

The First Lady at the gala dinner of the Federation of USJ Alumni Associations



First Lady Wafaa Sleiman, flanked by USJ Rector René Chamussy and the president of the Federation, Yolande Badre



Another view of the table of honor. On the left: Dr. Khalil Karam, vice-rector of the USJ

What an elegant gala dinner, was that of the Federation of the Alumni Associations of St. Joseph's University (USJ), held in the presence of First Lady Wafaa Sleiman on Friday, February 18, at the Four Season Hotel overlooking the Beirut marina.

USJ Rector Father René Chamussy and Professor Yolande Badre, president of the Federation, welcomed the guests at this prestigious evening, held in aid of projects of the Federation and of the USJ. Speaking to the gathering, Father Chamussy underlined the importance of the event "because it expresses the concern which is ours to see the alumni of all the associations meet in the federation in such a way that they may not only feel a greater solidarity with each other as well as a greater solidarity with their alma

mater, a solidarity we never cease to require".

Father Chamussy also explained that the USJ is no longer the university most alumni remembered since there had been so many changes made to keep pace with the times. But despite all, the USJ remained the heart of a community which had marked them with an ineffable imprint. "It is with you that we can extend our outreach farther to the poorest people of the country as well as in all fields beyond our frontiers".

Professor Yolande Badre thanked Father



Churcri Sader, president of the Council of State, and his wife Amale; Judge Abbas Halabi

Chamussy for his support, and she also thanked the presidents of the USJ Associations and the members of the committees of the Federation for their commitment. And finally she voiced gratitude to the vice-rectors, the deans and each person present for his or her contribution "to the evolution of our society". ■



Cutting the cake



Mrs. Sleiman receiving a plaque of esteem from Father Chamussy and Dr. Badre