between sound and sense – initi-

ates a style of writing attuned to an estrangement of language itself.

This very style brings together a particular writer and reader, sharing a similar temperament, as well as an approach to language whereby its sense and meaning must be constantly drawn through its unfamiliarity with itself.

I somehow hesitate to call either Sydney or Beirut home. And yet these two cities – on opposite sides of the world, irreparably diverse in so many ways, though perhaps a bit similar in terms of their respective mix of multi-cultural and diasporic communities – are where, strangely enough, I feel most at home. Where, that is, my constant feeling of experiencing myself a stranger, of being someone who doesn't quite fit in – someone who very often finds himself awkwardly trying to answer, with as much lightheartedness as he can muster, the question "Where are you from?" – plays a considerable role in how I come to develop myself and a sense of place.

No doubt my acquaintance with the main languages of these cities, English and Arabic, as well as a family heritage, has something to do with my attraction for them. However, each time I go to one or the other I can't help feeling that I am somehow starting, all over from the beginning, to make a home for myself. So Beirut and Sydney have for me an experience and signifying sense not only of home but also of homelessness. And this sense of homelessness that I feel and have come to accept, even enjoy, draws me out and away from myself, along a twisting path where my unfathomable strangeness allows my incomplete self to listen to the incompleteness of others, whether they be people or books, a street or a city.

But perhaps what makes me uneasy about packing my library in cardboard boxes is that I feel as though I were packing myself, in

terms of how these texts have woven within their folds the rhythm of my growth and development, my coming to be familiar with myself, my experience of a learning of myself – implicating the social-cultural fields that are part of me. I also feel that in containing them in boxes I am somehow betraying the writing of these texts, which almost without exception developed from an experience of exile, migrancy, displacement and dislocation, displacement and dislocation, fugitives from any unquestionable – metaphysical, political, or otherwise – sense of home.

Nevertheless, I console myself with the thought that my books, these writings that have never ceased to be open to a becoming outside, as their dispossessing reading expands their insights and intentions, will soon be with me again, available to a view of myself and I hope other potential readers. For as I look at them, sealing the last box amidst a mood of melancholy, I have a sense that the books look expectantly back at me.

N.B. Readers can rest assured; Dr. Norman Nikro is back with us at NDU.

We would like to insist once again on the need for students to read a wide variety of well-written books, in Arabic, English, French and any other languages they know. To succeed in life one has to furbish every weapon at one's command. The one great advantage of young Lebanese seeking employment here or abroad is their linguistic pluralism; whatever their profession, they will have to compose, and no doubt translate, letters, reports and documents that are clear and concise. For many, an ability to speak in front of an audience in confident literary Arabic will be most useful. These are the keys to approval and promotion.
–Ed. 🐾

BOOK REVIEW

CULTURE.COM



The authors of *Culture.com* are Peg Neuhauser, who has worked for more than 18 years as a speaker and organizational consultant, specializing in organizational culture, communication and conflict management, Ray Bender, who is a speaker and consultant specializing in alliances, leadership and organization change, and Kirk Stromberg, who is a consultant specializing in organization and individual change. The basic assumption in the book is that in the e-business era, decision-makers in businesses are doomed to creating a culture that supports risk-taking, or else their companies will disintegrate and disappear. For the current pace of business doesn't allow the luxury of taking years to develop a product risk-free as it used to be in traditional companies where everyone involved in the product was protected from risk. It is no longer possible to take the risk-free, slower route.

Moreover, in risk-encouraging cultures, decision-makers are rewarded for taking risks, which has to take place at every level within the company. According to the authors, taking risks in companies requires the following steps:

- ✓ Encouraging it by providing monetary and recognition awards for risk-taking.
- ✓ Rewarding risk-takers specially if they succeed.
- ✓ Releasing the controls over decision-making so people can make more decisions on their own.
- ✓ Letting teams take initiatives without bureaucratic interference.
- ✓ Hiring proven risk-takers and letting them guide.

