

Blue Implementation experience at Beirut Arab University, Course, Module and Institutional Evaluation

Prof. Sobhi Abou Chahine Dean of Student Affairs



Conference: Bluenotes GLOBAL 2019

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Presentation: Blue experience at BAU

Prof. Sobhi Abou Chahine

Dean of Student Affairs

04/07/2019 - 08/07/2019



OUTLINE

- ➤ About Beirut Arab University BAU
- ➤ Quality Assurance at BAU
- History of course evaluation at BAU
- Collaboration between BAU and Blue explorance
- ➤ Pilot Study
- Course Evaluations
- Special Party Needs
- > Reports
- > Future Plans



About BAU

History & Background

- ➤ Lebanese private institution for higher education.
- > Founded in 1960.
- Accredited by the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation FIBAA.
- One of the oldest and largest Universities in Lebanon.

Facts

- > 4 Campuses & 10 Faculties
- ➤ 48 Undergraduate Programs
- ▶ 95 Graduate Programs
- Over 9500 students
- Over 113,000 alumni worldwide









BAU Campuses





Debbieh (2006)



Tripoli (2010)



Bekaa (2009)







Beirut Campus



- **1- Faculty of Human Sciences**
- 2- Faculty of Law & Political Sciences
- 3- Faculty of Business Administration
- **4- Faculty of Pharmacy**

- **5- Faculty of Medicine**
- **6- Faculty of Dentistry**
- 7- Faculty of Health Sciences





Debbieh Campus



- **1- Faculty of Architecture-***Design and Built Environment*
- 2- Faculty of Engineering
- **3- Faculty of Science**
- **4- Faculty of Business Administration**





Tripoli Campus



- **1- Faculty of Architecture-***Design and Built Environment*
- 2- Faculty of Engineering
- **3- Faculty of Business Administration**
- **4- Faculty of Science**
- **5- Faculty of Health Sciences**





Bekaa Campus



- > The Research Center for Environment & Development
- > The Alumni Club





Quality Assurance

Quality assurance is well established since 2007 and most programs are also internationally accredited, where course and module evaluation is one of the main tools.







