

# CARAVAN

THE STUDENT-PRODUCED NEWSPAPER OF THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

Volume 86, Issue 2

caravan.aucegypt.edu

Sunday, Sept. 25, 2005

## Arnold: Graduation, re-accreditation top priorities for AUC

BY SHEREEN EL GAZZAR  
*Caravan Reporter*

The qualifications of AUC's faculty, its upcoming eight-year re-accreditation and reorganizing the graduation ceremony are top priorities for the university this year, said President David Arnold.

In a meeting with Caravan staff last Tuesday, Arnold said the university is looking at two options for graduation. The first one is to hold the ceremony at the new campus to accommodate all the graduates at the same time. The second option is to split graduation into three smaller commencements, one for each school.

"What's not an option is continuing it the way we have been doing," said Arnold.

Re-accreditation is particularly important right now because many new universities are opening in Egypt and "we need AUC to stand out among them," he said. Arnold also emphasized that AUC's re-accreditation is a "quality issue," that makes the university's graduates eligible for graduate schooling anywhere in the world.

"AUC is a fully accredited university all over the world. Our degrees are accredited for work and study in the U.S. just as if we were part of the U.S.," said Arnold.

The university is accredited every eight years by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. AUC was last accredited in 1998.

For the past three years, he said the university has also been

working on improving its academic program and the quality of its faculty, adding more than 20 new positions.

Qualifications for those new faculty members depend on the specialization they teach, he said, adding that departments like journalism and mass communication and business require more experience in the field.

The university also maintains diversity among its faculty by ensuring that 50 percent are Egyptian, 40 percent American and 10 percent other nationalities, he said.

Arnold also stressed the importance of the AUC Center for Learning and Teaching's role in developing and supporting faculty. "Every teacher has room for improvement in terms of skills and teaching methods," said Arnold.

Continuous revision of the Core Curriculum is another priority: "The Core Curriculum's emphasis on a liberal education has to be seen by students as fresh and relevant and not just as something that they have to do. Revising and updating it continue [to be] a core value for AUC," he said.

Arnold also emphasized that AUC is more than an academic institution, explaining that its Social Research Center and service clubs play an important part in its mission.

"It is very important that AUC students not only do well in their lives but also do good for their society. This is all a part of the mission of making AUC a world-class university," he said.

## Ibrahim back at AUC after sabbatical

BY MARIA VINCI  
*Caravan Editor*

Saad Eddin Ibrahim, one of the few Egyptians whose name is recognized worldwide, is known to some as a former presidential candidate, to others as a political and human rights activist imprisoned by the Egyptian government for his activities and to still others as a renegade intent on destabi-

lizing Egyptian society.

But the 66-year-old AUC sociology professor wants none of that. He would prefer to be remembered more simply – as a man who lived and died fighting for democracy in the Arab world, as a man who is always happiest in Egypt despite its politics and as a patriot.

But that doesn't mean he'll tone down his views on what's going on in Egypt and his anger at

its recent presidential elections.

After spending six months in the U.S. on a sabbatical leave, Ibrahim, who originally left Egypt to write his prison memoirs, ended up touring France to promote his candidature for the Egyptian elections.

"The elections were historic, but were neither fair nor free," said Ibrahim.

For the first time in Egypt's history, a head of state was cho-

sen in a multi-candidate competition, said Ibrahim. "The principle is new and that's what makes it historic."

But he said that the regime did not want the elections to be free and fair. For example, he criticized the fact that an official candidate had to be a member of a recognized political party for five years and could not hold dual citizenship.

See IBRAHIM, 2

### A NEW FLAVOR



Hassan Hassan / THE CARAVAN

Cilantro, a popular coffee destination for AUC students on Mohamed Mahmoud St., opened a new sleek, plush second floor sitting area last week. The upper floor offers outdoor seating on two small balconies, and the spacious interior invites customers to sit for hours.