With this transition to E-Business, companies will have to find ways to make the transition; organizations will adapt to the new environment or will disappear. Individuals must be willing and able to take risks. To facilitate that transition, some companies may choose to create entirely new Internet companies, while others may decide to create a new Internet division. As a matter of fact, if the culture of the business is too slow to move to the new business strategy, it is preferable to create a new company separated from the main headquarters. On the other hand, if the business strategy of the company calls for all products, services and processes to be enterprises as rapidly as possible, it is better to create a new division.

The authors argue that there are six questions to be considered to achieve a successful transition. They are:

- ✓ Is the dominant corporate culture likely to be hostile to a dot.com culture?
- ✓ Is it necessary to have a separate e-business operation?
- ✓ Does it entail changing business-to-business processes or business-to-customer activities?
- ✓ Are financial resources available for creating separate parallel operations?
- ✓ How clear and unifying is the manager's leadership vision and strategy?
- ✓ How many new employees are needed?

In fact, there are seven steps for transmitting culture. These are:

Selecting the most qualified employees whose traits match the your company's culture.

Conditioning, specially for workers coming from traditional organizations. In fact, in the e-business environment, there is a tendency among employees to be critical of the leadership as well as about sharing of information.

Training, for it is essential that workers have the technological training to perform their duties.

Performance appraisal: Rewards have to be linked to quantifiable achievements.

Sharing values: It is necessary that employees share the values of the corporation.

Legends and folklore: Those stories have to be shared with employees. For example; every worker learns about how the company was born or how the first product was created.

Presenting role models. These are important for the socialization process. For example, what are the areas most valued in the corporation?

In the current Internet world it is vital for the organization to know where to find information, how to use it, how to recognize in which networks the corporation is operating and how to use them effectively. On the other hand, at a time when companies are merging worldwide, the biggest problem they face is making their cultures mix. In the case of corporate merger, one out of the following options may occur: cultures remain separate, the new culture is imposed, or the best elements of both are taken. In fact, when companies merge the culture challenge is the key to their success.

In conclusion, today a business must operate in "Internet Time" and produce results in terms of both time and product, *i.e.* challenges have to be addressed in terms of days, weeks or a few months while maintaining quality. Otherwise, competitors will quickly overrun and the company will have no place in the Com. World. 🌐



DR. GEORGES LABAKI

Culture.Com copyright by Peg Neuhauser, Ray Bender, and Kirk Stromberg, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2000, 359p.



LA FRANCOPHONIE:

un espoir ou une coquille vide?

Il est bien connu que les liens qui unissent le Liban à la France sont séculaires. Le premier texte administratif jamais écrit en langue française fut rédigé dans le comté d'Enfin (Enfé) au Liban sous les Croisades. Quant aux témoignages faisant l'éloge de l'amitié franco-libanaise ils sont légion. Dans un poème de facture classique, le grand poète Hector Klat s'exclame: "Je vous aime O mots français...". Pour sa part, l'écrivain libanais Farjallah Haïk, parlant de la France, s'écrie: "Il me semble que j'étais amoureux d'une femme". Les relations franco-libanaises eurent maintes occasions de se manifester avec brio durant les siècles. Lamartine, alors ministre, intervient pour accorder douze bourses d'études aux élèves du Collège d'Antoura (limitrophe de l'Université Notre Dame). Cet évènement marqua l'essor de l'enseignement du français au Liban. La langue de Roland supplanta en moins d'un demi-siècle l'italien, alors principale langue européenne pratiquée au Liban. Un grand nombre d'éminents praticiens de la langue française ne tarda à se manifester au Liban et dans le monde entier. Parmi ces noms figurent ceux de Georges Schéhadé le Grand Maître, de notre grand poète Said Akl, et bien d'autres...

Dans l'ère moderne et suite à l'émancipation des pays d'Afrique et d'Asie, le mouvement francophone ne tarda pas à s'organiser. Il prétendait réunir les pays utilisant entièrement ou partiellement la langue française comme langue véhiculaire de communication. Très vite le Liban trouva une place de choix dans ce grand mouvement de l'esprit. A un illustre écrivain français à qui j'exposais l'importance limitée du Liban dans la francophonie en vue du nombre de sa population, j'obtins la réponse suivante: "le Liban importe des publications françaises autant que tous les pays francophones africains réunis (plus de vingt états)".