Engineering Accreditation Commission



Computing
Accreditation
Commission











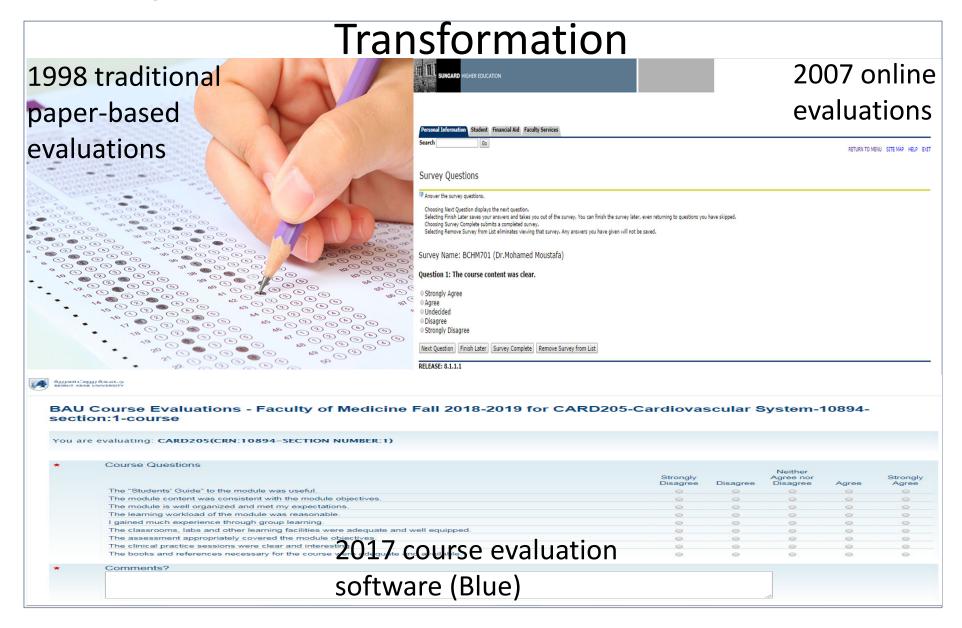


Faculty	Programme	Accreditation Body
Human Sciences (2017)	Bachelor of Arts in Psychology	Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Science (AHPGS) - Germany
Law & Political Science (2016)	 Bachelor of Law Master of Law PhD of Law 	Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) - Germany
Business Administration (Campuses Beirut, Tripoli, Debbieh) (2015)	 Bachelor of Business Administration Master of Business Administration 	Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) - Germany
	Bachelor of Accounting	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants - United Kingdom
Architecture - Design and Built Environment (2012)	 Bachelor of Architectural Engineering (RIBA Part 1) Master of Architectural Engineering (RIBA Part 2) 	Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) - England
Engineering (2013)	Bachelor of Communications & Electronics Engineering (B.Eng.)	Accreditation Board For Engineering and Technology (ABET) - USA
Science (2013)	Bachelor of Computer Science (BS)	Accreditation Board For Engineering and Technology (ABET) - USA
Pharmacy (2015)	Bachelor of Pharmacy	The Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) - Canada
Medicine (in progress)	Bachelor of Medicine	World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) - England
Dentistry (2014)	Bachelor of Dentistry	Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) - Ireland
Health Sciences (2016)	Bachelor of Physical Therapy	World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) - England
Health Sciences (2017)	 Bachelor of Nursing Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Technology 	Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Science (AHPGS) - Germany

Course Evaluation Objectives

- ➤ Using course evaluation as a basic tool for accreditation
- > Assessing Teaching and Learning Process
- Updating courses contents
- > Assessing academic staff performance
- > Helping in student retention







Advantages of Blue

paper-based evaluations Blue Course Evaluations

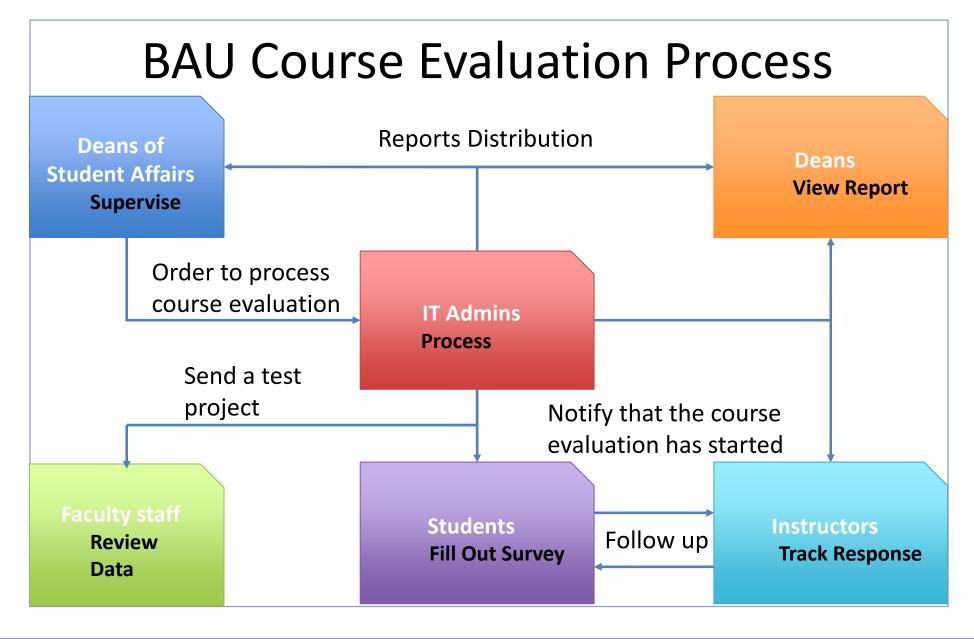
- Coverage of 33% of courses
- Over 6 weeks of work to prepare and collect data
- > High paper and ink costs
- Form available in one language

Banner Course Evaluations

- > Fixed fill out form
- Low response rate
- Poor comparison of results
- Absence of Response monitoring

- Coverage of 95% of courses
- High response rate
- No manual work
- > Zero paper and ink costs
- Form available in Arabic and English language
- Triggers are available for unique questions
- Response monitoring









Pilot Study

- ➤ BAU started a pilot study in spring 2017 using Blue tools
- > Deep discussion was made with Blue experts
- System was configured by proposing solutions to all existing problems
- ➤ Students will have to answer all the questions including their comments before submitting their answers.





