



IC Newsletter WINTER 2018



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In the year 1980, the ICAA was established by a group of visionary Alumni along with the former IC President **Mr. Alton Reynolds**. The ICAA was established as a non-profit, non-political, non-religious and independent organization duly registered at the Ministry of Interior on May 9th, 1980 under number 61.

LEGAL ENTITY

ICAA is a fully independent legal entity completely separate from IC the school. The ICAA is different from the IC Alumni and Development Office which is part of the IC administration. **The ICAA has an independent vision, mission, objectives, and bylaws.**

MISSION

ICAA aims to connect and empower the IC community at large including alumni, faculty, and staff and support IC's original mission of building a better society.

VISION

ICAA aspires for a community that values the collective and lives up to the IC ideals.

VALUES

Mindfulness, Moderation, Open Mindedness, Diversity and Tolerance.

MEMBERSHIP

The eligibility for membership falls under two categories:

- 1- Every student who graduated from IC and who has paid his/her membership fees as per the ICAA terms and conditions.
- 2- Any IC student who studied at IC for at least one (1) academic year, who embodies the IC values, and who has paid his/her membership fee as per the ICAA terms and conditions.



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www.icaalebanon.com

COUNCIL

ICAA Council consists of fifteen (15) members, fourteen (14) of whom are elected by the ICAA general assembly; in addition to one (1) member appointed by the IC President.

CHARTER

ICAA is governed by the ICAA Charter. This charter is the ICAA bylaws that defines the appropriate rights, roles, and responsibilities of the general assembly, the council, its executive committee, its committees and subcommittees. This charter protects and preserves the rights of the ICAA and its members all over the globe.

ELECTIONS

The ICAA council election process is governed by Lebanese Laws. The elections are conducted every three years, based on democratic principles; whereby all ICAA registered members are given the chance to vote for council members, as well as to submit for candidacy as council members.

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Keep the IC Spirit!

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Contents



FEATURES

For the love of music	5
Letters, Links and Bulus Khauli	6
The Adventures of Alexander MacLachlan	8
The Nabu Museum	10
Seeking Justice	12
Roast Beef and Melted Yellow Cheese Sandwiches	14
The Cedars of God.....	16



CAMPUS NEWS

Happy 30th Anniversary Ain Aar	11
A New Cafeteria	22
Lebanese Cuisine Day	24
Halloween Party	25
Inauguration of the Steam Lab.....	26

ALUMNI

Decade of Memories 1960-1969 Reunion	27
10th and 25th Reunions	30
Updates	31
Letters to the Editor	34

OBITS.....	35
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"In Support of IC Scholarships"

Friday, January 18, 2019	MONTREAL	Dinner
Sunday, January 20, 2019	TORONTO	Brunch
Wednesday, January 23, 2019	WASHINGTON, D.C.	Dinner
Friday, January 25, 2019	CHICAGO	Dinner
Sunday, January 27, 2019	BOSTON	Brunch
Tuesday, January 29, 2019	NEW YORK	Dinner
Thursday, January 31, 2019	MIAMI	Dinner
Tuesday, February 05, 2019	ATLANTA	Dinner
Thursday, February 07, 2019	SAN FRANCISCO	Dinner
Saturday, February 09, 2019	LOS ANGELES	Dinner



FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC

On May 31, 2019, **Yasmina Sabbah '06** will step onto a stage, take a deep breath and conduct the USJ Choir and the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra - effectively making her one of the few female conductors in the region.

"Will I be nervous?" laughed the 30-year-old. "Yes! But so very excited."

Sabbah has come a long way from her IC choir days. Her educational path is similar to many Lebanese with non-traditional interests. Girl loves music, but girl majors in something else. Sabbah, at least, minored in music and managed to land a part-time job conducting a children's choir at a local school.

What was intended to be a

temporary stint became a catalyst, guiding Sabbah to find her passion: conducting.

Immediately, she wanted to learn everything there was to know about leading an ensemble, center stage.

In 2013, she began her master's degree in Choral Conducting at the University of Cambridge. A year later, she became a certified conductor qualified to pursue her career anywhere in the world.

She chose Lebanon.

"People don't realize that the western classical music scene here is quite big and expanding very quickly," said Sabbah. "There is a huge need for musicians and conductors."

Upon returning to Beirut,



Sabbah sent applications to several institutions.

"Here's my CV. Here is my plan. Here is my objective".

To her surprise, many universities responded, but it was the University St. Joseph (USJ) that won Sabbah over. In the university rector, Father Salim Daccache, she found a fellow supporter for music and art. It was his idea to start a choir at the University.

USJ's choir is to be an open one – anyone in the community can join. Announcements were made public.

On the first day of rehearsal, Sabbah entered a room where 30 people stared at their new conductor expectantly.

The crowd was a mixture of USJ students, USJ alumni and faculty,



professionals, mothers, fathers and even grandparents, eager to spend their Thursday evenings singing.

Sabbah gathered her music sheets and began. The piece she had chosen was a challenging madrigal with a catchy tune. Would they respond to it? Would they feel how beautiful this piece is? Would they want more?

Ultimately, her worries were needless.

Three months later, the USJ Choir held their first concert.

Sabbah held her breath as she walked onto stage. Could she pull this off? Her reputation as a conductor depended on this first concert.

Her stressful training at Cambridge suddenly kicked in as she led the ensemble with resounding success. Today, the USJ Choir, made of 60 members ranging from 16 to 70 years old, puts on several concerts a year with members of the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra.

"Lebanon is a country where you have the opportunity to build something," she said. "The western classical music scene is booming. We are contributing in elevating the music level in this country. I consider this a mission of mine."

In addition to the USJ Choir, Sabbah is also conducting the Jeunesse Musicale du Liban Orchestra, the Lebanese Conservatoire Children's

and Youth Choirs.

"I feel lucky to be able to work with all these wonderful singers," she said. "Working with a choir is about developing good singing voices, enhancing musicality, widening repertoire, singing in style and most importantly, creating a family with strong human bonds."

Another mission is to reach parents with a strong plea: please allow your children to pursue music if this is their passion.

"We don't all need to be engineers or doctors," she said. "There are plenty of good jobs for musicians here and we are living well, very well indeed. Let them join us."

They will love it. It's a good life. A marvelous world.

Concert dates:

Wednesday December 19 2018, 8:30 PM, St. Joseph Church, Monot.

USJ Choir and Members of the Philharmonic Orchestra

Repertoire: Haydn Nelson Mass

Friday December 31 2019, 8:30 PM, St. Joseph Church, Monot.

USJ Choir and the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra

Other concerts will be announced here:

<https://www.facebook.com/choeurusj/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC318RAtRStCHJCYJ1rZNu5w>

Letters, Links and Bulus Khauli

*IC Alumnus journeys
into the past to discover his
grandfather*

As far as **Tony Naufal '70** knew, his grandfather, whom he had never met, was a kind but rather austere man. The type who only needed to glance at his pocket watch for his children to scoot to bed.

So when an aunt gave him an old painting of his grandfather that she had stored away, Naufal graciously accepted it and dutifully hung it in his home.

After all, he was family.

It was not until Dr. Charles Malek, the famous Lebanese academic, diplomat, and philosopher, welcomed Naufal during his second year as 'the grandson of Bulus Khauli' into his class, that he grew intrigued.

Who exactly was his grandfather? Who was Bulus Khauli?

The answer would come years later when, in 2011, relatives found boxes stored in the attics of a family member who had passed away. Knowing his interest in the family, the boxes were given to Naufal.