La grandeur de la francophonie tenta de se manifester avec éclat à Beyrouth au cours de la conférence des chefs d'Etat tenus à Beyrouth en octobre 2002. Les déclarations solennelles ne manquèrent pas et se reflétèrent dans le communiqué final de la Conférence. Tout d'abord, la francophonie a pris une tournure nettement politique.

En effet, après l'effondrement de l'Union Soviétique et la domination de l'unilateralisme américain, une nouvelle donnée voit le jour sous le nom de mondialisation. Ce phénomène, qui ne cesse de se propager à l'aurée du XXIème siècle à coups de campagne de promotion médiatique, ne manque pas de soulever des questions vitales sur l'avenir de la personne humaine et sa dignité. En effet, ce nouvel ordre mondial - ou plutôt désordre mondial - prétend ériger un système économique mondial basé sur l'ouverture des marchés et la compétition débridée entre les marchés, mais au prix de l'aliénation de la personne humaine dont le prototype idéal est un consommateur unique qui s'habillerait de la même manière, prendrait la même nourriture et penserait... de la même manière, tout cela au nom d'une réalité tronquée. Les premiers ravages de cette mondialisation n'ont pas tardé à apparaître au grand jour: un énorme écart entre pays riches qui deviennent plus riches et pays pauvres qui s'enfoncent de plus en plus dans le sous-développement. Le tout est doublé d'une dette extérieure démesurée accumulée par les pays en voie de développement, empêchant toute possibilité de progrès futur, (le cas libanais est typique à cet égard) car ces dettes n'ont pas servi à développer ces pays mais plutôt à l'enrichissement d'une classe politique corrompue et blottie à la botte des pays développés. Et enfin, une concentration transnationale des entreprises qui se transforment progressivement en monopole, mettant fin à ce libre

marché tant défendu par les partisans du nouvel ordre mondial.

Dans ce contexte international la francophonie s'est voulue comme une deuxième voie, un forum de dialogue et une alternative à la mondialisation débridée. Le texte final du sommet de Beyrouth est une véritable litanie où tout y passe: les dangers de la mondialisation, le dialogue des cultures, le terrorisme, le principe de souveraineté nationale, les crimes contre l'humanité, la diversité culturelle et linguistique, le crime organisé, la politique de régulation, le développement continu, et bien entendu les droits de l'homme... En réalité, les temps ne sont plus aux grandes déclarations mais à l'action. Ainsi, ces droits de l'homme célébrés par les conférenciers étaient bafoués à quelques centaines de mètres sans que personne ne s'en indigne ou ne trouve rien à redire. En outre, la conférence a fait fi des instances culturelles francophones locales qui ont été superbement tenues à l'écart. Quant aux principes de la bonne gouvernance, nous croyons ferme qu'ils doivent s'appliquer à la fois aux pays en voie de développement et aux pays développés. Car la corruption ne vient pas toujours de là où on le croit.

Quant aux responsables politiques libanais, ils se sont félicités de la réussite du sommet au plan de l'organisation, de la supervision et de la logistique. Maigre consolation pour une si grande cause. En effet, la francophonie se doit d'être ce grand mouvement de la pensée et de la cause de l'humanité dans une langue véhiculaire synonyme de raffinement, de beauté et de civilisation: le français. 📖

Dr. Georges LABAKI

Nicolas

Pour toi que j'aime

Et qui n'existes pas

Je ne peux t'oublier

Et ne te connais pas.

Je t'aime pour aimer

Et je mourrai d'amour

Ton ombre me hante

Un peu plus chaque jour.

Fantôme de ma vie

Délire désespoir

Lutte infinie

A coups de poignard.

Pour toi mon ange

Chanter des louanges

Tu es dans mon coeur

Plus vivant que le temps.



Le temps
a séché
notre amour

Il flotte un air de paresse

De langueur d'ennui

Tu fais un pas, tu te délaisses

Tu te traînes indécis.