## Engineering specializations await approval

BY ETHAR SHALABY  
*Caravan Reporter*

Despite rumors of three new engineering majors, the school of sciences and engineering (SSE) is still working on a strategic plan to begin adding new majors in two years.

No decisions have been made, said SSE dean Medhat Haroun. "We are studying potentials for new programs and rumors started that we already have the programs. These are just things that could happen in two years," he said.

According to Haroun, SSE faculty members have not decided on anything yet. In their meetings, however, they have discussed new areas of a high interest to students, parents, faculty and the job market.

The school of sciences and engineering is taking the first step to identify potential new majors and the resources they will need to be implemented. Haroun said that introducing these majors is a long process that includes setting up a plan, presenting it to the AUC administration and then finally getting it approved by the Faculty Senate.

See MAJORS, 2

## Israelis, Egyptians look for common ground with Seeds of Peace



BRIDGING GAPS: Left to right: Sherif Botros, study abroad student; Shereen El Sammaa, AUC; Yheya El-Decken, AUC; Sarah Refaat, MSA; Khaled Rasmy, Cairo University; and Omar Khaled, Cairo University.

BY DINA EL ORABY  
*Caravan Reporter*

Four AUC students have returned to the university with new ideas about Israeli students and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as a whole after participating in a Seeds of Peace International Camp this summer in Maine, U.S.

Shereen El Sammaa, a business senior; Karim Hussein, a mechanical engineering graduate; May Abu Samra, who is doing a year abroad, and a fourth student who refused to publish his name, were among students from conflict areas around the world who participated in the three-week leadership summit.

"I am not saying that after this experience I started to love Israelis, but now I can argue and talk with them and I have become more aware of the conflict itself," said Hussein.

El Sammaa said, "They are now normal people [to me], who have our same daily problems."

According to the official website of Seeds for

Peace, it was founded in 1993, and is dedicated "to empowering young leaders from regions of conflict with the leadership skills required to advance reconciliation and coexistence."

Although the organization focuses on the Middle East, especially Israel, Palestine and Egypt, it says it has expanded to include over 2,500 young people from conflict regions around the world.

In the program, participants from Israel and Palestine share the same bunk and participate together in the session. "Bunks and coexistence sessions are grouped by conflict region," helping in the effectiveness of these sessions, according to the Seeds for Peace website.

But Hussein thinks that the organization's goals go beyond that: "It wants the kids to understand the real meaning of peace and help accomplish it within the next year."

The sessions are conducted over three weeks in the forest, where the students participate in sports,

See SEEDS, 2



Omneya Osman / THE CARAVAN

**JAVA'S NEW LOOK:** AUC senior Hany Nagy brought more coffee and competition to campus with his new business, Caffè Alberto. The café is located on the Falaki campus.

## AUC senior brings lattes, cappuccinos to Falaki campus

By OMNEYA OSMAN  
Caravan Reporter

Hany Nagy, a mechanical engineering senior, started a part-time business by purchasing a coffee franchise from Italy and setting up Alberto Café at AUC.

That brings the campus coffee-drinking fad to students in the Falaki campus for the first time.

New coffee machines have been installed in the Falaki building's cafeteria and ground floor, providing gourmet Italian coffee to AUC students. Alberto Café is now serving a large variety of coffee for those with a taste for it.

After conducting thorough research, Nagy found 10 coffee suppliers in the Egyptian market, despite the soaring demand.

Along with a friend from Cairo University, Nagy started an import/export company, purchased the franchise, and went as far as taking a five-month course about coffee to learn the techniques of tasting and preparing good coffee.

"The coffee machines we had at AUC did not serve quality of fresh coffee," said Nagy.

However, the competition between the many coffee outlets in and around the AUC campuses has

pushed quality to its maximum, so students are searching for better quality and taste than ever, said Nagy.

"I ensure the quality of my coffee so people will remember my name," said Nagy.

