

# Lebanon welcomes world's first fully online university

*Jaber launches JIU's world-wide service*

**Nayla Assaf**  
Daily Star staff

The Middle East Center for Studies and Public Relations on Monday launched the first branch in the region of an international distant-learning university, the Jones International University.

During a conference at the Press Federation, Hisham Jaber, president of the Lebanese Research and Consultancy Center, introduced JIU as "the world's first fully online, accredited university."

According to him, JIU currently has 15,000 students from over 70 different nationalities enrolled and aims to attract more students from the region.

He said that JIU would complement the services brought by American universities here and not compete with them. "We provide education to those who are unable to attend

regular universities here or travel to attend universities abroad," he said.

Jaber said that JIU was fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, one of the highest accrediting bodies in North America, meaning that students could easily transfer to

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universities in the United States at any given time.

"Students can pursue their studies from their home, their workplace, the airport, even while on holiday, from anywhere in the world," he added.

According to Jaber, JIU's administration is made up of educators from top ranking Uni-

versities in the United States and the United Kingdom, such as Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania and London School of Economics. The program offers graduate studies in Business Administration, Business Communication, Information Technology and post graduate Business Administration Studies. It also offers courses in communications, healthcare management, e-commerce, global enterprise, entrepreneurship, information technology, negotiations, conflict resolution and project management.

"It is only natural for Lebanon and the Arab world to keep up with modern developments especially in the field of IT," he said, adding that the center will be expanding JIU to Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Cyprus and Turkey within the next six months and to North Africa and the Gulf soon after that.



Jaber: Welcomes JIU to Lebanon

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