Le temps est léger

Le ciel clair et bleu

Mais dans la chambre on étouffait

On n'est plus les mêmes tous les deux.

*Je me souviens d'un temps où nous étions
heureux*



Poèmes tirées de «Pour tous les chevaux du monde»,
éditions Dar an-Nahar, par Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek.

Apology: On page 79 of the last issue of NDU Spirit,
the work by Dr. Amal Saleeby Malek was given as pub-
lished by NDU Press, 2002. This should have read **Dar**
al-Mourad, 2002.

*Assis au coin du feu tes yeux me
réchauffaient*

Exigeant orgueilleux toi qui voulais m'aimer

Comme un enfant comme un dieu.

Il y avait entre nous un amour sans limite

Nous étions incroyables et si heureux de vivre

*Le destin comblait nos vœux et nous rendait
ivres*

*Mais aujourd'hui l'envie a l'air de nous
quitter. 🐦*

STREET LANGUAGE

Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom are examples of countries where “street languages” are much used. I consider such language as gangster talk. People tend to use such language to show off and to give the impression to strangers and friends alike that they are the masters.

Here is a paragraph about a wedding written in street language:

“The wicked bride wore a safe wedding dress and gee! She was cool. The fit groom was also very wild, standard. Her firm looks were so word, gee! You should see what a bad kiss he gave her. I couldn’t stop thinking how wicked they both looked. They looked so cool together. Suddenly, a bad man stood in front of me and I missed the coolest part when he lifted her up and chipped for their wild honeymoon ... nasty!”

Now here is the paragraph written again with the use of proper English:

“The bride was wearing a magnificent and striking wedding dress and the elated groom looked magnificent in his black tuxedo. Everyone admired the splendid couple as they made their marriage vows in front of the priest. It was a remarkable wedding and the two made an excellent couple who will later on become wonderful parents.”

When one compares the two paragraphs, the difference is easy to see. Could street language mark the death of the language used by Jane Austen and William Shakespeare in the days when the classics were cultivated? It could be, but only time will tell.

It is illuminating to compare and to contrast the English used by former British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill with that used by presidents and prime ministers of the present day.

While reading the year 2000 April issue of the BBC magazine *On Air*, a certain message caught my eye, coming from Sir David Attenborough, a popular face on BBC television. He gives the advice, “Provided you speak (and write) clear English, and don’t use jargon unnecessarily, you can hold children of six and professors of eighty-six.” This is advice well worth remembering (see in issue n^o of *NDU Spirit* the article “English Language” by the editor Mr. K.J. Mortimer on pages 41-44.)

Street language, dead or alive, is under arrest. Will future NDU students know how to speak and write clearly? It is up to you students to decide, and I hope you make the right decision.

EMBARRASSING THINGS

You hear your parents and some guests talking to you,
then they ask you a question
about which you haven’t a clue.

You go to the theatre
and sit in somebody’s place;
the people send you out
and you feel the red in your face.

You go to the supermarket
and find at the counter you have no money;
it isn’t a joke,
it’s really not funny.

I hate those embarrassing things
that happen to me!

But then I’m quite sure
most people agree! 🐾

**Joe Chamma,
Astronomy Club**

Gloom

When you examine your life and see only days that hold no hope, you will feel sad, depressed, lonely and desperate. It is natural, but do not be downhearted. Look deep into these dark days; suddenly you will perceive a light so bright that it dispels all the darkness. From where did such a light come?

This shining light comes from a compassionate and loving person. Through the glow his hand is seen. This gentle hand is held out to you and touches your face. Then the other hand is seen and with both hands he holds you to his heart. With this embrace the depression, sadness, loneliness and despair fade away.

