

# ABOUTTHE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF KUWAIT:

he American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and coeducational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural, and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English.

Established by Amiri Decree 139 in 2003, AUK received its Institutional Accreditation from the Private Universities Council (PUC) – Ministry of Higher Education in the State of Kuwait, as of February 1, 2006.

AUK offers students a quality education based on an American college model, with 14 diverse Undergraduate degree programs in the College of Arts & Sciences, and the College of Business & Economics (BA, BE, BS, and BBA). The University also offers an Intensive English Program, which is designed to help students gain sufficient mastery of the English language, to prepare them for Undergraduate studies at AUK. The faculty, administration, and staff work hard to create a caring environment where every aspect of the student's development gets attention and support. The course of study is designed to prepare students for the contemporary world where critical thinking, communication skills, and life-long learning have become imperative. The Liberal Arts education system aims not only to guide the students to fulfill their educational goals, but to also instill effective critical thinking skills that they can apply in their future careers in the fields of their choice.

www.auk.edu.kw

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# ABOUT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE:

artmouth College, founded in 1769, is a member of the Ivy League, a group of eight of the most distinguished universities in the United States. Dartmouth is located in Hanover, New Hampshire, a town of 11,000 residents. It is situated on the Connecticut River, which is the border between New Hampshire and Vermont. The school offers a liberal arts undergraduate education and professional schools of medicine, business administration, and engineering. Dartmouth also offers 17 Ph.D. programs in the arts and sciences. Internationally renowned for its focus on undergraduate liberal arts education, Dartmouth's educational experience is marked by close interaction between faculty and students.

Approximately 4,800 undergraduate and 1,200 graduate students attend Dartmouth throughout the year. In addition to an unparalleled educational experience, students at Dartmouth enjoy a rich natural environment. The school is close to the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Green Mountains of Vermont. Boston (Massachusetts), New York City, and Montreal (Canada) are within driving distance.

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www.dartmouth.edu

# ABOUT THE Student Internship Program:

The AUK-Dartmouth Student Internship Program was developed as part of the AUK-Dartmouth Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Dartmouth College and the American University of Kuwait in September 2003. Dartmouth and AUK collaborate across a broad spectrum of academic and administrative spheres, including the student intern exchange program. The first Dartmouth students went to Kuwait in 2005, and the first AUK students travelled to New Hampshire in 2006. These internships offer experiential learning and are not for academic credit. The program gives students from both institutions the opportunity to gain valuable work experience abroad, and allows colleagues at each institution to gain a unique perspective on Liberal Arts education within vastly different geographical and cultural settings.

This program facilitates personal growth and builds personal bridges between the AUK and Dartmouth communities. One hallmark of the Dartmouth-AUK experience for both AUK and Dartmouth students is in embracing a new culture and then keeping in touch with new friends and colleagues. For many participants, the internship program is their first experience overseas. Past students have returned to the Middle East and the US respectively as Fulbright Scholars, and several post-graduates have returned as employees at both Dartmouth College and AUK.

Even the first participants in our program are at the earlier stages of their careers. Many have gone on to graduate studies or are following career paths in such fields as law, journalism, diplomacy, health care, cybersecurity, advertising, business, and higher education.

Dr. Dale Eickelman, the Dartmouth-AUK Relationship Coordinator and Lazarus Professor of Anthropology and Human Relations Emeritus, established the internship program in 2005. He has been assisted by Ms. Beth Hindmarsh, the Dartmouth-AUK Program Manager, since 2011. Mr. Tadd Kruse, currently AUK's Assistant to the President for Institutional Planning and Effectiveness, has managed the program at AUK since 2005.

Link to the Dartmouth-AUK site: www.dartmouth.edu/~aukproject

Link to the AUK site: www.auk.edu.kw/academics/ip\_dartmouth\_auk\_main.jsp





The ability to recognize opportunities and move in new – and sometimes unexpected – directions will benefit you no matter your interests or aspirations. A liberal education is designed to equip students for just such flexibility and imagination.

# **Drew Gilpin Faust**





# **AUK INTERNS AT DARTMOUTH**



# Rama Sabano

AUK Class of 2007 At Dartmouth: Summer 2007 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Graduate Student at the University of San Diego, CA / Graduate Assistant for Student Organizations and Involvement

"This was one of the best experiences of my life. Almost 10 years later, I still find myself referring back to it constantly. This internship gave me the opportunity to network and make life-long friends. More importantly, I had the honor of working for Dr. John Rassias whose passion was what drove the program and what made the experience so great for every participant. His leadership, creativity and values are what sparked this fascination I currently have within the field of leadership, and here I am today pursuing a degree in leadership."



