

For Immediate Release



AUB's nursing school director first in the Middle East to be named Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing

Beirut, Lebanon 26/11/2010- Professor Huda Abu-Saad Huijer, the director of the Hariri School of Nursing at the American University of Beirut, was recently selected as International Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, a coveted opportunity in nursing.

Officially inducted on November 13, 2010 during the academy's 37th Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., Huijer is the first professor of nursing to achieve this status in the Middle East. She is also a founding member and Fellow of the European Academy of Nursing Science (FEANS).

"I am proud and honored to achieve this international recognition in nursing which I hope will serve AUB and HSON and will lead eventually to similar recognitions of leading nursing faculty at AUB," said Huijer. "Achieving this recognition is of great significance to AUB and HSON; it puts us again on the international agenda and underscores our mission 'to promote and maintain the highest educational standards of excellence, integrity, and professionalism in nursing,'" she added.

The American Academy of Nursing (AAN) serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge.

AAN's Fellows are nursing's most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice, and research. They are recognized for their extraordinary nursing careers and are among the most highly-educated people. A Fellow needs to be nominated for this post and is selected by a panel comprised of elected and appointed Fellows, and selection is based as well on the extent to which the nominee's nursing career influences health policies and health care delivery for the benefit of all people.

Invitation to Fellowship is more than recognition of an individual's accomplishments within the nursing profession. AAN Fellows also have a responsibility to contribute their time and energies to the academy, and to engage with other health care leaders outside the academy in transforming health care delivery systems.

This is an important acknowledgment of her outstanding contributions and achievements in nursing.

"Being elected as Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing is a remarkable testament to Dr. Huijer's leadership in nursing education and research and to her contributions to health care policy, and AUB is proud of her achievement," said AUB President Peter Dorman.

Huijer recently received a lifetime achievement award from the Macmillan Cancer Support in collaboration with the International Journal of Palliative Nursing in London. She is also a founding member of the European Association for Palliative Care Pediatric Taskforce, responsible for the delivery of a strong research and publication

portfolio in pain management, particularly for life-limiting illness in children. She currently heads the Lebanese Society for the Study of Pain.

Huijjer has a BS in nursing from AUB. She received her MS and PhD from the University of Florida and has been instrumental in launching a master's program in nursing at AUB and expanding the school's academic programs. She was appointed as AUB's director of nursing in 2003.

The School of Nursing, which celebrated its centennial in 2005, was the first nursing school to be established in the Middle East. In 2007, both its BSN and MSN programs received accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in the USA for a five-year term, or the maximum term for initial accreditation. It thus became the first school of nursing to be accredited by CCNE outside the US territories.

It was renamed the Hariri School of Nursing in 2008, following a \$10-million pledge by then-MP Saad Hariri in honor of his late father, former Prime Minister Rafic B. Hariri.

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For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Media Relations Officer, ma110@aub.edu.lb, 01-353 228

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has 606 full-time faculty members and a student body of more than 7,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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