



IC NEWSLETTER

Summer 2007



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EDITOR'S NOTE

We've had our ups and we've had our downs this year. The political situation has spared no one. But as usual, IC managed to rise above the trouble. It is here where students of all religions continued to meet. It is here where sectarianism disappeared and students saw each other purely as friends. That is not to say they were not

affected. They were disturbed to see their leaders fight – even if only verbally. One of our students, a 17-year old, was so tired of sectarianism and politics that he formed his own organization: Volunteers with No Constraints – meaning without religion and without political affiliation. His organization now boasts 250 young members, many of them IC students. They help where necessary and serve when needed. Thanks to them, many have benefited.

This student's name is Shawky Amineddine and he is an IC scholar. Shawky discovered his love for social work because of IC's graduation requirement: to fulfill 90 hours of community service. At the beginning, Shawky balked. He didn't want to put in the hours but he had no choice. Before long, he knew he had discovered his mission in life: to help others.

Without your donations to IC, we wouldn't have been able to provide Shawky with a scholarship. And without IC, Shawky wouldn't have discovered his love for social work. And without Shawky's organization, hundreds of underprivileged children and disabled wouldn't have 250 young volunteers to care for them.

So on behalf of IC and Shawky, we thank you.

And a special thanks go to the many donors, IC and non IC alumni, who believe in our mission to provide children – from all walks of life – with a well rounded education.

Best wishes always,

Moufid Beydoun '64

Vice President for Alumni & Development

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MUSCAT: HERE WE COME!

The two women stared helplessly at the group of giggling teenagers. At first they waited. The laughing and joking wouldn't stop. And yet, somehow in the next two months, Randa Sabbah and Tatiana Bondarovich have to put the 13 young choir members, six boys and seven girls, through many intensive practice sessions and get them ready to perform at Festival of Choirs in Muscat, Oman – a music concert which brings together school choirs in the Middle East. "You have to practice, practice, practice," said Sabbah, the choir director and head of the IC music department. All the students had auditioned and were chosen to be part of the IC delegation. But mastering a challenging repertoire of eight songs - six of which were required by the festival committee and two of the school's choosing – was not an easy task. The

four-part compositions were split into eight voices. Learning each voice alone would be a major challenge let alone harmonizing together. Not a free minute could be spared. Not a moment during practice could be lost. The teachers demanded full attention during lunch breaks, after school hours, and on weekends. And there was definitely no time for teenage frolics.

"They all want to be soloists," said Sabbah. "But working in a choir takes tuning to one another. It takes learning one line and listening to the other at the same time." Most of all it takes discipline. Eager students would just jump in and sing at their whim. "We kept saying: listen then repeat. But listen first," said Sabbah.

Bondarovich especially stared at the students in frustration. They talked loudly. They fidgeted. They laughed. They joked. They poked each other. A Belarus national

who grew up in a society which imposes much discipline in its training of the arts, she found herself devising ways to get the students' attention. "I would do the clown and pull funny faces to get their attention," she said. "We use whatever method it takes to get them to work as a team. Teamwork is what choirs are all about." And then Sabbah would stand, raise her hand to conduct and in dismay put it down again. Someone was talking. One day it happened: the students' voice rose in beautiful harmony. Everyone knew their parts. The choir was ready for the festival. Nervous students and their equally nervous teachers arrived in Muscat in February and joined 150 students from seven different international schools from the Middle East. Together they formed a mass choir and performed their much practiced compositions.



It was time for the IC choir to perform their own song: "Ya Aashikata al wardi", a Zaki Nassif piece. Bondarovich took her place at the piano. It had taken the music department hours of work to get the lyrics, score and music down on paper and work it as choral piece. It was a hit. Choir directors at the festival gathered around Sabbah and Bondarovich wanting a copy of

the score. The journey back was long. And as the students waited around the Muscat airport waiting for the flight back to Beirut, they suddenly erupted in singing. On and on they went. In other transit airports and on the plane. Concerned about disturbing others, the teachers tried to hush them. "Leave them," said one man quietly. And they did. Upon touchdown, applause for the choir went up in the plane. The teachers smiled. "It feels good," said Sabbah. "It was all worth it."



AZMI MIKATI : OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

Azmi T. Mikati, a Lebanese businessman, was born on September 21st, 1972 in Tripoli, Lebanon. In 1994, he earned a bachelor of Sciences from Columbia University, New York. While in college, he founded T-One, a telecom company providing long-distance services between the United States and other international destinations. It proved quite successful and was later sold in 1997 to a US publicly traded long distance company. In 1998, he became CEO of Investcom, a leading emerging market phone company. Under his leadership, the Company's sales grew in less than seven years from US\$ 30 Million to US\$ 1 Billion. In 2005, Investcom listed its share on the London Stock Exchange, and the Dubai International Financial Exchange. It raised more than US\$ 740. In 2006 Investcom and MTN announced a landmark deal to combine their assets and create the pre-eminent mobile operator in emerging market. At 33, Mikati was the youngest CEO of a Middle Eastern publicly traded company. Today, at 35, he is the CEO of M1 Group an international investment group with a strong focus on the Telecom sector. M1 remains one of the largest shareholders in MTN a Johannesburg listed company. He lives in Beirut, Lebanon with his wife Mira Zantout and their two children Nada and Taha. In February 2007, Mikati joined the Board of Trustees of the International College.

Q: You are incredibly young and yet you are the CEO of one of the world's multi-million dollar companies. You are undoubtedly in a world of businessmen and women who are much older. Have you found that your age has handicapped you in any way? Have business people ever treated to you differently (positively or negatively)?

MIKATI: Undoubtedly, when people meet me for the first time they are a bit taken by my age, and my dress code (that is usually very casual). I sometimes hear comments like "we thought you were older". But this slight disadvantage in people's first impression usually dissipates after our first meeting.

Q: Tell us a bit about your childhood and youth. Your family, we understand, was in construction. The telecommunication infrastructure was practically destroyed. It was then that your father set up a ship-to-shore satellite phone on the rooftop of his office building. The idea was a hit. Everybody wanted one. And thus was born the first privately owned cellular network in the Middle East. Would you say that the same spirit of pioneering runs through you as well?

MIKATI: I grew up in Lebanon, in a very tightly knit family. Since my early age I used to spend a lot of time at the

office with my father and uncle, the company's founders, living their daily challenges and trying to learn from them. I would like to think that I have been impregnated with some of their pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit.

Q: You were still in college when you founded T-One. What made you come up with the idea of founding it to begin with?

MIKATI: Probably that was the part of pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit that has been infused in me over the years.

Q: What about campus life? How did you manage to juggle your studies, run a business and attend social activities?

MIKATI: It was challenging yet very exciting and I would say that I did very well at two out of these three. I was an average student that ran a successful company, and profited from all of what New York had to offer.

Q: You currently live in Beirut with your wife Mira and two children, Nada and Taha. Would you describe yourself as a family man? How do you spend your time with your children?

MIKATI: I consider myself a family man; due to work I travel extensively, and unfortunately am not able to spend enough time with them, but whatever time I have with them is quality time devoted to doing whatever they enjoy.

Q: What does IC mean to you? Where would you like to see IC heading?

MIKATI: On the emotional side IC is the school my father attended since elementary up to his high school graduation, and on the rational side it is an exceptional institution that educates and shapes the leaders of tomorrow.

Q: There are many entrepreneurial students, like yourself, at IC. They have the vision but perhaps not the means of achieving their goals. What would your best advice be to them? What would you say to guide them into being the next 'Azmi Mikati'?

MIKATI: I am confident that their aspirations are higher. Probably the only and most important mean they need is education; and as they are studying at IC then they are on the right track; once this is available, together with a dream, the ambition to make that dream a reality, and the perseverance to keep on trying even after they fail, I am confident that inshaAllah their goals will be achieved and their dreams will realize.



John Johnson's and Moufid Beydoun's Trip Diary



Omar Sawaf '73 and Moufid Beydoun'64

From Lebanon to US, February '07

We hit the road again this semester – starting with the US. We met up with many wonderful alumni and IC friends. It was a chance to meet with the Board members and NY IC staff office, secure pledges, meet new faces and attend wonderful gatherings. We had the pleasure of meeting with many people, new and old.

Our first stop was Houston, Texas where we met with **Mr Omar Sawaf '73** and had lunch with **Mr and Mrs Jamal and Rania Daniel '78**.

Our next stop was Phoenix we were hosted by **Dr and Mrs Walid Alami '81**.

San Francisco was next where we organized a dinner for the IC alumni attended by more than 30 people. IC Senior Vice President and Secondary School Director, **Mrs Mishka Mourani**, also joined us.



Boston dinner at Dania Ali Ahmad Mansour's '87 residence

We then moved on to NY where we met with **Mr Nimr Ibrahim**, the newly appointed Director of Development and Alumni Affairs in the New York office and coordinated the work between the Beirut and NY offices.

We had a luncheon meeting with the Chairman of the Board, **Mr Bill Turner**, followed by a meeting of the Development Committee chaired by board member **Mr Wael Bayazid '70**. We discussed plans for IC and latest events.



The full board meeting was held on February 22. This was followed by a lovely dinner where board members and over 60 alumni had a chance to talk.

In Washington, I (Moufid) was hosted by **Dr Safa Rifka '64**. A big dinner organized by **Mr Rabih Chatila '63 and his wife, Zaynab**, was held at the Piano Grill in Fairfax, Virginia attracting 80 alumni. A jolly spirit is contagious and before long, guests were dancing debkeh and enjoyed watching a belly dancer! Guests included board members, **Mr Jim Holman** and **Mr Matt Reynolds**.



