



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO
الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة



**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO,
LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS,
BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM**
[AUB/AUC/LAU/UCD/BZU] [BCBCB]

FOUNDER/COORDINATOR:

SUAD JOSEPH, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS AND HISTORY
REPORT NOVEMBER 2013

1999-2001. Meetings with Presidents and Provosts of AUB, AUC, LAU to lay ground work for the BCBC initiative. This was done in Suad Joseph's capacity as Director of the UC Education Abroad Program at AUC in Cairo and in cooperation with UC EAP Director John Marcum.

July 2001. First BCBC meeting. Presidents, Provosts, and Deans of AUB, AUC, LAU and key faculty (around 70-80 total) met in Beirut, hosted by AUB, LAU. UC team led by John Marcum (team of 7 included UCLA, UCB,UCD, UCSB). Outcome: Memorandum of agreement written and signed by AUB, AUC, LAU Presidents to work with UC on collaborative projects. Six projects identified. Co-funded, AUB, LAU, UC EAP. Organizer: Suad Joseph.

The first BCBC meeting took place on July 6-8, 2001 in Beirut, Lebanon. Present from AUB were President Dr. John Waterbury, Provost Dr. Peter Heath, Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Khalil Bitar, Dean of Engineering and Architecture Dr. Ibrahim Hajj, Dean of Business Dr. George Najjar, and Acting Director for Center for Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies Dr. Nadia El Cheikh. Present from AUC were Provost Dr. Earl Sullivan, Dean of School of Sciences and Engineering Dr. Fadel Assabghy, Dean of School of Humanities and Social Sciences Dr. Nicholas Hopkins, and Dean of School of Business, Economics, and Communication Dr. Amr Mortagy. Present from LAU were President Dr. Riyad Nassar, Provost Dr. Nabeel Haidar, Dean of the School of Engineering Dr. Abdallah Sfeir, Dean of the School of Business Dr. Wassim Shahin, Director of Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World Dr. Mona Khalaf, and Director of Sponsored Programs Dr. George Nicolas. Also present were key faculty of the American University of Beirut, the American University in Cairo, the Lebanese American University, as well as from the University of California campuses. There was one faculty member from UCB, three from UCLA, one from UCD, and one from UCSB present. The UC Team was led by Dr. John Marcum, director of the university office of the education abroad program. The meeting was organized by Suad Joseph.

On July 6, 2001, collaborative initiatives history and goals were discussed, which was followed by individual university priorities and collaborative priorities, and then collaborative initiatives possibilities were identified. On July 7, 2001, there were bilateral dialogues between the universities, and then key collaborative possibilities were identified. On July 8, 2001, small groups were organized to discuss collaborative priorities and there was further planning on collaborative priorities. By the end of the meetings, the various universities had agreed upon principles of institutional collaboration in the future. Six projects were organized as a result of the meeting: environmental studies, gender studies, Middle East studies, migration studies, and health consequences of population change.

November 2001. BCBC Follow meeting in San Francisco in conjunction with Middle East Studies Association annual meeting. Organizer: Suad Joseph.

The BCBC follow up meeting took place on Sunday, November 18, from 6-8 pm in the Hyatt Regency in San Francisco. There were provosts, deans, and faculty from each university that attended such as Osman Galal of UCLA, Earl Sullivan of AUC, Ann Kerr of UCLA, Gail Harrison of UCLA, Suad Joseph of UCD, and Dwight Reynolds of UCSB.

September 2002. AUB/AUC/LAU/UC Collaborative Gender Initiative Workshop. Beirut.

The Women and Gender Studies Collaborative Initiatives Workshop was held from September 13-14, 2002 at the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World at the Lebanese American University in Beirut, Lebanon. Attendees from the University of California included Suad Joseph from UCD, Omnia El Shakry from UCD, and Sondra Hale from UCLA. Attendees from LAU included Mona Khalaf, Najla Hamadeh, Myriam Sfeir Murad, Sami Baroudi, and Anita Nasser. Attendees from AUB included Lamia Shehadeh, Nadia El Cheikh, Soha Safieddine, Sossie Balian, and Ray Jureidini. Attendees from AUC included Hania Sholkamy.

On the first day of the workshop, September 13, the agenda included a welcome, programmatic histories and objectives from each team, and discussion of developing women and gender studies curricula. On the second day of the workshop, September 14, the agenda included discussions on research, discussions on applied work and gender practices, and a discussion on planning collaborative work.

