




SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

DOCTORAL CO-SUPERVISION AND PUBLICATION STRATEGIES IN A CHANGING WORLD

 January 20, 2026

 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

 **Hadat–Baabda Campus**
Fr. Antoine Rajeh Hall

PROGRAM

PART I – LAUNCH OF THE DOCTORAL CO-SUPERVISION SCHOLARSHIPS AT UA

9:00–9:30 AM	Welcome and Registration
9:30–9:35 AM	Opening Remarks Prof. Antoine El Samrani <i>Vice Rector for Research, Antonine University</i>
9:35–9:40 AM	Address Ms. Isabelle Picault <i>Attachée for Scientific and University Cooperation, Embassy of France</i> <i>Deputy Counselor for Cooperation and Cultural Affairs, Institut français</i>
9:40–9:45 AM	Address Dr. Chadi Abdallah <i>Secretary General, Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS-L)</i> <i>Director of Research, Remote Sensing Center</i>
9:45–9:50 AM	Institutional Perspective Rev. Fr. Michel Saghbiny <i>Rector, Antonine University</i>
10:00–10:15 AM	Coffee Break

PART II – ROUND TABLE RETHINKING SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION PRACTICES

Publishing, Promoting, Evaluating: Approaches to Evolving Scientific Practices

Moderator: Dr. Jean-Noël Baléo
Regional Director for the Middle East, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie

Context

In today’s academic world, scientific publishing is undergoing a deep transformation. Technological innovations, driven by the rise of digital platforms and the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI), are redefining the way researchers produce, disseminate, and promote their work. At the same time, new publishing models such as open access and article processing charges (APCs) are reshaping access to journals and raising new challenges regarding fairness among researchers and institutions.

These transformations are not merely technical; they are also academic and societal. The publish or perish paradigm exerts increasing pressure on faculty researchers, often at the expense of creativity and scientific depth. Research evaluation remains largely dominated by bibliometric indicators, such as the impact factor, which do not always reflect the true relevance or societal impact of publications. Meanwhile, interdisciplinarity has become essential to address contemporary global challenges, yet it continues to face obstacles from academic and traditional publishing logics.

Moreover, these shifts highlight significant inequalities. Researchers from the Global South encounter growing barriers to publishing in high-impact international journals, even though their work often addresses issues of major societal importance. In addition, the dominance of English as the primary scientific language marginalizes publications in other languages that make valuable contributions to cultural debates and practical solutions.

In this context, the challenge is no longer to publish more, but to publish better. It is time to rethink editorial practices, broaden the criteria for academic recognition, and promote methodological excellence, scientific integrity, and real societal impact.

10:15–10:30 AM	Humanities and Social Sciences Prof. Karma El-Hassan <i>Professor of Educational Psychology Measurement and Evaluation, American University of Beirut (AUB)</i> Publishing in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Diversity of formats and languages, replicability, and international standards—balancing global visibility with local relevance and societal impact.
10:30–10:45 AM	Fundamental Sciences Prof. Richard Maroun <i>Vice Rector for research, Saint-Joseph University of Beirut (USJ)</i> Evaluating Faculty Researchers in an Era of Editorial Chaos: Toward new criteria of quality and recognition—moving beyond impact factors to value innovation, interdisciplinarity, and contribution to society.
10:45–11:00 AM	Cross-disciplinary Approach Prof. Walid Marrouch <i>Professor of Economics and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Lebanese American University (LAU)</i> Visibility, Integrity, and Impact in the Digital and AI Era: Aligning technological innovation with ethical standards and institutional recognition.
11:00–11:15 AM	Panel Discussion Interactive exchange among panelists: perspectives, challenges, and shared experiences.
11:15–11:30 AM	Discussion With the Audience Open floor for faculty researchers: questions, feedback, and proposals.
11:30–11:45 AM	Conclusion and Key Takeaways Synthesis of insights, good practices, and perspectives for strengthening research and publication strategies at Antonine University.
12:00–1:00 PM	Lunch