NY dinner with John and Mary Johnson and Board Members, Mona Bawarshi and Matt Reynolds

But the real highlight came when **Mr Camille Nawfel '39** and **Mr Hani Rifa '00** went on stage together to talk about IC. Old memories and young ones mixed together.

In Boston, **Mr John Johnson** and **Mrs Mishka Mourani** joined me at a dinner hosted by **Dr Dania Ali Ahmad '87 and her husband, Dr Moussa Mansour**, at their home in Newton for 35 alumni.



Camille Nawfel '39 and Hani Rifa '00

I had a brief stopover in London where I met with **Mr Kareem Sakka '82** and made my journey back home.



Kristina and Khaled Nasr '76



Nimr Ibrahim, Jim Holman, Claude Fadoul and Safa Rifka '64 with guests in Washington D.C.



To Jordan, March '07

First on our agenda was attending a lovely alumni dinner hosted by **Mr Issa Halabi '78 and his wife, Louise**, at their home attended by over 30 people.

The next day, Board Member **Mr Saeed Darwazah '76** hosted a lunch attended by **Mr Mahmoud Malhas '53, Mr Isam Salfiti '61, Mr Ali Husry '75, Mr Issa Halabi '78**. We discussed the future plans of IC and the capital campaign.

On Sunday night, we were invited to a small dinner given by **Ms Salma Jaouny '91**.



Dinner at the Halabi residence in Jordan attended by Board Member Saeed Darwazah '76 and friends

To Saudi Arabia, April '07

We started off our trip in Al-Khobar and stayed at board member, **Mr Fouad Maalouf's '56**, home. The next day, we met with **Mr Samir Albnali '78**.

That same day, **Mr Maalouf** hosted a lunch attended by 20 alumni and friends. In the evening, we met with **Mr Khaled al Turki '56** and his wife, Sally, in their home where we talked about the capital campaign and campus plans.

In Riyadh, **Mr Saoud Shawaf '56** hosted us for lunch. And in the evening, **Mr Riad Mourtada '61** threw a small dinner attended by several alumni.

We also visited King Faisal School where we discussed mutual interests.

We also met with **Prince Turki Al-Sudayri '58**, who is now the head of the Human Rights Commission in Saudi Arabia and **Mr Sami El Saif '74**. Future plans for IC were discussed at full length.

We then flew to Jeddah where we met with **Mr Saeed Hatlani '72, Mr Samir Kreidieh '65, Mr Henry Sarkissian, Mr Mohammed Basamah '65, and Mr Mu'taz Al Sawwaf '69**.

Mr Saeed Hatlani '72 hosted a lunch for us attended by **Mr Nabil Al Zaben '68, Mr Nader Al Zaben '72, Mr Samir Kreidieh '65 and Mr Saeed Baarma '70**.

In the evening, **Mr Nafez al Jundi** hosted a dinner at his home.

A special thanks goes to **Mr Hatlani and Mr Kreidieh** who went out of their way to be with us at all times.



John Johnson, Faysal al Bassam '55, Jassim Buallay '58 and Fouad Maalouf '56



Left: John Johnson, Aida Shawaf, Saoud Shawaf '56, Riad Mourtada '61 and Moufid Beydoun '64

Below: Samir kreidieh '65, Moufid Beydoun '64, Nehmeh Tohme and John Johnson





Sawsan Fahoum Jaafar '71, John Johnson, Dr Winfred Thomson, Chancellor of the American University of Sharjah and Hamid Jaafar

To Dubai and Abu Dhabi, May '07

We arrived in Dubai to attend a wonderful dinner at the Boustan Rotana Hotel organized by **Mr Elias Hanna '61**, the head of the IC Alumni Dubai chapter and his wife, **Souad**. More than 220 people attended.

We brought with us – all the way from Beirut – the attraction of the evening: **Ms Yasmina Sabbah '06** and **Mr Amir Haydar '05**. The young alumni entertained the guests with their wide repertoire of songs. Guests were also taken down memory lane when various pictures of IC were shown on large screens. I (John) addressed guests and talked about the financial aid program and future plans for IC. **Mr Hanna** also talked about the IC spirit and ways and means to help IC.



Souad and Elias Hanna '61



Amir Haydar '05 and Yasmina Sabbah '06

We then drove to Abu Dhabi to attend another wonderful dinner hosted by IC friend, **Mr Albert Matta**, and organized by **Farid Fakherdine '85**, the head of the Abu Dhabi chapter. The dinner was held at al Birkeh restaurant and was attended by 70 people. I (John) also gave a speech about IC and plans for the future.

The next day, IC parent, **Mr Samer Qiblawi**, hosted a luncheon attended by 18 alumni and friends.



Samer Qiblawi hosts a luncheon in Abu Dhabi



NO MORE TEXTBOOKS! THINK, ANALYZE BUT DON'T MEMORIZE!



It was a new concept even to her. Yet, it was just what she was looking for. Already in the years that Randa Khoury, the preschool director, had been at IC, she was itching to change things. And so it was when the school president at the time approached her and other directors to attend a workshop in Frankfurt about the Primary Years Program (PYP), Khoury jumped at the chance.

The program was still new, barely two years old when the IC team started on its quest in 1999. There was a lot to learn. And a lot to change. For until then, the school was using a rather traditional way of teaching using textbooks and instructions.

“At the level of KGII, they were using first grade books,” recalled Khoury. “The teacher taught from them and later tested the students.”

There were many changes that had to be done and those had to be done gradually. Teachers resisted. Parents protested. How can they teach without books? How can parents tutor them at home? But Khoury and other colleagues pursued.

First, textbooks were gradually banned and teacher training began. Classes would no longer be taught as one entity. Instead, they were divided into ‘centers’ - groups of students who work on their own.

By 2000, 186 preschool and ele-



mentary teachers on both campuses had been through the basic PYP workshops. Every year, two PYP specialists come to IC to conduct training sessions. Teachers themselves are sent abroad to attend PYP conferences. Began in 1997, PYP is part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme aimed at children aged 3-11. The program is the brainchild of a group of international educators based in Switzerland who wanted to provide younger students with an international perspective and critical thinking skills. IB provides schools with the guidelines of learning. "But you take your own and the government imposed curricula and teach it in an approach which is very clear to everybody, parents, teachers and students," said Khoury. "Students themselves become highly involved in their own learning."

Seven years after PYP was first introduced at IC, Nathalie Shehadeh was listening intently to her daughter Hannah, 6, explaining the group of cardboards in front of her. It was Hannah's book. Her own story and creation. She looked proud. Shehadeh and other parents had come to see their children's work - marking the end of a 'unit', where students' activities have been centered on the theme of "stories inform us, give us pleasure and help our imagination grow." For the past four weeks, the Grande Section & KGII have been reading all kinds of books, telling stories in all possible ways, miming, acting out stories and going to libraries, visiting a publishing house and seeing the many phases of turning a storyboard into print. Finally, each student created his or her own book. Every activity performed was to help the children understand for themselves the main theme. "It's amazing," said Shehadeh. "I can see how much Hannah has learned." Hannah herself looked pleased. But suddenly she sighed. "I liked making a book," she confided. "But I don't think I want to do it again. It's a lot of work."

It was PYP working at its best. The aim of the PYP is to turn students into 'inquirers, thinkers, communicators, risk takers, knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, well-balanced, and reflective'. It is these characteristics – IB characteristics - which will create internationally minded people able to learn by themselves and integrate on their own in any country in the world. "We want our students to have the right attitudes," said Ghada Maalouf, the assistant director at the preschool. "We explicitly address and promote the PYP attitudes during the units. We hope students will become better learners, will care for the environment, will do something for other people, for their schools, for their country and



for the world. It is the students not teachers that must initiate these actions." The PYP program spans over eight years. Every year a new concept is introduced and fully explored – using the knowledge acquired in previous years. "To reach those aims, we have tools," said Maalouf. "The most important tool is the curriculum. The PYP definition of the curriculum is everything that is done at school."

Maalouf, a former teacher, was appointed as PYP coordinator as IC immersed itself more and more into the program. She became so proficient in the PYP system that she is now considered an "international trainer". IB "borrows" her and another pre-school teacher, Lina Mouchantaf, from IC three or four times a year to help other schools train their teachers. Every four to five weeks children work on one theme or "unit of inquiry" as is known in PYP. Everything they do revolves around that theme – one of six in a year. Every week the faculty and directors meets and reflect over what worked and what didn't. They assess and reassess. They discuss and compare. In another class, students of KG1/M.S. have just finished another unit. This time it was about decision making, planning and cooperation. The task was to create an object. Some decided to create puppets, aquarium, mailbox or a book. The class took a vote. Plastered across the room are the votes, charts, graphs and the tallies that the students themselves performed. The final project was proudly displayed: the product of much pondering, exploring and teamwork. Khoury proudly looks on and eagerly shows visitors around. The program is a sound success. "Students were memorizing and now they are learning," she said. "They don't see math or science as subjects on their own. They understand how everything works together in all situations and apply it in their everyday lives."



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Secondary students are required to serve 90 hours of community service before graduating. At the end of every semester, students are required to write an essay about their experiences.

Sara Oweida, terminal Bacc Français, volunteered at St-Jude's Children Cancer Center over Christmas and Easter breaks. This is her story.