Awareness Campaign

- An awareness campaign was done before starting the process by explaining the main reasons and all the steps and procedures.
- Deans, chairpersons, academic and relevant nonacademic staff members were involved to get a good response rates
- Repeated reminders were sent to students and a coordination on a daily basis was in place to follow up the response rate.





Special Party Needs

On the other hand, the faculty of **medicine** has a modules program instead of courses program, where many instructors teach the same module in addition to lab and clinical instructors in different hospitals, and each module has it own coordinator, so we divided them in to three categories: MED123, MED456 & Clerkships

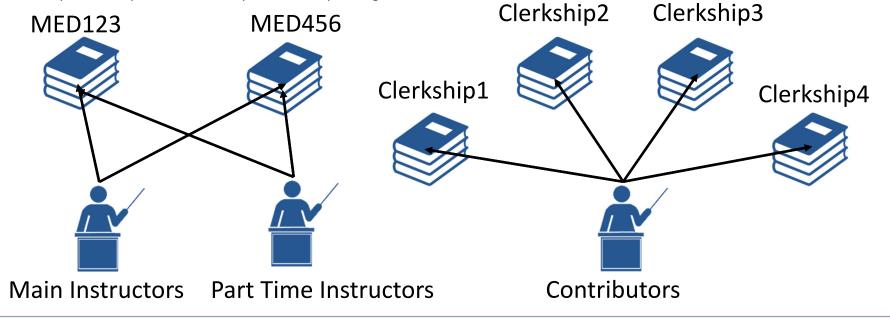
MED123 is the course questions for junior students and it has full time instructors and part time instructors

MED456 is the course question for senior students and it has full time instructors and contributors

Clerkships is the hospital questions for senior students and some questions are divided in two or more rotation dates

A course slice down has been done to include the data of the clerkships, hospitals & rotation dates

which requested a special and a complicated setup configuration.





Projects made in Blue System

- BAU Course Evaluation
- Medicine Course Evaluation
- Medicine Exit Survey
- > First year students questionnaire
- Student Services Satisfaction survey
- > Stakeholders and Alumni Survey
- Strategy Surveys
 - Academic Staff Satisfaction
 - > International Relations
 - > Teaching and Learning
 - Research Effectiveness
- ➤ We Learn Inter-professional (IPE) Evaluation





Preparing Data

- ➤ Data is exported from banner using SQL developer and imported to blue as **Data Sources**.
- Relationship is identified between deans, Instructors, Faculty staff, Stakeholders, Alumni's, Students and Courses
- ➤ Part of medicine data are supplied by the faculty since the concerned data is not available on the system like hospitals, doctors, clerkships and rotation dates.





Testing Cycle and Notifications

- Testing Cycle: A test project is created and a link is sent to the faculties to check if all the data are correct before publishing the real project.
- Notifications: An email and 2 reminders are sent for every student to fill the course evaluation, each instructor will receive an email to view his courses response rate. Also deans will receive 2 emails first email to view the dash board and the second email to view the report when the project is expired.





Supporting

- ➤ A live support is always ready to accept any request by instructors, faculty staff and deans to change in the published project.
- > Students are always welcomed to come to our IT office to be supported.
- Update records upon request.
- > Export project data for analytics.

