

Dr. Fouad Boustany,
Secretary General, CCNLE

Dear Dr. Boustany,

I would like to briefly inform you about the Meeting of Regional Experts at the *Regional Conference on Bioethics Teaching at Universities* that took place in Marrakech, Morocco on the 16th and 17th of June, 2008.

The conference was organized by the UNESCO's Division of Ethics of Science and Technology in collaboration with the Regional Office in Rabat and the National UNESCO Commission office in Morocco.

There were many participants from different countries in the region. Each brought to the meeting very interesting experiences of biomedical ethics teaching. Their presentations were enriching and enlightening. It was great to participate in such a conference.

For my part, I presented two courses that I have been involved in teaching at the American University of Beirut. PHIL 205 (*Biomedical Ethics*) that is taught at the Department of Philosophy as part of the educational offerings of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences; and PPS2 (*Physicians, Patients and Society 2*) that is taught at the Faculty of Medicine for MED III students as part of the Medical Ethics component..

Both courses were very well received. I had the opportunity to share with my regional colleagues the experience of teaching these courses by showing them the Moodle component of the course. Moodle is a Learning Management facility provided to AUB faculty and students through the University's Academic Computing Center. Although I did not have much time to go over the details of each course, yet I managed to pass on to them the main objectives of the course and how to involve students in the discussion of cases that raise moral issues and concerns. Moreover, we managed to informally discuss some of the issues that arose from my presentation over dinner with several colleagues. The feedback was positive and very uplifting. I can say that the participants showed interest in knowing more about our courses and in collaborating with us.

All in all, the experience was great and enriching. It is good to know that the region is involved in Biomedical Ethics teaching as well and to establish contact with colleagues at other institutions of higher education who are involved in the teaching of Medical Ethics

Best regards,

Thalia Arawi, PhD
Clinical Bioethicist
Medical Ethics Course Coordinator
American University of Beirut