The minute you enter the Center, you see colors everywhere. Colored walls, tiny colored little chairs around round tables, drawings attached on the walls. You also see the uptight smiles hiding the worries. I remember every single child I sat with at the table. At first, they are really shy, not so talkative, but when they are assured that you will not hurt them in any way, they get close to you, ask you to read them a story, or play with them, or just ask you for a paper and a pencil so they can draw peacefully in the corner. Some of them, mostly boys, have a lot of energy, and move around like ambulant criminals, savaging the little house where a girl had decided to hide in, whereas others are a little tired, barely smiling, and anxious for the results of the check-up. Others prefer to watch the same episodes of "Tom & Jerry" over and over again on the television. At breakfast time, the parents are faced with a huge drudgery: feeding their child. Playing or not, feeding the children is pretty hard, especially when their appetite is lost, or they are busy playing with something else.

I believe this experience has taught me so much. Not every person has the guts and the patience to nurse an ill child, and that is what I had admired about the parents. Not to mention their hopes, always up for the love of their child. The most beautiful feeling, is when a child clings on to you, and wants to play with you, as if you are some kind of protection. It is comforting to see that no matter what, some children are hopeful and joyful, but it

tears you apart to see some children, unlike others, quietly weakened by the atrocity of their malady. Nevertheless, the caring of their parents, the presence of volunteers entertaining them and providing them with pens and games, and the assurances of the doctors, help them in overcoming the situation.

When I enter the place, I am hit by a wave of an indescribable feeling: I am scared of what might come, doubting if I will be strong enough to pretend

that nothing is wrong with these kids, and go on playing with them. However, I remind myself that I should be scared of nothing, especially those helpless kids, because if they need anything, it would be someone to share their moments of nervousness with. The same goes to the parents. Our presence beside them is enough for them to understand that they are not alone on that uneasy road, but that they have us to rely on.

MODEL UN GOES TO CAIRO

*Model UN is an authentic simulation of the UN General Assembly and other multilateral bodies. Basically, students step in the shoes of foreign diplomats and take on their roles. Before attending a conference, participants would have been assigned to research a country, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems. At IC, MUN is offered as an extra curricular activity and 11 of its members attended a MUN conference in Cairo in March. Among them, were **Chafic Dakroub** (6th grade IB 1) and **Mira Houballah** (6th grade) who submitted this article.*

We, the delegates, were divided into different forums according to the different UN bodies present: General Assembly A, General Assembly B, Security Council, Disarmament Commission, International Court of Justice, Advisory Panel, Youth, and the Economic and Social Council. Each discussed the two topics that were assigned and eventually presented a resolution for each group of allied countries. It took eight hours of debating and amending the resolutions and finally voting on whether each should pass or not. The eight hours of intensity were interrupted only by a lunch break and several coffee breaks for the delegates to freshen up. The closing ceremony took place in the hotel on the last day and we

had the chance to address some questions to the guest speaker, an Egyptian diplomat and former member of the United Nations. Due to the high levels of intellectual preparation of the delegates, the resolutions that passed were those that contained very reasonable solutions to today's international conflicts and human rights issues.

Model United Nations is not only an after-school activity that is attended by people that aim at having fun. It is regarded as one of the most serious activities that might provide an early experience for participants interested in a future in diplomatic and political practices. It also contributes to the building of a strong character with sufficient self-confidence. Participation also helps today's youth become better leaders for the future, with a broader perspective that will help in the advancement of the human race as a whole with full international cooperation, instead of the undying attempts to intensify personal benefits. Many people believe that the United Nations is just a façade. We, the students that have passed through a UN related experience, strongly believe that all youth with no exception should have some diplomatically based education to make the United Nations less of a façade and more of an effective organization promoting world peace and stability.



DON'T JUST SNATCH MY TOYS! LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

The children gathered around the small green plastic table eagerly. Their photos and drawings were pasted all over it. They seemed to be quite familiar with it. "Why do we use this table?" asked May Chehab, their KG1 teacher looking around at them. Little hands shot up in the air. "If someone hits you we come here," offered one small boy. "If someone bumps my head, we come here," added a little girl. But Omar seemed to have the right answer. "You come here and talk if someone takes your toys," he said. And then,



added Lara knowingly, "you say: why did you take my toy?" Chehab looked pleased. She has been using a "conflict resolution table" in her classroom of four-year-olds for the past three years and it has been a resounding success every time. "It is the students who came up with this idea," said Chehab. "The theme of discussion at the time was family and friends. I asked them: if you have a problem with a friend what do you do?" Children and teacher brainstormed. Finally, the students decided that the answer was to find a comfortable place and talk about it. Chehab hit on the idea of getting a small table. She remembered seeing a discarded plastic table in the hallway. The children set about pasting their pictures on it and an official "conflict resolution table" was born.

The table has since taken a prominent place in the classroom. At first, Chehab had to guide them to it when arguments erupted. But slowly, she would look around to see some of the children themselves gathering around it to air out their grievances to one another. "This builds communicating skills, it teaches different points of views, and helps them to solve their own problems," said Chehab.



The table also became central when the next class theme centered on feelings. Early in the mornings, each child would place their name next to a drawing of a face on a chart showing the basic feelings: happy, sad, and angry, excited and tired. As discussions progressed, the children learned to express these feelings at the conflict resolution table.

And then came a time when the students themselves took matters into their own hands. One little girl had a habit of taking several books to read during rest time. This apparently greatly annoyed her classmates. As Chehab watched undetected, the girl was summoned by her peers to the table. She was firmly told that the others feel deprived of those books that she takes with her. The girl meekly put them back and since then only takes one book out at a time.

Chehab was amazed. "I felt sorry for the girl," she said laughing. "But I've never felt prouder of all of them."



LET THE PUPPETS TALK: AN ERC WORKSHOP

Educational Resources Center organizes every year an extensive program of professional development activities based on curricular and instructional initiatives that are newly introduced at I.C. Many of those activities are held on campus and run by I.C. leading teachers and administrators, resource persons from neighboring universities, or consultants from abroad.

If visitors had entered my classroom during an ERC workshop this year, they would have had the impression of seeing a beehive of teachers coming and going, selecting appropriate fabrics of all colors for their play, shells, buttons, paper plates, sponges, pearls, ribbons, Styrofoam, socks, cardboard. We were in the midst of our “Puppetry: a Means of Communication and Dialogue” workshop. The purpose was to let the participants experience how puppets are an extension of the self. Puppets can be a powerful tool in the classroom for both teachers and students and can be used for discovery and exploring.

The participants chose finger puppets or hand puppets that I had provided from home and from the Preschool, and introduced themselves. Each teacher acted out the personage of the puppet she was holding while introducing herself. The teachers were then divided into three groups of four people in each. Their first task was to design finger puppets and then create a script for circle

time activities. Each group chose a different area; one group took the Calendar, designed the puppets and created a song of how to remind children of the days of the week; another group created a scene about the weather and another about attendance.

The teachers were having fun and were enthusiastic. When ready, participants hid behind the puppet house that I had prepared and with a lot of humor, the different

scenes were acted out. The rest of the participants sat facing the puppet house, attended the show and clapped enthusiastically to the performers.

As puppets play an important educational role in the classroom and can contribute greatly to many aspects of the child’s learning, the next task that I had assigned was to create a story about a teaching concept using hand puppets. Again, the teachers excelled in their creations and performances. The greatest rewarding remark I received at the end of the session was said by one of the participants who herself is a teacher of drama in her school to her colleagues: “Please, don’t go! I know it is already time to leave home. But we have not finished designing our puppets and presenting it to the other teachers”.



Samia Boulad is the Head of the Art dept at IC and conducts workshops to teachers in Art, its concepts and Assessment in Art at private and public schools around the country.

YOU KNOW YOU’RE AN ALUMNI WHEN:

- ✓ The current president of IC graduated after you did.
- ✓ You bump into your classmates and they have graying hair.
- ✓ You stop having a crush on that hot teacher.
- ✓ The students suddenly look so young.
- ✓ You flip immediately to the back pages of the newsletter to check news of your classmates.
- ✓ You are relegated to the Alumni Office when visiting IC.



- ✓ Walking through campus teachers make eye contact with you – as the only other adult - and smile.
- ✓ As you stroll, students call you “miss” or “istath”.
- ✓ You see the latest Torch and realize in dismay that you’re not in it.
- ✓ The manakish at the cafeteria don’t look so good anymore.
- ✓ You yearn to return to good old days of IC.
- ✓ You can’t wait for the latest IC newsletter to come out!



Dear IC,
When I applied to get into IC in 1963, and having completed my elementary education in a French school; my parents suggested that I sit for the entrance exam for the French Section. I did sit for it, but failed to be accepted as I did not Pass the Dictée test.

So I got into the English section, and am I glad I did because looking back in retrospect the friends I made in the English section turned out to be life-long friends. Without naming any names they turned out to be very loyal friends that came through in my hours of dire straights.

As they know whom I am talking about I extend to them my deepest gratitude, as well as my regret of not being able to return their favors.

I am now settled down in Toronto, Canada with My wife May and my four children. If I was living in Beirut now barring the political and security situation; I would have definitely enrolled my children at IC so that they would experience the same educational, social and cultural excellence that IC provided me.

Issa Kawar '69
Toronto, Canada



Dear IC,
Being 20 years old now, spending 15 years at IC means that this school represents a huge part of my life. From the day when I was holding my mother's hand for my first kindergarten day until the day I graduated, I went through several phases. From meeting best friends, to appreciating great teachers, to being elected class representative, to winning the science fair twice, to helping our soccer team win, IC has shaped my personality for my future life, and now I feel that IC was of great help for me and contributed greatly towards my future success.