"Do you know what was inside?" he said. "Letters, papers, documents. Most of them over 100 years ago and handwritten in Arabic."

He immediately poured over the contents of the box unraveling an exciting new world before his eyes. As he painstakingly read and chronicled each document, the shape of a formidable man began to take shape. A man who was trying to create a new Middle East with several of his activist peers— a turn of the century brat pack of sorts.

"Had they succeeded," said Naufal, "we would never have had all these crises."

The names were big. The scholars, academics, and intellectuals of the 1900s who were rendering scientific ideas and discoveries into Arabic (thus the birth of the Arabic journal al-



Tony Naufal



Bulus Khauli

Muqtataf). Names like Yacub Sarraf, Faris Nimr, Jabr Dumit, Mansur Jurdak, Jurjus and Anis Maqdisi, and Philip Hitti – all feature in Khauli's letters.

They were a core group of intellectuals – many of them IC Prep graduates – who had returned to AUB (the Syrian Protestant College – SPC at the time) after pursuing advanced studies in the US. Neither AUB nor Ras Beirut would ever be the same again as the scholars immersed themselves in debates and issues facing the Arab world.

Their writings and teachings played a crucial part in influencing younger generations of intellectuals of the 40s, 50s and 60s.

As Naufal dug deeper in his grandfather's world, he uncovered a new link with Khauli: they were both IC graduates – the "prep school". Moreover, Khauli was once a teacher at the Prep.

Unconsciously, Naufal began weaving an invisible web – a web which somehow linked him to his former IC classmates.

"Many of us were in class together for several years and we never realized that our grandfathers were very close friends and scholars together," he said. "I mean we had no idea what our grandfathers had done."

Furthermore, the tall American man, that he used to see at IC in the 60s and whom he vaguely referred to as Mr. (Huntington) Bliss was no other than the son of his grandfather's mentor and close friend, Howard Bliss.

Bliss and Khauli had become friends after Khauli was hired by AUB's founder, Daniel Bliss, in 1897 as an instructor. Khauli was a strong advocate of the Arabic language in education while championing western academic models. He insisted that the answers to many of the 'evils' suffered in the Near East could only be solved through education – one made up of three different parts: teaching, cultivating, and refining and polishing manners – ideas that Howard Bliss also endorsed making the pair perfect allies.

Together, the men strongly believed that SPC would produce men of great character who would lead a new and struggling Middle East to emerge.

In 1910, AUB launched its own publication: al-Kulliyeh.

Khauli was given the general editorship of the Arabic section. Scholars began contributing articles including intellectuals like Jabr Dumit, Dawud Kurban, Philip Hitti, Anis Maqdisi, Youssef Aftimus, Mansur Jurdak, Murad Baroody,

and Najib Nassar. Not only did the publication serve as a platform to bring alumni together, but it became a meeting point where scholars could share ideas.

Effectively, a SPC core group had formed and national ideas exchanged.

Howard Bliss himself was perhaps one the group's biggest supporters and seized any occasion to encourage the awakening of nationalism. *Al-Kulliyah* was instrumental to this ideology. The publication became a mouthpiece for scholars, including Khauli, who called for reform within the Ottoman Empire.

In 1919, Emir Feisal asked Khauli, as a representative of the SPC group, to represent Syria at the Third World Christian Citizenship Conference in Pittsburg. Khauli accepted and spoke about the Turks creating divisions in Syria. Furthermore, he expressed his anxieties that tensions were increasing due to the actions of the British and French occupying forces.

"I believe that the peace and prosperity of the East will never be accomplished by promoting the interests of the Christians alone . . . There will be no real peace to the Christians if the Moslems are oppressed and vice versa," said Khauli.

The only way forward, he stressed, is to use nationality as a uniting factor, replacing religious identities.

"If there is going to be a democracy in Syria, this principle must be maintained and the relationship between Christians and Moslems must be adequately adjusted," he continued. "This adjustment will be more effective if it could be introduced by the

leaders of the ruling majority, which is Mohammedan."

Reiterating Bliss's ideas, he asked for a total separation of state and church. It is now the time, with the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, and with the endorsement of Emir Faisal, to take these measures. Be weary of the French and British. Don't miss this chance to help the region. (They missed it).

Before leaving the US, Khauli traveled to NY where he visited a dying Bliss at the hospital.

"God bless you Bulus," Bliss had told him. "Go back to Syria and continue the work we have begun . . . Keep in touch with the powers that control the country – with the French. Do not waste time waiting for somebody else to do the things you ought to do for yourselves . . . In this period of reconstruction more depends on the Syrian teachers than on their American colleagues. Have patience. Never give up! Never give up! Remember the basis of the college is religion – a true religious spirit, a sound intellectual training and a sweet social environment."

Bliss died shortly after.

Back in Beirut, Khauli and SPC scholars moved from a "Syrian" to an "Arab" kind of nationalism. Khauli became the mentor of many members of the Arab nationalist movement, 'al-Urwa al-wuthqa'.

The newly elected AUB President Bayard Dodge was aware of this movement and seemed to endorse it while managing the French authorities and safeguarding the freedom of the university – which had turned into

a hub of nationalism, where ardent nationalists came to lecture at West Hall.

"So you see, my grandfather and his group loved AUB and the nation," said Naufal. "They believed that they were rejuvenating the empire. This group of people were working with Faisal and working for the secularization of Middle Eastern politics. Had it happened, things would have been very different today."

Naufal was silent for a few moments willing himself back to the present day. It has been a remarkable and long journey of discovery. The research. The history. The links.

In 1949, Khauli died of a heart attack. His attending physician and close friend was Afif Mufarrij, the father-in-law of IC's current Vice President for Academics and incidentally a good friend of Naufal's, Paula Mufarrij.

Yet another link.

Bulus Khauli, had come "to the end of his useful life," wrote Dodge.

Naufal slowly closed the folder where he had lovingly stored all of Khauli's documents.

"And that," he said proudly, "was my grandfather."

Additional information: Bayard Dodge, The American University of Beirut: A Brief History of the University and the Lands which it serves (Beirut: Khayat's, 1958), A Useful Life (p. 259-272) by Antoine Naufal, One Hundred and Fifty Years, Nadia Maria El Cheikh, Lina Choueiri, Bilal Orfali. Civil and Uncivil Violence in Lebanon: A History of the Internationalization, By Samir Khalaf.

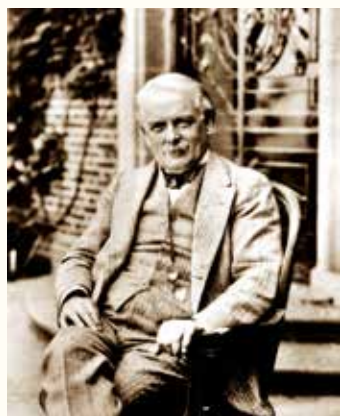


The Adventures of Alexander MacLachlan:

Reverend Alexander
MacLachlan



Alexander MacLachlan with his friends, Mr and Mrs Holten, at
IC Campus before leaving for the Paris Peace Conference



David Lloyd George, British
Prime Minister



Eleftherios Venizelos, Prime
Minister of Greece

1918. Turkey was defeated. The Ottoman Empire had crumbled. Residents of Smyrna continued to hold their breath with their city effectively under Allied control. The power now lay with the Allied High Commissioners: The British, French and Italian. The question now was: if Turkey no longer ruled their nation, then who would?

The Greeks living in Smyrna were particularly optimistic. They knew quite well that the Megali Idea (Big Idea –to recover all of Greek lands) was very much alive.

