Every year, all of us celebrate Mother’s Day, and we at the Department of OBS/GYN are no exception. As a token of appreciation for their sacrifice and their future role in building the new generation, this year expecting mothers received specially designed chocolates that were distributed at the Women’s Health Center. In addition, and as is the tradition every year, a very special gift was given to mothers who were on the maternity ward during that period. The gift consisted of a photo shoot session by a professional photographer; thanks to the continuous support of the administration. This service has become available at AUBMC, and couples who seek to capture those precious moments before, during, and after delivery of their newborns can now pre-arrange for that. For more details, please contact Mrs. Rima Balute at extension 5610.

Spring marks the season when everything in nature becomes active, and we hope that all our readers will take advantage of this natural momentum to follow on their previous projects and set the grounds for some new ones. This issue highlights some activities that marked our Mother’s Day special departmental celebrations and sheds light on the research contribution of our nurses and fellows.

In addition, we highlight some exciting facts about the history of the Academy Awards in the “Did you know?” section. Enjoy the read.

Sincerely,
Anwar Nassar, MD
Editor-in-Chief
OUR NURSES ARE ALSO INVOLVED IN RESEARCH

Two of our nurses on 7 North, Miss Nelly Ayvazian and Mrs. Salma Lameh collaborated with Drs. Lina Kurdahi Badr and Lama Charafeddine and had their research entitled “Is the effect of postpartum depression on mother-infant bonding universal?” accepted in Infant Behavior and Development. Congratulations to our nurses and for more future collaborations and research productivity.

FIRST PUBLICATION FOR OUR FELLOW

Dr. Dalia Khalifeh, first year fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility had her first paper accepted for publication. Congratulations.


PHYSICIANS AWARDS TO HONOR NURSES AND BEYOND

In recognition of ‘star’ nurses, the Department of OBS/GYN was a pioneer in introducing a Physician Award to give credit to nurses who exhibited dedication and commitment to their patients and helped ensure that we achieve one of our institution’s missions: excellence in patient care. This started back in 2012 with the introduction of the Physician’s Award for Best OBS/GYN RN, followed in 2013 by adding the Physician’s Award for Best OBS/GYN Auxiliary, and this year by introducing the Physician’s Award for Best OBS/GYN administrative staff. We take this opportunity to thank all nurses and paramedical staff for their continuous support as an integral part of our team.

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to extend our warm congratulations to Dr. Anwar Nassar and Dr. Elie Hobeika on the birth of their newborns this year. Baby Noor Anwar Nassar was born on February 10, 2018; she weighed 2610 grams at birth. Baby Keanu Elie Hobeika was born on March 3, 2018; he weighed 4200 grams at birth. Congratulations.
ACADEMIC NEWS

• Dr. Anwar Nassar was invited to chair the session on “Operative Obstetrics and Gynecology” during the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) Regional Congress of Middle East & Africa that was held on April 11-13, 2018 in Dubai, UAE.

• Dr. Muhieddine Seoud was an invited speaker at the 14th Annual Meeting of the Pan Arab Continence Society in collaboration with the International Continence Society on January 25-27, 2018 Dubai, UAE. He was also the recipient of an 8000$ Grant from Astra Zenica to study the effect and trends of aggressive surgical debulking of ovarian cancer on survival for over 23 years at AUBMC. As a member of the FIGO committee for the guidelines of the management of the severely adherent placenta, Dr. Seoud co-authored five publications that were highlighted in a special issue of the International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (refer to publications). Lastly, Dr. Seoud is a member of the Ministry of Public Health committee for the development of the 3rd edition of the National Cancer Treatment Guidelines - February 2018.

• Dr. Faysal El Kak was an invited speaker in the 14th Emirates Obstetrics Gynecology and Fertility Forum and the 10th OBS GYNE Congress that were held in Dubai, UAE on January 18-20, 2018 and February 5-8, 2018, respectively. In addition, Dr. El Kak was as invited panelist in the one-day forum on “Women Affected by Conflict,” that was organized by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RCOG) in London, United Kingdom on March 2, 2018.