November 2002. Workshop in Washington, DC in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association annual meeting. 60 faculty from AUB/AUC/LAU/UC (including LAU Dean, AUC Provost, faculty from UCD, UCB, UCLA, UCSB). Faculty worked on all six projects identified in Beirut in 2001. Organizer: Suad Joseph.

The workshop was a one day workshop in Washington, DC, and the purpose of the workshop was for the small target groups to meet separately to plan specific possibilities for collaborations. Target groups that were present were water, gender, Middle East studies, humanities and Arabic studies, and public health. The agenda of the day included an introduction and background to BCBC, project groups then developed partnership project ideas, project groups presented preliminary reports, project groups prepared preliminary proposals, and project groups presented reports and planned for fundraising.

Present at the meeting from the water project group were Co-Facilitator Mutasem El-Fadel of AUB, Co-Facilitator Bassam Younis of UCD, Nicholas Hopkins of AUC, Sharif el Musa of AUC, Fuad Hashwa of LAU, Scott Scooper of UCSB, and William Hoffman of AUB. Present at the meeting from the gender project group were Co-Facilitator Suad Joseph of UCD, Co-Facilitator Mona Khalaf of LAU, Cynthia Nelson of AUC, Nancy Gallagher of UCSB, Cynthia Anthony of AUC, Nelly Hanna of AUC, Nadia el Cheikh of AUB, and Sondra Hale of UCLA. Present at the meeting from the Middle East studies project group were Co-Facilitator Juan E. Campo of UCSB, Co-Facilitator Sami Baroudi of LAU, Larry

Michalak of UCB, Graeme Bannerman of LAU, Michael Reimer of AUC, Walid Kazziha of AUC, Dan Tschirga of AUC, Emad Shahin of AUC, and Hayat Alvi of AUC. Present at the meeting from the humanities and Arabic studies project group were Co-Facilitator Nariman Al-Warraki of AUC, Co-Facilitator Stephen Humphreys of UCSB, Nadia Harb of AUC, Jehan Allam of AUC, Nabila El-Assyouti of AUC, Emily Gottreich of UCB, Samira Aghacy of LAU, Ann Kerr of UCLA, Garay Menicucci of UCSB, Nuha Khoury of UCSB, and Margaret Larkin of UCB. Present at the meeting from the public health project group were Osman Galal of UCLA and Nicholas Hopkins of AUC.

March 2003. BCBC Gender and Water Projects meeting a UC Santa Barbara. Attended by AUC, LAU, UCLA, UCSB, UCD, UCD UOIP (Raba Gunesakara). Water group and the Gender group developed preliminary proposals for external funding. Co-funded UC Santa Barbara, UC Davis, UOIP. Organizer: Suad Joseph

The BCBC Gender and Water Projects Meeting took place on March 21, 2003 in the University of Santa Barbara Multi Cultural Center, Lounge and Seminar Room. The workshop was divided into various groups: the water group, the gender group, the Arabic language group, the public health group, and the humanities group. Those from the water group present were facilitator Scott Cooper from UCSB, Mutasem El-Fadel from AUB, Bassam Younis from UCD, Nicholas Hopkins from AUC, Sharif el Musa from AUC, Fuad Hashwa from LAU, William Hoffman from AUB, Ann Kerr from UCLA, and Osman Galal from UCLA. Those from the gender group present were facilitator Suad Joseph from UCD, Nancy Gallagher from UCSB, Garay Menicucci from UCSB, Nuha Khoury from UCSB, Mona Khalaf from LAU, Cynthia Nelson from AUC, Cynthia Anthony from AUC, and Helen Rizzo from AUC. Those from the Arabic Language Group present were facilitator Jehan Allam from AUC, Nariman Naili al Warraki from AUC, Nadia Harb from AUC, and Nabila Al Assiouti from AUC. Present from the public health group was facilitator Osman Galal of UCLA and present from the humanities group was facilitator Nuha Khoury of UCSB. The schedule of the event included an introduction from Suad Joseph and reports from the November 2002 meeting, a first session where the various project groups assembled and developed proposals, a second session where the various project groups assembled and developed proposals, and a discussion where the various groups reported back and planned for raising funds.