Mohammad El Habbal '04
Beirut, Lebanon



Commencement 1966



Rev. Daniel Bliss
Founder of AUB & PREP
1872-1896

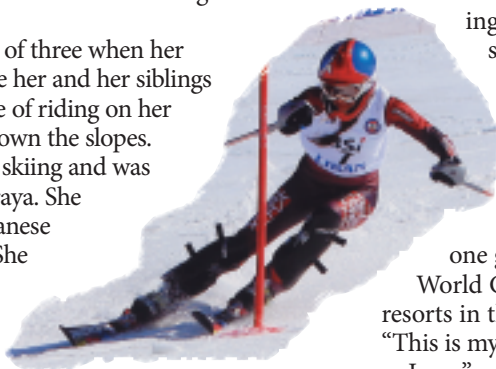


The astronomy class of 1927 SMYRNA - Turkey

16-YEAR OLD IC STUDENT WINS SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP

Saja Tourbah, a 16-year-old IB1 student, ranked second in Junior's Women skiing and third in Women's Skiing championship held in March.

Saja has been skiing since the age of three when her mother, an avid skier, used to take her and her siblings skiing. Saja's earliest memories are of riding on her mother's shoulders as she skied down the slopes. Saja immediately fell in love with skiing and was later enrolled in Ski School in Faraya. She won her first championship (Lebanese Championship) at the age of 13. She came first. Since then, Saja, has been practicing during week-ends and competing in all tournaments.



"It doesn't matter whether I win or not. I do it for fun," she said. "It is self-satisfactory. There is nothing like the feeling of going down and hitting the gates. The energy, speed and adrenalin rush that you feel is amazing."

This year, she qualified to compete in the Asian Olympics held in China but because of the unstable political situation in Lebanon, the Lebanese Ski Federation was unable to come up with the funds. The trip was cancelled.

Deeply disappointed, Saja is now concentrating on one goal: to qualify to compete at the Alpine Skiing World Cup, races which are usually held every year at ski resorts in the Alps in Europe.

"This is my dream," she said. "I have to keep on training as much as I can."



FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

The George Debbas Staff Development Award

George Debbas '44 deeply loved IC and enjoyed good relations with its personnel. During the civil war, the IC staff proved to be of great help to him. He never forgot. The Debbas children have established The George Debbas Staff Development Award to honor the appreciation their father had for IC staff.

To be eligible for the award, recipients must have shown dedication, hard work, punctuality and willingness to put in extra time if necessary, a positive influence on the morale of fellow employees and superior quality in the level of his or her work.

This year's winners were:

Nelly Awad, Administrative Assistant
Kifah Bedreddine, assistant to business manager for computer operations

The Albert Abela Distinguished Educator Awards

Albert Abela '39, left IC and later became the founder of the multimillion global contract caterer, the Albert Abela Corporation. He passed away in 1998. In his honor, The Albert Abela Distinguished Educator Awards was established to recognize teachers - nominated by fellow teachers and students - who have proved themselves to be committed to IC and were interested in their own professional growth and in the development of students.

This year's recipients were:

Doha Berjawi, Rola Ayache, Juliette Bikhazi, Fatima Taha, Nizar Mehtar, Arlette Akl, Gladys Haddad, Riad Chirazi and Colette Matta.

The Edmond Tohme Distinguished Educator's Award Fund

Edmond Tohme '56 who later became the school's deputy president is well known for leading the school into many innovative educational approaches. In his name, The Edmond Tohme Distinguished Educator's Award Fund recognizes faculty members who have shown instructional excellence, genuine concern for student welfare, service to the College beyond the call of duty, active participation in professional development and community educational and cultural activities and distinctive professional activity.

This year's award went to **Wadad Hoss**, the Middle School director.

Special Awards:

For their 25 years of service and commitment to IC, three teachers received special awards:

Amal Charara, Assistant to the Director and Library Prog. Supervisor
Amal Naccache, Arabic instructor
Nicholas Rubeiz, Bus service

Hikayat: Short Stories by Lebanese Women Edited by Roseanne Khalaf (Telegram Books 2006)



Mention the civil war and silence immediately prevails. No one wants to talk about it: Hear no evil. Speak no evil. And remember no evil.

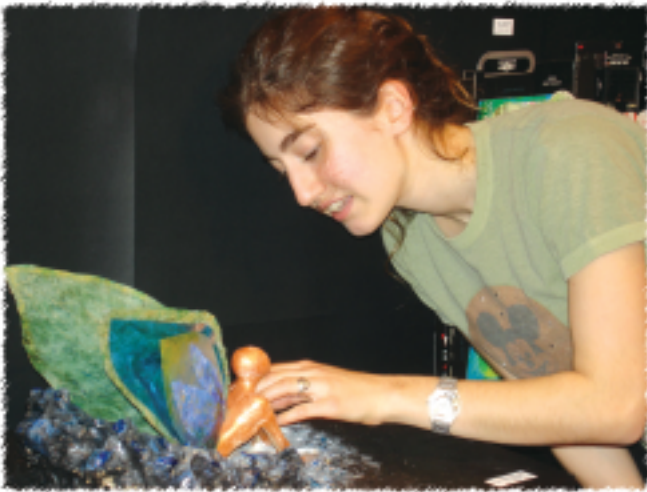
In *Hikayat*, Roseanne Khalaf, an assistant professor of English and creative writing in the Department of English at AUB, brings together 26 women authors - each with a story to tell. Some are fictional and some are not. The women represent three generations: pre-war, civil war, and post-war reconstruction. Not all the stories deal with the war, but in many of them, women have to deal with the extra burden of war. Most of the stories have the distinct voice of feminism daring each generation to change women's imposed roles and break social taboos.

Some of the texts were written in Arabic and translated with some difficulty into English. "Arabic is an emotional language," said Ellen Khouri at a panel discussion held at BIEL on April 20th. The discussion followed a book signing ceremony which was held during the Beirut International Book Fair. "And English is a pragmatic language. It wasn't easy finding the right words."

But she did. All together, the authors produced a captivating mix of stories. One of them is written by no other than IC's Senior Vice President and Director of Secondary School, Mishka Moujabber Mourani.

"The Fragrant Garden" reveals how, ironically, some people actually miss the pace of life that the war forced upon them. Mourani's narrator herself found that she lived more "intensely" during the turbulent days. "I felt I was really alive," she recounts. "...I looked forward to going to school, to spending time with the kids I taught. There was a heightened meaning to our everyday lives. I haven't felt that way since the war ended."

After fifteen years of living a life dodging bullets, living with sparse electricity and fuel, the character of the husband in the story equally felt a loss when peace finally prevailed. Expatriates had returned to the war-torn city as if nothing had happened. "They had no idea what every shell hole in the wall or every pothole in the street meant," he said. "The pace of life quickened and became banal. People were busy again. It actually made me nauseous."



IB ART EXHIBIT

It took a year and a half of thinking, reflecting and creating. But it was all worth it for the eight International Baccalaureate (IB) students as they proudly showed off their work during April. In one corner, Cynthia Merhej had found an old abandoned water fountain. Colored juice boxes and glitter decorated the front. But upon closer look, the attractions are just a cover up for a disintegrating water fountain just as the bright colors of the juice boxes are an appeal for the unsuspecting child. "I used to drink these things when I was a child and loved it," she explained. "But now I see they are all poison." It wasn't easy creating these works. There was a lot of inner

reflection, much introvert research and quick growing up to do. Their teacher had merely become a facilitator. It was up to them to find the answers. At 18, each had to find the multimillion dollar question which perplexes many adults: who am I?

Nearby, a set of pictures shows everyday household items. One shows a pair of slippers and another displays a small dining table with chairs. These belonged to Cynthia's grandmother. "She died a few months ago," said Cynthia. "All these things meant a lot to her. Now they are just clutter. I understood while doing this project that it's the memories of people that stay with us. Not things."

In another area, Amanda Halabi, chose to produce her art work using digital technology. She had created a series of images depicting the seven sins. She photographed her classmates in various positions and digitally reproduced the pictures in different shades of colors.

Eleena Korban had created a game. A spindle turned to various pots of paint. "It's a political game," she explained. "This is what our politicians have degraded themselves to."

At first glance the small sculpture looked like an angel trying to fly away. But it's actually Timi Hayek's reproduction of herself. With wings on her back, she was trying to break out of her cocoon and find her way to adulthood.

Each project is accompanied by a workbook where every thought and creation was duly noted. An IB moderator arrived in Lebanon in early April and met with each student for half an hour. The results will be out in July.

SWIM CHAMPS

IC students shone during the Lebanese winter swimming championships held at the Jamhour Club in April with eight of its Ain Aar students walking away with medals. Over twenty-two swimmers from eight different clubs participated in the two-day event. IC winners were:

Tara Sabri (4eme): 3 gold – broke four new records

Lynn Bitar: (5eme) silver club.

Nour Yachoui (CM1): 1 gold, 2 silvers, one bronze

Hiba Abi Rached: (CM2): 1 gold, 1 silver, 1 bronze

Nayla Tohme (CM2): 1 gold, 1 bronze

Marina Azar (CM2): 1 gold

John Geahchan (CM2): 1 bronze

Rita Yachoui (4eme): 2 bronze

This is not the first competition for these young swimmers.

Tara Sabri, for one, has been competing since she was six years old and has won more than 100 medals! In fact, she stopped counting!

Like the rest, Tara practices several times a week for an hour and half. It's a lot of work and can be "tiring" she admits.

Another swimming competition is scheduled in August. Good luck to all!



