



Points to Mention in Institutional Narratives, as of August 17, 2023

Audience: current students

- Student systems of governance and participation give students a sense of ownership over their University; they learn leadership and other professional dispositions needed in the workplace; work study
- AUK's strong commitment to students' holistic growth through an alignment of curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programming for disciplinary and skill building
- AUK as a service institution, which fosters engagement and volunteerism
- A culture of life-long learning, not just for bachelor's students, but for the whole community, from age 3 to 103
- AUK's quest for continuous improvement as a higher education institution and how students contribute to this improvement
- AUK's plans for expansion in the future and new programs on the horizon
- AUK's U.S. partner institutions offer pathways to graduate study in the U.S.
- AUK creating partnerships with international companies and organizations for student internships and employment
- The introduction of Career Services to facilitate students' transitions into the workforce
- AUK's curricula focus on applied learning, internships, and capstones with simulations and industry-level projects

Audience: prospective students

- What makes AUK distinctive in the region: An English-medium, American-style public university
- Availability of scholarships for students across many demographics
- Located in one of the safest and most naturally beautiful parts of Iraq
- Opportunities to connect and network with local and regional governmental and industry leaders
- AUK in the process of attaining NECHE accreditation and adopting U.S. and international best practices; this provides diploma recognition across all universities in the U.S.
- The international faculty
- International opportunities during studies (semester abroad) and transitioning to graduate programs (3+2 and 4+1 programs)
- Student support services provide students with personalized attention from the first semester through to graduation; implementation of First-Year-Experience to ease the transition from high school to university
- AUK's campus life enriched by the numerous co-curricular and extra-curricular activities
- The Mustafa Barzani Building and state-of-the-art labs and classroom facilities and technologies
- AUK's plans for expansion in the future; new programs and buildings



- The introduction of Career Services facilitates students' transition into the workforce
- AUK's curricula focus on applied learning, internships, and capstones with simulations and industry-level projects – the American model of active and applied learning
- By joining AUK, you join a community of established alumni

Audience: domestic (governmental and non-governmental)

- What makes AUK distinctive in the region: An English-medium, American-style public university in one of the safest and most naturally beautiful parts of Iraq
- AUK is a public, independent, non-profit university
- AUK is on the path to NECHE accreditation by adopting U.S. best practices and good governance practices that uphold the values of fairness and transparency; a model for HEIs across Kurdistan and Iraq
- AUK is focused on assessment and monitoring systems for the purpose of continuous improvement
- AUK's impact on the development of the KR and Iraq, especially in the areas of education and health
- A culture of life-long learning, not just for bachelor's students, but for the whole community, from age 3 to 103
- Two-thirds of students receive full or partial scholarship support
- AUK's Career Services and student support services work to facilitate students' transition from academia to the workforce; special focus is placed on developing students' English-language proficiency and soft skills
- AUK's curricula aligned with employers' expectations
- AUK's possession of state-of-the-art laboratory facilities for its students and faculty's academic and professional development
- AUK provides workshops, trainings, and certificate programs for the professional development of the public and private sectors; labs available for the upskilling of professionals
- AUK's role in the reform agenda for education in Kurdistan; leading the National K-19 Task Force in Education

Audience: international audience

- What makes AUK distinctive in the region: An English-medium, American-style public, independent university in one of the safest and most naturally beautiful parts of Iraq
- Award of three grants from the U.S. Department of State dedicated to adopting American best practices
- International faculty and staff
- AUK in the process of attaining NECHE accreditation, which will result in diploma recognition in the U.S.



- Scholarships demonstrate a commitment to diversity, access, women's empowerment, and students from across all of Iraq
- AUK's impact on Kurdistan; community-based initiatives in education and health
- University partners, academic and industrial, provide opportunities for internships and employment
- Opportunities for study abroad and 3+2 and 4+1 programs with U.S. institutions
- AUK's status as the only institution in Kurdistan that undergoes annual audits by one of the top international auditing firms in the field demonstrating transparency in operations
- AUK's role in the reform agenda for education in Kurdistan; leading the National K-19 Task Force in Education

Audience: local media

- Access and scholarships; no academically eligible student is denied an education due to an inability to pay; two-thirds of students receive full or partial scholarships
- International faculty
- AUK's ongoing commitment to its students' holistic growth
- Focus on diversity and inclusion; disability support services, counseling
- AUK's commitment to diversity, inclusion, disability support services, and female empowerment (new initiatives in women's entrepreneurship and leadership)
- NECHE accreditation and the adoption and modelling of U.S. best practices
- With NECHE accreditation, diploma recognition across the U.S.; diploma recognition in Germany
- AUK's role in driving reform in various sectors (e.g. education, health care), contributing to the further economic, social and political development of Kurdistan; initiatives with municipalities, governorates, and ministries)
- New radio station and video production lab; contributing to the advancement of journalism in a democratic society
- Student volunteerism: "AUK Cares"
- Alumni success stories and employment data

Audience: alumni

- Alumni are life-long members of the AUK community
- Alumni relations program have been established to ensure alumni engagement
- AUK providing alumni with continuous opportunities for engagement and personal/professional development – workshops, Career Services, networking events, etc.
- AUK's U.S. partner institutions offer opportunities for graduate study



- Discounts on CAPA courses designed to improve post-graduation employability
- Library membership allowing ongoing access to print resources and e-resources for academic and professional research

Audience: potential donors

- The receipt of 3 grants from the U.S. Department of States focused on institutional capacity building, lab construction, accreditation initiatives, and implementation of quality assurance mechanisms
- Two-thirds of students receive scholarships without which they could not attend an American-style university
- Established advancement operations following best practice for fundraising from philanthropic sources
- A reliable and transparent partner within Kurdistan for the development of the Kurdish homeland
- Institutional commitment to donor recognition and stewardship reports
- AUK's status as the only institution in Kurdistan that undergoes annual audits by one of the top international auditing firms (transparency in operations)
- NECHE accreditation and all it entails: recognized best practices, diploma recognition in the U.S., good governance
- The "Campus Master Plan" lays out a vision for campus development over 5-10 years
- AUK is established through the philanthropy of local community; the land and the building are gifts of philanthropy
- Naming opportunities, with AUK willing to name individual professorships, rooms, colleges, and buildings after generous donors
- AUK's community-level "impact initiatives", educational and health sectors

Revised August 18, 2023