They also knew that the man who most enthusiastically supported the Megali Idea and the one most determined to make it happen was Greece's Premier Eleftherios Venizelos. On his part, Venizelos had found a strong ally in British Prime Minister Lloyd George, whose passion for Greece was well known. The two had become good friends. With Lloyd George championing the Megali Idea, Venizelos felt and indeed knew that a Greek occupation of Smyrna was just a matter of time. All he needed was the go ahead from the Allied Powers at the upcoming Paris Peace Conference.

Protestant Minister, Reverend Alexander MacLachlan looked with surprise at a communique in front of him. The letter requested that he submit his written opinion about a Greek military occupation of Smyrna and Western Asia Minor to the delegation heading to the Paris Peace

Conference. He was assured that his comments would be strictly confidential and thus was requested to write his views freely and fully. He was also asked to include his views on any alternative settlement of the Turkish situation. His report would be highly confidential.

MacLachlan reflected.

The Reverend was a school principal,



Smyrna

(Part XIX)

a teacher, a missionary but hardly a politician. Still, his long-term residence in the area and his friendly relations with the Greeks and Turks had given him much insight into the country's internal affairs.

He, of all people knew, the hatred that existed between the two peoples and knew quite well that the Turks would never submit to Greek domination. As for Greece, the country was rife with political strife (Venizelists vs. the Royalists). Was Greece really fit for the job?

Definitely not, thought MacLachlan. What Turkey needed was a period of tutelage to develop its own democratic institutions and lay the foundation of a constitutional government.

MacLachlan sat on his desk and began. "Of all the possible solutions of the Near East settlement, the one proposed is the worst," he wrote. "It cannot fail to be disastrous for both Turkey and Greece. Turkey will never submit to Greek domination, so long as a Greek armed force remains in Asia Minor we, who are domiciled here, will be doomed to live under bitter war conditions."



MacLachlan Hall, Smyrna, Turkey

Before sealing the letter, he decided to consult IC faculty and staff. Did they agree with him? Assured of their unanimous support, MacLachlan sent off the letter to the American Embassy in Constantinople as requested.

Three weeks later, MacLachlan, was taken aback. Word reached him that he was under severe attack by the Greek press and strongly accused of interfering with Greek rights and interests in Asia Minor.

So much for the oath of confidence, he fumed.

It would be 12 years later before he found out how his letter was leaked to the Greek press. He was in Canada when he met a Greek author who had lived in Smyrna and accompanied Venizelos during the Paris Peace Conference. Naturally, a conversation about Asia Minor and the Greek occupation and events ensued. MacLachlan spoke about the 'shocking'

leak to the press just before the Conference.

Nothing could have prepared him for her response.

"As you know Mr. Venizelos and Mr. Lloyd George collaborated very closely whenever the Near East settlement was under consideration," she said. "At the first meeting of the High Council after your confidential comment came, when the Near East settlement was under consideration and at which Mr. Venizelos was present, Mr. Lloyd George made a strong appeal on behalf of the Greek military occupation of Smyrna and its hinterland. When he finished his argument, Mr. Wilson (US president) handed him your statement with the remark, 'there's what one of your fellow-countrymen thinks about it; and he has no axe to grind. He has lived there for between thirty and forty years and has always been the friend of both Greeks and Turks.'

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Lloyd George carried your statement away with him and naturally showed it to Mr. Venizelos, who gave it to me to translate with the request that I forward a copy of to the Greek Metropolitan Archbishop of Greece at Athens. That was my part in the transaction and explains how your confidential communication reached the Greek Press."

Two months after MacLachlan wrote his letter, the Greeks invaded Smyrna. It would be a move that would eventually lead to the destruction and the slaughter of the vibrant cosmopolitan city.

To be continued...

Historical information based on: an interview with Dr. Howard Reed (summer 2011); Potpourri of Sidelights and Shadows from Turkey, by Alexander MacLachlan, 1937, Paradise Lost, by Giles Milton.



Paris Peace Conference, 1919



The Nabu Museum

The building stands majestically in front of the scintillating Mediterranean Sea. So majestically it sits, that one makes a double take.

Where exactly are we?

The answer is Ras al Shaqa', North of Lebanon in a small coastal village called El Heri.

It is simply called: the Nabu Museum - named after the Mesopotamian god of wisdom. With an enveloping weathering-steel façade, the two-story building is hard to miss.

A step inside reveals an open interior with huge glass windows offering a mesmerizing view straight through the museum's interior and out to the sea with a pier extending out into the shimmering water.

More enthralling is its collection of local and regional modern and contemporary

works of art.

In its midst, stands IC mom Zeina Adra working around the clock running the museum.

"I lost six kilos just running around here," she said laughing.

It was Adra, who for a year, worked long hours supervising the construction of the museum.

"At times I brought in my elderly father from Koura to supervise things while I went home for a bit," she recalled.

But this grand museum was not her dream. In fact, she never understood art before she found herself married to an art collector who insisted on covering every inch of their home with various works.

"This is all Jawad's dream," she said.

It is definitely a dream, agreed her husband Jawad Adra, founder and managing partner of Information International SAL. "But, this is only a small part of a dream. We had Big Dreams. Then the war came and dreams were ruined."

Adra was silent, allowing an emotional moment to pass.

Willing himself back to the present, he continued. "Those of us, who were born in the 50s and 60s, feel that we have failed. Our Big Dreams did not happen. This museum is the closest thing to it."

The beginning of the Nabu museum began in 1973, when Adra was a student in Boston. There, he was invited to an art gallery and found himself staring intently at oil paintings depicting the sea. Adra himself cannot draw for naught but he found himself intrigued. An avid sea swimmer, he thought he knew the colors of the sea quite well. With full confidence, he went over to the artist.



Zeina Adra at the launching of the museum



Jawad Adra

"The colors of the sea are all wrong," he said all knowingly.

The amused artist pointed out to the young Adra that the sea had many vibrant colors – which he had aptly captured in his painting. Adra was captivated.

While it sparked an interest in Adra, finances were limited for the student. Buying acclaimed artwork was out of the question.

His first painting was a gift from a friend. It would be years before he would finally be able to purchase pieces of his choice.

By then, Adra was a wealthy man. His love for art had grown immensely and he spent much of his wealth collecting mostly local art works. His home became an exhibition area for his growing collection.

The question was, now what?

The answer came when he ran into two childhood friends, Bader el-Hage and Fida Jdeed. The friendship was immediately rekindled. Coincidentally, they were also art collectors who had amassed a small fortune. Hage in particular, had a unique collection of rare photographs and books on the region.

They too, had Big Dreams destroyed by the war and were asking: now what?

In a philanthropic spirit, the answer came to the old friends: pool their money together and build a museum. It would be grand. It would display art collections. It would be free.

The first choice of land was in north Lebanon's Balamand area. But that didn't seem right for some reason.

As these things happen, the Adras



were on holiday in Europe (Jawad thinks Italy, Zeina thinks London) when the bright idea came about: how about building the museum on the coast of Heri?

In a second, Zeina was on the phone to the co-founders. Yes, they loved the idea. The highly energetic Zeina then took over all logistics and the huge responsibility of turning the dream museum into a reality.

Just a year later, the Nabu Museum – with its unique façade designed by Iraqi-Canadian artist Mahmoud Obaidi and Iraqi artist Dia Azzawi – opened its doors to display local and regional modern and contemporary works by artists such as Shafic Abboud, Amin al-Bacha, Helen Khal, Dia Azzawi, Shakir Hassan al-Said, Omar Onsi, Mustapha Farroukh,



Ismail Fattah, Adam Henein, Khalil Gibran, Paul Guiragossian, Mahmoud Obaidi and Saliba Douaihy.

