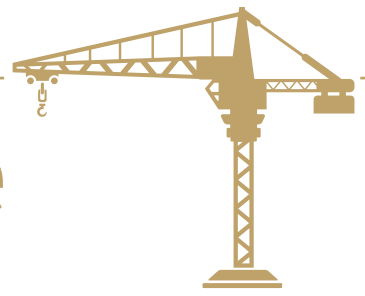


The Race for Space

LAU's capital projects are full steam ahead



LAU's capital projects are in full swing. The university's rapid growth has created a need to expand and upgrade to meet the requirements of faculty, students and staff, and to foster the strength of our academic programs while providing a conducive and comfortable work environment. As part of the \$240 million capital projects budget, a total of 20 renovation and deferred maintenance projects with an aggregate budget exceeding \$2.5 million are under way. The Facilities Management Department is relentlessly working towards meeting the growing space demand and at the same time increasing operations and maintenance capacities.

CHAGOURY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

The Chagoury Health Sciences Center in Byblos is nearing completion. The spectacular six-floor, 15,500 square meter modern complex was specifically designed to motivate students, promote learning and meet the needs of the health sciences academic programs and schools.

The building boasts technological solutions such as video-conferencing, digitized collections of microscope slides and a state-of-the-art simulation center. It will host the Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy and the Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing, providing a unique opportunity for students of these disciplines to interact, share expertise and develop into well-rounded professionals.



BYBLOS CAMPUS



BYBLOS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

A project to upgrade the infrastructure of the Byblos campus is well underway. New facilities will provide the Byblos campus with nine megawatts of backup power, a central chilled water air conditioning plant, a central boiler plant for heating, a wastewater treatment plant, a water pumping plant, a main central water storage reservoir and a power substation. Infrastructure upgrades are expected to be completed in 2015.



UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE

With the goal of greening the Byblos campus, both internally and externally, as well as the need to accommodate more parking spaces, LAU has decided to build a new five-story underground parking garage, leaving more space for grass and landscaping. In a creative use of space, the garage's rooftops will have green terraces that can be used for social gatherings and events. Phase I of the 625-car garage, which will include a bomb shelter on its lowest level, has been completed, while the works for Phase II related to finishing the Underground Parking facility were recently awarded. This state of the art facility will be operated through a modern parking management system, and is expected to be ready in 2014.



GIBRAN LIBRARY

Award-winning architecture firm Atelier Pagnamenta Torriani has finalized the conceptual design for the new Gibran Library on the Byblos Campus. Drawing on the resources and expertise of the staff at the Riad Nasser Library, the new facility will feature two adjacent buildings with a stunning canyon-like space between them. With a growing student body, it is designed to accommodate over 500 students at one time. A LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) consultant has been engaged to seek LEED-Gold Accreditation for the building, which will open its doors in fall 2015.



SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING WORKSHOP AND LABS

Excavation for the construction of the new School of Engineering's labs and workshops building has begun in Byblos, with an anticipated date of completion to coincide with the unveiling of the new library. The labs will offer a space for students and faculty to conduct research in a cooperative environment, using the latest technology for industrial, mechanical, computer, civil, and chemical engineering.



FREM CIVIC CENTER

The Byblos campus is reaping the benefits of the Frem Civic Center, which was inaugurated in 2011. The center was conceived as a vehicle to foster collaboration and cross-disciplinary dialogue among various departments. With its multi-purpose hall, meeting rooms, seminar rooms and complete energy efficiency, it provides a place for planned or impromptu gatherings, and for intellectual debate. Workshops, seminars and lectures on transparency, and ethical and sound governance practices, are being held in Frem. It houses offices for the School of Business, the University Enterprise Office and Outreach and Civic Engagement Unit, in addition to other LAU centers and institutes. It is also currently home to a temporary Clinical Simulation Center, a cutting edge lab used by all health education majors.



SPORTS CENTER

With a university-wide focus on health and the cultivation of the whole person, a new sports center is planned for the Byblos campus. The facility will include a track and swimming pool, a gymnasium, a health spa as well as a multitude of indoor and outdoor courts. The project is planned for completion in 2016-2017.



BEIRUT CAMPUS

GEZAIRI BUILDING

The university has recently acquired the former headquarters of leading shipping company Gezairi Transport. Located one block from Beirut campus on Sadat Street, it comprises a main building with a three-floor penthouse, a large theater and offices. The property also includes a school, which Gezairi Transport donated after relocating to Downtown Beirut. Eleven classrooms have been renovated and used during this academic year.

Upon completion, the premises will house all School of Architecture and Design programs and functions, including the new Fashion Design program.

“Because space in Lebanon is scarce and precious, we are working to optimize the use of our land. To that end, we are also renovating ageing buildings, equipping them with advanced, modern, intelligent and energy efficient building systems.”

—Georges Hamouche, assistant vice president for Facilities Management



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

The LRC building is undergoing major renovations to provide a state-of-the-art student center that will include student lounges, lecture halls, conference rooms, Red Cross and nurses offices, a choir room, music practice rooms, office space for student clubs and organizations, career counseling offices and a fitness center, among other key learning and civic life entities. The new student center was driven by a desire to integrate academics and social life as LAU continues to cultivate a holistic approach to education.

Completion is expected in July 2013.



ARTS AND SCIENCES BUILDING

The School of Arts and Sciences in Beirut is getting a new building; a \$50-million, 18,000 square-meter facility which will house classrooms, studios, labs and offices, with a projected completion date in 2016-17. The complex will provide additional academic space and replaces some functions currently housed in Nicol Hall, Orme-Gray, Sage Hall, and Shannon Hall.



INFRASTRUCTURE AND DATA CENTER

Part I: Power plant – (8 MW) of power, a medium voltage loop running across the Beirut campus to feed the existing buildings, new transformers' and electrical rooms, upgrading of the buildings' main distribution panels, low voltage systems, earthing and lightning protection.

Part II: Data Center – The Project entails upgrading the main Beirut campus data center. The design was completed, tendered and awarded in 2013 Execution will start in May 2013 and the project is expected to be completed in phases through summer 2014.



CAFETERIA AND CYBER CAFE

The doors to the 250-seat renovated cafeteria will reopen to the LAU community this summer. Improvements include an extension of the main dining area and the creation of a cyberspace where students can connect while munching on snacks and coffee. Other renovations entail a new kitchen with state of the art equipment, as well as a spacious dining area with a lively ambience.

FM INITIATIVES

In an effort to better organize, enhance, modernize and upgrade the service level at the university, the Facilities Management Department has embarked on a series of new enterprises. Special committees consisting of engineers and administrators from the two Physical Plant divisions are working together, under the leadership of the Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management and the respective Physical Plant Directors, to prepare for the implementation of the following important initiatives:

- Safety Audit and Safety enhancement Initiative
- Energy Management and Sustainability initiative
- University Design Guidelines
- Buildings and Grounds Condition Assessment
- CMMS (Computer Maintenance Management System)
- Sustainability Campaign



Beirut team



Byblos team



FACILITIES MANAGEMENT STAFF

The Facilities Management department is composed of four units: Project Management & Contract Administration, Planning & Renovations, Physical Plant - Beirut and Physical Plant -Byblos. These four units plan, construct, renovate, operate and maintain LAU's physical assets. Facilities Management strives to a set of core values: quality, professionalism, teamwork, commitment to timely support service, environmental awareness, responsibility and safety.