#### Nur Soliman

AUK Class of 2010 At Dartmouth: Summer 2009 Placement: Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Report Writer and Copy Editor

"I will never forget my internship experience at Dartmouth College, where I learned so much from the passionate curators, educators, and staff of The Hood Museum of Art, where I was able to explore a small but beautiful part of New Hampshire for my first visit to the US, and where I had an enjoyable and fulfilling month of personal development and new friendships that I maintain to this day. Working with and observing the staff of the Museum introduced me to the world of museum education. I believe my time at Dartmouth College gave me a great boost of confidence in the skills and experiences I had, as well as in opening up to new experiences and exploring new places! From the wonderful, welcoming students I met to the incredible faculty and staff I was lucky to speak with and learn from (including my idol, visiting cartoonist Jules Feiffer!), from interacting with people at stargazing evenings, interfaith potlucks, student newspaper meetings, concerts on the green...I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to meet so many people, and help my new friendships grow.



### Hana Ibrahim

AUK Class of 2008 At Dartmouth: Summer 2007 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Pursuing a Master's degree in Political Science and International Public Relations

"It was a real-world experience as it gave me the opportunity to work hands-on in a professional environment and helped me gain actual work experience. Personally, my internships have introduced me to a lot of useful resources and have given me the opportunity to meet a variety of professionals in my field. As a University student, I know the importance of a strong résumé. This internship [at Dartmouth] added to my experience. I totally believe that internships are the key to building experience as a student or as a graduate. This internship provided me with the building blocks I needed for my future. This opportunity helped set the foundation for my career. It is important that one chooses their internships based on their interests and career prospects."



# Abdulrahman Al-Farhan

AUK Class of 2011 At Dartmouth: Summer 2010 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Lecturer of Near and Middle Eastern Studies (AUK)

"The internship was a great opportunity to experience teaching in a subject that I minored in at AUK. The professional teaching environment is a great entry into the world of academic teaching. The internship was one of the key experiences that led me to pursue graduate degrees in Arabic literature."



# Sally Saleh

AUK Class of 2009 At Dartmouth: Summer 2008 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Academic Support Specialist - Tutoring Center (AUK)

"As a 19-year old, I experienced travelling alone for the first time for this internship. The trip added to my self-confidence and enabled me to develop my independence, especially that I was not accompanied by any other AUK students. In addition, my time at the Rassias program enhanced my cross-cultural communication skills, taught me how to interact with people from different age-groups and backgrounds, and also gave me experience in handling challenging situations."



#### Fatma Shah Anwar Mohammad

AUK Class of 2011 At Dartmouth: Summer 2010 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Employed at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research

"The internship helped me map what/where/when/ and how I want my life to be. After meeting different people with different experiences from all over the world, I decided I want to experience the world rather than be in safe position with a fixed job title and salary. As such, I built a 5-year plan of places I want to live in, things I want to do and things I want to accomplish. So far, I am near completing my first plan with my second master's graduation, which will help me map my next plan that involves a PhD. degree and a new adventure in a new land."



#### Shahed Al Wadani

AUK Class of 2010 At Dartmouth: Summer 2010 Placement: Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Program Development Manager at Al Shaheed Park, Kuwait

"Being exposed to the back end of the museum made me fall in love with the operational side of program & event planning. I assisted in the organization of musical concerts, facilitated in the setup of an Andy Warhol exhibit as well as researched information for some of the museum's art collection (and much more). I finally received the opportunity to apply what I learned when Kuwait's first cultural park was established."



#### Thamer AlMaian

AUK Class of 2012 At Dartmouth: Summer 2011 Placement: Secure Information Systems Mentoring and Training (SISMAT)

Where Are They Now: Assistant Manager for Business Intelligence at Burgan Bank, Kuwait

"SISMAT opened my eyes to the computer security community. I believe that I learned more in depth in the two weeks of SISMAT than in a completed course here in Kuwait. I've made a lot of friendships and it was my first time to visit the U.S. I would love to dedicate sometime in my near future to broaden the knowledge that I gained from the program."



### Nada Bedir

AUK Class of 2012 At Dartmouth: Summer 2011 Placement: Rassias Foundation Where Are They Now: Academic Support Specialist - Tutoring Center (AUK)

"I received training on how to teach languages using the Rassias method which was a very unique, exciting, and challenging experience. I also got the chance to learn Spanish while interning at the Rassias Program which assisted me while pursing my Master's as I spent my first year studying in Madrid, Spain. In addition, I audited courses in the Anthropology and Government Departments which exposed me to the seminar based courses at Dartmouth. It also gave me the chance to interact with students from the university."



#### Wadhah AlDalama

AUK Class of 2013 At Dartmouth: Summer 2012 Placement: Secure Information Systems Mentoring and Training (SISMAT) Where Are They Now: Analyst / Developer at the State Audit Bureau of Kuwait



#### Yousef Abdul-Husain

AUK Class of 2012 At Dartmouth: Summer 2012 Placement: Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Advertising copywriter for GEICO Insurance in Washington D.C

"Without the advertisements that I created for the Hood Museum of Art during my AUK-Dartmouth internship, I wouldn't have had a decent enough portfolio to land my first job as a copywriter. The skills I learned, the people I met and the things I accomplished during my time as an intern made the overall experience fantastical. Not only did it help shape my professional growth, it helped shape me into the person that I am today. I loved the AUK-Dartmouth internship experience and can't say enough good things about AUK offering this awesome opportunity to its students."