Distinguished in Nabu's collection is a unique selection of Cuneiform tablets dating from 2900 to 540 BC.

Train tracks just outside were unearthed and restored as part of the museum. A train wagon from the public transport authorities – is about to be renovated.

Originally scheduled to only open a few days per week, the museum has a continuous stream of visitors keeping it open all week long. More than 4,000 people have visited the museum in one month.

"We never expected such a great interest," said Zeina. "It's been a surprise."

Jawad Adra understands. The Big Dream was one of a grand nation free of corruption, free of bureaucracy, free of sectarianism, free of tribalism. A country where people give and give freely.

A dream that never happened but his museum did. "People tell me that this museum gave them hope again," he said. "Hope that the country can and will flourish again."

His own eyes were now glittering with hope. Maybe the Big Dream will still happen.

Maybe other locals will turn into philanthropists.

Maybe a grand nation will flourish after all.

For more information about the Nabu Museum go to: <https://www.nabumuseum.com/>

SEEKING JUSTICE

IC Alumnus fights for changes in the Lebanese Judicial System



Weakening state institutions. A court system with limited resources. Prisoners presumed guilty until proven innocent. The interference of political parties. An indifferent parliament. A politically unstable government. Widespread corruption.

And in the midst, a group of lawyers desperately trying to do their jobs: securing fair trials for their clients.

“A judicial system is the pillar of any society,” said **Ghida Frangieh ‘00**, “a judicial system solves conflicts. It is supposed to support the people, solve grievances and punish the guilty. A judicial system protects the weakest and treats people equally especially

when they are not equal socially and economically.”

But not so in Lebanon. Bluntly put, it is not working well.

“It is an exhausted system,” she said simply. Any rose tinted glasses were brutally snatched when she decided to return to Lebanon in 2006 to practice law. Her training in France and the UK did very little to prepare her for the realities of the Lebanese judicial system.

Still, the lawyer decided to stay. She knew she could make a difference. “You cannot give up on your court system if you want to build a stronger state.”

Somewhere along the line, she

became a lawyer, lobbyist, researcher and practitioner. “My clients benefit from my research knowledge and policy work,” she explained. “And my policy work benefits from my practical experience as a practitioner lawyer and litigator.”

Frangieh is what is called a Public Interest Lawyer, which basically means that in addition to taking on individual cases, she and her partners in the Saghieh Law Firm, fight to achieve social changes on a broader level.

Growing up in a highly political family, Frangieh was privy to many social debates and arguments at the dinner table. During her secondary years at IC, Frangieh co-founded the

Student Representative Council. She spent the summer of 1999, writing up its bylaws. Her efforts paid off as the SRC became very active in social issues across the country.

On her own time, she volunteered in Palestinian refugee camps. The experience catalyzed the budding Human Rights lawyer within.

"I never really set out to be a lawyer," she said. "But I was very interested in public interest and social issues and being a lawyer was the perfect tool to initiate much needed changes in society."

But it was her work in Lebanon's prison system that really opened her eyes. "People were being detained during their trial," she said, "which illegally assumes that people are guilty before proven innocent. The prisons are bursting with such cases. I couldn't just turn my back on this."

Today, joining forces with other lawyers, Frangieh has taken on the biggest challenge of her life: empowering judges with tried and tested cases and equipping them with pertinent policies and research needed to pass fair judgments. The aim is to create precedents in social policies.

Technically, this is the job of the Parliament.

"We tried that way," she said. "It doesn't work because Parliament is only legislating out of necessity."

Legislative constipation, as she called it.

The lawyers now head straight to the judges. "If Parliament is not doing its job to improve our laws, then it's up to the judges to do that."

Most judges are reportedly intrigued by this new brand of lawyers. Frangieh never goes empty handed. Armed with research and previous lawsuits, the lawyer visits various judges and aptly delivers her arguments.

Unfortunately, there is no shortage of social issues. One of her teams' recent successes is decreasing the high-arrest of drug users. In 1998, a law was approved calling for treatment rather than punishment when it came to drug use. Despite its ratification, the law still hadn't been enforced when Frangieh entered the legal scene in 2006.

"Drug users were still being imprisoned. We wanted to change this policy because drug use should be dealt with as a medical issue rather than a criminal issue," she said.



Frangieh with her law firm partners.

Frangieh and her team set themselves up for a fight. Representing a small group of drug users, they finally made it to the high court. Finally in 2013, fifteen years after the law was first approved, a small coup: the courts ruled that drug users choosing treatment could not be punished.

Frangieh was elated.

But now the second and crucial step: enabling other lawyers to follow the same route.

Accordingly, a "Model Defense" was published. The document developed a series of legal arguments that any lawyer could use in court when needed if dealing with a related case.

"This is how we democratize the law with legal tools," she said. "We developed a model defense for drug users, but also for refugees and gays who face criminal prosecution. We always publish these Model Defenses for all lawyers. Their defense is ready when their clients need it."

Thanks to these efforts, the number of drug users in prison has drastically decreased, but not fully eliminated, Frangieh said.

"It really depends on the judges," she said.

Frangieh's work on other social issues currently include human trafficking, sexual rights, immigration and nationality, domestic workers, refugees, labor disputes, free speech and "many others," she said.

The lawyer also provides legal support to several organizations working on various social issues.

Unfortunately, all her work bears little success if and when political parties interfere.

"This automatically takes out the equality of both parties," she said. "It is very frustrating and makes it difficult to get a fair trial."

But Frangieh is not one to accept things. As a board member of Legal Agenda, an NGO attempting to lift the barriers between the law and society in Lebanon, she and the team have prepared a draft law to guarantee an independent and efficient court system. It took three years of research and negotiations but after much lobbying, it is finally in front of Parliament.

Now they wait. And wait. And wait. A very slow process. Frangieh and her colleagues refuse to give up. "You can't give up. You just have to change strategies".

"A fair judicial system is the pillar of a society," she said.

"People need to feel protected by it. If they do not feel protected, they will take things into their own hands. Then we are looking at violence and we are back to the chaos of the civil war. We need to change things. And who is going to make these changes if not us?"



Shawki Sarrou, right,
and Maroun Shalhoub



Shawki, Roast Beef

and Melted Yellow Cheese Sandwiches

To most, he was simply Shawki. The king of the roast sandwiches, the emperor of the melted yellow cheese delicacies. One of the few in the snack kingdom who perfected the art of making sandwiches.

Hundreds of teenagers from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s grew up in this revered gastronomic empire and hundreds of adults visiting IC continue to ask: where can we get Shawki's sandwiches?

Nowhere.

Shawki has long retired. IC's cafeteria today offer an array of healthy and meticulously studied and rather sophisticated menu.

"Ah, in my days I mainly concentrated on four sandwiches," said Shawki during a recent visit to IC. "The kids loved them. I couldn't keep up."

Shawki actually has a last name: Sarrou. And he has a wife and children of his own: seven.

Shawki's history at IC began in 1954 when he knocked at school's door at the age of 19. Someone had told him that the school was hiring.

"What is it that you can do?" an IC supervisor had asked.

"Nothing," answered Shawki. "Absolutely nothing."

The supervisor eyed him carefully. "Alright then, go to the snack bar," he said. "Maybe they will find a use for you there."

Shawki quickly gained a reputation for hard work. In fact, then IC president Leslie Leavitt (1946-1960) would often

come across him at the cafeteria late at night. "Are you ok Shawki? Do you need anything?" Leavitt would ask.