On March 22, 2003, the Center for Middle East Studies of the University of California, Santa Barbara held its' fifth annual Middle East Studies Regional Conference. The event was held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the UCSB Multicultural Center. Of the panel topics, two of them included groups from BCBC: the Women and Gender Working Group and the Water and Environment Working Group. Those involved with the Women and Gender Working Group panel were Chair Suad Joseph of UCD and discussants Cynthia Nelson of AUC, Mona Khalaf of LAU, Nadia el Cheikh of AUB, Sondra Hale of UCLA, Nancy Gallagher of UCSB, Garay Menicucci of UCSB, and Omnia El Shakry of UC Davis. Those involved with the Water and Environment Working Group panel were Chair Scott Cooper of UCSB and discussants Sharif Elmusa of AUC, Mutasem El Fadel of AUB, Fouad Haswa of LAU, Bassam Younis of UCD, and Salem A. Thawaba of the University of Arkansas.

April 2003. BCBC Gender Group met in UC Davis. Attended by AUC, UCLA, UOIP (Dennis Dutschke), UC Davis. Work on Gender Project Proposal. Funded UOIP Seed Grant. Organizer: Suad Joseph

June 2003. BCBC Gender Group met in Beirut, hosted by LAU, attended by 50 faculty. UCD, UCLA, AUB, AUC, LAU. Conference/Workshop. Co-funded by UCD UOIP, LAU.

Co-Organizers: Suad Joseph (UCD) and Mona Khalaf (LAU).

April 2004. BCBC Gender Group met in UC Davis. Attended by AUC, Bir Zeit, and UC Davis. Develop new strategic plan. Organizer: Suad Joseph.

May 2004. Proposal Writing Workshop for faculty at the American University of Beirut. Around 60 faculty participate in 3-day training workshop. Trainers include Suad Joseph, David Szanton (UCB), Carl Keen (UCD), Dan Werthimer (UCB), Mary Kate Morris (UCB). Organizer: Suad Joseph.

Summer 2004 and 2005. Dean Fuad Hashwa, LAU, visit Davis, met Dean Enrique Lavernia, and Vice Provost William Lacy to pursue water project.

January-March 2005, also 2007 and 2008. UCD Professor Fadi Fathallah spent one-quarter sabbaticals at AUB working on musculoskeletal disorders among full-time homemakers as well as migrant agricultural workers in collaboration with Professors Rima Habib and Iman Nuwayhid from AUB Faculty of Health Sciences. Gave a campus-wide lecture on Health and Safety Research in California Agriculture and yearly (2005-2011) guest lecturers at AUB FHS graduate classes on occupational health. Organizer: Fadi Fathallah.

February 2005. Iraq Agricultural Higher Education and Development (AHEAD) meeting at AUB. Fadi Fathallah gave four lectures on UC Davis agricultural engineering research, curricula, and outreach. Organizer: Fadi Fathallah.

September 2005. UCD Fall Chancellor's Conference, meeting of Dean Neal Van Alfen, Dean Enrique Lavernia, Associate Dean Jim Hill, Associate Dean Karen McDonald, Vice Provost William Lacy, Dennis Dutschke, Nicole Ranganath, Mohammad Mohanna, Majid Rahimian, Gretchen Kolongji, and Suad Joseph focusing on the Water Project. Organizer: Suad Joseph.

Fall 2005. Evolved into American U. in Beirut, American U. in Cairo, Lebanese American U., U. of California, Davis, Birzeit Collaborative Initiative (AUB/AUC/LAU/UCD/BZU) in Fall 2005.

January 2006. New President of LAU, Joseph Jabbra, asked Suad Joseph to connect him with the Dean of Agriculture for consultation about their launching a new school of agriculture in South Lebanon. UCD CAES Associate Dean Jim Hill met with Jabbra in Washington, in May 2006.

March/April 2006 Suad Joseph visit to Lebanon & Egypt: President Waterbury (AUB), President Jabbra (LAU), Provost Tim Sullivan (AUC), agree to fund a representative to come to UC Davis to build on BCBC initiatives, especially the water and gender projects.

May 2006. Associate Dean Jim Hill visit Cairo, met Provost Tim Sullivan and Dir. Richard Tutwiler. (Hill's April visit to Beirut to meet with AUB President John Waterbury and LAU President Jabbra had been postponed. His August trip to Beirut was not possible because of July/August war. Organizer: Jim Hill.

September 2006. Organized meeting of Deans and Associate Deans of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Engineering, Vice Provost University Outreach and International Programs, UOIP Program Officers and UC system-wide representatives for BCBCB Water Project, Granlibakken,

November 2006. Delegation from AUB (Nadim Farajallah), AUC (Richard Tutwiler), LAU (Fuad Hashwa), Birzeit (Simon Kuttub) visit UC Davis for one week. Meet Deans of all colleges, schools, Provost, Vice Provosts and key faculty. Organizer: Suad Joseph with collaboration of Deans, UOIP, and Kais Menoufy, CEO Delegata, Sacramento.

