
Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research

Does BAU Have Measures of Interdisciplinary Research Success Amongst Science Disciplines?

Beirut Arab University aims to support research excellence and is committed to focusing on the development of research to ensure its quality and innovativeness by tackling some of the most critical intellectual and social issues of the day. Therefore, BAU has a focus on interdisciplinary research, with a particular emphasis on research that addresses regional and global challenges.

BAU's research centers, programs and institutes explore a diverse range of research topics from the science of medical discovery to dialogue on religious and political identity- making us a community devoted to understanding and improving the world around us. BAU's research office is dedicated to pursuing projects with research centers and Universities inside and outside Lebanon.

The Research Office is concerned with following up on projects that are conducted within the University or on its behalf and coordinating all logistic matters related to publications and project funding.

BAU also encourages innovation through its technology transfer office, which supports the commercialization of research outcomes and promotes entrepreneurship among faculty and students.

All of these efforts have contributed to BAU's reputation as one of the leading universities in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Therefore, BAU has multiple factors of measures of interdisciplinary research success:

- **Publications in interdisciplinary journals or outlets:** BAU has published research in top-tier international journals, which can demonstrate the impact of interdisciplinary research to the broader academic community. BAU's commitment to academic excellence and innovation is reflected in its research output.
- **Funding:** BAU has received funding from national and international funding agencies, which can demonstrate the potential impact of interdisciplinary research and its ability to attract resources.
- **Social impact:** BAU's research does not only aim at producing new knowledge in the fields of medicine, technology, business and science, but its main focus is innovative research that yields actionable knowledge to improve the lives of individuals and communities in Lebanon and around the world.

- **Engagement:** BAU's scholars engage in research and scholarship that extend beyond the classroom walls and around the globe. Researchers include Faculty members, visiting scholars, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students, and they collaborate with colleagues across the University, at affiliated institutions, and at other research institutions.
- **Collaboration:** The number and quality of collaborations between researchers from different disciplines can demonstrate the success of interdisciplinary research at BAU.

Publications

BAU offers a rich research environment that encourages students and Faculty members to tackle innovative research topics, with special attention to research that serves the community. Our researchers embark on topics from multiple disciplines and target projects locally and globally with a vision to create impactful and positive change. Research at BAU is guided by research themes and subthemes, which govern and provide a roadmap for research projects conducted by students and Faculty members to be in line with BAU Research Strategy as well as allow for research collaborations and partnerships.

[Research Output for the Academic Year 2021-2022 Classified According to Type of Publication \[1\]](#)

Faculty	Academic Journal Articles	Conference Proceedings	Books	Book Chapters	Total
Human Sciences	9				10
Law and Political Science	5		2		7
Business Administration	16			1	17
Architecture	12			2	15
Engineering	23	2		1	26
Science	67				68
Pharmacy	31				33
Medicine	8				11
Dentistry	10				10
Health Sciences	32				33
RCED	1				1

Publications for the Academic Year 2021-2022 Classified According to Journal Ranking and Indexing

Faculty	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Books/Book Chapters	APJ*/BAU Journal**	Conference Proceedings	Indexed with No Quartile Assigned	Not Indexed	Total
Human Sciences	1	2				4			3	10
Law and Political Science					2	1			4	7
Business Administration	2	1		1	1	8		3 (Indexed in Clarivate Analytics)	1	17
Architecture	2	1			2	8			2	15
Engineering	9	5	1		1	4	2	2	2	25
Science	15	26	15	3		4			5	68
Pharmacy	15	7	3			7			1	33
Medicine	6	1		2		2				11
Dentistry	1	1				5			3	10
Health Sciences	15	10	1	1		4		1+1 (Indexed in Clarivate Analytics)		33
RCED						1				1

*APJ Architecture & Planning Journal

**BAU Journal-Journal of Legal Studies BAU Journal-Health & Wellbeing BAU Journal-Science & Technology BAU Journal-Society, Culture & Human Behavior BAU Journal-Creative Sustainable Development

In addition, BAU published research in top-tier high impact journals in different fields of studies such as:

- HUMAN SCIENCES:
 - Brain and Behavior
 - Mental Health, Religion and Culture
 - Behavior Therapy
 - JiL Scientific Research Center Journal
 - Journal of the Association of Arab Universities for Researchers of Higher Education

- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:

- EuroMed Journal of Business
- International Journal of Disruptive Innovation in Government
- Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies
- Journal of Public Affairs
- Journal of Risk and Financial Management
- International Journal of Customer Relationship Marketing and Management