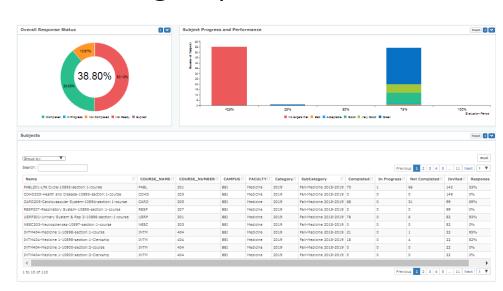
Response Rate Monitoring

- Each Dean has access to the dash board to view live his faculty student's response rates and take immediate actions if necessarily to improve response rate
- ➤ Instructors can view the response rate of every CRN they teach

Faculty secretary is involved in viewing response rates for

every CRN in their faculty.

Dean of Student Affairs take action by requesting extra reminders to students when finding a low response rate in any of the following campus, faculty and course.





Course Evaluations

Spring 2016/2017 Course evaluations (pilot study)

CRN: 2279

■ Instructors: **739**

Max RR: 62% (Engineering faculty)

• Avg. RR: **53**%

Fall 2017/2018 Course evaluations

CRN: 2074

Instructors: 742

Max RR: 72% (Dentistry faculty)

Avg. RR: 58%

Spring 2017/2018 Course evaluations

CRN: 2115

Instructors: 703

Max RR: 62% (Medicine faculty)

Avg. RR: **50**%

Overall Avg. RR. :55%

Fall 2018/2019 Course evaluations

CRN: 2172

Instructors: 904

Max RR: 81% (Medicine faculty)

• Avg. RR: **57**%

Spring 2018/2019 Course evaluations

CRN: 2095

Instructors: 1075

■ Max RR: **80**% (Medicine faculty)

• Avg. RR: **53**%

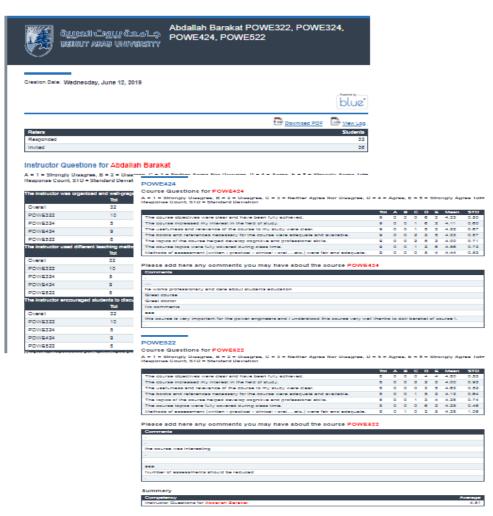
No Blocks (Hold)

It is worth mentioning that these results were obtained without blocking any service within the student management system.

Course evaluations has become a culture for students.

Reports

- Individual Instructor Report
- Aggregate Instructor Report
 - All his Courses
 - Breakdown by course
- Individual Course Report
- Aggregate Course Report
 - Per Campus
 - Per Faculty
 - Per Program
- Surveys Roll Over (over all)







Findings and actions

- ➤ Using 5 scales from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree and formulas like Averages and Standard Deviations (70% meeting the expectation)
- Identification of strengths and weaknesses
- Correlation between quantitative data and comments
- Correlation with students achievements in the course
- Areas of action and improvement





Future Plans

- ➤ Efforts are currently underway in cooperation with blue experts to get customised reports to be friendly used by the academic responsible.
- ➤ An automated functionality will be implemented for instructors and Faculty staffs and deans for more involving in the course evaluation creation and supporting.
- > BTA feature will be used to help analyze reports.

Thank You

BEIRUT Campus

Tareek El Jadida

TEL: +961 1 300110 FAX: +961 1 818402 **DEBBIEH Campus**

Debbieh Main Road

TEL: +961 7 985858 FAX: +961 7 985060 **TRIPOLI Campus**

Corniche El-Mina

TEL: +961 6 218400 FAX: +961 6 222800 **BEKAA Campus**

Taanayel Area

TEL: +961 8 542051 FAX: +961 8 544051

P.O.Box 11 - 5020 Riad El Solh 11072809 - Beirut, Lebanon

www.bau.edu.lb