Between January 2007 and March 2007. Co-Coordinated development of BCBCB Water Project with Richard Snyder and Wes Wallender, PI's.

March 2007. Chancellor and UC Davis Delegation visit Egypt and hold a one-day conference of the BCBCB Consortium attended by Chancellor of UC Davis (Larry Vanderhoef), President of AUC (David Arnold), Provost of AUB (Peter Heath), President of LAU (Joseph Jabbra), President of Birzeit (Nabil Kassis) and key Deans, Vice Chancellors, Vice Provosts, and faculty. SIGNING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE BCBCB COOPERATION AGREEMENT. Co-Organizers: Suad Joseph, UOIP (William Lacy, Robert Kerr) and President David Arnold.

Between March and October 2007. Co-Coordinated development of DNA Project with Pierre Zalloua, LAU, College of Biological Sciences and Anthropology.

October 2007. Water Project meeting at UC Davis attended by key UC Davis faculty (Richard Snyder, Wes Wallender), AUB (Nadim Farajallah), AUC (Richard Tutwiler), LAU (Jean Chatila). Co-Organizers: Richard Snyder and Suad Joseph.

October 2007. Co-Coordinated visit of Pierre Zalloua to UC Davis.

December 2007. Meeting of Steering Committee of BCBCB attended by UC Davis (Suad Joseph), AUB (Helene Sadr), AUC (Richard Tutwiler), LAU (Irma Ghosn), Bir Zeit (Ziad Mimi) and key faculty of AUC. Organizer: Suad Joseph

January 2008. AUC Dean of Engineering Medhat Haroun visited UC Davis School of

Engineering. Co-Organizers: UCD Provost Enrique Lavernia and Suad Joseph.

February 2008. Organized “Gender and Modernities Workshop in the Middle East & South Asia” with Nevidita Menon, Delhi University and Martina Rieker, American University in Cairo.

June 2008: UC Davis College of Biological Sciences Dean Ken Burtis visits LAU as a reviewer for the graduate program in Molecular Biology. Co-Organizers Ken Burtis and LAU Dean Fuad Hashwa.

July 2008- March 2011. Fadi Fathallah served as UC EAP Study Center Director at the AUC. Presented several lectures about UC Davis and its programs in the departments of Mechanical Engineering and Electronics Engineering, and the Biotechnology Graduate Program. Facilitated the link between AUC students and UC Davis researchers in biotechnology. Currently (August 2011-March 2012), there is one AUC PhD student, Reem Al Olaby, conducting part of her doctoral research on hepatitis C virus at UCDMC due to this effort. Facilitated the link between AUC (Richard Tutwiler; Director of the Desert Development Center, and the late Stephen Everhart, Associate Dean of the Business School) and Ruihong Zhang (UCD Bio and Ag Engineering) to collaborate on building an anaerobic digester at AUC as well as exploring other alternative energy sources in Egypt. Organized a 3-day visit of Professor Pierre Zalloua (LAU) to AUC as a Distinguished Visiting Professor- established collaborations between LAU and AUC as well as UCD biotechnology programs. Fadi Fathallah and Richard Tutwiler (AUC) received a small grant from AUC office of research to look at musculoskeletal disorders among AUC agricultural and ground maintenance workers. Organizer: Fadi Fathallah.

October 2008. LAU Professor Faculty of Science Pierre Zalloua visited UC Davis for one week, giving the Storer Lecture and meeting with key research partners, hosted by the College of Biological Sciences. Co-Organizers: UCD Dean Kenneth Burtis & Suad Joseph.

January 2009. Organized visit of Dean of Engineering, American U. in Cairo, to UC Davis.

April 2009. Professor Hani Sayed, incoming Chair, AUC's graduate program in Law, visited UC Davis, for one week, hosted by the Martin Luther King Jr. School of Law, developing several action plans for collaboration. Co-Organizers: UCD Director, Beth Greenwood and Suad Joseph.

April 2009. AUC Provost Lisa Anderson exchanged plans for a graduate School of Education with UC Davis Dean of the School of Education, Harold Levine. Dean Levine extends an invitation to Provost Anderson to visit Davis and invites collaboration. November 2009, BCBCB Coordinator, Suad Joseph, meets with AUC Acting Dean SOE, Samiha Peterson to discuss collaborations.