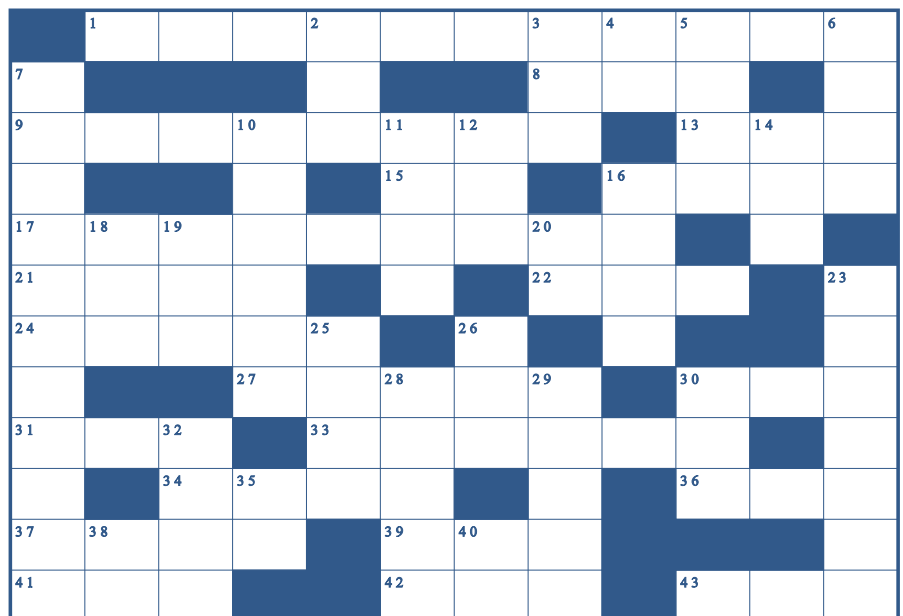
Instead you will feel a true fatherly love radiating from a tender heart. Did you know him? ...Search in your own heart and you will find him there waiting for you to say that you love him deeply.

I found him in my heart, a caring and loving father whose name is JESUS. 🐾

**Caren Attieh
4th year international Affairs**

SOMETHING

for your GREY matter



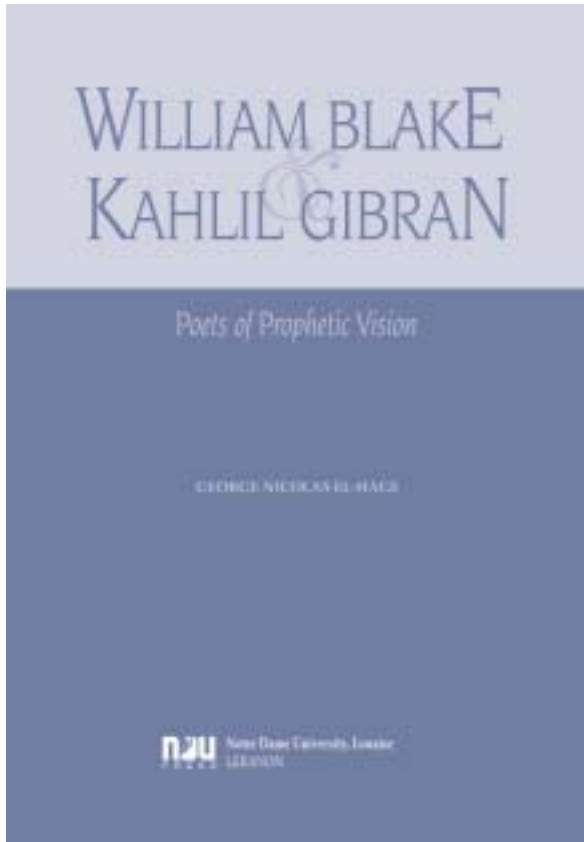
CLUES

Across:

1. Barsa (two words)
8. Nosey Parker
9. Patriarch or bishop
13. Fish eggs
15. Pub.
16. Expedite
17. Everywhere
21. Combustion
22. Help!
24. Office employee
27. Penetrate
30. Beer
31. Small carpet
33. For one alternative
34. Bobbin
36. Feline
37. Military group
39. Large tree
41. Juicy bread for Cerberus
42. Female deer
43. Simian with no tail.