Nour Yachoui, Mirna Azar, Hiba Abou Rached and Nayla Tohme



Tara Sabri and friend



OUR RETIRING TEACHERS

**SAMIA ROCHO, FRENCH INSTRUCTOR,
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, JOINED IC IN 1989**

Je suis heureuse et fière d'avoir appartenu à cette institution de grande renommée qu'est l'IC!

Ma relation avec la direction a toujours été caractérisée par un respect mutuel et une estime réciproque; elle m'a accordé sans faillir, tout au long de ces années, un grand soutien moral et humain, ce qui m'a encouragée à donner de mon mieux avec amour et fidélité dans l'ultime intérêt des enfants confiés à ma charge.

L'objectif premier de cette institution a toujours visé un enseignement de qualité, de pointe, tant au niveau local qu'international. De ce fait, tous les moyens et ressources ont été mis à ma disposition, tels la possibilité de participer à de nombreux séminaires et stages continus dans le but d'approfondir mes connaissances académiques et expériences pédagogiques. C'est pourquoi je tiens à remercier de tout coeur et avec beaucoup de gratitude tous mes supérieurs, ainsi que le personnel administratif, pour leur esprit de coopération et la confiance qu'ils m'ont à tout temps accordée.



Quant à ma relation avec mes collègues, elle était exemplaire et empreinte d'estime, de franchise, d'amitié, voire de vraie fraternité, de sorte que je me sentais tout simplement en famille à l'école.

Il est très normal que je me sente triste à l'idée de quitter une institution qui m'est très chère et au sein de laquelle j'ai passé les plus beaux jours de ma vie, au contact des enfants, et où j'ai eu le plaisir et l'honneur de nouer des amitiés auxquelles je demeurerais toujours fidèle.

Retirement is wonderful. It's doing nothing without worrying about getting caught at it.

— Gene Perret

**HUSSEIN YASSINE, BETTER
KNOWN AS ABU ALI, WORKS AT
THE CAFETERIA**

I have been at IC since 1963. I knew then that I had entered the best institution. I served IC and IC served me. Many many students have passed by me. I can't remember all of them but they remember me. I went to see a doctor not too long ago when my arm was hurting. The doctor immediately came up to me and said "Abu Ali" you are "Abu Ali"! He hugged me and kissed me. "Don't you recognize me, Abu Ali?"

I looked closely at him. I could just see the boy in this adult and I finally did recognize him.

IC is my home. It has been my home all these years. I stayed right here during the entire civil war. I never left it. Not one day. Not one minute. I also worked as a guard and took my job to guard the school very seriously. I protected it like I was protecting my own home and my own family.

I will miss my days here.

**SAMIR ASSAF,
P.E. INSTRUCTOR
JOINED IC IN
1969**



بعض الذكريات تُنسى والبعض الآخر يبقى في الذاكرة. ومن الذكريات التي لا تُنسى السنوات الطويلة التي قضيتها في المؤسسة التربوية في الانترنتونال كولدج: ذكريات حُملت في طياتها أسمى المعاني وأطيب الأيام. مؤسسة حملت في طياتها نشاطات متنوعة من تربوية وثقافية واجتماعية ورياضية: ذكريات رؤساء ومدراء وأساتذة حملوا هموم وشجون هذه المؤسسة. وهذا ما دفعني لأقيم دورة رياضية منذ أكثر من ثمانية عشر سنة بين المدارس في ألعاب عديدة. حملت هذه الدورة اسم الرئيس الراحل التون رينولدز ولا تزال تقام حتى الآن.

تمنياتي ولو أنني استمر في هذه المؤسسة نظراً لتعلقني بها ولأنني أمضيت سنوات عمري فيها. تمنياتي لهذه المؤسسة النجاح والتوفيق.

سمير عساف





SPORTS NEWS

2006-2007

VARSITY BOYS FOOTBALL

- ACS/IC Pre Season Soccer Tournament – 3rd
- Alton Reynolds Soccer Tournament – 2nd
- Friendly Matches

VARSITY GIRLS FOOTBALL

- Alton Reynolds Soccer Tournament – 4th
- IC Post Soccer Tournament – 4th
- Friendly Matches

JV BOYS FOOTBALL

- ACS Soccer Tournament – 2nd
- Alton Reynolds Soccer Tournament – 1st
- Friendly Matches

JV GIRLS FOOTBALL (DEVELOPING YEAR)

- Alton Reynolds Soccer Tournament – 1st
- ACS Soccer Tournament – 2nd
- Friendly Matches

JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL (AA)

- Alton Reynolds Tournament – 3rd
- Friendly Matches

VARSITY GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

- Alton Reynolds Volleyball Tournament – 3rd
- LAU Annual Tournament – 1st
- Bulkent University Preparatory School, Ankara International Tour-



- Alton Reynolds Volleyball Tournament – 4th
- Friendly Matches

VARSITY BOYS VOLLEYBALL

- Alton Reynolds Volleyball Tournament – 3rd
- Friendly Matches

VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

- Alton Reynolds Basketball Tournament – 1st
- ABS, Amman International Tournament – 2nd
- LES Invitational Tournament – 3rd
- Friendly Matches

VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Alton Reynolds Basketball Tournament – 2nd
- ABS, Amman International Tournament – 4th
- Friendly Matches

JV BOYS BASKETBALL

- Alton Reynolds Basketball Tournament – 2nd
- Friendly Matches

JV BASKETBALL GIRLS

- Alton Reynolds Tournament – 1st
- ACS Basketball Tournament – 1st
- Friendly Matches

TRACK AND FIELD

- ABS, Amman Track and Field Meet – 52 Medals, 1st overall schools (7 Schools)
- Friendly Dual Meets

BADMINTON

- Friendly Matches

SWIMMING

- UNESCOIAD Swim Meet for schools – 7 Medals in 8 scheduled races for different age groups.





ALUMNI

CLASS OF '50 – 59

Fouad Kronfol '52 was honored by the government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and awarded a Medal: "For the Cause of Population, Family and Children". The citation states: "to honor his outstanding contribution to the care and protection of Vietnamese children during the period 1980-1983 when he was the UNICEF Representative in Hanoi, Viet Nam." This was a crucial period in Vietnam's rehabilitation after the war, and the unification of the country. It was also an important milestone in his career with UNICEF which lasted from 1959 to his early retirement in 1995.

Mahmoud Malhas '53 lives in Jordan for half of the year and spends the rest traveling between Lebanon, Europe and Saudi Arabia. His main businesses in Jordan are the Four Seasons Hotel, Jaguar cars, Chopard Jewelry and General Trading.

Bassam Shkhashiri '56 received the 2007 National Science Board Public Service Award at a ceremony on May 14 at the State Department in Washington, D.C. Bassam is a chemistry professor at The University of Wisconsin scientist who created new ways to encourage public understanding of science through new exciting methods and visually pleasing chemical demonstrations. He is also the recipient of the William T. Evjue Distinguished Chair for the Wisconsin Idea and has received over 35 awards. The Encyclopedia Britannica cites him as the "dean of lecture demonstrators in demonstrators in America."

CLASS OF '60 - 69

Charles H. Khouri '60 has developed a new compound that has helped more than 200 dogs and one human with spinal cord injury walk. Another new discovery is a successful treatment of race horses that bled from the lungs during racing. There has been no known treat-

ment and if a race horse bleeds twice, it cannot race any more. Another discovery has to do with cornea and skin. Dr. Khouri tested it on wrinkles as did Estee Lauder. It was found to be superior to any anti-wrinkling agent on the market.

Farid Iskandar '60 has been an architect at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill since 1978, in New York and London. He attended IC Prep School 1954 to 1960, including boarding school 1954 to 1956 (Thompson Hall). He is married to Beth Iskander and has two daughters: Aline and Elisabeth, both born in Beirut and attended IC Elementary school 1977/1978.

Dr. Antun Anid '61 announces the birth of his first granddaughter Ava Elizabeth.

Akram Miknas '63 was appointed as the Honorary Ambassador of the city of Brisbane Australia in Bahrain by The Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Councillor Campbell Newman last February. Akram is the President and CEO of Promoseven Network Inc., the largest Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations Agency in the Middle East and North Africa. Akram also owns several major hospital-ity and leisure companies in the King-



dom of Bahrain and is owner of the McDonald's franchise in Lebanon.

Raja Makarem '65 and his wife Christiane Oughourlian, have been living in Beirut for the past 10 years after their long tenure in the U.K. Christiane is very much involved with her voluntary work at St. Jude's Cancer Center as Director of Volunteers. Their three children, Naji, Karim and Nadim, live abroad, two of them in London and the third in Paris. Recently, they have become grandparents to a baby boy, Shadi, (son of Naji). Raja is busy managing their company RAMCO - Real Estate Advisors from their offices at Gefinor Center.

Ziad A. Zennie, Ph.D '69 finished his Bachelor's at AUB in Comparative Literature in 1972. He left to the US and graduated in 1974 with a Master's in English Literature from the University of Dayton, Ohio. He then returned to the Middle East and the Gulf where he remained until 1986. He returned to the USA to earn another Master's of Science in Education from the University of Dayton (1989) and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Cincinnati (1991). He has been in the field of Management Consultancy with Meirc Training and Consulting, Dubai, UAE since 1992. He is married to Jausianne Khalil and has 2 daughters Tamara, 9, and Lara 7.

Adnan Hussein Doughan '69 is a Senior Manager at the First Gulf Bank in Dubai- UAE. His wife, Lina Farouk Idris, is a Phonetic Arabic Teacher at Berlitz in Beirut. His son, Hussein is a Sales & Marketing Manager at Thomaston Mills Free Zone Dubai in UAE. His daughter, Jana, is in her senior year studying Public Administration & Political Science at AUB and his youngest daughter, Luma, is a freshman at AUB.

