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LAU hosts conference on quality and added value of graduate and postgraduate programs in education in Arab universities

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Under the patronage of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon, the Lebanese American University (LAU) hosted a conference titled 'Graduate and Postgraduate Programs in

Education in Arab Universities: Quality and Added Value', co-organized by the Arab Educational Information Network (Shamaa) and the Lebanese Association for Educational Studies (LAES) at the university campus in Beirut.

The opening session witnessed the participation of the Director General of Higher Education in Lebanon Dr. Jammal, the Egyptian Ambassador to Lebanon Mr. Ashraf Hamdi, Mrs. Dakmara Georgescu representing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, LAU President Dr. Joseph G. Jabbara, LAES President Dr. Diane Nauffal, "Shamaa" Executive Director Rita Maalouf, Researchers, Academicians and Students from Lebanese and Arab Universities.

Speaking to the audience at the opening ceremony, Dr. Jabbara considered that the conference is important for three reasons: the first is that because it is a collaborative effort that brought you together here, secondly because it addresses one of the major challenges that faces universities across the Middle East and thirdly because your gathering will address one of the major challenges in the entire region, whereas Dr. Nauffal highlighted on the theme of this conference that stems from a genuine concern for the quality and postgraduate programs and their contribution to the field of education in the Arab world.

Mrs. Georgescu focused on the UNESCO's mandate towards higher education especially the focus on quality assurance being a main issue in universities across the Arab world, while Dr. Jammal spoke about the Ministry's endeavors in issuing a decree in the Council of Ministers related to the criteria and indicators in the quality of doctoral programs of the institutions and its plans and research expertise in addition to the conditions of supervision and follow-up for students.

The conference aims at identifying issues in scientific research in theses and dissertations; becoming acquainted with different models, experiences and approaches used by Arab and foreign universities and determining perspectives on further developing research in education at the master's and doctoral levels.

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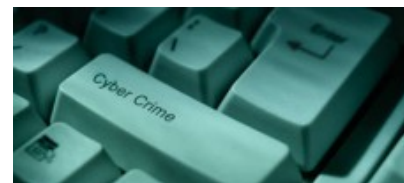
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