"No, Mr. Leavitt," would reply Shawki, "I just need to finish up here."

Leavitt would nod and walk back to Martin House picking up every piece of litter he would see on the way.

Watching him, Shawki smiled to himself. These foreigners are funny yet caring.

It was during those days that Shawki decided that IC would be a great school for his beloved younger brother two years his junior.

He went ahead and registered his brother in the baccalaureate class. The problem was that he had no money.

"Why would you register him if you can't pay the tuition then?" demanded Leavitt.

"You don't think my serving the school night and day is enough?" responded Shawki.

At this, Leavitt burst out laughing. The boy was admitted and completed his education tuition-free.

A few years later, he would return to IC to become the school's much loved Arabic literature teacher: Michel Sarrou. (Sarrou would eventually return his brother's favor by financing Shawki's son's tuition at AUB).

Meanwhile, Shawki continued working and the cafeteria did well. Each sandwich was 25 piasters. A full hotdog sandwich would bring 50 piasters (25 piasters for half a hotdog). Soft drinks were sold

for 15 piasters. But it was always uncomfortably crowded in the tiny snack bar (then situated in the lower floors of Sage Hall where the labs are today).

It was finally President Tom Schuller (1960 -1976) who solved the problem by ordering an extension to the cafeteria outside.

Later, a small building was constructed on an empty lot just between Sage and Rockefeller Hall. And there the Cafeteria would remain.

At the time, Shawki's salary was a measly 60 L per month.

"You deserve more than this," said Schuller and raised his salary to a monthly 150L enabling Shawki to marry.

A few years later, Shawki was delegated to run the newly built cafeteria in the Meshref campus. A new employee was hired to help him out: Maroun Shalhoub. Together, they ran the cafeteria.

At the beginning, he balked. Meshref? Yes, said Schuller, I need you there.

Shawki obliged. By now, his sandwiches were immensely popular on both campuses. He found himself making 900 sandwiches per day.

"They were good days then," he reminisced. "Very good days."

In 1975, the civil war erupted and the Meshref campus closed. Shawki returned to the Ras Beirut cafeteria.

Shelling and bombardment now dominated the city. Shawki, a resident of Achrafieh, found himself crossing by foot over the fatal 'no-man's land' between the Museum and Adlieh area daily.

A bus would meet him and other IC employees (who lived in the east side of the Beirut) at Barbir and take them to IC.

When the bombing intensified, Shawki would spend many a night sleeping on the floors of the IC business office, Martin House and finally ACS (American Community School) which had closed.

Meanwhile, Shawki's family was quickly growing. To make ends meet, he would work at the Racetrack doing various odd jobs. Another risky journey but Shawki was adamant that all seven of his children would finish school and make it to university.

But his main concern was the cafeteria and perfecting his famous roast sandwich.



"You want to know how it was done?" he said with twinkling eyes. "Well, first you defrost the frozen meat overnight, then you place them in huge pots over low fire for 8 hours. Once done, you pack them in nylon bags and keep them in the fridge."

"Now, you put them together and mashed potatoes, pickles, tomatoes and lots of mayonnaise," he declared proudly.

So popular was the sandwich that Shawki would order 100 kg of meat per week.

As for the famous yellow cheese sandwich, that "was simple," he said. "I used to buy the boxed yellow cheese and melt it in the bread."

Fearing that he may run out of the popular sandwich, Shawki would order 100 large boxes of the cheese per month.

It was this habit that unfortunately landed him in trouble.

As the story goes, IC had refused to admit a student that year. As revenge, the father allegedly sent someone from the Ministry of Health to inspect the cafeteria.

Unfortunately, some of the cheese boxes had expired a few weeks before the inspector arrived and before he had

a chance to return them to the supplier as procedure dictated. Explaining this was futile -- it was too late.

Shawki found himself facing a prison sentence of 10 days. The stench of the cell engulfed him before he even made it inside. Barely a few minutes later, he found himself whisked off to a hospital and an intravenous tube was injected in his arm.

"Shh," whispered the attending doctor, "you are here as a heart patient."

A relative in the army, had apparently worked a big 'wasta'. And there Shawki stayed, a "heart patient" for 10 days in a private hospital room.

On the 11th day, he was back at the cafeteria serving roast and yellow melted cheese sandwiches.

Disaster would strike again in 1989, when the family returned from their refuge in the mountains to find their house shelled and burned.

"These were such difficult times," he said. "But I never missed work. I always made it to IC."

Many times, he was the only one working in the cafeteria when the war prevented his assistants from showing up. Single handedly, Shawki would run the entire operation.

"I knew my stuff and I did it," he said simply.

Did the students try his patience? "There was a point that yes, I would lose it," he admitted. "And then I would look them in the eye and say: 'hilo' (get out)."

The students did.

Only to come back a short while later to ask for a roast or melted yellow cheese sandwich.



Mohamad al-Rafii (Assistant to
Head of Activities)



THE CEDARS OF GOD



Bruce Knox (Secondary School director) and Edouard Khairallah (physics teacher)

*"They have made all your planks
of fir trees from Senir;
They have taken a cedar from Lebanon to
make a mast for you.*

Ezekiel 27:5

Four thousand and 700 hundred years ago in Uruk, a city-kingdom in southern Mesopotamia, Uruk's ruler Gilgamesh sought to ensure his immortality by building a great city. To do so, he needed a huge amount of timber and so he set his sight on the cedars of Lebanon.

Before him, was a huge area of land extending over many mountains and hills. The trees formed an almost unbroken forest so dense that the sun's light barely penetrated



through its foliage.

Now, it so happened that the chief Sumerian god, Enlil wanted to protect these magnificent forests and delegated the fierce demigod Humbaba to guard it from the desires of man.

Enlil knew that once humans entered the forest, they would ultimately destroy the mountain where “the cedars raise aloft their luxuriance.”

At first, the beauty of the forest distracted Gilgamesh from his task. Alas, the ruler was only briefly sidetracked as he and his companions proceeded to destroy the “abode of the gods”. They felled cedars and chopped their branches and trunks into transportable portions.

A battle erupted between Gilgamesh and Humbaba. Gilgamesh triumphed effectively taking over as the master of the forest. Civilization had won. The path was now open for the future civilizations



Dr. Nadim Farajallah explaining the effects of climate change on the cedar forest.



of Phoenicians, Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Romans, Israelites and Turks to ravage the Cedars of God. And the Cedars weiled.

Nizar El Hani, General Manager of the Shouf Biosphere Reserve, lovingly handled the sapling planted on the side of the path. "This one will soon have a name," he said smiling broadly and pointed to the surrounding hill. "We will call this entire hill here, the 'IC Hill'."

The 'hill' was a gift from the IC Advancement Office to donors for

major gifts contributors. On June 24th, donors came to the Shouf to find wooden plaques bearing their names next to Cedar saplings. Over 100 shoots were planted.

Years into the future, the saplings will grow and form a majestic forest but for now, the "IC Hill" is a sad looking series of patches of rocks and shrubs. A closer look, however, reveals that some cedar saplings are sprouting from the ground – each devotedly protected by El Hani and his team.

"All these mountains were once full of Cedar trees, so high, so beautiful," he said. "But man managed to destroy them. It is now up to us to bring the cedars back."

The Barouk reforestation program was thus launched in 2000. Various 'hills' or individual trees have since have been adopted by many entities including the army, prominent community members, universities, banks, schools and businesses.

"This automatically creates a link between man and tree," explained Al Hani. "And most important, it generates an income for us to keep up with the cost of reforestation and looking after the trees."