With L'aroma as strong competition on the Greek and Main campuses, Nagy intends to stay on the Falaki campus, focusing on building a stronger name that relies solely on the taste of his coffee.

There have been many complaints about the outdated coffee machines used by United Enterprises, which runs AUC's cafeteria. "We had to upgrade our coffee services," said Nabil Fikry, operations manager of United Enterprises. "Our [objective] is that students have a good cup of coffee."

United Enterprises does not expect to sell Alberto Café to students in the Main and Greek campuses any time soon. "We agreed with L'aroma that they would be selling in the Greek and Main," said Fikry.

Nagy plans to build a better reputation and a strong name in the market, which will assist him in importing other products for the Egyptian market. "I want to expand to [other parts of] the Middle East too," he added.

After five months, Alberto Café is now selling at Chili's, Alain Le Notre, Sheraton Hotels and Al Azhar Park.

## MAJORS: Creation could take two years

CONTINUED FROM 1

The budgeting for these new majors will mainly depend on already existing resources. "The cost of introducing these new programs will not be the same as if we were starting from scratch," he said.

Current faculty from departments like electronics engineering and computer science can teach courses in new majors such as computer engineering, he said.

Even if these majors get final approval from the administration and the Senate, the process takes two years to complete. "Two years is a magical number for us, because after two years we will be

moving to the new campus where we have bigger spaces and new labs," Haroun said.

New majors being considered include petroleum engineering, environmental science engineering, computer engineering and architectural engineering. But the school will conduct market research to identify which majors are of greatest interest to students, parents, faculty and employers. That will determine which major will be introduced first.

According to Haroun, the purpose of introducing these new majors is to strengthen the school and satisfy the needs of parents and students.

Rana Amr, a construction

engineering freshman, said that the school of engineering needs to add new specializations because the existing majors are not sufficient for the large number of engineering students. "I like architectural engineering, but it is not offered at AUC, so I declared construction engineering to study internal design," said Amr.

Sara Sallam, electronics engineering senior, said that petroleum and computer engineering are majors with a very high demand in the job market.

"Most students will major in these new majors, if actually offered, because graduates from these majors earn a very high income," Sallam said.

## Exhibit highlights AUC's diverse talent

By HASSAN HASSAN  
Caravan Reporter

AUC's first art exhibit of the semester displays the artwork of more than 30 art students at the Falaki galleries on the second and fifth floors, presenting a semester's worth of their work.

On Sept. 9, the Falaki galleries hosted students, faculty and alumni as they walked around commenting on the work, enjoying tea and snacks.

The second floor gallery displayed Jenny Bowker's "Clothes from Heaven," a series of embroidered 'quilts' depicting landscapes and various scenes from nature - palm trees to beaches in bright colors and meticulous craftsmanship.

As you leave the area where the quilts are displayed, you notice a more somber theme, while still keeping to the art of embroidery. Ibrahim Hosni's work is a series of folkloric Egyptian tapestries and various preliminary sketches that will later be embroidered.

The fifth floor gallery showcased various works of AUC's art majors and minors, in a range of media from watercolor to charcoal.

The exhibit also showed off many artforms, from portraiture and still-lives to a few sculptures here and there.

Student artists displaying their work included Maha El Swais, Rachel Woolery and Mina Farouk.

People lingered more in the halls of the small fifth floor, reaching up to see the pictures on top and kneeling down to see the pic-

tures at

the bottom. Students from introductory to advanced classes could all see their work on display and one of the models, an AUC janitor, had a wall to himself, in which students captured his resemblance.

The work on exhibit is more than worth seeing and the student exhibit is as professional as it can possibly be. The galleries will remain on display until Oct. 27.



Hassan Hassan / THE CARAVAN

**WALLS OF TALENT:** Student art is on display on the walls of the Falaki fifth floor gallery. It is the first exhibition of the semester.

