

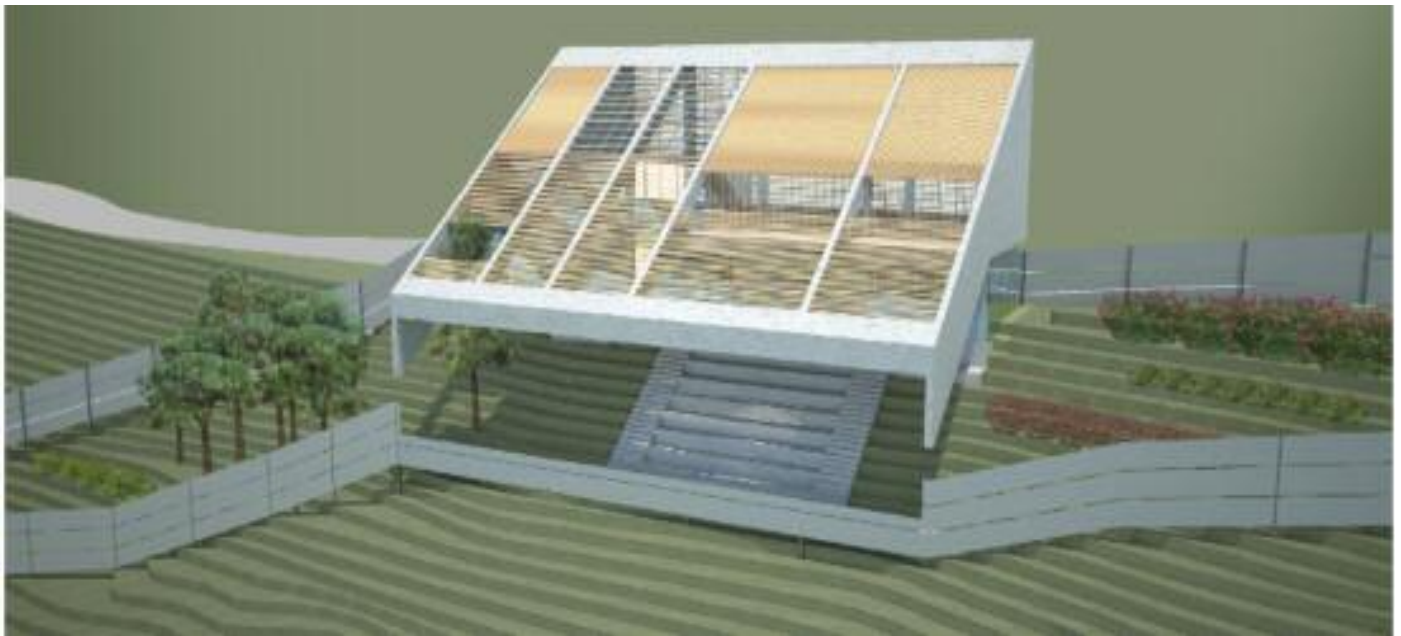
The SJS Alumni Clubhouse



The Saint Joseph School Alumni Association launches new initiative, capitalizes on alumni unity for maximization of potential

At a networking event held in La Piazza restaurant, Sodeco on April 23rd, the SJS Alumni Association Executive Committee unveiled plans for an innovative addition to the SJS premises and its alumni's accessible facilities. The SJS Alumni Clubhouse, as it is fittingly named, is an eco-friendly, design marvel, which will serve as a venue for project incubation, and future alumni gatherings and initiatives. The convenience and efficiency of its facilities are available for alumni.

Designed by Hashim Sarkis, the 266 m2 clubhouse is located southeast of the football field on Plot 1151, generously provided by the diocese to eliminate the distances between the alumni and their alma mater. The construction design of the clubhouse is environmental in essence, sitting on six pairs of columns on the flat side of the site, hence removing any need for tree cutting. Even more so, due to soil dumping, the area has witnessed significant damage. As such, another green design feature is the construction of small 50cm terraces



and the planting of shrubs and trees so as to augment the foliage around the school and preserve the natural water flow down the hill. A final addition to the ecological value and technological modernity of the clubhouse is its solar paneled roof and its collection of rain water.

To begin with, the clubhouse shall accommodate SJS alumni entrepreneurs in need of a development and launch platform for their business ideas. Furnished with small yet fully equipped cubic offices (Internet, Phone, Fax, Copiers, etc.), the clubhouse provides alumni with instant startup resources and business support. This is also of significant importance to alumni who are based abroad; they could tremendously benefit from the existence of such a connected business center for their operations while visiting Lebanon.



Entrance Lobby View

On a related note, the clubhouse features a roofed, outdoor amphitheater that can be used for general meet-



View of Covered Outdoor Seating Area

ings and business presentations, serving as a readily available location for all alumni when planning that next step or sealing the deal.

Another welcoming use of the clubhouse is for networking and social alumni events. Meeting on school grounds that fostered the growth and education of every single SJS alumnus would add a beautiful ambience of history and togetherness to any gathering. Alumni could successfully build their contact base and aid each other in a multitude of endeavors, be they personal, professional, academic or otherwise. The clubhouse can also be a site of leisure and entertainment for alumni and their families, hosting games, birthdays, and amusing competitions for all those interested. Furthermore, the clubhouse would proudly hold weddings and receptions whereby SJS alumni can celebrate new bonds while reminiscing about old ones. After all, it is these events that allow the alumni house to truly live up to its name.



In terms of the current status of the clubhouse project, all legal issues pertaining to the usage of the land are in order as designated by the Archbishop. The topography for the land is also complete, and the allocated budget excluding furniture is around 300,000 USD.

In conclusion, the SJS Alumni Clubhouse seeks to become a robust support facility for all alumni, truly serving the purpose of any alumni entity in bringing alumni together, building on their potential, and nurturing unity in realizing a remarkable vision for an equally remarkable SJS family.

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