CLASS OF '70 – '79

Mohannad Malas '71 obtained his civil engineering degree in 1976 from the

UPDATES



University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada and spent nine years in the gulf, seven years of which were in Doha- Qatar, as the general manager of Arab Building Materials Co. He then moved to the United States where he established Dana Investments, a real estate development company which has real estate holdings in five states. Mohannad resides in Laguna Beach, CA and has recently ventured into producing movies. His first Hollywood production that will be released in theaters this fall is AmericanEast: a movie that tells the story of Arab Americans living in the USA post 9/11. The movie includes stars like Tony Shalhoub (TV series, Monk), Qais Nashef (Movie, Paradise Now), Sara Shahi (HBO series, L Word) and others. The movie was locked two weeks ago and is presently competing in the Berlin Film Festival, and the Toronto Film Festival. It will be showing in theaters in the US in the fall and elsewhere in the world shortly thereafter.

Patou Fathallah '74 is a sculptor living in the UK. Her background is in radio, television and advertising and she has worked as a producer and casting director. To see her work go to: http://www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/your-gallery/artist_profile/a/15083.html

Leila Musfy '75 is a full Professor and Chair at the Department of Architecture and Design at the American University of Beirut. She was coordinator and director of the graphic design program at Department of Architecture and Design (AUB) from 1992 to 2003. She is married to Saeed Awad since 2000. She works independently on design projects and/or with her husband. She was invited to participate in a design exhibition in Echirolles, France, November 2006, honoring 9 women designers from: USA, Peru, Colombia, Portugal, Belgium, Japan, Tcheque, Poland and Lebanon.

Mazin Ghalayini '75 married Mariam Chanbour in Paris in 1986. They moved to Jeddah in 1993 where they remain. They have two children, Fadi, who is studying international financial



management in France and Tima who will finish her French BAC at the French Lycee in Jeddah in 2009. "And yes," he says, "some might find it ironic, I was an "English Section" student, and now my own kids are in French schools. (sexy-oniyye :-)) I never thought this would happen, but this is life."

Gilbert Khoury '76 has been living in Dallas, Texas since 1988 and is married with one child. He works in the freight business. "I'm enjoying my other IC alumni classmates in Dallas: Henry Abou Arraj and Marwan Sakr," he said. "I visit Alumni friends when traveling the Middle East especially in Dubai and Jeddah and enjoy summer class reunions (unofficial) in Abbey- Lebanon at Samir Ataya. My life revolves around my IC classmates."

Hani Qattan '77 spent 14 years in Houston, Texas and returned to England in July 2005 to be close to his parents. In late June 2006, he founded a British Charity: Palestine Association for Children's Encouragement of Sports: PACES whose central aim is to promote and encourage sports among Palestinian children as a means of getting them off the streets and into a healthy and productive environment. Though currently operating only in Palestine, he plans to expand the activities to Lebanon and Jordan in the near future. A very large number of PACES' contributors are IC alumni. He is married and has two daughters and a son.

CLASS OF '80 – '89

Mohamed Shami '80 is Senior Bridge Enginer with the California Department of Transportation in Sacramento, California.

Kinda Jazzar '81 lives in Jeddah. She had two children: Tarek, 12 and Rachad, 7. "I would be glad to get in touch with my old friends," she said.

Jinan Varma '82 teaches at IC and is married to Raji Varma. They have two daughters, Sirena, 16, and Rani, 12.

Cecile Grimes '82 has been a U.S. Probation Officer for the District of South Carolina for the past 13 years. She lives in Columbia, South Carolina with her husband, Jim, and 13 year-old-son, Ryan Magee.

Imad Baalbaki, Phd, '82 is the Director of Development and External Relations at AUB.

Mazen F. Youssef '82 is the President and CEO of an American company (Cellogique Corp) involved in developing cosmetic Surgery centers and distributing dermatology products. He is married to Suzan Obagi, MD (Cosmetic Surgeon) and has three children: Fuad 7, Aya, 6, and Tarek, 3. Mazen played soccer for the IC team as a right wing Jr + Sr Varsity.



Hala A. Haidar '82 is married with two sons: Ahmad, 10 and Kareem, 8. She received her BSc in Environmental Sciences in 1985 (AUB) and a MPH in 1994 (AUB). She lives in Dubai and is currently the Assistant Director for Technical Affairs of Health Education Central Dept. at the Ministry of Health.

Nadim Jaroudi '83 had his first baby, Saeb Adam, on December 20th in Geneva. Mother and baby are doing great and settled back in Dubai.

Rula Freiji-Mouawad '83 and her husband, Dani, are both pediatricians and are running their own practice in a small city in Louisiana. They have obtained their waiver and green cards and are now citizens. They have four children: Dalia, 6, Rania, 4, Michael, 2, and a newborn baby boy. "I had the dream of having my children attend IC, however the Lebanese politics has interfered and we are in the United States," she said. "My husband and I pray that the situation changes and many IC alumni and other school alumni will return to live in Lebanon".

Fouad Osseiran '84 has been living in Valencia, Spain since 1985. He studied physiotherapy and spinology in Valencia and has opened his own clinic, a gym and rehabilitation center. He also owns a Spanish restaurant and works with his brother, **Hassan, '86**. He recently got married to **Mariane Maasri '94** who used to work at IC until last January. They are currently waiting for their first baby.

Elie Kawkabani '84 has been living in Los Angeles since graduating from IC. He received a BS in Business Administration in 1988 and an MBA in 1990 from the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. He married Carole Sfeir in 1992 and has two children: Marc, 11, and Maya, 9. He is currently the founder and president of REACH Media, a California Corporation that distributes and markets foreign language television channels in the US, including LBC, Future TV, Al Jazeera, MBC, Al Arabiya, and all other



Arabic channels in the US. "I would love to hear from my IC friends," he said. "You can contact me at Lallous@aol.com".

Ziad Iskandar '85 is married with three children and lives in Greenwich Connecticut. He is the Managing Director RBS Greenwich Capital

Hania Nakkash Chmaisse '85 finished her MSc. in Human Physiology at AUB and got her PhD in Human Physiology from the University of New South Wales in Sydney Australia. She lives in Beirut and is teaching at the Beirut Arab University and has been doing so for the past eleven years. She was recently promoted to Associate Professor. She is married to a civil engineer, Talal Chmaisse, and has two daughters and a son.

Mazen Daher '86 is married to Rania Zbib, his "soul mate, since 2002". They have two children Yara, 3, and Karim, 1. They are currently living in Dubai where he holds the post of regional director for Globalis International. "Our dream and wish is to return back to Lebanon," he said, "and have our kids study and graduate from IC".

Sami Ahmad Addam '88 is a licensed ship's Captain who served all his sea service on Oil Tankers. After completing his Master's of Science in Maritime Safety Administration (from World Maritime University -Sweden) with honorable mention in Nov. 1998, and after completing his Captain's License [international trade/unlimited voyage/ unlim-

ited tonnage], he left sailing and worked ashore in Lebanon in Technical Ship Management up to 2003. In August 2003, he was assigned to a leading French Offshore Oil Company in UAE to establish its Marine Dept., and was appointed as its Marine Superintendent. Two years later, he was appointed as Marine Manager managing all of the company's fleet of 4 DP Class 2 - Diving support vessels. He is also an elected member in the International Seabed Authority Technical/Legal committee serving a five year term ending in 2007. He recently received an appreciation letter from its Secretary General for inputs and technical opinions provided to the organization. "I am proud of being an IC Alumnus", he said. "In IC and at home, I have been educated and trained to deliver the highest quality of output and target added value, and that trait definitely has helped me in being successful and distinguished in society. I send my warmest gratitude and regards to my IC teachers, principals and all current staff."

Ghassan Tabanji '88 had a baby girl, Marianne, on November 14, 2006.

CLASS OF '90 – '99

Nizar Al Hussein, '90 graduated from AUB in 1995 with a BA in PSPA. In 1996, he traveled to Jeddah, KSA and Joined ALJ as a management Trainee. Today, he is the Regional Sales Director MENA for Lamb Weston. He got married to Lubna Choucair (AUB class of 1995) in 1998 and has two children: Yasmina, 6, and Ghanem, 3.



Mona Haddad El-Khoury '90

moved with her family to Paris. Her husband has been appointed as the deputy chief of mission (Charge d'Affaire) at the embassy of Lebanon.

Mazen Mneimneh '91 has been living in California since 1997. He recently joined Emaar Properties as a Development Manager. He will be getting married this summer in Germany.

Firas Sleiman '91 spent 7 years in Silicon Valley, California, and then moved back to the Middle East to work for IBM in Qatar from 2002 till 2005, working on e-Government Projects in Qatar and Oman, then for Devoteam Group in 2006 working on e-Government Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Firas finally joined Booz Allen Hamilton in 2006 as an e-Government Expert based in Dubai, and is now working on the Abu Dhabi e-Government Program.

Karim Taher Fadlallah '92 had a baby boy, Akram, on September 30th 2006.

Maha Tannir '93 and her husband Ibrahim Hout are blessed with a baby girl, Tatiana (born on Jan. 1st, 2007). The happy family has also three other children, Issam (6 years), Céline (4 years) and Stéphanie (2 years). Maha works at Bank Med in the Human Resources division/Personnel Department and her husband, Ibrahim is an architect and runs his own contracting firm.

Alexander Ghantous '94 and his wife, Chrisi are proud to announce the birth of their second child Jordan. Stefan, born November 22nd 2006. Equally proud is big brother, Christian Fayez.

