Positive workplace relationships are essential. Organizing social events for people you work with daily gives everyone a chance to have fun whilst encouraging positive workplace environment. In this issue, we see how our OBS/GYN nurses and administrative staff came together to enjoy a well-deserved retreat after almost two years of hard work in Lebanon’s catastrophic conditions. Residents and faculty members enjoyed a similar outing too.

Also highlighted in this issue are news about a new fundraising initiative “HOPE Fund” that gives hope to the less privileged to fulfill their dream of having a family, upcoming Special Grand Rounds delivered by world-renowned experts in the field of OBS/GYN and a special tribute to Dr. Adnan Mroueh that some of our readers could not watch before. We will also share some intriguing random facts in the “Did You Know?” section. Enjoy reading this issue.

Sincerely,
Anwar Nassar, MD
Editor-in-Chief

DR. ADNAN MROUEH: THE DOCUMENTARY

For those who were not able to watch the documentary that was projected during the honorary ceremony held on May 19, 2022, to celebrate Dr. Adnan Mroueh’s illustrious career, you can do so by clicking here.
IT’S SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVIN IS EASY

On June 19, OBS/GYN faculty members and residents were invited to Dr. Nassar’s place to enjoy nice music, beautiful weather, and home-cooked food. Our familial atmosphere at work that we are extremely proud of, was portrayed at the gathering as everyone enjoyed the company and a few good laughs.

APPRECIATION OF A SPECIAL NURSE

During another BBQ gathering at Dr. Nassar’s place to which the Women’s Health Center nurses and staff along with the departmental administrative staff were invited on September 17, 2022, the WHC nurses wanted to recognize a special person. Miss Vicky Felfli was acknowledged for 44 years of service and dedication to the nursing profession and to the Department of OBS/GYN which she joined on 21/06/1978. The photos best capture the mood, the positive energy, and the appreciation.
THE HOPE FUND: A BEAM OF HOPE

The HOPE fund is a charitable Lebanese fundraising initiative which was launched on March 21, 2022, in collaboration with the Fertility Preservation Program at the Haifa Idriss Fertility Unit at the Department of OBS/GYN at AUBMC. The fund provides financial support to enable patients to benefit from a wide range of advanced fertility treatment modalities at subsidized costs. We work with the Social Services Office at AUBMC to determine whether patients qualify for financial assistance. You can donate today to help us provide the support that patients with fertility/fertility preservation issues need. For more information about the Hope Fund and how to donate, please access the following link: http://aubmc.org.lb/Documents/publications/HOPE-FUND.pdf.

If you only carry one thing throughout your entire life, let it be HOPE. Let it be HOPE that better things are always ahead.

Nikki Banas

A NEW ADDITION

Ms. Karen Abdallah recently joined our department as an administrative assistant. Karen completed her undergraduate studies with a Bachelor of Law in addition to her first year of Master’s in International Trade and Commerce Laws from Beirut Arab University. She worked as a Teller at the Women’s Health Center from April 2017 until July 2022. She is an enthusiastic, vibrant, and extremely likeable person to say the least. She was a much-needed addition to our department with undeniable commitment and devotion, and unmatched work ethics. Please join me in welcoming Miss Abdallah and in wishing her success in her new role.
CONGRATULATIONS

We are glad to inform you that this special supplement has been cited as the most downloaded paper of IJGO for the year 2022. Congratulations to Dr. Anwar Nassar, the corresponding author of that manuscript.

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION

In this editorial that was published in the world-leading global health journal, Dr. El-Kak and co-authors discuss the effect of the current crisis on the Lebanese health system that is on the verge of collapse. They propose four specific recommendations to help the health system withstand the successive shocks and these involve funding, task-shifting, and leveraging technology and the resources of the health workforce in the diaspora, which includes influential physicians and scientists around the world. Available open access on: https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(21)00493-9.