#### Hala Botros

AUK Class of 2011 At Dartmouth: Summer 2011 Placement: Public Affairs Office / Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Academic Support Specialist - Writing Center (AUK)

"This unique experience enhanced my awareness of the culture of scholarship and directly influenced my choice of career. Although I was keen on pursuing a career in media, my experience at Dartmouth introduced me to different career fields and opportunities in research and academe that helped me shape my future goals."



#### **Kevork Awakimian**

AUK Class of 2013 At Dartmouth: Summer 2012 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: FMCG Warehouse Manager at Ali Abdulwahab Al Mutawa Commercial Co, Kuwait

"[At Dartmouth] I worked as an Arabic Language Instructor for foreigners as a part-time job where I had the chance to practice the learned methods and meet new people. I am also currently serving on the Dartmouth Internship Selection Committee since my return from the Internship, enriching the experiences of the candidates and improving my own interview skills."

# **AUK INTERNS AT DARTMOUTH**



### Helene El Neaman

AUK Class of 2013 At Dartmouth: Summer 2012 Placement: Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Founder and CEO of a boutique branding company

"My internship experience at Dartmouth College was the stepping stone that introduced me to the professional world and brought me a wealth of experiences that taught me a variety of lifelessons. First, it brought me valuable on-hands experience with projects in my major that put my education from AUK into perspective while also meeting and working with some of the most passionate staff members, students, and artists Id yet to meet. Although my internship at the Hood Museum of Art and Video Production Department had a very meaningful professional element, that professionalism was evenly balanced with a friendly atmosphere and has shown me that true productivity happens in a sanguine and friendly environment. Hanover and its people truly has a hold on those who are lucky enough to visit. I left this town a different person than whom I was when I arrived and I plan to pay forward everything that it has taught me."



### Stephanie Khalil

AUK Class of 2014 At Dartmouth: Summer 2013 Placement: Public Affairs Office / Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Account Executive at Horizon FCB Advertising Agency, Kuwait

"The internship changed me as a person. Despite the short time spent at Dartmouth, I was able to gain a lot of qualities that I would not have been able to acquire in my comfort zone, Kuwait - a place that has always been home. I became responsible for myself and my actions as a representative of AUK. This sense of independence prepared me for my future (when I traveled to the UK to complete my MA degree) where I lived on my own and had to manage a new life in a place I had never lived in before."



# Alaa Eddine Al-Chalabi

AUK Class of 2015 At Dartmouth: Summer 2014 Placement: Secure Information Systems Mentoring and Training (SISMAT) Where Are They Now: Graduate Student and Research Assistant at Istanbul Sehir University

"Since Computer Science/Engineering has a lot of areas of research that lie under it, the internship experience helped me define a new passion and a new area of interest, which is Cybersecurity. On the other hand, meeting people from different backgrounds in the program enhanced my experience in this field."



# Nour Jaber

AUK Class of 2014 At Dartmouth: Summer 2014 Placement: Public Affairs Office / Hood Museum of Art Where Are They Now: Academic Retention Advisor (AUK)

"The internship allowed me to experience a totally new level of interaction with people outside of my comfort zone, all total strangers in a professional and formal manner, whilst also becoming friends with many of the lovely people I met at Dartmouth. It helped me become more confident in myself and my professional skills."



# Sally Zaghloul

AUK Class of 2014 At Dartmouth: Summer 2014 Placement: Rassias Center / Rockefeller Center Where Are They Now: Financial Analyst at RSM AlBazie Consulting, Kuwait

"After my internship, I gained confidence in myself and noticed that my parents give me more freedom and trust to make my own decisions. I am also planning to do my Master's degree abroad and after spending a month at Dartmouth now I know what to expect in terms of dealing with people and questions that they usually ask about my hijab or religion or country. Not only that but also during my stay at Dartmouth I attended a couple of Entrepreneurship classes and noticed the teaching approach which was completely based on discussions and students' involvement which is not very common at AUK. So I think I now know what to expect and to prepare myself for any similar situation in the future."



# Muneera Al-Khulaifi

AUK Class of 2014 At Dartmouth: Summer 2013 Placement: Rassias Center Where Are They Now: Fulbright Scholar (Foreign Language Teaching Assistant) at Wellesley College, MA



#### Sara AbdelAziz

AUK Class of 2014 At Dartmouth: Summer 2014 Placement: Secure Information Systems Mentoring and Training (SISMAT) Where Are They Now: Project Engineer at KuwaitNET

"This internship helped me understand how technology is viewed from different mindsets, and how to get information through to someone who does not share the same technical background. This experience had a great impact on guiding me towards my career path, as well as help determine the field of study that I want to pursue my master's degree in."