June 2009- June 2010. Doha: BCBCB Coordinator, Suad Joseph, works with the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development, in Qatar, to develop proposals for collaborations with UC Davis on family studies.

October 2009. Beirut: Water Project: Middle East Irrigation Outreach Program Workshop meeting to finalize funding proposal. Beirut. Participants include AUB, AUC, LAU, Zagazig University, University of Jordan, UC Cooperative Extension and UC Davis. Lead PI's: Dr. Richard Snyder, Wes Wallender, Khaled Bali, UC Davis. Co-Organizers: Richard Snyder and Suad Joseph.

October 2009. Organized visit of Pierre Zalloua to UC Davis.

December 2009. BCBCB Coordinator, Suad Joseph, meets with Mr. Faris Saeed in Dubai to consider developing a UC Davis Center in Dubai focusing on Environmental Studies.

April 2010. Doha: Joseph meets with DIIFSD; Qatar University President, Office of Research; Social & Economic Survey Research Center and faculty; Qatar Foundation President and Executive Director of Research of the Qatar National Research Fund; numerous branches of the QF and government agencies to explore collaborations with UC Davis and other BCBCB partners.

June 2010. Davis: Mr. Faris Saeed and Dr. Fabiana Tessele visit UC Davis for one week, meeting Chancellor, Provost, Vice Chancellor for Research, Deans and faculty of Division of Social Science, Engineering, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, and Graduate School of Management. Hosted by Dean George R. Mangun, Dean DSS. He proposes a UC Davis Dubai Center for Environmental Studies, focusing on training professionals in waste management and water treatment initially and evolving into a college eventually. He offers land use and start-up costs. Co-Organizers: UCD Dean George R. Mangun, Victoria Austin, and Suad Joseph.

September 2010. Davis. Dean Bruce White, Engineering, agrees to be Lead Dean on the Davis Dubai Center for Environmental Studies, working with Faris Saeed.

September 2010. Mr. Faris Saeed makes/begins his \$250,000 commitment to Middle East/South Asia Studies, for Arab Studies, donating \$50,000 annually.

September 2010. Cairo. Stephen Everhart, Dean AUC School of Business and Richard Tutwiler, Director of Desert Development Center, AUC, develop biogas project with Ruihong Zhang, UC Davis. Tutwiler had come to UC Davis twice with the BCBCB project. Joseph met Everhart and Tutwiler in Cairo in 2009 to follow up. Everhart and Tutwiler visited UC Davis together in 2008.

November 2010 San Diego. Harold Levine, Dean UC Davis School of Education meets with Samiha Peterson, Dean of AUC Graduate School of Education, with Suad Joseph, to discuss collaborations. Dean Levine plans February 2011 trip to Cairo. Visit postponed because of Egyptian revolution.

June 2011. Lunch with business leaders from Abu Dhabi. Bryan Jenkins organize. June

July 2011. Beirut. Atif Idriss, UC Davis Food Science alumnus, and head of MEFOSA, meets with Suad Joseph to inquire about collaboration with UC Davis Food Science on food safety and value chains. Joseph connects Atif Idriss with UCD: Jim Hill, Associate Dean CAES, Glen Young of Food Sciences, and Fadi Fathallah Engineer and CAES. Hill, Young, Fathallah, and Joseph meet to consider range of collaborations. Conversations by email proceed with Atif Idriss for next 8 months. Idriss is invited to visit UC Davis; plans visit for Spring 2012. Co-Organizers: Glen Young and Suad Joseph.

July 2011. The BCBCB Group applied with CMCC, Italy for Funding of the Water Project Proposal to “Cross-Border Cooperation within the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), Mediterranean Sea Basic Joint Operational Programme. Organizer: Richard Snyder.

July 2011. Beirut. Kamal Badr, Founding Dean Lebanese American University School of Medicine and Professor of Medicine AUB (Nephrology and Hypertension), Associate Dean for Medical Education, and Associate Chair for Medical Education, Department of Internal Medicine, and Director, Vascular Medicine Program at AUB, meets with Suad Joseph to discuss collaborations with UC Davis school of Medicine on salt and vascular health. Suad Joseph contacts Claire Pomeroy, Dean UC Davis School of Medicine connects Associate Dean Kamal Badr with Carl Keen (UC Davis Nutrition), Francene Steinberg (UC Davis Chair, Nutrition), David McCarron (UC Davis, Nutrition). Email exchange follows.