MEET THE ALUMNI
* After completing a 4-year residency in OBS/GYN at AUB in 2019 and serving as the administrative chief resident, Dr. Mohammad Jaffal moved to Jaipur, India to have training in minimally invasive gynecological surgery where he received the “Best Fellow Award.” He started working in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) at Kanad Hospital, one of the oldest and busiest maternity hospitals in the country where he also serves as the clerkship coordinator and is an adjunct assistant professor at UAE University College of Medicine. In addition, he completed in 2022 a 2-year executive MBA program from the American University in Dubai. He is married to Dr. Anastasia Salame, and they have a girl named Anna.

* After finishing his residency in OBS/GYN at AUB in 2016, Dr. Elie Mikhael moved to France to pursue a 1-year fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at Paris Descartes University and Simone Veil Medical Center in northern Paris, along with a master’s degree in public health. After passing the French Medical License Examination, he was appointed in 2018 as an attending physician at the Department of OBS/GYN at Simone Veil Medical Center, with special interest in laparoscopic surgery and in-office GYN surgery. He is also an active member of the French National OBS/GYN Research Ethics Committee and an instructor at the Paris School of Surgery. On a personal level, he is married, and father of a wonderful boy named Lucas.
## UPCOMING SPECIAL GRAND ROUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Kohari, MD, FACOG</td>
<td>Wednesday October 26</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Dr. Kohari is an assistant professor at the Department of OBS/GYN and Reproductive Medicine, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) at Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale School of Medicine. In 2007, she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. Dr. Kohari’s practice employs the latest 2D and 3D ultrasound technology to maximize early and accurate diagnoses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Louwen, MD</td>
<td>Wednesday November 30, 2022</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Dr. Louwen is a professor of OBS/GYN at Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. His research focuses on complications of obesity and hypertensive disorders during pregnancy (preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome) as well as the care and delivery of multiple pregnancies and breech presentations. In addition to his honorary work on the board of directors in international and national professional societies, he is also the chairman of the board of the German Foundation for Women’s Health. He is the recipient of several awards including an honorary doctorate from the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, St. Petersburg, for his contributions to innovation in obstetrics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fionnuala McAuliffe, MD</td>
<td>Wednesday December 14, 2022</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Dr. McAuliffe is a professor of OBS/GYN at National Maternity Hospital Dublin and the director of the UCD Perinatal Research Centre. She is the head of Women’s and Child’s Health, the head of OBS/GYN at UCD and the director of the Maternal and Fetal Medicine Subspecialisation Programme. Her research interests center on diabetes and nutrition in pregnancy, maternal and fetal medicine and in 2017 she established UCD Perinatal Research Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael R. Foley, MD</td>
<td>Wednesday January 25, 2023</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Dr. Foley is the CMO of Sera Prognostics. He is considered a national authority in Critical Care Medicine in Obstetrics. Before joining Sera, Dr. Foley practiced MFM in private practice for more than 20 years and recently retired from a 10-year role as chairman of the Department of OBS/GYN at the University of Arizona College of Medicine Phoenix/Banner University Medicine. He was the president of the Society for MFM (2008) and the recipient of the SMFM Lifetime Achievement Award (2013).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## ACADEMIC NEWS

- Dr. Anwar Nassar was invited to deliver a keynote lecture about the “Cesarean Delivery Epidemic” during the FIGO Latin America Regional Congress – Cartagena, Colombia 2022. The congress will be held on November 2-5, 2022.
- Dr. Abdallah Adra was an invited speaker to the first MENA Placenta Accreta Spectrum (PAS) summit that was held in Cairo, Egypt on 19-20, 2002, where he presented on the implications of antenatal diagnosis of and conservative management of PAS. He was also invited to the 15th International Congress of the Jordanian Society of OBS/GYN (JSOG) that was held in Amman on September 14-16, 2022, where he delivered a special symposium on “current perspectives in the management of unexplained recurrent pregnancy loss”.
- Dr. Faysal El Kak organized and conducted a sexual health course for medical students in 2 parts: on June 17 and 27 as part of the Women’s Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) Program collaboration with the Lebanese Medical Students’ International Committee (LeMSC). He also organized a session on female sexual dysfunction under WISH Program and presented 3 talks in the 15th International Congress of JSOG that was held in Amman, Jordan on September 14-16, 2022. In addition, Dr. El Kak presented on menopause and vulvovaginitis in the 18th Emirates Ob Gyn Fertility Forum that was held in Dubai, UAE on September 17-18, 2022.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT
IBTIHAJ MUKDAD

