

LERC attends the First International Colloquium ‘The Lebanese Presence Worldwide’ at The University of the Holy Spirit in Kaslik, Lebanon

Reported by Victoria B. Huerta, LERC Research Affiliate

The Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) at Notre Dame University attended the first International Colloquium *‘The Lebanese Presence Worldwide’* at the Holy Spirit University (USEK) in Kaslik, Lebanon on March 9th and 10th, 2012. The opening of the Colloquium was under the auspices of the President of the Republic Mr. Michel Suleiman represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigration of the Lebanese Republic Dr. Adnan Mansour. The opening ceremony was attended by the Director of the History Faculty Father Jean-Maroun Maghames as well as by several ambassadors, professors, students, and interested public. The Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) of Notre Dame University was represented by Chief Indexer and Archivist Ms. Liliane Haddad and Ms. Victoria B. Huerta, LERC Research Affiliate from Mexico.



From left to right: Roberto Khatlab (CECAL-USEK), Luiz Carlos Merege (Institute for the Administration of the Third Sector, Brazil) and his wife, Liliane Haddad (LERC) and the Cultural Attaché of the Brazilian Embassy in Lebanon.

The Colloquium featured among others Dr. Carlos Martinez Assad, who talked about the identities and the adaptation of Lebanese emigrants in Mexico, Ms. Valerie Azhari and Fr. Fadi Ahmar spoke of the Lebanese presence in the Caribbean, Dr. Jose Zaglul shared his family's experience in migrating to Costa Rica, and Dr. John Karam presented his work on the Lebanese emigration to South America. Mr. Andre Nassar spoke on the Lebanese emigrants and the displaced Egyptians at the time of the Arab Revolution, and Fr. Karam Rizk presented on integration and the nostalgia of the Lebanese in America. Mr. Luiz Carlos Merge spoke on two case studies of hospitals founded in Brazil by groups of woman of Lebanese descent as an example of the contribution of Lebanese emigrants to their new homelands, and Dr. Boutros Labaki dealt with the Lebanese in Sub-Saharan Africa.