Shadi Ahmadih, '94 announces that his wife, Nisreen, has given birth to a baby boy, Fadi, on March 30th 2007.

Farid Ramzi Talih '94 has completed his medical training and residency at the Cleveland Clinic in psychiatry. He is currently in fellowship training in Sleep

Medicine, also at the Cleveland Clinic. Once training is completed in July, he will apply for the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, as well as the American Board of Sleep medicine. He will be working in the Cleveland Clinic Hospital system for the next 3 years, practicing Psychiatry, Drug and alcohol addiction treatment, and Sleep medicine.

Roula Madani Arslan '94 completed her BA in broadcast Journalism at Georgia State University. She is also a certified Spanish and foreign language instructor and is teaching Spanish at a private school in Atlanta, Georgia.

Aline Assal Bechara '95 has completed her BA, TD and Management and Leadership Diploma (AUB) and Montessori Degree (London). She is currently the Principal of Kuwait Montessori Nursery. "I am married so if you are still waiting, you might have a chance to marry my beautiful daughter, Juliana," she said. "I would love to hear from you all."

Wissam Barakat '95 completed his BSC in Montreal, MBA in Vancouver. He recently got married (last October) and works in Vancouver for a large ERP Solutions company. He visits Lebanon about once a year. "I would love to hear from old classmates," he said.

Walaa El Kadi '95 has moved to Doha, Qatar and is working at the al Jazeera English Channel. "I miss Lebanon, and old classmates from IC

and AUB," said Walaa. "If you live in Doha please call me."

Johnny Seikaly '95 is currently living in Jakarta.

Fadi Mirza '95 and his wife, Lama, have just had their first baby, Jad, born on February 1st. Fadi will be completing his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Tufts University in Boston in June. After that, he will be moving to New York where he will pursue a fellowship in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Columbia University.

Nadine Mohsen Maktabi '95 received a certification in sports and fitness from the American Council on Exercise ACE and passed stage one. She taught in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, body shaping classes, rhythmic dance classes, and ballet classique for three levels of students: beginners, average, and advanced. "It was really an enjoyable experience to enter the world of fitness on a professional level," she said. On December 25th, 2005, she gave birth to her second baby, Abdallah, in Toronto, Canada. Her daughter, Karen, just joined IC in the Petite Section.

Hani El-Bawab '96 has been assigned the position of Branch Manager at Blom Bank, Verdun in February 2007.

Mohammad Saadeh (96) and **Rana Al-Assah (97)** got married on September 17th, 2006 at the Phoenicia-Intercontinental in Beirut. The couple now lives in Abu Dhabi/UAE. Mohammad, who works as the Catering and Conferences Manager at the Rotana Beach Hotel and Towers, has graduated with an MBA degree from Wales University/UK while Rana works as an Assistant Professor of Gene Therapy and Cancer in Abu Dhabi University.

Sirine Khaled '96 graduated from Arizona State University in 2005 in Art History.

Mohamad Ali Yatim '97 and Laila Ghamrawi got married in Lebanon on July 8, 2006. Mohamad Ali has been living in the U.S.A for 9 years and is currently working





for Wafra Investments as an Equity Analyst covering the European Stock Markets.

Nada El Ghalayini '97 and **Riad Al Mawass'97** were blessed with the birth a baby girl, Lana, on January 2nd.

Maher Mikati '98 was blessed with a baby boy Najib, named after his grandfather, former Prime Minister Najib Mikati.

Layla Abaza '99 just finished her Master's degree in Quality Management. She and her husband, Abdallah, had a baby six months ago, named Marwan.

Hana Addam '99 got married last summer (July 7, 2006) to Bilal El-Ghali, a Computer Science AUB Graduate '02. She taught grade 1 at ACS this past year and is currently at the University of Pittsburgh doing her PhD in Comparative and International Education. Hana gave birth to a baby girl in April.

Tarek Kaissi '99 graduated from AUB with BE in EE in '03 and from UF with MS in CS '05. He is a senior Software Eng (J2EE) with MATSON in Phoenix, AZ. His company is applying for his permanent residency, so "it seems that I will be staying here for a while," he said.

Joumana Hathout '99 has moved to Dubai. She's still with Transmed but moved from Unit Manager to HR team leader.

Nada Souhani '99 graduated from AUB with a BS in computer Science and worked as a Web and Oracle developer for 3 years in MedNet. She then rejoined IC in January 2007 as an IT Assistant. She is also pursuing her MBA in LAU. "I really miss all my classmates and friends" she said, "and I thank the Facebook for re-connecting most of us."

CLASS OF '00 – '06

Omar Houalla '00 graduated a Computer and Communications Engineer from AUB in June 2004. He is currently working as an Electrical



Engineer at Saudi Oger Ltd. in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Jihane El Khoury '00 graduated with Bachelor's of Sciences from AUB in 2003. From October 2003 until September 2006, she worked at the Central Bank of Lebanon in the Special Investigation Commission-Fighting Money Laundering (SIC). Since September 2006, she has been studying for her MS in management at the London School of Economics (LSE).

Emil Tarazi '00 graduated from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) with a Bachelor's in Electrical and Computer Engineering. In 2005, he also received a Master's in Electrical and Computer Engineering from CMU. In 2006, he started working at UBS Investment Bank in New York City and is currently working in the Electronic Market Making group. "In my free time," he said, "I hangout with IC Alumni in the area!"

Bassel El Turk '00 graduated from the University of Glasgow-UK in September 2005 with a Master's degree in Commercial Law (LLM). His research thesis focussed on the laws and contracts governing Maritime Oil Transportation in relation to Oil Charter-parties and Pollution. He then joined a

consulting firm in Beirut called Global Consulting Group. In May 2006, he joined Rouse and Company International, one of the leading law firms in Intellectual Property Law worldwide. He is currently working with Rouse as a lawyer in its Dubai office.

Lana Daher '00 graduated as a Graphic Designer from the American University of Beirut in June 2006. Soon after, the war broke out and she chose to stay in Lebanon. She helped found a non-governmental organization {Mowatinun} as there was a great demand for immediate relief efforts. Her tasks included fundraising and identifying refugees. She is currently responsible for a retail project from creation to production: an eyewear chain {TheCounter by Cherine Magrabi} that will open soon in Cairo and Jeddah. She also freelances and is thinking of applying for a Master's program next year.

Ziad Houry Homsy '00 celebrated his first year with Pfizer on April 1st.

Bassel El Baba '00 is in his last year of Medicine in Balamand University and is applying for residency in the US. He still plays the piano and gives concerts.

Charles Addington '01 applied to Procter & Gamble last summer while working with CCC Abu Dhabi, and got accepted for interviews one day before the war broke out. The interviews were postponed until November. He got accepted and started working in December 4th 2006, just a week after the killing of Pierre Gemayel. "So basically the political situation in Lebanon was controlling my career," he said.

Haya Abuhamad '01 is currently living and working in Athens, Greece. She finished her studies at the American College of Greece: Deree College in June '06 where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Management Studies with an emphasis in Human Resources and Organizational Behavior. In July '06 she began working at Clarkson Hellas Ltd., the Greek office of one of the world's largest shipbroking companies, Clark-



sons. She is the personal assistant to the managing director and training to be a shipbroker in drycargo chartering.

Saad Khatib '01 studied Hospitality and Tourism Management at LAU. He traveled with the university to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where he did his industrial training for four months. He then went to Dubai and managed the UAE Commandos Chalet during the Dubai International Airshow. When the show was over, he worked as a restaurant Supervisor at the Arabic restaurant Amaseena at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Dubai and got promoted to Restaurant Manager in October 2006.

Rayyane Tabet '01 just received the 2007 Benjamin Menschell at Cooper Union and the Ursula Schulz Dornburg Photography grant for his projects on the "Trans -Arabian Pipeline" and "Spaces of Shelter". Tabet will be working on these projects for the next year and will be showcasing them in New York, Lebanon and Germany.

Joe Harmoush '01 joined The Catevo Group on April 2007 as Public relations and Business Development Consultant. He manages and oversees a diverse list of clients within the Group's portfolio. Prior to joining The Catevo Group, Joe worked for Samsung Middle East and several large multi-national companies including Weber Shandwick.



Noura Maktabi '01 graduated May with her Double Master's Degree in Finance and International Business that she earned with distinction from Keller Graduate School of Management of DeVry University in Chicago. Noura is currently preparing to take her CFP certification next year.

Taymour Joumblatt '01 and **Diana Zeaiteh '01** were blessed with a baby girl, Sarah, in February.

Laura Berdoyan '02 graduated with distinction from The American University of Beirut in 2005 with a Bachelor's degree in Medical Laboratory Technology. At the moment, she is enrolled in a master's program in Food Science at The University of Reading in England. She graduates in September and hopes to return to Lebanon.

Sara Mukallid '02 graduated from AUB with a degree in Early Elementary Education and a Teaching Diploma in Special Education. She is currently completing her Master's Degree in School Guidance and Counseling at AUB.

Nader Houella '02 is working as Communication Officer at the Beirut International Marathon Association in Lebanon. He is also a part of the national "Shadow Youth Government" as the Shadow Minister of Finance. "I miss IC," he said.

Nathalie Tohme '02 is working at Libano-Francaise Bank and is studying

at AUB.

Karma Hamady '03 is in the last year of Graphic design at AUB and will be graduating in spring. She is currently working on her final year project. She plans to move to London at the end of summer to work at a design studio for a year or two before applying for a Master's Degree.

Maher Abdel-Sattar '03 is finishing up his studies in Molecular, Cell, & Developmental Biology (major) and Human Complex Systems (minor) and will be graduating from UCLA by the end of December 2007.