Down:

2. Hot drink
3. Remains of (21) across
4. Member of Parliament
5. Funeral fire
6. Snow transport
7. At Deir al-Qamar (two words)
10. Greatly respect
11. Unusual
12. Shiny disks
14. First of a series
16. Lengthwise opening
18. Nothing
19. Wrath
20. In the role of
23. Play place
25. Joint
26. Complete service
28. Covered with porcelain
29. End with the same sound
30. A little way round
32. Voyage
35. It came from outer space
38. Denial
40. ___ and behold!
(N.B. Spelling is British-European.
Solution in the next issue.)



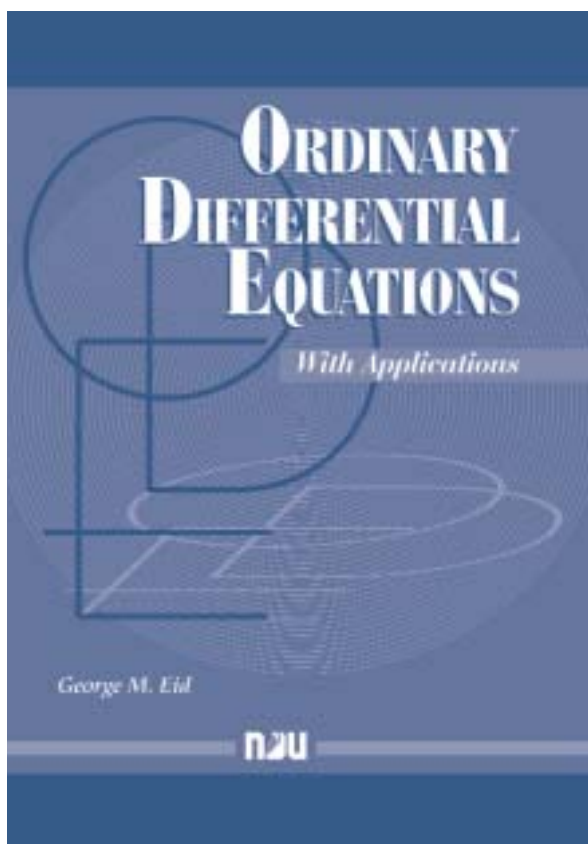
WILLIAM BLAKE & KAHLIL GIBRAN

- ◆ Author : George Nicolas El-Hage
- ◆ Edition : 1st edition 2002
- ◆ No. of pages : 171
- ◆ Price : L.L. 10,000
- ◆ Publisher : NDU Press
- ◆ ISBN : 9953-418-40-3
- ◆ Literature and Philosophy Series

George N. El-Hage, the author of this book, wrote his dissertation for a doctorate in Comparative Literature about two major romantic poets, William Blake and Kahlil Gibran.

This unique study was written in 1981. Its uniqueness lies in the comprehensive comparative study done on Blake and Gibran.

The book includes five chapters in which the author is concerned to trace the comparisons and contrasts in a thorough detailed analysis of their work. After stating the methodology in chapter one, the author discusses Gibran's basic concepts in chapter two. In the next two chapters, he analyzes the writings of Blake and Gibran and examines the Romantic views on imagination and nature. The concluding chapter deals with the two writers as poets of the Bible and Christ. 📖



One of the new releases of NDU Press for the academic year 2002-2003 is the textbook entitled *Ordinary Differential Equations with Applications* by **George M. Eid**. Welcome to the new-born; a scientific explanations will be detailed later and congratulations to the author will then be appropriate.

In this note we review the educative style of the author, the flow in the presentation of the ordinary differential equation topics and the vision behind accompanying the textbook with two learning aids, namely, *Complete Solution Manual and Computer Manual*.

Ordinary Differential Equations with Applications

The educative style of the author

In addressing the questions raised by most students, the author has presented elegantly and concisely a historical note on the development of differential equations from the days of Fermat, Newton and Leibnitz up to the present. Detailing smoothly and with simplicity, the author has presented concrete examples in the fields of the social sciences, physics and engineering to show how a mathematical

model is created and why it should be solved. Wanting the reader to grasp the mathematical rigor and at the same time understand easily the concepts, the author has done so by explaining in simple words every term appearing in a formula.