PUBLICATIONS


• Kabakian-Khasholian T, Mourtada R, Bashour H, Kak FE, Zurayk H. Perspectives of displaced Syrian women and service providers on fertility behavior and available services in West Bekaa, Lebanon. Reprod Health Matters 2017;25(S1):S75-S86.


MEET THE ALUMNI

* Dr. Sarah Faour graduated from the American University of Beirut (AUB) as an MD in 2010. She then continued her four-year specialization in Obstetrics and Gynecology at AUB and graduated in 2014. This was followed by a two-year fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the Department of OBS/GYN at AUBMC when she graduated in 2016. Since then, she has been in private practice and is currently the Clinical Director at EVE Fertility Center, Beirut, Lebanon. She is very passionate about her work and aims to provide the best medical treatment for her patients with personalized care and compassion. On a personal level, she is married to Gilard Bouzeid, and they have a baby boy.

* Dr. Alain Chalhoub received his MD in 2010 from AUB. He then completed four years of residency in the Department of OBS/GYN at AUBMC in 2014. After that, he moved to Abu Dhabi where he practiced general obstetrics and gynecology at Bareen International Hospital and was the Acting Head of the Department there for two years. Dr. Chalhoub is now back to practice in Lebanon. On a personal level, he is married to Sandy Aziz and has one daughter.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT
CARLA JURDAK

Q: When did you join the Department of OBS/GYN?
A: In September, 1997.

Q: What is your title?
A: Clinical Nurse Coordinator in the Delivery Suite.

Q: What are your main duties?
A: I am responsible for professional nursing care and function as a resource person for staff members.

Q: Prior to joining this department, what were you doing?
A: I got my Bachelor’s degree in Nursing from AUB in 1997 and got employed soon after.

Q: If you were not doing this job, what would you have chosen to do?
A: A job related to social services that provides support and promotes well-being for disadvantaged population.

Q: What is most enjoyable about your job?
A: The bonding between the mother and her newborn upon birth.

Q: What do you find most challenging about your job?
A: Patient satisfaction, safety, and serenity.

Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you choose to go and why?
A: I would like to go to Iceland where the sun shines nearly 24 hours a day during the peak of summer. Although Iceland is one of the most developed countries in the world, yet it is very rich in natural beauty.

Q: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?
A: I like to spend my time with my family, do activities, watch movies, and have fun.

Q: What is something that most people don’t know about you?
A: Before taking a decision, I like to search for all the details, and this fact makes me seem indecisive.

Q: What is your point of weakness?
A: My conscience.

Q: Who is your favorite artist?
A: Georges Khabbaz. He brings joy and fun to my heart and conveys useful lessons.

Q: What is your favorite song these days?
A: "Bravo Monsieur le Monde" by Michel Fugain, after I heard my son singing it.

Q: What is the movie or book you recently enjoyed watching or reading?
A: The movie "Jamil a Flying Soul"; it is a story of a hero that will change your life.

Did you know?
• The first Academy Awards, which took place at a private dinner for about 270 people, were presented in 1929 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Los Angeles, California. The cost of the ticket was $5!
• At 234 minutes, ‘Gone with the Wind’ (1939) is the longest movie to ever win the ‘Best Picture Award.’
• With 10 wins, Italy is the country with the most number of wins for Foreign Language Film at the Oscars.
• In 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first African American to win the Best Actor Award, for his role in ‘Lilies of the Field.’
• With 12 Oscar nominations, Jack Nicholson is the most nominated male actor.
• Alfred Hitchcock was nominated five times for Best Director, but never won an Oscar.
• Bob Hope has hosted the Oscars 19 times, making him the most frequent host ever.
• Marlon Brando and Robert De Niro are the only actors who have won an Oscar for playing the same character, that of Vito Corleone in ‘The Godfather’ (1972) and ‘The Godfather Part II’ (1974), respectively.
• Due to metal shortage during World War II, the Oscar statuettes were made of plaster for three years.
• Tatum O’Neal won Best Supporting Actress for ‘Paper Moon’ (1973) when she was only 10 years old.
• After winning an award for Best Actress for ‘Cabaret’ (1972), Liza Minnelli became the only Oscar recipient whose parents were Oscar winners too.
• ‘The Insult’ is Lebanon’s first movie to be ever nominated for the Oscars for Best Foreign Film 2018.