Adoptees are supposed to come and occasionally visit 'their' tree, but alternatively, they can also see it 'growing' online.

"We have a database of all the adopted trees so our donors can stay updated on



Noura Jumblatt receiving a certificate



their trees,” said El Hani.

Established by Law No.532 on July 29, 1996, the reserve stretches from Dahr Al-Baidar in the north, to Mount Niha in the south. It makes up 5 percent of the country’s entire territory and 70 percent of Lebanon’s green area, making it the largest nature reserve in the Middle East.

The UNESCO declared the reserve and surrounding villages “Shouf Biosphere Reserve” in 2005. Covering 440 square kilometers and blanketed with oak forests on its northeastern slopes and juniper and oak forests on its southeastern slopes, the reserve’s most famous attractions are its three magnificent cedar forests of Maasser El Shouf, Barouk and Ain Zhalta.

The forests are home to the largest single concentration of *Cedrus libani* in Lebanon, which accounts for 25 percent of the remaining cedar forests in the country – some as old as 3,000 years.

As a protected reserve, man is no longer the enemy. However, a new enemy has cropped up: climate change.

Cedars need a minimum amount of snow and rain for natural regeneration but global warming subjected Lebanon to shorter winters and less snow. Moreover, insects have become more active (thanks to climate change) weakening the cedar trees and making them more susceptible to other diseases and insects.

The reserve has turned to the public for help: each cedar sapling planted will eventually generate hundreds of offsprings. The reserve is especially appealing to corporations and educational institutions.

“IC is one the oldest schools in Lebanon” said El Hani. “Many of IC’s students end up becoming leaders and make impactful decisions. We want them to be aware of the plight of the Cedars from now and become their greatest supporters later on.”

For more information about the Shouf Cedar Reserve, go to: <http://shoufcedar.org/>

Under the patronage of Walid ‘69 and Noura Jumblatt, IC celebrated on June 23, 2018, the planting of 100 cedar saplings in the Barouk Reserve “AL- Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve”. Also present were President, Dr Don Bergman, various board members, administrators and students. In appreciation of their generous contribution towards the development of IC and with a view to raise ecological awareness among IC students, each tree was named after a major donor.

Dr. Nadim Farajallah, an AUB professor and a leading national expert on climate change, gave a speech explaining the damage caused by the climate change on the Cedar forest.





Happy 30th Anniversary
Ain Aar!





Imad Taher '58, Maysam Skaff, Don Selinger, Zeina Adra, Dr. Don Bergman, Talal Jundi '86 cutting the ribbon of the renovated cafeteria

A New Cafeteria

IC inaugurated their newly renovated main cafeteria and two other smaller ones in its Ras Beirut Campus. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Ras Beirut Parents Committee, the new cafeterias can now comfortably cater to 1,500 Middle and Secondary school students, faculty and staff.



Dr. Don Bergman, Zeina Adra, Don Selinger, Imad Taher '58, Talal Jundi '86



Don Selinger and Imad Taher '58 inaugurating the new cafeteria.





Lebanese Cuisine Day





Halloween Party

Goblins, ghosts and witches made their way to the IC Ras Beirut campus on October 20th to celebrate Halloween, organized by the Ras Beirut Parents' Committee.

While the preschool and elementary munchkins and devils showed up in the early afternoon, middle school urchins and godzillas, came later in the evening.

Monsters included students both from Ras Beirut and Ain Aar – some accompanied by disguised parents. Halloween activities included trick and treating, pumpkin painting, storytelling and potion making. A snake show managed to frighten even the scariest of the young ogres. But the biggest hit of all was a creepy haunted room organized by the Drama Club.



Bruce McFarland (USAID representative), Don Selinger (Chairman of the Board), Imad Taher (Vice Chairman of the Board) Moufid Beydoun '64 (VP of Alumni & Major Gifts), Talal Jundi '86 (VP & Chief Financial Officer) and Dr. Don Bergman (IC President)



Inauguration of the STEAM LAB

Thanks to a USAID-ASHA grant, three state-of-the-art laboratories were officially inaugurated in Rockefeller Hall last October.

"In continuing IC's high level of education, and with the onset of these new labs, the school will be able to further integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) into its curriculum and campus life," said IC President, Dr. Don Bergman.

Furthermore and in an effort to serve the community, the laboratories will be used by IC secondary school students, of course, but also by public school students.

"It is another important investment and step for IC's present and future plans, as the school continues to be a pioneer in the field of education not only in Lebanon but the Middle East region too," said Board Chairman, Don Selinger.



The inauguration of the laboratory in presence of members of the Board, administration, faculty, IC students and teachers and students from the Ibn Khaldoun Public School in Aley

Decade of Memories 1960 – 69 Reunion



Campus Reception



Bassem Naamani '64, Mohamad Sinno '63, Matilda Deeb '67, Fouad Bawarshi '67, Malek Mahmasani '62, Riad Mansour '60, Jean Rubeiz '68, Gaby Gharzouzi '62, Nicolas Khairallah '60, Nagib Bekdache '60, Dr. Don Bergman, Chafic Bekdash '62, Mohamad Hammad '62, Jean Claude Sacy '63, Salim Saad '62, Misbah Ghandour '63, Antoine Sacy '64.



Gebran Tohme '63, Moufid Beydoun '64, Chafic Bekdash '62, Issam Shammas '63, Mahmoud Kreidieh '63, Hani Wehbe '63, Sadek Sawwaf '63, Khalil Klink '66



Dinner at Four Seasons Hotel



Sitting: Dima Sinno, Wasim Sinno '85, Nada Ghazal '85, Roula Doughan.
Standing: Karim Nouweyhad '98, Dina Musallem '85, Rami Labban '94, Karim Baalbaki '95, Hiba Chamout, Samer Doughan '83



Philip Moujaes '68, Anas Yaffi '68, Ameen Houry, Della Rayes, Hameed Tabchouri '68, Walid Kamerline '68, Girgi Bsheer '68, Moufid Beydoun '64



Moufid Beydoun '64 (standing), Randa Kuzbari, Safwan Kuzbari '73, Lina Assaf, Walid Assaf, Talal Jundi '86, Najwa Beydoun '76, Jihad Razian, Salma Tabbara '64, Abed Tabbara, Mona Turk



Houda Sinno, Mario Sousou '69, Marie Sousou, Fouad Makhzoumi '71, May Makhzoumi '71, Safa Saidi, Nassar Saidi '69, Dr. Don Bergman, Arslan Sinno '70



Riad Mourtada '61, Sadek Sawwaf '63, Imad Taher '58, Ghassan Taher '65, Nelly Samara '70



Board Member Mona Bawarshi '67

Trip to Sidon





10th Anniversary Reunion

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25th Anniversary Reunion



Updates

‘70

Dr. **Samir Youssef Sayegh** has offered to fund the Youssef Sayegh Scholarship Fund. This Fund will fully cover the tuition of one IC scholar every year. Professor Youssef Sayegh served in IC from 1949- 1989. He was a mathematics professor and was regarded by many as a role model for a real educator. In 2013, Professor Sayegh was awarded The Legend of IC medallion. Dr Samir Sayegh graduated from IC in 1970 and is currently the principal and director of Scottish Orthodontics. Scottish Orthodontics serves the central belt of Scotland with orthodontic treatment from practices in nine locations.

‘75

Hassan Ramadan is an MD, MSc, FACS, Professor & Chairman, Residency Program Director of the Department of Otolaryngology H&N Surgery Director Sinus center in West Virginia University “While studying at IC,” he writes, “I never in my wildest dreams thought that I will be Professor and Chairman of a department in the US. I also was elected as Vice President of the most prestigious society in the US for the specialty of Otolaryngology, (Triologic society). Thank you IC.”

