

## **AUB Surgical Alumni Association of North America (AUB SAANA)**

AUB-SAANA Newsletter, April 2nd, 2018



Dear members,

The AUB-SAANA Newsletter is a new biannual publication that will be circulating to keep our community informed on the most recent updates from both the SAANA and our beloved Department of Surgery at AUBMC. Your growing engagement over the recent years has re-energized the Association, and we look forward to working with everyone on strengthening our transatlantic surgical community and carrying it to greater heights. Please join us in celebrating the very special bond that unites us as surgeons and AUBites.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Boston (Location TBD), at our Annual Reception/Dinner on Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 during the ACS Clinical Congress.

Sincerely,  
The AUB-SAANA Executive Committee

Haytham Kaafarani, MD, MPH  
Peter Naman, MD  
Wassim Mazraany, MD  
Elie Ramly, MD

## **AUB SAANA NEWSLETTER**

1. AUB SAANA Updates
  - a. Stay tuned!
  - b. Announcements
  - c. Membership dues
  - d. Awards
2. AUBMC Department of Surgery Updates
  - a. New Faculty
  - b. Accreditation Achievements
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## **AUB SAANA Updates:**

### **Stay tuned!**

- Save the date: Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. Boston, MA. Annual Reception/Dinner during the ACS Clinical Congress.
- AUB-SAANA Logo, designed by our very own Savo Bou Zein Eddine, AUB medschool graduate, currently a research fellow at the Division of Trauma Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- AUB-SAANA Website – currently under construction, and will soon be going live - stay tuned!
- AUB-SAANA membership database – an online form will soon be sent for everyone to fill their basic information. This will facilitate contact and collaboration among members.
- AUB SAANA dues and donations for 2018 – please see the information below

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-Do you have announcements or good news about AUB alumni in the field of surgery that you would like to share with SAANA members?

-Do you have an open position at your workplace that you would like to share with members of SAANA?

-Are you or do you know an AUB alumnus, medical student, resident, fellow, or attending looking for a research or clinical surgical position?

**Please email your questions or suggestions to: [elie.ramly@gmail.com](mailto:elie.ramly@gmail.com)**

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

-Please send a check with your \$100 membership dues for 2018 (larger donations are also more than welcome):

Every year, SAANA is happy to secure a “no fee” spot for an AUB surgical resident (to be selected) to attend a national US surgical conference of their choice in their field of interest.

**Surgical trainee Award:** Thanks to your dues and donations in 2017, SAANA was able to successfully secure Dr. Hiba Ezzaddine's attendance to the 2017 Harvard Trauma symposium.

Each year, with your help, our goal is to be able to completely cover in the Award the cost of the registration, flight, and hotel stay for the resident to attend their conference of choice.

Your dues also make the Achievement and Service Awards, Annual Reception, and other upcoming SAANA activities possible every year!

### **HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES:**

The check qualifies as donation for your taxes, and should be made **payable to AUB SAANA**, and sent to our Secretary/Treasurer:

Elie Ramly  
4242 N Vancouver Ave, unit V 314  
Portland, OR 97217

### **2018 AWARDS**

#### **2018 Achievement and Service Awards: Congratulations to Dr. Naji Abumrad!**

***Message from Dr. Haytham Kaafarani, AUB-SAANA President, introducing the recipient of the 2018 Awards:***

*Thank you for everyone who voted this year - your engagement was extremely appreciated. All the names that were suggested during the voting process were those of very impressive surgeons, and it gives everyone great pride to see how many people in our society are deserving. Based on the voting counts, It gives us exceptional pleasure to announce that **Dr. Naji Abumrad is the recipient of both the Academic Achievement as well as the Service Awards** for this year.*

*Dr. Abumrad is currently the John L. Sawyer Professor of Surgery at Vanderbilt. He graduated from AUB in 1971 and is solidly recognized as one of the giants of surgery in North America with an impressive record of leadership and academic/research roles at SUNY, Vanderbilt and nationally (e.g. NIH). His research contributions in understanding metabolic and endocrine surgery, especially the impact of obesity and bariatric surgery on diabetes, are innumerable: more than 250 peer-reviewed editorials, articles and textbook chapters, some in the highest impact journals such as Nature, JAMA, and the Annals of Surgery.*

*As importantly, Dr. Abumrad has helped hundreds of AUB graduates find their careers all over the world, especially in the US. I have not met Naji personally yet (looking forward to meeting him soon), but I keep hearing, from many of his AUBite and non-AUBite colleagues, praise about his consistent selflessness and dedication to mentoring and helping others.*

**Please join us in congratulating Naji** for his well-deserved awards, and do every effort to join us in celebrating him in person next October at the Annual Reception in Boston. We are exploring with the New England AUB Alumni Association, the current President of which is Dr. Kamal Itani, the possibility of following the annual reception with a formal optional ticketed dinner. More details to follow.

**2018 Surgical trainee Award:** Winner to be determined.

## **AUBMC Department of Surgery updates, April 2018**

By Jamal Hoballah, MD, MBA, Chairman of the Department of Surgery, AUB.

### **NEW FACULTY:**

**The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that three additional faculty members have joined the department this past Academic Year, bringing the total number of faculty to 63 members (including 3 emeritus professors).**

#### **Please join us in welcoming our three newest faculty members:**

**Dr. Ahmad Zaghal:** Instructor of Clinical Surgery, Division of General Surgery, Pediatric Surgery Section, joined AUBMC in September 2017. Dr Zaghal received his training in General Surgery at AUBMC followed by a 2-year Pediatric Surgery fellowship at the University of Iowa and One year of additional pediatric Surgery training at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, NHS Trust.

**Dr Jamil Borgi:** Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery, Division of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery joined AUBMC in January 2018. Dr Borgi received his General Surgery training at Henry Ford Hospital, followed by a Cardio-Thoracic Surgery Fellowship at the University of Washington. He was then recruited back to Henry Ford where he was concentrating his practice on complex adult cardiac surgery with a focus on aortic disease and heart failure, heart and lung transplantation.

**Dr Houssein Darwish:** Instructor of Clinical Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery, joined AUBMC in March 2018. He completed his Neurosurgery training at AUBMC followed by an Endoscopic, Neuroendocrine and Skull base fellowship at the University of Virginia. After practicing for two years at Bahman and Khoury BMG hospitals he obtained additional training in stereotactic Neurosurgery and Deep brain Stimulation at the Cleveland Clinic, Florida.

### **ACCREDITATION ACHIEVEMENTS:**

**The Department of Surgery accomplished an additional milestone this year as additional accreditation by ACGME-I was achieved in the following programs:**

- Orthopedic Surgery Residency
- Neurosurgery residency
- Plastic Surgery residency

**AUBMC was approved to become a center for offering the *Fundamentals of laparoscopic Surgery* test under the directorship of Dr Ramzi Alami.**

## **EVENTS:**

March 3, 2018 - *2nd Beirut Annual Spine Symposium: Emergencies in Spinal Care Hot topics*; organized by the Divisions of Neurosurgery and Orthopedic Surgery.

March 3, 2018 - *8th Annual AUB Biomedical Research Day* - 13 posters from the Department of Surgery were accepted!

September 23, 2017 – *Multidisciplinary Urological Research Day*: featured multiple completed and ongoing Clinical and Basic Science Research studies

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### Published Books:

Reconstructing The War-Injured Patient. Abu Sittah, Bakhach and Hoballah (Editors). Springer (2017)

Operative Dictations in General And Vascular Surgery; Third Edition. Hoballah, Scott-Conner, and Chong (Editors). Springer (2017)