



## Statement of The American University of Kurdistan's Board of Trustees



The AUK Board of Trustees held its biannual meetings September 23 and 24, 2018. On the first day, the Board committees met with relevant departments to discuss the progress our University has made to date and steps to be taken to fulfill the University's vision and mission. The Trustees also met with students and faculty members to hear their opinion on how the learning outcomes can improve.

In the meeting on the second day, the various committees reported to the full Board with recommendations for the Board's action. I am pleased to report that several key strategic decisions were taken. During our Board meeting, we approved the *AUK Strategic Plan 2018-2023*, which mandates that the University aggressively move toward bringing the high quality, U.S. accredited education program to fruition, while fulfilling AUK's social responsibilities to the people of Kurdistan as implied by the University's vision and mission. The Board mandated the University to prepare plans for establishing the Schools of Medicine and Nursing so the University can open its doors to prospective students. Furthermore, the Board asked that existing programs be consolidated and more faculty hired to ensure that students continue to receive the best quality education and that our existing support for the local business community be strengthened by establishing an Internship Office and a Career Services Office to enable students to get practical work experience while studying and then find jobs after graduation. In addition, as part of the strategic plan, the University will officially begin to prepare for institutional and programmatic U.S. accreditation. The Board emphasized the need for transparency and developing a strong budget that can provide for the smooth operation of the University.

AUK's Board of Trustees will continue its support for the University leadership, faculty members and students to establish and maintain a high quality education system that nurtures the future leaders of Kurdistan and the region. Fostering a better campus life for our students and developing programs and activities that will boost their leadership skills is our top priority.

We look forward to another exciting year at the American University of Kurdistan!

Masrour Barzani  
The Chairman of the Board of Trustees

*September 25, 2018*