‘79

Lina Chehab El Alaili has decided to specialize in Family Business Advisory after having worked for the World Economic Forum in Geneva & for Swiss Private banks in Wealth Management. She has obtained 4 certificates in this field. Having acquired expertise in this field and as a 2nd generation shareholder of her own Family Business, Chehab Bros., she has contacted the Family Business Network FBN International, based at IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland, to establish a chapter in Lebanon. The mission of FBN is to connect, support and serve family businesses for generations to come”.

The goal of FBN Levant is to make a positive impact on the Lebanese economy by providing educational programs on Governance related topics & organizing networking events to members of Family Businesses. FBN Levant was launched with the joint effort of 12 other founding members, of which 4 are IC alumni, including Lina, Chaker Saab, Mona Bawarshi and Hassan Baalbaki, and it has qualified to be amongst the fastest growing chapters, thanks to the strong team leadership skills.

“I cannot forget the empowerment of Mr. Hector Badran, my History teacher in 79, he told me back then, I can envisage you being a leader in an international organization,” she writes.

“I will always remember his encouraging words! He was a great teacher, he has inspired me and many other students. May his soul rest in peace!”

‘81

Talal El Khalil changed base to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to run the Middle East and North Africa Beverage Corporation, as the Chief Executive Office. MenaBev is in partnership with PepsiCo in Saudi, Yemen and Africa. Thankfully, Jeddah helped me reconnect with fellow classmates, Mohammad Zamili, Osama Fansa and Mona Salameh. I am often in Beirut where my wife Roula Abou Dargham ‘87 and family are based. I can be reached at talalelkhil@gmail.com

‘85

Karim Hajjali has moved back to Dubai in July 2018, after a five year assignment in Saudi Arabia in the field of F&B and Fashion retail and has joined as CEO of Dubai based Food Quest (a subsidiary of National Holdings Abu Dhabi) fully focusing on operating and expanding restaurants in the region (“I like to eat....a lotttt”, he writes.) His son is at City University in London and his daughter is in her last school year and will probably follow suit. “What breaks my routine during the day?” he writes. “The Whatsapp group of IC85 alumni messages we exchange on our breaks... as if we never left school! All the best to the new grads to come.”



‘91

Ghayath Sioufi is the new regional business director of Initiative MENA. He will serve key accounts and will be responsible for driving the agency’s regional program across the MENA markets. He will also be responsible for driving new business across all disciplines for Initiative. For more information go to:

<https://www.communicateonline.me/more/appointments/initiative-mena-appoints-new-regional-business-director/>

‘92

Ruba Moussa is a Realtor in Lebanon but is also the marketing agent for Zumba Fitness in Morocco. She sent the following pictures: “That is me on the far left wearing pink because I am known for organizing a yearly charity Zumba event in October for Breast Cancer Awareness. I



Updates



do it in Lebanon also. Also here I am in another picture in Ouarzazate (the hollywood of Morocco) where they shoot international movies and Oscar nominated movies like Lawrence of Arabia and other famous movies. It would be great to see you all here and I can help in organizing a tour.”

‘94

Dr. **Sami A. Houry** has been re-appointed by the Calgary City Council to the board of directors of the Calgary Heritage Authority. He has been elected to the Athabasca University General Faculties Council Academic Research Committee. In addition, he has been elected as a constituency representative for the Athabasca University Faculty Association.

‘96

Karim Safieddine decided to his own company in 2013 after 12 years in the insurance industry in Lebanon, with the top insurance companies in town. MyBroker Inc. - is an independent insurance brokerage that targets the Lebanese expat community in the Gulf, Africa and the Europe. “We have been very successful in providing solutions that the expat community needs especially for those who intend to come back and live in Lebanon whether in a couple of years or to retire,” he writes. “The growth of our business depends mainly on the contacts I have made during my years at IC. I am very thankful and proud of IC. This is the company’s website: mybrokerinc.com / my email: karim@mybrokerinc.com



‘99

Mirna Boustani is married to married to Ahmad Taher’97.. “We never met during IC days,” she writes, “but we met in 2007 and currently live in Guinea (west Africa). We have 2 boys who we hope we will enroll in IC once we move back one day.

Farah Dakhallallah and husband Adam Coutts welcomed their son Cyrus Roy Abraham on July 17, 2018 in Cambridge, UK.

‘02

Karim Kaissi is now a VP and General Manager at Anthem Inc., a Fortune 50 company. In this position, he is in charge of running care centers that serve comprehensive primary care and behavioral services for vulnerable populations in the Texas market.



‘05

Nisrine Chamseddine completed a Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology at Haigazian University in 2017. She is currently working as a school principal at Adduha High School -Beirut and Educational Consultant for the special education department.

Kim Issa, Miguele Issa ‘07 and **Audrey Issa ‘10** started a family business in Karm el Joz, Bekaa. “We were so taken by the Bekaa, that we decided to share it with everyone else. We grew up right here, in those very fields; this is our home. It is where we learned how to ride bikes and so did our friends! We think Taanayel is an exceptional place, and that’s why we came up with Karm el Joz,” they write. “It is located in Taanayel, at the entrance of the Bekaa, it is one of the largest walnut orchards in the country. It is trees and green



Updates

for as far as the eye can see!

For more info go to: <http://karmeljoz.com/>

'09

Edwina Khayat moved on to be a creative copywriter at a tech startup called what3words after spending a few years as a creative in the ad industry in London. The startup company has divided the world into 3m x 3m square and given each square a unique address made of 3 random dictionary words. "For example, the 3 word address for the gate I used to enter IC from every morning is at /// rewarded.cling.happily," she writes. "what3words makes talking about precise locations very easy, particularly in places (like Lebanon!) that aren't so good with addresses. We do a lot of work with the humanitarian sector and emergency services, and it's been great working for a company that harnesses an innovative technology for good while doing something that I love!"

'10

Joya Chehab '10 went on to LAU from 2010 to 2013, including a summer exchange program at London School of Business & Political Science (LSE). Then she decided to get a double masters degree in marketing and management at L'Ecole Supérieure des Affaires Beirut (ESA) affiliated program with ESCP Paris. Following her graduation



I took over my late mother's business, drove it through a total rebranding and restructuring. She re-opened the Shop on the 7th of December 2017, will be celebrating this December the business's 1st anniversary. The store is now called "OïA" by Tentation, it is located in Biyada/Rabieh and sells Home Accessories & Décoration and features "distinctive line of seasonal corporate gift ideas, New Born gift ideas, Wedding and private events, accompanied by Chocolate arrangements as well," she writes.

This is a link to a short movie covering the story Behind OïA: https://youtu.be/t9AgFyz_UfQ

This is a link of a short movie from the Opening Night: <https://youtu.be/kSi15QX12c0>

This is Our Website : www.oiabrand.co
Ig@oiabrand.co; Fb@oiabrand.co

'11

Sara Khalil moved to the US to continue her studies in Biology at Trinity College. She is currently at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's graduate school, working towards receiving a PhD in Cancer Biology.

'14

John Jahchan earned his Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Cell Anatomy from McGill University in 2017, and is currently in his last year of a Master's degree in Biochemical Engineering at McGill. John is currently trying to synthesize an iron oxide based nanoparticle that is harmless to the pancreatic islets that are transplanted to type-1 diabetes patients, and enables magneto-resonance imaging to track the alginate beads in which the pancreatic islets and nanoparticles are embedded in the peritoneal cavity where they are transplanted. The objective is to understand why the pancreatic islet treatment for type-1 diabetes that is effective in mice does not scale to the human body.