Q: When did you join the Department of OBS/GYN?
A: I joined the Department of OBS/GYN in 1997.

Q: What is your title?
A: Floor clerk at Dr. Khaled Idriss Delivery Suite at AUBMC.

Q: What are your main duties?
A: As a floor clerk, I keep accurate record of all patients admitted for delivery. In addition to greeting visitors and assisting when needed, I’m also responsible for ordering any missing store items ensuring no shortage in any needed supplies and following up on maintenance requests.

Q: Prior to joining this Department, what were you doing?
A: Before joining the department, I was a nurse aid on 9 North.

Q: If you were not doing this job, what would you have chosen to do?
A: This is my dream job; I wouldn’t have chosen to do anything else.

Q: What is most enjoyable about your job?
A: Sharing joyful moments with patients is priceless.

Q: What do you find most challenging about your job?
A: The need to multi-task in times of urgency and heavy load of admitted patients.

Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you choose to go and why?
A: I would choose Canada and Qatar since my kids live there. I mostly enjoy being with them.

Q: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?
A: I love to visit my hometown Lasa and enjoy the outdoors.

Q: What is something that most people don’t know about you?
A: I’m a very sensitive and sentimental person with my family being my number one priority.

Q: What is your point of weakness?
A: As a mother, I will say my children.

Q: Who is your favorite artist?
A: Ziad Al-Rahbani and Kazem Al-Saheer.

Q: What is your favorite song these days?
A: Warda’s “El-Ouyoun El-Soud.”

Q: What is the movie or book you recently enjoyed watching or reading?
Did you know?

- Late Queen Elizabeth II was a trained mechanic. When she was 16, she joined the British employment agency the Labor Exchange, where she learned the basics of truck repair, including how to change a tire and repair engines.
- A newborn baby is more than 3/4 water.
- Between 1912 and 1948, the Olympic Games awarded medals in sculpture, music, painting, and architecture.
- The hundred folds in a chef’s toque (that tall, pleated hat) are meant to represent the hundred ways to cook an egg.
- Perhaps the earliest use of “OMG” appeared in 1917 in a letter from a British Navy Admiral to Winston Churchill about rumors of new titles that would soon be bestowed “I hear that a new order of Knighthood is on the tapis,” he wrote. “O.M.G. (Oh! My God!).”
- Sleep experts believe that there is a correlation between a person’s preferred nightly position and their personality. For instance, people who opt for the fetal position “may appear tough but are actually sensitive souls right to their core.”
- Back in the 1620s, tulips were a rarity only the very wealthy could afford. A single Rembrandt-type bulb reached the equivalent of $1,500.
- Oranges aren’t naturally occurring fruits. They are a hybrid of two citrus fruits with 25% of its genome coming from the pomelo and 75% from the mandarin.
- Long before New York City was nicknamed the Big Apple, it was known as the New Orange. In 1673, after capturing it, the Dutch named it New Orange in honor of William III of Orange. The following year it regained its former name after the English regained control.
- High heels were originally worn by men. In the 10th century, men in Europe followed suit the Persian cavalry and adopted the choice of heels to make it easier to ride their horses. High heels became associated with the upper class since they showed that the wearer owned and maintained horses.
- When the leader of Piplantri, a small village in Rajasthan, India, lost his 16-year-old daughter in 2006, he set up an initiative whereby a tree was planted every time a girl is born in the village. He meant to ensure that the village treasured each baby girl since daughters were not traditionally valued as much as sons.