July 2011. Fadi Fathallah visits the Universite Saint-Esprit de Kaslik (USEK) in Lebanon on behalf of CAES International Programs Office to explore potential collaborations with UCD and other BCBCB programs. Meetings with Dean of Agriculture, Associate Dean of International Programs, and Director of Public Relations.

August 2011. Beirut. George Khalaf, Director, Middle East and North Africa Synergos, asks Suad Joseph to connect him with UC Davis faculty who might be interested in working collaboratively on a US AID project for social entrepreneurship. Joseph connects Khalaf with Steve Currall, Dean, UC Davis Graduate School of Management, Wilson Agatstein (UC Davis, GSM). Email conversation ensued.

October 2011. Beirut. Former Dean Kenneth Burtis invited by Former Dean Fuad Hashwa and goes to Beirut to carry out external review of LAU’s BS Program in Biology, School of Arts and Sciences. This is second external review mission for Burtis at LAU.

October 2011. Former Dean Hashwa and Former Dean Ken Burtis discuss possible student exchanges between LAU and UC Davis.

December 2011. Washington, DC. Samiha Peterson, Dean of AUC Graduate School of Education meets with Suad Joseph to discuss reinitiating collaborations with UC Davis School of Education, after Egyptian Revolution.

December 2011. Samiha Peterson, Dean of AUC Graduate School of Education requests from Harold

Levine, Dean, UC Davis School of Education, reviewers for tenure dossier at AUC.

March 2012. Connected Vice Chancellor Harris Lewin with LAU Interim Dean Pierre Zalloua, concerning mitochondrial DNA research.

May 2012. BCBCB Consortium renewed for five years.

April 2012. Atef Idriss, Middle East Food Safety Associates (MEFOSA), Beirut, three day visit to UC Davis, facilitated by Glen Young and Suad Joseph. Meets with Neal Van Alfen, Harris Lewin, Fadi Fathallah, Jim Hill, Dr. Cantwell, Dr. Agastein, Carl Keen, Carl Winter, Bart Wiener. Visits the Wine Institute, the Olive Center, the Entrepreneurial Center, Synergos. Focus of visit on food safety and post-harvest issues.

November 2012. Co-Organized week-long visit for Faris Saeed (Diamond Developers, Tadweer, Dubai) to UC Davis. Met with Engineering, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Letters and Sciences, Chancellor, and Vice Chancellor for Research. MOU signed with Chancellor to develop a UC Davis Sustainable Engineering Research Center and a Social Research Center in Dubai. Several subsequent conference calls and Provost Committee meetings to follow up.

January-December 2013. Chancellor Katehi appoints committee to plan her visit to Dubai, UAE and Doha, Qatar in November of 2013 and to develop the Master Agreement with Diamond Sustainable City in Dubai and Exhibits for the UC Davis Sustainable Engineering Research and Training Center and the Social Research and Training Center in Diamond Sustainable City. Suad Joseph facilitates committee. Meeting of the presidents of the BCBCB Consortium planned for Dubai in November as well. AUB, AUC, LAU, Birzeit presidents all accept Chancellor Katehi's invitation to Dubai. Diamond Developers commits to funding local costs in Dubai. Chancellor's committee plans trips. Core committee of Suad Joseph, Bryan Jenkins, Cindy Kiel, Ahmad Hakim-Elahi develop Master Agreement and Exhibits. November trip postponed to March 2014.

December 2013. Discussions with Malak Zaalouk, AUC, School of Education, about collaborations with UC Davis SOE.

February 2014. Agreement signed between Diamond Developers (Dubai) and UC Davis for the Sustainability Research and Training Program, focusing on engineering and social research and training for sustainable living in Dubai, as a template for other countries in the region. Launching meeting and formal signing of the collaboration in March 2014.

March 2014. Meeting of Consortium Presidents, Provosts, Deans in Dubai to explore collaborations around the Sustainability Research and Training Program, and other programs. UC Davis delegation includes Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi, Vice Chancellor for Research Harris Lewin, Vice Provost for International Programs William Lacy, Drs. Bryan Jenkins and Suad Joseph.

March 2014. Meeting between UC Davis and American University of Beirut. UC Davis delegation includes Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi and Dr. Suad Joseph, meeting with President Peter Dorman, Provost Ahmad Dallal, and AUB engineering, medical, and social science deans and faculty.

March 2014. Co-Organized Consortium Chancellor & Presidents meeting. Dubai.