Tamara Doumit shared the following pictures.

"Those are some pictures of our dinner de classe (promotion 2014) in Aitah (our friend's house) with Monsieur Roudolf Abboud, Monsieur Samir Rishmani, Monsieur Rida Saleh, Monsieur Wissam Kabbani, Madame Majida Shatila, Madame Rita Maghames et Madame Jeanette Franjeh. Some pictures were taken on our last day of classes.

"Graduating from IC and coming back to it as a teacher (Math teacher at the middle school) after 4 years was one of my dreams," she writes.



Letters to the editor

Indeed it is with great pleasure remembering the good old school days which I have spent at IC. The College then had two sections: The English section and the French section. I happened to be in the English section and graduated in 1942.

I remember that the college had a teacher supervisor by the name of Mr. Obeid. This supervisor was very harsh on students, but as a result, the students nicknamed him: Mr. Tanjara, which means in Arabic, a metal casserole.

At the beginning of one year, a new student asked "what is the name of this supervisor?" The students answered: Mr. Tanjara.

Next morning this student knocked at Obeid's office and said: "Good morning Mr. Tanjara."

Immediately and angrily, Obeid gave the new students a severe slap! The poor student received a beating ignoring the fact that the students played a dirty trick on him.

In my time as a student, AUB had an athletic teacher for all sporting activities. Not to state his name, I would only mention his initials: A. T.

This athletic teacher was noted to have never opened a book. So when April Fool's Day came along, the Al-Kuliya Review wrote as a joke that A. T. was seen in the main library!

Before going to our assigned classes each day, the student body would gather in Assembly Hall to sing.

We were led in singing by El Khatib and we sang some American folk songs as well.

I will always cherish the memories of my IC school days.

Raja Nassar '42

Aux élèves anciens ou actuels de la Section Française de l'I.C.

Si vous prenez connaissance de ce texte, vous êtes un lecteur de "l'I.C. Newsletter".

C'est une publication que je lis depuis TRES longtemps et j'ai vu, au fil des ans, les parutions en français diminuer peu à peu jusqu'à, finalement, disparaître.

J'ai pu engager avec la direction de la "Newsletter" une discussion à l'issue de laquelle le principe de l'impression de documents en français (sans traduction pour le texte) était envisageable, sous réserve d'une longueur de 100 – 150 mots (dans un premier temps). Je les en remercie par avance.

J'ajoute pour terminer que, dans un Liban très souvent trilingue, il ne faudra pas oublier l'arabe pour lequel mes compétences sont plus que réduites.

Je reviendrai plus tard avec des photos souvenir qui, je l'espère, susciteront des réactions.

Dans l'intervalle, à vos plumes et stylos !

Serge DOUBINE

Terminale Math Élémentaires 1961

I can't believe I am back.. after I had graduated.

Long story short, I was one of the students who couldn't wait to get out IC.. for good. Let's just say my secondary school years weren't my favorite. It was probably the absence of belongingness that shaped the three years, along with some other events.

So there I was, a graduate, seeking my lifetime career (media), training public speaking for politicians.. Etc. just facing life's ups and downs, thinking the only direction in life is forward. Never did I think that one day 3 years later, I will be WILLINGLY, with all the MOTIVATION my heart could bare, re-entering the stone gate, walking through Rockefeller's wooden doors, and into a class room where I would be teaching.. Every week.

Today, I am the president of the Influencers' Club, a club where IC students make the best realize their potentials and grow with every meeting we have into the person they aspire to become.

Bottom line my dears, whether you see it now or you don't (which might be the case), IC IS a lemon you WILL SQUEEZE, if not today tomorrow and if not tomorrow a few years from now. Once a cougar, always s cougar.

Marina Hasan '16



In Memoriam

Last week, our friend and class of 82 classmate **Mazen Halawi** checked in at AUBMC for tests. We knew he was diagnosed few months earlier with lung cancer and that he went through extensive treatment that contained the disease after which he resumed his regular life. Yesterday (November 6, 2018) we received the shocking and devastating news that he left us. Mazen was larger than life. He was a man of great physical stature. But even bigger than that was his heart, his smile, his love for life and his generosity and loyalty to his family and friends. He did not see the glass half empty or full. He

filled the glass and, in the process, filled the lives of people around him with joy and positive energy.

Mazen left a huge void. We will always cherish the blessings of having him part of our lives at IC and in our life journeys beyond. He will remain in our hearts and minds.

"The bond between friends cannot be broken by chance; no interval of time or space can destroy it. Not even death itself can part true friends"- (John Cassian).

Class of 82



Ramiz Abu Haydar '72 was one of those rare human beings, a man of integrity. He was uncompromising about his principles, and you always knew where he stood on an issue. But the uniqueness of Ramiz lay in his kindness and his decency. He had friends from all walks of life and he was devoted to being of service. Ramiz was an exceptionally loyal friend, and he was always there for those he cared about whenever they needed him. Ramiz loved Ras Beirut and was a proud IC alumnus. He worked at IC in the Alumni and Development office, and continued to serve the college after he left for Tortola, where he started a business. Even in that far off island in the Atlantic Ocean, Ramiz and his wife Françoise welcomed friends from all over the world. Ramiz was also generous to a fault. On one of his trips back to Beirut, Ramiz established an athletic award to honor his late father, the former minister of education, Dr. Najib Abu Haydar. Ramiz Abu Haydar was a good and gentle man. Our lives are richer for the privilege of being his friend, and the world is a little darker with his passing. May his memory be eternal.

Mishka Mojabber Mourani

Having read Mishka's above tribute to Ramiz, it is hard to elaborate on her so well deserved words about him. She captured Ramiz's heart and soul: integrity, kind and decent, generous, and being of service.

Yes, he embodied the Latin highest compliment, "Non Sibi".

As Marnie and I wrote Françoise, "... (we) are praying for you and the entire family while thanking and praising the Lord for giving us Ramiz. May he be resting in peace after many, many years of giving to others. He will never be



forgotten..... a true and indelible legacy!"

Gerrit Keator,

*IC President Emeritus and Board of Trustees
1980-present*

Anyone who knew Ramiz will have immediately recognized the core essentials which defined this exceptional human being : a rigorous almost maniacal self-imposed discipline, a clarity of vision and focus, a stubborn and relentless pursuit of excellence and success in the challenges he signed up to and the goals he set for himself, both personally and professionally. None of the

above ever got in the way of his innate talent to reach out, build bridges, nurture friendships, and give much of himself to the phenomenal global network of friends and family, colleagues, mere acquaintances, even "the man on the street", or animal, at that. He thrived on and blossomed through being of service and providing help and support, unhindered by time or distance. His wanderlust was never tamed and he mastered all its avenues, on land, sea and in the air, mobilising it in his altruistic pursuits . As someone who was blessed with his close friendship, guided by his wise counsel, inspired by his devoted and unflinching loyalty to all who populated his world, be it as a husband, son, brother or friend, I was also spurred-on through the vicissitudes of life by his pragmatic and unequivocal stances and uplifted by his acute sense of fun and humour, for all of the 40 all-too-short years of our association. His reach into people's hearts and affections was as spontaneous as it was enduring and enriching, fuelled by his luminous personality and that contagious smile which lit up his face till the bitter end. There is no more fitting tribute to his tragically curtailed trajectory than to say that it was itself a homage and tribute to life at its best.

Ramzi Kurban '68



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