#### Hadeel El-Leithy

AUK Class of 2017 At Dartmouth: Summer 2016 Placement: TUCK GO Where Are They Now: Currently completing her Senior year at AUK

"This internship taught me that I am a responsible adult, since I was able to not only travel alone, but also live in a different country away from family, which is usually something that doesn't happen much in your society."



#### AUK Class of 2017 At Dartmouth: Summer 2016 Placement: Office of Communications Where Are They Now: Currently completing her Senior year at AUK

In the Office of Communications [at Dartmouth], this internship taught me the value of responsibility and punctuality. It also allowed me to build on my writing skills and professionalism both in the workplace and out. Above all, I certainly became a more independent person. Also, this internship benefited my future by gaining experience in policing and security. After my Dartmouth experience, I was equipped with the distinguished voices, memories, and words of advice from every professional and police official I met."



#### Ali Kelkawi

AUK Class of 2018 At Dartmouth: Summer 2015 Placement: Rassias Center / Rockefeller Center Where Are They Now: Currently in his Senior year at AUK

"My internship at Dartmouth College taught me the importance of exploring life past the borders of one country, past the boundaries of one field, and past the barriers of language, religion, and nationality. Working with one of the friendliest and most diverse teams I have worked with to date, I got the opportunity to work in a professional environment which fosters self-development, an environment which taught me new skills and sharpened my existing skills to be a better professional in any field I choose to work in in the future."



#### Vincent Puyat

AUK Class of 2017 At Dartmouth: Summer 2017 Placement: TUCK GO Where Are They Now: Currently completing his Senior year at AUK

"The internship gave me indispensable work experience and the opportunity to foster my confidence and abilities. Tuck's global advocacy helped grow my appreciation in being able to work with diverse groups of people that constantly gave me unique opportunities to learn about various cultures and perspectives from people of varying backgrounds."



#### Zahraa Hamadi

AUK Class of 2015 At Dartmouth: Summer 2015 Placement: Office of Public Affairs Where Are They Now: High School Art Teacher at Gulf English School, Kuwait

"The internship was one of the greatest experiences of my life. The lessons I learned from the course of 4 short weeks will forever play a role in my everyday life. Going to Dartmouth was the first time I got to experience living abroad, therefore this experience to me is a constant reminder to push myself outside of my comfort zone and not to be too skeptical about taking chances. As a whole, I feel like a well-rounded person. Not only did my communication skills improve, I now have a better outlook/ perspective on various situations in my life. Having the chance to see how things are done on the other side of the world has benefited the way I think as I now have a broader sense of understanding and appreciation."



# Omar Khalil

AUK Class of 2019 At Dartmouth: Summer 2016 Placement: Secure Information Systems Mentoring and Training (SISMAT) Where Are They Now: Currently a Junior at AUK

"While the field of cybersecurity is only indirectly related to my career direction (programming and software engineering), I feel that the intense experience provided by SISMAT has given me a better mindset to undertake complex programming tasks and a better understanding on how to make software more secure against cyber-attacks"

# DARTMOUTH INTERNS AT AUK



# Jennifer Krimm

Dartmouth Class of 2006 At AUK: Spring 2005 Placement: Office of Public Affairs Where Are They Now: Political Consultant, living with family in Amman, Jordan.

"I was interested in the Middle East, especially the media, for many years, before 9/11. The AUK internship gave me the chance not only to continue my studies in government and international relations but to live and work in the region. While at AUK I had the privilege of being in parliament when the government gave Kuwaiti women the right to vote for the first time. Witnessing this made me realize a major interest of mine - working with women in the Arab world."



# Edward Kim

Dartmouth Class of 2009 At AUK: Spring 2007 Placement: Student Life / IEP / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Pianist and Conductor in the Opera Division of the Salzburg State Theater (Salzburg, Austria).

"I participated in the Dartmouth-AUK Internship Program as a sophomore, during the Spring 2007 term. It's amazing to think that it's already been ten years! I had studied Arabic every term at Dartmouth up to that point, and was intent on declaring an Arabic major, but decided after my Internship experience to declare a major in Anthropology instead. My experiences in Kuwait were rich and varied. I was fortunate in that my time was equally divided between both local Kuwaitis and foreign expatriates, thus I experienced both sides of the Kuwaiti narrative. After graduation, I traveled back to the area as a Fulbright scholar, and was happy to find that so many of the relationships I had fostered during my time in Kuwait remained strong and thriving."



