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### Ouachita honors Dr. Raouf Halaby with art history classroom

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For immediate release

## **Ouachita honors Dr. Raouf Halaby with art history classroom**

*By Sarah Davis*

December 12, 2017

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at [newsbureau@obu.edu](mailto:newsbureau@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5208



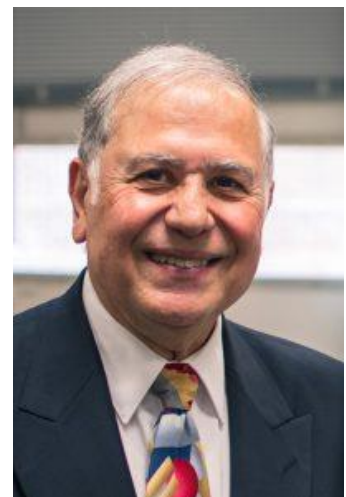
ARKADELPHIA, Ark. – Ouachita Baptist University dedicated the newly named Dr. Raouf J. Halaby Art History Lecture Classroom and honored Dr. Halaby, Professor Emeritus of Visual Arts and English, during a reception held Dec. 5. The classroom in Moses-Provine Hall honors Dr. Halaby for his 42 years of service at Ouachita.

“I am truly humbled and grateful to have this honor bestowed on me,” Dr. Halaby said. “Except for three years during which I worked on my doctorate, Ouachita and Arkadelphia have been the only home I have known for the best 52 years.”

In his remarks at the reception, Dr. Halaby told Ouachita students, “Take advantage of every educational opportunity; you are fortunate to be attending a university whose faculty are dedicated and committed to preparing you for the next phase of your life. Make art joyously so as to delight the world with creative impulses and remember that all the arts make the world a better global community.”

Dr. Halaby was born in Jerusalem and came to Ouachita as a student in 1965. He graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and earned his Master of Science in Education degree in 1970. He also earned a Doctor of Education in English in 1973 from East State Texas University.

Dr. Halaby began teaching at Ouachita in 1973 as an assistant professor of English. He was promoted to associate professor of English in 1980 and was named a professor in 1988. In 1994, he was named chair of the Department of Visual Arts.



“The department named the classroom where Dr. Halaby had taught CORE and art history courses for 15 years,” said Donnie Copeland, associate professor of visual arts and current chair of Ouachita’s Rosemary Gossett Adams Department of Visual Arts. “Naming the classroom after him honors his work in service to the students and the university.”

Dr. Halaby retired in 2015. He and his wife have built a new home. He spends retirement volunteering, writing, traveling and gardening. He plans to do sculpting and restart his beekeeping hobby.

“The enduring friendships with hundreds of former students and scores of colleagues have left an indelible impact on my life,” Dr. Halaby said. “I’m truly grateful.”

For more information, contact the Adams Department of Visual Arts at (870) 245-5559.

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