

For Immediate Release



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## **Oxford University's Rhodes Scholarship visits AUB and welcomes candidates**

High level delegates from the Rhodes Trust of the University of Oxford visited AUB in congruence with their announcement of the global expansion of the Rhodes Scholarship to be offered in Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan and Syria for the first time in the history of the Scholarship.

The Rhodes Trust delegation met with senior representatives and interested students at AUB to introduce the Scholarship, the Trust's expansion efforts, and the selection process, as well as explore promotion ideas within AUB and build momentum to encourage students to apply from AUB and the region.

Earlier this month, the Rhodes Trust announced that it will be raising the number of its scholars from 83 to 95, including two new graduate scholarships for Masters or PhD in any discipline, offered to students from the Middle East. The application cycle for the next academic year 2017-18 will open on July 1, 2016.

Offered by the Rhodes Trust based at Rhodes House, Oxford, UK, the Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest and perhaps the most prestigious international scholarship program in the world.

Over decades since its founding, AUB has produced graduates who have excelled intellectually as well as demonstrated strong leadership worldwide. The University is a regional leader in research productivity and quality and its 130+ academic degree programs attract top high school students and are offered at a student to faculty ration of 11.2:1. With its record of accreditation and excellence, AUB, one of the oldest and most impactful modern institutions of higher education in the region, is likely to generate high caliber candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship.

“As one of the leading universities in the region, we expect that there will be a great number of outstanding students who will compete for the Scholarship from the American University of Beirut the AUB” announced the Rhodes Trust at the visit.

AUB students are encouraged to take advantage of this recent eligibility to apply to the oldest university in the English-speaking world and be fully supported to join at the world's most prestigious institution in higher education.

The first cohort of Rhodes Scholars from the Middle East will be selected in 2016 and will be admitted for postgraduate study at the University of Oxford in 2017.

“We are very excited that Rhodes Scholarships have been expanded to the region, and of course to AUB students,” Interim Associate Provost, Dr. Hala Muhtasib, said. “A Rhodes Scholarship would be an unparalleled opportunity for an AUB student to pursue graduate education at one of the top universities in the world while participating in a renowned program that has produced international leaders. As the Rhodes Trust states, Rhodes Scholars must be ‘young women and men of outstanding intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service,’ and I am confident that there are future Rhodes Scholars among AUB students and young alumni.”

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**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 more than 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 130 programs leading to 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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