Hema Mohan Dartmouth Class of 2006 At AUK: Spring 2015 Placement: Office of Student Life Where Are They Now: US Federal Employee

"I was one of two of the first Dartmouth students to intern at AUK in spring 2005, barely six months after AUK opened. I found the faculty, staff and administration very committed to the idea of liberal arts education in Kuwait, and the hospitality from all made me feel very taken care of. The highlight was being invited by the AUK head librarian to Parliament on May 15, 2005, to hear the proceedings on granting women the right to vote (sawt al-mara). At the end of the day, I witnessed Kuwaiti women leaving the Parliament building as full participants in the political process. It was one of the most moving and humbling events I had ever seen. I was honored to witness this historic occasion."



#### Nick Williams

Dartmouth Class of 2008 At AUK: Fall 2007 Placement: Office of Admissions / IEP / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Completed PhD in 2016, and now Adjunct Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Linguistics at Queens College.

"My time in Kuwait left me hoping to return to the country in the future – the experience was not only pleasurable, but extremely enlightening as well. Working together and sharing experiences doing such activities as the annual Raft Race and the first inaugural Social Awareness week, I came to a better understanding of what a struggle it is to keep a nascent institution running. It was exciting and stimulating to work in a place where the very infrastructure was still being constructed."



#### **Rose Mutiso**

Dartmouth Class of 2008 At AUK: Fall 2006 Placement: Dept. of Math / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Launching the Mawazo ("ideas" in Kaswahili) Research Institute in Nairobi Kenya.

"My time at AUK in the Fall of 2006 was a truly remarkable and transformative experience. In addition to all the wonderful people I met, my experience at AUK advising students at the writing center, working as a teaching assistant in the Mathematics department, and as a research assistant in the Dean's office reaffirmed my passion for teaching and research. It also underscored the critical importance of building capacities in higher education as part of a robust development agenda. These experiences have informed my career trajectory so far, and I look forward to continuing this vein as I embark on a new adventure into the world of higher education and research in Africa."



#### Weston Sager

Dartmouth Class of 2009 At AUK: Fall 2007 Placement: Student Life / IEP / Writing Center Where Are They Now: International Lawyer in New York City

"Working at AUK was an unforgettable experience – from playing basketball at night because it was too hot to do so during the day, to observing Ramadan on campus and at the homes of AUK's faculty and students, to visiting the bustling markets in the 'old city,' to spending the afternoon at an arcade in one of Kuwait City's lavish malls. At AUK, I learned to foster relationships around common goals, interests, and priorities that transcended cultures and languages, a skill that enriches not only my personal but also my professional life as an international lawyer."



### Daniel O'Brien

Dartmouth Class of 2009 At AUK: Fall 2007 Placement: Student Success Center / IEP / Student Life Where Are They Now: Currently employed for a healthcare technology firm.

"The Dartmouth-AUK program gave a boy from a small town in N.H. the ability to see a truly spectacular part of the world. I saw how higher education works behind the scenes, I made life-long friends, and I benefited from a unique cultural exchange. My time at AUK was a formative experience of my Dartmouth career and an adventure in the truest sense of the word!"



#### Laura (Cree) Dupin

Dartmouth Class of 2011 At AUK: Spring 2009 Placement: Center for Gulf Studies / IEP / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Pursuing a PhD in Organizational Studies; currently lives in France.

"My main motivation behind applying for the AUK fellowship was the opportunity to try out my skills in Arabic after two years of intensive study. I was not interested in becoming an academic specializing in the Arab world, rather I wanted to be in the field conversing, trying to understand culturalsocial norms that I felt my country failed to grasp following the 9/11 attacks. As I immersed myself in the school and surrounding areas, I remember constantly looking for "pure" cultural traces, artefacts and anecdotes that reflect *Ruwait in its own identity.* There were moments though, of incredible discovery. I spent time with a Kuwaiti woman I met at AUK and we spent some time discussing what it meant to be a woman in Kuwait, her strong set of beliefs and life after her education at AUK. We are still friends to this day. It has taken me time to appreciate the three months in Kuwait, without feeling ashamed of my perceived personal shortcomings."



#### John Fine

Dartmouth Class of 2009 At AUK: Spring 2008 Placement AUK: Student Life / IEP / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Political-Military Affairs Officer, US Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

"I was a Government major in the Class of 2009 and participated in the AUK exchange program in spring 2008. I look back on my time in Kuwait as a unique opportunity to immerse myself in a different culture and see firsthand life as a college student in Kuwait. It was one of my first experiences living and working in the Middle East and one that helped drive me to pursue a career with the U.S. Department of State."



#### **Charles Dameron**

Dartmouth Class of 2011 At AUK: Fall 2009 Placement: Dept. of International Relations / Center for Gulf Studies Where Are They Now: Clerkship for Chief Justice John Roberts on the US Supreme Court.