In addition to maintaining leadership positions in six different clubs on campus, working in a botany research lab, and volunteering at a local hospital, he recently got selected to represent UCLA by being part of the UCLA Orientation Staff for this summer. He will be applying to Pharmacy schools in California as of the month of June and will hopefully be attending one starting August 2008. "I am proud both of my sisters' high academic achievements in IC," he said, "and I'm glad that they are now enjoying the same education and experience I had before coming to the US."

Maya Doueihy '03 graduated from LAU with a BA in Political Science and International Affairs. She is currently working for the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies.

Mohammad Hassan Kara '03 is at his last semester at AUB and has applied to study for his master's to several universities in the US and Canada. He also had several job options open and is in the process of deciding which road to take.

Ramy Osseiran '03 graduated from AUB with distinction in Economics in June '06 and has moved to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to work with HSBC Investment Banking.

Kamal Kayat '03 graduated with Magna Cum Laude honors from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering and a minor in Mathematics. Starting fall of 2007,



Kamal will pursue a Master's of Science in Aerospace Engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology, where the graduate program is ranked third in the nation. Kamal has also been awarded a graduate research assistantship at the Aerospace Systems Design Lab where he will be conducting research on spacecraft systems optimization and space exploration mission design.

Michael George Trad '04 is in his final year at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom and will graduate with a First Class Honours BEng in Electronic Engineering in May 2007. The Chairman of the Undergraduate Board of Examiners made him one of the top 10 students in his year. He ranks within the top 8%.

He started work on his final year project: Partial Volume Correction in Magnetic Resonance Renography in collaboration with the Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

His future plan is to earn an MS in Electrical Engineering from a leading institution in the US.

Yasmine Safa '04 graduated from AUB in June with a BA in marketing and is currently in her third year in Law School at the Lebanese University.

Reem Chatila '04 is finishing her last semester at USJ where she is studying Marketing and Advertising. Reem plans to work abroad in an advertising agency.

Sima Dada '04 completed her two months internship at HSBC downtown in the summer of 2006. She is currently an AUB student majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance. She graduates in June 2007 and has applied to CITY University in London to study for her Master's in Finance. She is presently a member in the youth committee of the non-profit organization "Ajialouna".

Mazen El Fakhani '04 attended AUB for two and a half years where he majored in sociology, and got involved in many extracurricular activities. In January 2007, he left to the US to continue his studies at the University of Texas

at Austin, where he is doing a double major in Sociology and History. He plans to pursue a PhD in sociology and to dedicate his career to academic research and teaching. He is interested in the fields of cultural sociology, historical sociology, and the sociology of religion. His roommates at the university are his two IC classmates, Mohamad Tassabehji and Chris Korban.

"My experiences in IC still reverberate in my life today," he said. "I owe so much to the wonderful Ms. Patricia Hamra, my high school history teacher, who always presented herself as an understanding, thoughtful, and inspiring role model. I also owe a lot to Ms. Shawwaf, my high school English teacher, who instilled in me an appreciation of the value and power of words."

Samiya Azar '04 is majoring in Graphic Design at AUB and will be interning in London during the summer.

Wajdi Ghoussoub '04 won the Alumni Association Scholarship award and traveled to Toronto, Canada and is studying at the University of Western Ontario (also known as Western). He is currently in his third year of a four-year Honors Bachelor's of Arts (Business Administration) program at The Richard Ivey School of Business at Western - ranked #1 business school in Canada for the second year in a row by The Wall Street Journal and is among the top 10 international business schools by recruiters.

Elie Khoneisser '05 has completed his second year at AUB where he is a computer and communication eng. student.

Ralph Debbas '05 completed one year of graphic design at LAU and is currently finishing his second year of Automotive Design at Coventry University UK with grades that put him in the top five designers at Coventry University. On May 8th 2007, he officially launched his first design company at the Geneva International Motor Show. WDI (Wolf Design and Innovation) is a design company that combines product, design, fashion design, interior design, graphic design, illustration, animation, boat design and

car design, with a big project to launch the first tailored-made car manufacturing company in the world by 2009.

He is also currently working on the design for a new concept of a cafe/bar in Dubai, Bahrain, Lebanon and Japan - scheduled to open at the end of the year.

Sara Kabbani '05 is now currently at AUB. She is in her second year studying nutrition and dietetics.

Maya Ayache '06 is majoring in Computer Science and doing a minor in Business at AUB. She ranked first in her major. She was also elected in the FAS SRC and is a cabinet member - secretary, in that council. "It's a wonderful experience," she said "and I'm loving every part of it, the commitment, responsibility, etc..."

Michel Boulad '06 is a student at the Hotel Management Institute of Glion in Switzerland. He finished his first semester with success and is currently doing his internship at the reception of the Valmont-Genolier Institute, one of the leading Medical Hotels in Europe. "I would like also to salute," he says, "all my previous teachers that I had during my school days".

Kawsar Farchoukh '06 is a sophomore student at AUB and doing Medical Laboratory. "This is my first year at AUB and it's good but I prefer IC," said Kawsar.

Rasha Fakhreddine '06 is studying Elementary and Early childhood Education at AUB. She is planning to do a minor in Public Relations at LAU. "I am really enjoying my time here," she said. "It's a completely new yet nice experience. What I mostly like is the fact that all IC graduates that joined AUB form a cluster, whereby we're always sitting together and it's as if we're still in school."

REGRETS:

We regret to inform you the passing away of **Youssef M. Bohsali '64** on April 24 2007.

IC faculty and staff send its deepest condolences to the Bohsali family.



WITH OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

RAMEZ SLEIMAN CHAMAS TAUGHT CHEMISTRY AT IC FROM 1983 UNTIL 2000.
HE WAS A GOOD COLLEAGUE, AN INSPIRING TEACHER AND A FRIEND.
IC FACULTY AND STAFF EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN.
MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

فارس ترجم

الى من ذكره باقية في قلوبنا ابداً
الى الاستاذ رامي شمس
الزميل العزيز والصديق الوفي والاخ الكبير

نعيبك ونحن لا نصدق انك فارقتنا فمن كان مثلك وان غاب
عنا جسداً فهو باق فينا طيفاً وروحاً
عرفناك ذلك الوجه البشوش يطل علينا بخفة دمه ونكاته
التي كنا ننتظرها مع اطلالة كل صباح

احبك كل من عرفك طلاباً، زملاء، واصدقاء
لكنك قررت الرحيل باكراً واعادة الوديعة لباريها

فتم قرير العين مطمئناً ايها العزيز رامي فقد تركت خلفك
شاباً تعتز به وصبية مهذبة تتكل عليها

وتركت في كل منا اثراً لن يموت ابداً

رحمة الله عليك يا ابا عبد الله

عبود أسيو

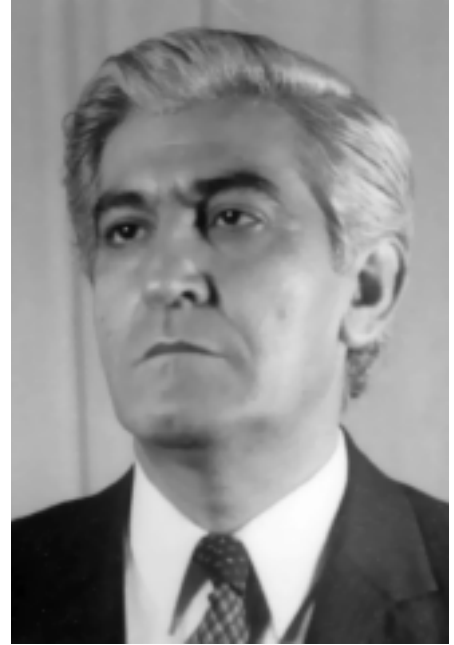
زميل عزيز مضي

رامي شمس في ال IC كان رمزا
لشمائل كثيرة خسرتها: خفة
ظله، ظرافته، تواضعه، حكمته
صفاء طبيعته الانسانية ومحبته
لزملائه وطلابه. عرفته منذ كنا
على مقاعد التحصيل الجامعي.

لطالما تساءلت من اين يأتي هذا
الرجل بهذا القدر الكبير من
اللطيف والمحبة، وكيف يستطيع أن
يكون أذكى الاكبر او اخاك الاصغر
وفق ما تقتضيه حاجتك اليه.

غاب الجسد وبقيت الذكرى
الطيبة، رحمة الله عليه.

عبد اللطيف منيمه



Reema Samaha, 18, loved the world of theater and dance. She was especially passionate about ballet, belly dancing and debke. She was part of the university's Contemporary Dance Ensemble. A classmate described her as "just beautiful and when you watched her, I thought she was one of the most gorgeous girls in the world inside and out." Reema is the daughter of Joseph and Mona Samaha. Mona is a 1975 IC graduate. Reema's grandfather, Suheil Samaha, taught Arabic and French at the French section of the secondary school at IC from 1956 until 1987 when he immigrated to the US. (He has since returned to Beirut).

Reema, was a freshman at Virginia Tech and was planning to travel to



France this summer. She was killed in her French class when Cho Seung Hui massacred 32 students and faculty at Virginia Tech University on April 16.

Her brother, Omar, described her to CBS news as someone who was "completely unique in every way. She always wanted to be unique. Always wanted to be different. Always had a unique flair." Reema's dream was to tell the story of Lebanon through dance. Two days before her death, she gave her last debke performance.

IC faculty and staff send their deepest condolences to the Samaha family. May her soul rest in peace and may her spirit continue dancing.

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