- ARCHITECTURE:
 - Architecture & Planning Journal-APJ
 - Urban Planning
 - Sustainability
 - Ain Shams Engineering Journal
 - Technology Reports of Kansai University
 - HBRC Journal

- ENGINEERING:
 - Journal of Porous Media
 - Energies
 - International Journal of Pavement Engineering
 - Materials Today: Proceedings
 - International Journal of Pavement Research and Technology
 - Computers and Concrete
 - Buildings
 - Materials Today: Proceedings
 - Environmental Science and Pollution Research
 - Innovative Infrastructure Solutions
 - Magazine of Civil Engineering

- SCIENCE:
 - Journal of Imaging
 - ESAIM: Mathematical Modelling and Numerical Analysis
 - Modern Applied Science
 - Partial Differential Equations in Applied Mathematics
 - Journal of Engineering Mathematics
 - Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo
 - Nuclear Engineering and Technology
 - Farmacia
 - Pathogens
 - Applied Physics A: Materials Science and Processing
 - Journal of Alloys and Compounds

Finally, BAU journals are official publications of Beirut Arab University, currently publishing six scholarly journals that cover a wide range of disciplines, from the humanities and the social

sciences to the life and physical sciences. In addition to working with departments and faculties of the university, BAU journals serves a world-wide community of scholars, researchers, and practitioners through the publication of peer-reviewed academic and professional journals in print and electronic form.

BAU's journals: [2]

- Architecture & Planning Journal (AJP)
- BAU Journal of Legal Studies
- BAU Journal of Health & Wellbeing
- BAU Journal of Society Culture, & Human Behavior
- BAU Journal of Creative Sustainable Development
- BAU Journal of Science & Technology

Funding [3]

BAU supports individual researchers who intend to pursue their research projects and encourages all Faculty members to seek funds in order to conduct research and to achieve BAU's strategic plan and mission.

BAU ensures that all proposals for intramural funding or extramural funding are to introduce innovative methods, address new emerging topics, and deal with societal issues.

Throughout the years, BAU signed several agreements with Universities and various organizations at the local, regional, and international levels in order to exchange academic research data and teaching facilities.

BAU set funding policies and guidelines, and always announces available funding opportunities to its researchers.

- Intramural Funds [4]: BAU Research Board seeks to identify applications that advance collaborations and multidisciplinary projects with an overall emphasis on innovation and impact.
All disciplines are encouraged to submit proposals for internal funding to conduct research work and to commence on novel and innovative projects to develop new collaborations and to pursue competitive applications for external research grants or to attract substantial collegiate support. BAU is ready to finance and support individual or group researcher/s with up to \$10,000 per project.
The budget set by BAU for funding intramural grants is to be allocated on an annual basis, then proposals are ranked by quality and cut down by budget.
- Extramural Funds [5]: In its efforts to encourage research in Lebanon, the CNRS-L established programs designed to offer grants both for specific projects carried out by individuals and for multidisciplinary projects.

BAU signed a collaboration agreement with the CNRS to provide funding opportunities for BAU researchers. Both parties will now fund projects equally; CNRS-BAU grants will be provided over two-year funding timelines

The application for this grant program is available online and is accessible via the following link: <https://grp.cnrs.edu.lb>

Engagement

BAU continuously holds research and intellectual talks and conferences for its students and faculty members.

- [BAU “Dardacha Talks”](#): [6] The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research at Beirut Arab University, hosted the “Dardacha Talks” event, which is an initiative by the Dynamic Actions for Women in Research and Knowledge observatory (DAWREK’N). The event aimed at highlighting the academic potential of female researchers in Lebanon and to discuss the latest scientific discoveries they have achieved.
- [BAU Research Talks \[7\]](#): The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research hosted the first “Research Talks” event on Friday 20/9/2019 in Al Multaqa, Beirut Campus. Faculty Members from the Faculty of Science, Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dentistry and the Faculty of Health Sciences attended the event. The Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, and Faculty of Dentistry were also present and participated in the workshop.
- ["Research Ethics and Authorship" Seminar](#) [8]: The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research hosted a seminar entitled “Research Ethics and Authorship” which tackled six main topics on research ethics and integrity.

