

For Immediate Release



OSB Professor Dima Jamali receives 2015 Aspen Faculty Pioneer Award for leadership and risk-taking in the classroom

Beirut, Lebanon- 02/10/2015 - Olayan School of Business Professor Dima Jamali, who teaches management and is the Kamal Shair Endowed Chair in Leadership, has been announced as one of four recipients of the 2015 Aspen Faculty Pioneer Award, which celebrates educators who demonstrate leadership and risk-taking – and blaze a trail toward curricula that deeply examine the relationships between capital markets, firms, and the public good.

Dr. Jamali is the only non-US professor to be awarded this prestigious award. She joins professors from MIT, Harvard, and Northwestern University, in being recognized for her work in promoting business ethics and corporate social responsibility.

“I feel honored and privileged to be selected for this prestigious award,” said Dr. Jamali. “This is not only recognition of my work, but for my institution, AUB, which has created the space for faculty to leap forward in the domain of sustainability. It is great to have the opportunity to touch lives and inspire young minds and future generations towards the goal of creating sustainable patterns of economic and human development that place the needs of people front and center towards a more inclusive economy.”

The four recipients are considered to be leading the way in prompting business school students to think about how firms can act in the face of growing economic inequality. The honorees, announced on September 30, 2015 by the Aspen Institute Business and Society Program, are:

- David Besanko, IBM Professor of Regulation and Competitive Practice at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.
- Shawn Cole, John G. McLean Professor of Business Administration in the Finance Unit at the Harvard Business School at Harvard University.
- Dima Jamali, Kamal Shair Chair in Responsible Leadership and Professor at the Olayan School of Business at the American University of Beirut.
- Thomas Kochan, George M. Bunker Professor of Work and Employment Relations at the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); and Co-Director of the Institute for Work and Employment Research at MIT.

The focus of this year’s call for nominations was to recognize and honor faculty who are teaching about inequality in their MBA classrooms, said Claire Preisser, who manages the

Faculty Pioneer selection process as associate director of the Aspen Institute Business & Society Program.

“When thinking about remedies to inequality, people naturally reach into the policy sphere for solutions,” Preisser said. “Policy interventions are very important, but historically business has been a key actor in building and sustaining a middle class. We believe that today’s business students need to be prompted more often to think about how the everyday choices in firms can build shared prosperity—or work against it. The faculty members we honor this year are doing just that.”

The fact that some faculty at top-ranked MBA programs are addressing inequality in the classroom is especially encouraging, said Judith Samuelson, executive director of the Aspen Institute Business & Society Program.

“We are very encouraged that these classroom discussions are happening, and happening at top-ranked schools—and are eager to see more faculty follow suit,” Samuelson said. “This year’s Faculty Pioneers are bringing inequality out of the ethics classroom and into the classes that really matter in the MBA curriculum.”

Syllabi from the courses taught by these faculty and additional details about their approaches to teaching are available at www.CasePlace.org. Selection criteria for the 2015 award are also available on this site.

The Aspen Institute Business & Society Program will recognize the Faculty Pioneer Award Winners at [Business and Inequality: A Dialogue on Business and Business Education](#) in New York on Thursday, October 15. The event will focus on how business schools can most effectively prepare students to lead companies in ways that produce a vibrant economy that works for all.

Nominations for these awards were submitted by respected academics around the world. Award winners were selected by Aspen Institute staff in consultation with academic advisers: Dr. Bruce Buchanan, Stern School of Business, New York University; Dr. Bruce Hutton, Daniels College of Business, University of Denver; Dr. Maureen Scully, University of Massachusetts, Boston; and Dr. Peter Tufano, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford.

Established in 1998 and building on over 60 years of Aspen Institute programming, the Aspen Institute Business & Society Program (BSP) helps established and emerging business leaders put values at the heart of practice. Through dialogue, research, and outreach, Aspen BSP creates opportunities for executives and educators to explore new routes to business sustainability and values-based leadership. For more information, visit www.aspenbsp.org.

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and to provide a nonpartisan venue for dealing with critical issues. The Institute is based in Washington, DC; Aspen, Colorado; and on the Wye River on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. It also has offices in New York City and an international network of partners. For more information, visit www.aspeninstitute.org.

Dr. Jamali is the author/editor of three books and over 50 international publications, focusing on different aspects of CSR in developing countries and the Middle East.

She is also the winner of the 2010 Shoman Prize for best young Arab researcher, which recognizes distinctive scientific works that contribute to addressing priority issues at the local, regional and international levels. Dr. Jamali was also winner of the 2013 Eisenhower Fellows Program, joining a global network of leading professionals committed to collaborate for a more prosperous, just and peaceful world and the British Academy of Management Fellowship for South Asia and the Middle East in 2007 which identifies and supports scholars with exceptional potential and trajectory from the South Asia / Middle East region.

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For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Director of News and Information, ma110@aub.edu.lb,
01-75 96 85

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 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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