"Kuwait returns to my thoughts frequently. I think often of my friendship with Nur Soliman and the warm hospitality of her wonderful family. Every Thanksgiving, I am reminded of a memorable Thanksgiving dinner with my colleague Matt Forman and an AUK student who brought us to the home of a friend who was throwing an American Thanksgiving with a wide assortment of guests. And I greatly miss taking evening jogs along the Corniche. I am fond of AUK and of Kuwait, and am always happy to be contacted regarding the program"



#### **Evan Greulich**

Dartmouth Class of 2010 At AUK: Fall 2008 Placement: Student Success Center / Student Life Where Are They Now: Pursuing a Master of Architecture at the University of Texas at Austin.

"Fall 2008 . . . as a Chicago native, witnessing Barack Obama's election at 5:00 AM at my Kuwaiti apartment brought tears to my eyes. I truly loved and appreciated the welcoming community of Kuwaitis, Americans, and other Middle Easterners in the vibrant AUK campus."



#### Matthew Forman

Dartmouth Class of 2011 At AUK: Fall 2009 Placement: Arabian Heritage Project / IEP Where Are They Now: Project Manager at a software company, focusing on supporting the "big data" needs of governments and large corporations.

"In Kuwait, I interned in the Arabian Heritage Project with Dr. Lisa Urkevich and taught a reading discussion section in the Intensive English Program (IEP) during the fall term 2009. My cointern was Charlie Dameron.

One aspect of my time in Kuwait that has stuck with me is teaching in the IEP program. My class was reading The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn that term, and it grew into a wonderful crosscultural exchange. I would start out most classes by asking "Where is Huck?" — this became a bit of a joke among my students and me — and quickly we were off on a journey ourselves. In discussions over this distinctly American story, I learned a lot about life in Kuwait, some of the differences between my experiences and theirs. Most importantly, though, I learned how much we shared."

# **DARTMOUTH INTERNS AT AUK**



### Nick Knezek

Dartmouth Class of 2012 At AUK: Spring 2010 Placement: Division of Sciences & Engineering / Student Life Where Are They Now: Pursing a PhD in Planetary Science at the University of California Berkeley

"I was a Physics Major and Engineering minor at Dartmouth, class of 2012. visited Kuwait on the AUK internship program right before the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. Having grown up in a small rural town in Texas, I wanted to learn more about the region and culture. I had travelled extensively in the past, but visiting Kuwait was the first time I experienced culture shock. The society, infrastructure, weather, and culture were so foreign to my previous experiences and there was so much to take in. During my stay in Kuwait I visited Dubai, Cairo, and Bahrain, and witnessed firsthand the disparities that exist across the Arab world. I was blown away by the warmth and generosity of the people of Kuwait – I was regularly invited into strangers' homes for dinner or given gifts simply because I was a guest in the country and there was so much goodwill left after the U.S. military helped repel Iraq's invasion of Kuwait during the first Gulf War. Looking back, I still have found no place where I received a warmer welcome than from the people of Kuwait. I was also impressed that Kuwaiti citizens were much better informed about the world than many American citizens I knew, to the point that they could speak about American politics with more depth than most U.S. citizens. My time in Kuwait drove home the incredible diversity and beauty that exists in the vast region we refer to as the Middle East, and has helped me to contextualize news from the region ever since."



# Larry L. Bowman

Dartmouth Class of 2011 At AUK: Spring 2010 Placement: Division of Sciences & Engineering / Office of Admissions / IEP Where Are They Now: PhD Candidate, Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Yale University

"At AUK, I worked in the Office of Admissions, Intensive English Program, and the departments of biology and chemistry. My experience at AUK directly affected my decision to pursue education as (part of) my career. I chose to join Teach for America directly after Dartmouth, before joining East Tennessee State University as a National Science Foundation Graduate K-12 Fellow, where I did STEM education outreach in an intercity elementary school. I am currently a fellow at the McDougal Center for Teaching and Learning at Yale, where I focus on graduate and post-doc teaching/curriculum development. I have received several education related awards/honors along the way, and my time at AUK is also a topic interviewers and panels are interested in hearing more about. My experience at AUK definitely makes me stand out among applicants, especially because I have a uniquely foreign yet American educational experience in my background."



#### **Travis** Cramer

Dartmouth Class of 2012 At AUK: Spring 2011 Placement: College of Arts & Sciences / Writing Center / Student Success Center Where Are They Now: Second year of PhD program at New York University in Applied Psychology.

".... One of his [Travis] placements was in the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences, where he worked on forming the bylaws for the faculty and other academic groups, helped plan a liberal arts conference, and researched and made recommendations for student illness protocols. He also spent time at the Student Success Center, the Writing Center and the Intensive English Program. Outside of AUK, he experienced the largest sandstorm in decades, went desert camping with a friend and visited Jordan. He was in Kuwait at the start of the Arab Spring and heard first-hand the perspectives of many people whose countries were affected." [Excerpt from the AUK Chronicle - Spring 2015 Issue].