The seminar session was interactive and it was marked with a notable attendance from BAU Faculty members and researchers. The topics highlighted during the session were the following:

- An introduction to research ethics in Lebanon
 - An insight on the topic of social responsibility and misconduct allegations
 - A look into the ethics of mentoring
 - An explanation of the notion of data management
 - A depiction of authorship and the responsibilities that come with it in modern day publications
 - An elucidation of the ethical regulation of research collaboration.
- [German Research Landscape Workshop at BAU](#) [9]: The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research hosted a workshop by the German Academic Exchange Service in Lebanon (DAAD) entitled “German Research Landscape Workshop.” This workshop was intended for BAU Faculty members and introduced them to research directions in Germany and to prospects for research collaboration. Ms. Bahar Sayyas, the director of DAAD in Lebanon, moderated the workshop and introduced the attendees to different research institutions in Germany and their interests in terms of programs and specializations. She also discussed research scholarship

programs and the funding opportunities available, as well as how to apply to these scholarship programs.

Collaborations

At BAU, our international and national collaborations are as diverse as our Faculty members, who are at the forefront of the relationship building with partners. These relationships may start with a chance meeting at a conference and grow into multidimensional interactions with fellow institutions.

BAU establishes partnerships with outstanding academic and non-academic institutions across the globe in order to expand the student experience, Faculty members' growth and contributions, and the impact of our research. Collaborations with our local and foreign colleagues are essential to the success of our research activities. Partnerships are often the most rewarding, educational and enjoyable components of national and international work.

As they develop, collaborations are often formalized through agreements and other mechanisms that document the relationship between the University and a partner highlighting the expectations of each institution.

These collaborations contribute to the development of common practices, facilitation of external funding, international public sector consultancy, collaboration with the industry and increased mobility of scientific staff and administration.

Through international collaboration, BAU can achieve greater influence and visibility. Collaborating with other well-known Universities creates awareness, trust and respect.

- [Innovation and Development of Academic Industry Partnerships through Efficient Research Administration in Lebanon \(IDEAL\) \[10\]](#)

The IDEAL project seeks to augment inputs and outputs for research, development and innovation (RD&I) in Lebanon which will eventually lead to the improvement of the country's economic strength and global competitiveness. The goal of the project is to enhance and support research and innovation in Lebanon through the establishment of the infrastructure and support systems needed in higher education institutions and provide the platform for academics and researchers to excel at producing new knowledge and to transfer their knowledge to the industry for the benefit of the greater Lebanese society.

In the long term, the project aims to impact economic growth in Lebanon through increased productivity and competitiveness that comes from science, technology, and innovation (STI). The objectives of the project respond to the priority of the National Structural Measures set by the EU Tempus project, "to develop enterprise partnerships within governance systems of institutions of higher education to benefit society," and

addresses Lebanon's national priorities as outlined by the Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS).

The project objectives are:

- Develop and build capable research support systems within Lebanese Universities,
- Create networks to transfer innovation from academia to industry, and
- Establish professional structures between government, academia, and industry for long-term management of Research Development and Innovation (RDSI) outcome for Lebanon.

The project will be led by the American University of Beirut, AUB with 14 other partners which include four Lebanese Universities, five European Universities, three national bodies, a foundation, and two industrial associations, namely the following:

- Ministry of Education and Higher Education
 - National Council for Scientific Research
 - Lebanese University
 - Beirut Arab University
 - Modern University for Business and Science
 - University of Balamand
 - University of Staffordshire FH JOANNEUM GmbH
 - University of Alicante
 - The University of Bari
 - Technological Educational Institute of Larissa
 - Lebanese Industrial Research Achievement Program
 - Info-Pro
 - Mowgli Foundation
- [BAU signs a collaboration agreement with the National Council for Scientific Research \(CNRS\) \[11\]](#)

Beirut Arab University (BAU), represented by its president Prof. Amr Galal El-Adawi, signed a collaboration agreement with the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) represented by the Secretary General of the Council, Dr. Moeen Hamza in BAU's Beirut campus in the presence of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Prof. Hania Nakkash.

The collaboration aims at providing funding opportunities for BAU researchers where the University will provide financial support to the research projects equivalent to the amount provided by the Council, thus doubling the total amount of financial assistance allocated to accepted research projects. This agreement is in the context of BAU's effort to endorse research activity by allowing more funding options for BAU researchers and allowing for the alignment of the CNRS research priorities with BAU research themes.

References

- [1] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/BAUUpload/BAU-Library/files/Research/Reports/research-report-21-22.pdf>.
- [2] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/BAU-Journals>.
- [3] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Funding-Opportunities>.
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- [5] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Extramural-Funds>.
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- [11] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/Event/BAU-signs-a-collaboration-agreement-with-the-National-Council-for-Scientific-Research-CNRS>.
- [12] [Online]. Available: <https://www.bau.edu.lb/Research/IDEAL>.