The author has not forgotten to present computer algorithms for solving certain differential equations that are hard to solve classically. The above points, in addition to the abundance of exercises presented in each section and at the end of each

chapter, represent the main characteristics of the author's educative style.

The presentation of topics

The standard topics of an introductory undergraduate course in ordinary differential equations are presented in Dr. Eid's book. These topics are developed gradually, from the very basic to the more advanced, in a smooth transitional manner. The author addresses in chapter 1 the ordinary differential equations, the existence and



uniqueness of their solutions, and some numerical techniques for solving them, such as the Euler, Runge-Kutta, Taylor and Picard methods. Then the author devotes chapter 2 to the presentation of separable, linear, homogeneous, and exact first order differential equations. As for chapter 3, concentration of the author is on developing the methods of variation of parameters, undetermined coefficients, and Green's functions for solving linear second and higher order differential equations. Chapter 4 concentrates on Bessel's equation, Gamma function, and the Frobenius method for presenting a series of solutions of non-constant coefficient linear differential equations. Chapter 5 introduces the Laplace transform and its inverse to solve initial value problems. Chapter 6, the last one, introduces the methods of Laplace transform, eigenvalue-eigenvector, and exponential matrix for solving linear systems of differential equations.

The two learning aids

To help the reader, particularly the student, to assimilate the materials presented in the book, the author has provided two learning aids to accompany it, namely the *Complete Solution Manual and Computer Manual*. While the first, the *Complete Solution Manual*, presents mainly the solutions to all the exercises to be found in the book, the latter presents a computer algorithm programmed in Matlab to find computer solutions to several types of differential equations. These two learning aids added to the textbook making the teaching of ordinary differential equations an easy productive process. 📖

Jean Fares,
Dean,

Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences.
December 10, 2002.

