

## **Alliance of Academic Health Centers International Announces Transition of Middle East and North Africa Regional Office**

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 1, 2023 – The Alliance of Academic Health Centers International (AAHCI) is pleased to announce the transition of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Office from the [American University of Beirut Medical Center](#) (AUBMC) in Lebanon to [Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences](#) (MBRU) in Dubai.

"It has been a great honor for me to work with the AUBMC and I deeply appreciate the exceptional work that has been accomplished by them during their time as the host of AAHCI's MENA Regional Office for the past several years. Under the outstanding leadership of Mohamed H. Sayegh, MD, FAHA, FASN, ASCI, AAP, FRCP, the AUBMC provided the region with excellent, topical meetings and programs and highly successful membership development efforts," said AAHCI Executive Director Steven L. Kanter, MD.

The transition of the AAHCI MENA office to the Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences is effective on July 1, 2023.

"The integration of care, learning, and discovery in academic health systems drives best practices and improved outcomes for patients and communities," said Alawi Alsheikh-Ali, MD, MSc, chief academic officer, Dubai Academic Health Corporation, provost, Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences. "The designation of the Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences as the regional AAHCI Office is timely as we build Dubai's first academic health system with a mission to impact lives and shape the future of health. As the regional AAHCI office, we intend to leverage the strengths and expertise of AAHCI's global network to expand knowledge and promote best practices for the benefit of our patients."

"AAHCI looks forward to working with MBRU as the newly appointed MENA Regional Office host," added Kanter. "I know that the transition will be smooth, and I am confident that we will continue the tradition of excellence that supports and amplifies the voice of academic health centers in the region."

The transition of this office, along with the continued work of [all AAHCI Regional Offices](#), is central to AAHCI and provides:

- Customized region-specific initiatives and tailored programs;
- Facilitated regional networking opportunities, educational programs, exchange of best practices, data collection and analysis, and community/regional relationships; and
- A deeper understanding of the critical value of academic health centers for governments, industry, and the public.

AAHCI is a wholly owned subsidiary of the AAMC and comprises an international constituency.