

US based Lebanese Student Amanda Rizkallah Visits LERC

Monday 8th August 2011, LERC, NDU

Reported by Elie Nabhan

Ms. Amanda Rizkallah, born in Michigan, United States to Lebanese parents and a graduate in Political Science from UCLA, paid a visit to the Lebanese Emigration Research Center at NDU. Ms. Rizkallah has completed her masters at UCLA and is currently working on her PhD in the same field.

Ms Rizkallah's father hails from the border town of Alma El Shaab while her mother comes from Ashrafieh in Beirut. They married after meeting in the US. When she was a child Ms. Rizkallah's family was also in Saudi Arabia. They later lived in Beirut but returned to Michigan in the United States before moving to California where they currently reside

Ms. Rizkallah points out that "The experience of my family in South Lebanon has always made me very aware of how politics can really effect and change people's lives. I decided to specialize in Comparative Politics with a focus on the Middle East. I am currently in the early stages of working on a dissertation about the long-term effects of civil war and conflict on political life, and cooperation and reconciliation in particular. My two cases of interest are Lebanon and Algeria," she said.



Ms. A. Rizkallah pictured at the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum at NDU on her visit to LERC (August 2011).

Ms. Rizkallah met with LERC Director Ms. Guita Hourani to discuss her PhD. Topic and her field research in Lebanon.

She was then given a presentation of LERC's electronic archives and database and taken on a tour of the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum at NDU