#### Christina (Yanjiao) Chen

Dartmouth Class of 2012 At AUK: Fall 2010 Placement: Division of Sciences & Engineering / Arabian Heritage Project / Student Life Where Are They Now: Second year of law school at University of California at Irvine

"Looking back to Fall 2010 in Kuwait, I marvel at how young I was, both in actual age and in mindset. I am still far from old of course, but having passed the quartercentury point, it amuses me to remember how insatiably thirsty I was, at 20 years old, to discover anything and everything new. Now, I stubbornly surround myself with the comforts of familiarity, so much that friends accuse of me of being boring with alarming frequency. Thank goodness, the opportunity to work at AUK came when it did, or else I would've missed out on a wonderful program that I am pleased to see continue with vigor."



#### Shloka Kini

Dartmouth Class of 2013 At AUK: Fall 2011 Placement: IT Department / Writing Center / Division of Sciences & Engineering Where Are They Now: Employed in a tech company in Silicon Valley, after receiving two MAs from Columbia University

"When I was in Kuwait: I worked in the IT Department, in the Writing Center, and in research with two Computer Science professors. I also was a teaching assistant for the all-female and all- male sections of introductory guitar and performed in the Dartmouth-AUK recital. Kuwait was a transformative time for me. I made new friends, with whom I'm still in touch. I gained a new acceptance and comfort with my identity as an Indian-American that I had never felt before. I relearned my love for music, teaching, and the arts. I gained a new, fierce confidence, not just in my technical skills but also in my ability to live in a new place on my own. Lastly, Kuwait has forever given me a deeper connection to my father, who worked in Kuwait before he came to the United States."



#### **Emily Estelle**

Dartmouth Class of 2015 At AUK: Spring 2013 Placement: Library / Writing Center / Student Life Where Are They Now: Research Analyst at the American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC

"I interned at AUK in spring 2013 in the Library, the Writing Center, and the Office of Student Life. My term in Kuwait came at a time when I was grappling with the decision of how best to continue my studies. The opportunity to participate in the AUK community energized me, and I returned to Dartmouth with a renewed dedication to the course of study that had opened my mind so much. I also forged a few enduring friendships in Kuwaitincluding my co-intern from Dartmouth and an AUK graduate/fellow Dartmouth-AUK intern who is joining my family for Thanksgiving this year!



#### Charlotte Kama'i

Dartmouth Class of 2016 At AUK: Spring 2015 Placement at AUK: Library / Student Life / Writing Center Where Are They Now: Working at a management consulting firm in Boston, MA

"Meeting and working with people from such diverse backgrounds helped me grow as both a professional and a person. The three different placements granted me a unique opportunity to work with three very different subsets of university staff, all of who have distinctive life paths and stories. Of course, meeting fellow college students in a different country offered me ample time to reflect on my time at Dartmouth. I appreciate the amazing things on campus a little bit more, and am eager to change things that can be improved. Mostly I am grateful for the experience and the opportunity to learn not just about Kuwait, but about myself too."



#### Maggie Rowland

Dartmouth Class of 2014 At AUK: Spring 2013 Placement: Office of Public Affairs / IEP / Division of Social Sciences Where Are They Now: Pursuing an M.S. in Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies, Middlebury

Institute of International Studies, Monterey, CA.

"I majored in Anthropology at Dartmouth, and was lucky to have participated in the Dartmouth-AUK internship program during the Spring of 2013. While at AUK, I served primarily as a PR writing intern in the Office of Public Affairs, but also worked with the Intensive English Program as a TA, and assisted AUK Professor of Anthropology, Dr. Marjorie Kelly, with her research. My time at AUK was one of the most impactful terms I spent as a Dartmouth student, and I cannot speak highly enough of it. I absolutely loved my jobs at AUK, and truly felt like a part of the staff in the Office of Public Affairs. I learned so much from the team, and felt I was able to make a meaningful contribution. In addition to doing work that I truly enjoyed, my quality of life while in Kuwait was fantastic — the people I met were hospitable, the friends I made were eager to show me around, and the coworkers from AUK treated me like one of their own. I couldn't have asked for a better internship experience, and would highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in MENA studies, as I was."



#### Mary Ivancic

Dartmouth Class of 2014 At AUK: Spring 2014 Placement at AUK: Student Life / Writing Center / Student Affairs Where Are They Now: Pursuing MA in Middle East Studies from George Washington University, Washington, DC

"I graduated directly following my internship at AUK. I am currently pursuing my MA in Middle East Studies from the George Washington University in Washington DC. I worked in Student Life, the Writing Center and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. My internship at AUK broadened my understanding of the Middle East, particularly the Persian Gulf. It helped me solidify my career and academic goals, while giving me important perspective on my professional strengths and weaknesses. The AUK-Dartmouth exchange program was a unique opportunity to work and live in Kuwait. I hope to visit Kuwait again in the future."