Comment on Complete Solution Manual

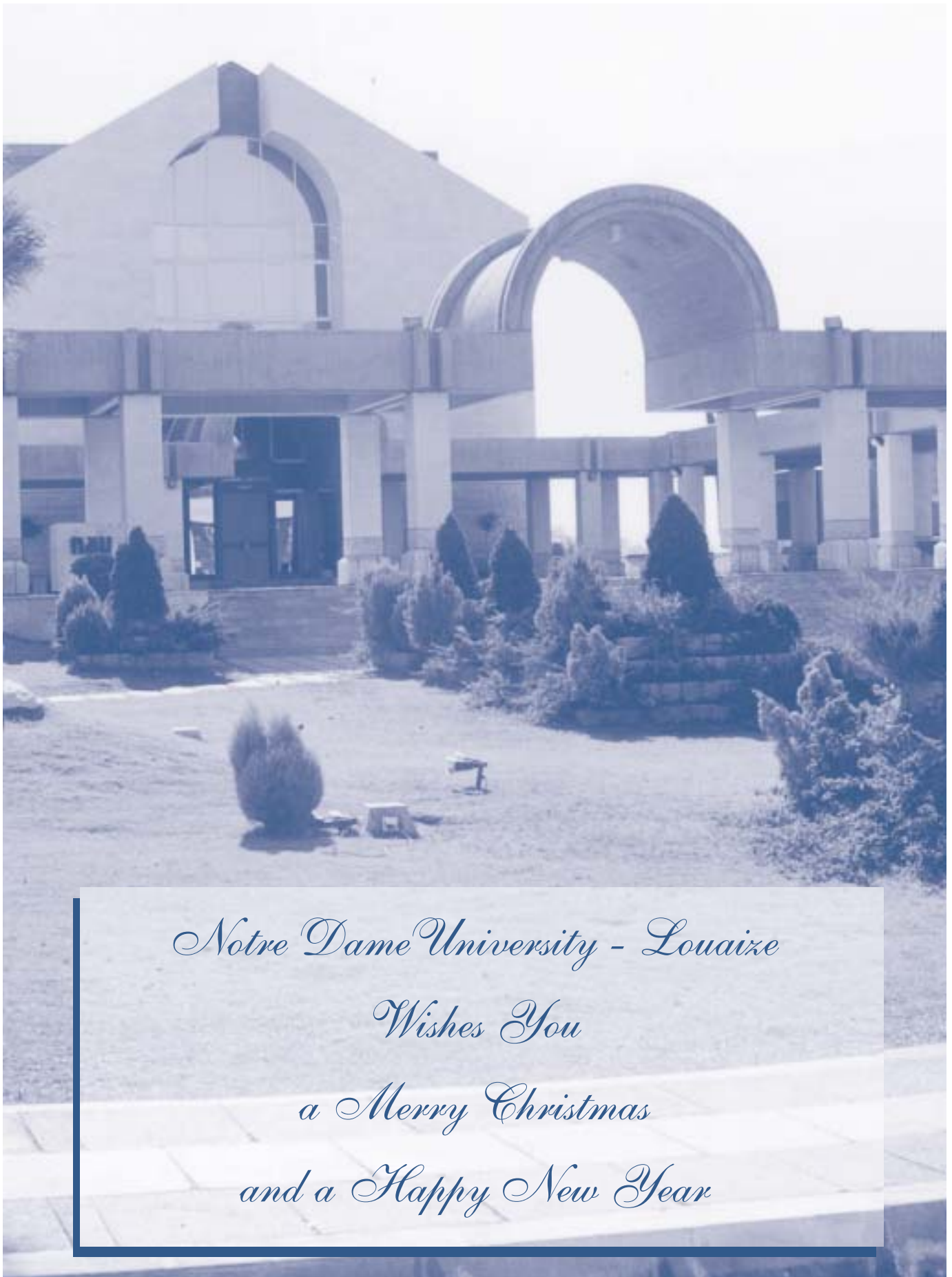
JEAN FARES



Another release of NDU Press for the academic year 2002-2003 is the book entitled *Complete Solution Manual* for the *Ordinary Differential Equation with Applications* by **Dr. George M. Eid**. The book has been prepared by **Dr. Jean Fares** after recommendation by Dr. George Eid that such a book should be developed.

It has been prepared with a clear strategy for the learning process of ordinary differential equations to be as smooth and accessible as possible for the readers. The book is therefore structured to deal with each chapter of Dr. Eid's book according to the following sequence. A review of the essential terms of the chapter is presented concisely, all the exercises with the chapter are listed, their solutions are provided in two columns, and the chapter ends with a set of unsolved problems to further the student's knowledge.

The following method is recommended for the use of the *Solution Manual*. Students are advised to assimilate the material in the textbook, to test their understanding by solving the problems in the exercises, and then to consult the *Solution Manual* for checking and verification. **J.F.** 📖



Notre Dame University - Louaize

Wishes You

a Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year

DORMS ON CAMPUS

Description of Women's On-Campus Residence

It is composed of three floors and a ground floor with 34 rooms, 12 of which are Double Rooms and 22 Single Rooms.

The Residence is located 100m away from the campus, situated on the top of a small hill overlooking the sea and the mountains at the same time. The ground floor houses the reception office, the kitchen, the TV room where residents may receive their guests and the study room which is equipped with computers and connected to the internet.



Services

- ▶ Individual Bathrooms
- ▶ Fully Furnished rooms
- ▶ Common Kitchenette in each flat (Fully Equipped)
- ▶ Daily cleaning
- ▶ 24 hours security
- ▶ 24 hours guardian
- ▶ Laundry room
- ▶ TV room, Cable TV
- ▶ Study room
- ▶ Common Terrace
- ▶ Reception Office
- ▶ Air conditioning



DORMITORIES

Arrangements for on-campus housing are made through the **CAMPUS SERVICES OFFICE.**

Accommodation at the dormitories is made on a Semester bases. However, students may withdraw at any time with a month in advance notification and request.

The "HOUSING FEE" is to be paid in advance.

The room rate may change from year to year. Fees for the Academic year 2002-2003 are available upon request.

All rooms are fully furnished and equiped.



For further information contact:
NDU CAMPUS SERVICES OFFICE

Tel: 00 961 9 218 950 EXT.: 2248

Fax: 00 961 9 218 771

E-mail: jofares@ndu.edu.lb