#### **Timothy Rizvanov**

Dartmouth Class of 2018 At AUK: Fall 2015 Placement: RISE Center / Library / IFP

Where Are They Now: Completing his Junior year at Dartmouth College

"I'd been abroad before several times to Russia, Canada, Cameroon, and China, but never for as long as my stay in Kuwait. My first few weeks in this small desert country I was all-eyes, all-ears, and always busy. I knew very little about the Middle East and was desperate to learn as much as I could, taking every chance I was offered to explore and understand this seemingly unknown world. Then, there came a phase where I began to truly miss home as I never had before. . . . but that phase didn't last long. Very soon I began to fall in love with this small but beautiful and resilient country not for its exterior, but for the spirit and soul that its people possess. As I got to know my Kuwaiti and Expat friends better, and began to befriend more and more wonderful people I began to see that the Middle East, the Arab world, and indeed the Islamic world are terribly misunderstood back home in the US. Sure, Kuwait has many large, pressing problems and I'm not attempting to disguise that, but at the same time, as a nation these people have weathered incredible hardship and unimaginably paced change with courage, unity, and a strong emphasis on family and culture. . . But the spark, the spirit, and the resolve I have seen in Kuwait's youth and families has encouraged me that no matter what happens there will always be a sturdy hope for a bright tomorrow, a backbone for these societies, and an impetus for change from within that will benefit these societies, the region, and the world as a whole. As for me, when it came time to leave, I didn't want to"

**NOTE:** Some offices, departments, and programs at AUK may have changed due to organizational restructures throughout the years, or are no longer in operation.

# PAST AUK-DARTMOUTH Student intern Program Participants

Since Spring 2005 when the first students from Dartmouth came to Kuwait during AUK's inaugural year of classes through the end of 2016, the program has had sixty-five students participate between both institutions (*34 from AUK going to Dartmouth; and 31 from Dartmouth going to AUK*). AUK students have mostly participated in the program for four weeks during the summer working in a variety of offices at Dartmouth College. A limited number have participated in a specialized two-week intensive computer security training program. Dartmouth students participate for ten weeks in the Fall or Spring and have worked in over fifteen administrative and academic departments across AUK. Below is the list of all students who participated in the Student Intern Exchange program between 2005-2016, listed by their period of participation.

#### AUK INTERNS @ DARTMOUTH:

#### Summer 2006:

- Hussein Nour-Elddine Summer 2007:
- Rama Sabano
- Hana Ibrahim
- Summer 2008:
- Sally Saleh
- Summer 2009:
- Emad Salama
- Mohammad Qasem
- Hala Al-Qabandy
- Nur Soliman

#### Summer 2010:

- Abdulrahman Al-Farhan
- Fatma Mohammad
- Shahed Al-Wadani
- Khawla Al-Tukhaim
- Summer 2011:

#### • Hala Botros

- Nada Bedir
- Sara Soliman
- Dalaa Al-Qahtani
- Thamer AlMaian

#### Summer 2012:

- Helene El-Neaman
- Yousef Abdul-Husain
- Kevork Awakimian
- Eman Karam
- Wadhah AlDalama

### Summer 2013:

- Muneera Al-Khulaifi
- Stephanie Khalil Summer 2014:
- Alaa Al-Chalabi
- Alaa Al-Chalabi
- Sara Abdel Aziz Mohamed
- Sally Zaghloul
- Nour Jaber

#### Summer 2015:

- Ali Kelkawi
- Zahraa Hamadi

#### Summer 2016:

- Budour Al-Ansari
- Hadeel El-Liethy
- Vincent Puyat
- Omar Khalil

#### DARTMOUTH INTERNS @ AUK:

#### Spring 2005:

- Jennifer Krimm
- Hema Mohan

#### Fall 2005:

- Shardul Oza
- Samuel Lipkin

#### Spring 2006:

- Jordan Milne
- Akar Bharadvaj

#### Fall 2006:

- Dominique Gergen
- Rose Mutiso

#### Spring 2007:

- Edward Kim
- Nicholas Williams

#### Fall 2007:

- Weston Sager
- Daniel O'Brien
- Spring 2008:

#### • John Fine

- Fall 2008:
- Evan Greulich
- Spring 2009:
- Laura Cree
- Dinah Warren

#### Fall 2009:

Charles DameronMatthew Forman

#### Spring 2010: • Nick Knezek

• Larry Bowman Fall 2010: • Christina (Yanjiao) Chen Spring 2011: • Travis Cramer Fall 2011: • Shloka Kini Spring 2012: • Jacqueline Waugh Fall 2012: • No interns Spring 2013: • Emily Estelle • Maggie Rowland Fall 2013: • Tyler Rivera Spring 2014: Marv Ivancic Fall 2014: No interns Spring 2015: • Charlotte Kama'i • Alexis Hill Fall 2015: Tim Rizvanov Spring 2016: No interns Fall 2016:

No interns