## Retreat helps 38 students leaders hone leadership, communication skills

By NAZLY ABOU SEIF  
Caravan Reporter

Thirty-eight student leaders withdrew from AUC's busy campus to hone their leadership and communication skills in a student leadership retreat in Ain El Sokhna.

The trip was organized by the Office of Student Development and took place on Sept. 15. It included 17 members from the Student Union (SU) executive board,

as well as presidents of student clubs and conferences.

The retreat included seven sessions, the first being a general discussion about the Student Leadership Award Program. These awards are given at the end of every semester to student leaders based upon their job performances.

Students attending wrote the first drafts of their job descriptions, which they will follow throughout the semester. The rest of the sessions were lectures about leadership and communication skills, trust and

team building, followed by exercises that put those concepts into practice.

"Students got to know one another, developed a sense of trust and worked as one towards one mission," said Mohammed Dabbour, associate dean and director of student development.

"You could feel the closeness between the students by the end of the retreat, which was our main objective," Dabbour said.

"But the retreat was not all about training and

exercises. It also incorporated an entertaining atmosphere," said Saif Abou Zaid, chair of the SU public relations. "It engendered a feeling of bonding between all members, creating a positive spirit."

"This trip was arranged to improve the skills of the 38 student leaders," said Waleed Abd El Rahman, a representative from the Entrepreneurs' Society. "It was quite an experience. The true value was in exploring and learning from successful leaders," said Abd El Rahman.

## SEEDS: Four students participate in program

CONTINUED FROM 1

sessions on coexistence and debates where they could express how they feel towards the other side.

According to the website, "this comprehensive system allows participants to develop empathy, respect, and confidence as well as leadership, communication and negotiation skills — all critical components that will facilitate peaceful coexistence for the next generation."

"The different activities that we participated in helped induce team work," said El Sammaa. "It forces you to interact with the rest of the students."

For El Sammaa, sports was the most beneficial activity, since it is a "universal language" and a common ground between people where they can forget about the bigger

problems.

Hussein first joined Seeds of Peace in '99 when he was 13 years old. "I wasn't scared but rather excited... I have always perceived Israelis as the enemy but now I think if them as the other [side] of the conflict," he said.

"The whole experience reactivates your political awareness," said Hussein, "since the Egyptian children are brought up in a very remote environment, where the Palestinian/Israeli conflict is nothing but a fairy tale."

Hussein believes that some people might perceive the organization as a tool to "brainwash" the children of the Middle East, but to him it is a positive brainwash.

El Sammaa agreed. She said that before going to the camp and meeting the Israeli students, she was

expecting to meet "weird people" who would constantly fight with her.

"My main goals were to stick to the Arabs, defend my country and the Middle East and not to open up to the other side," said El Sammaa.

But that idea changed once she got out of the camp. Because of this experience, El Sammaa was "able to put a face on the enemy and make an effort to understand them better." She believes that it is essential to learn how to "coexist and to learn how to get along."

The camp is located in Otisfield, Maine, which is approximately a 45-minute drive from Portland.

For more information visit  
<http://www.seedspeace.org>

## IBRAHIM: Professor unable to run for presidency because he possessed an American passport

CONTINUED FROM 1

"In other words, it excluded anyone who was in competition or who would be able to give Mubarak a tough time," he said.

As an Egyptian citizen with an American passport, Ibrahim was excluded from campaigning. "There were 22 major types of [election] violations," he charged, including the fact that half of the polling stations opened after the official time of 8:00 a.m. and only half of them used the traditional waterproof phosphoric ink to show whether a person had voted.

Campaigning was another problem since not all candidates had equal access to a proper one. According to Ibrahim, Mubarak

was elected by only 10 percent of eligible voters.

"His [Mubarak's] legitimacy has a big question mark," he said, adding that Mubarak also advanced the elections a whole month to avoid having university students in the streets. Mubarak also made the campaign period very short and made sure the government refused international monitoring, he added.

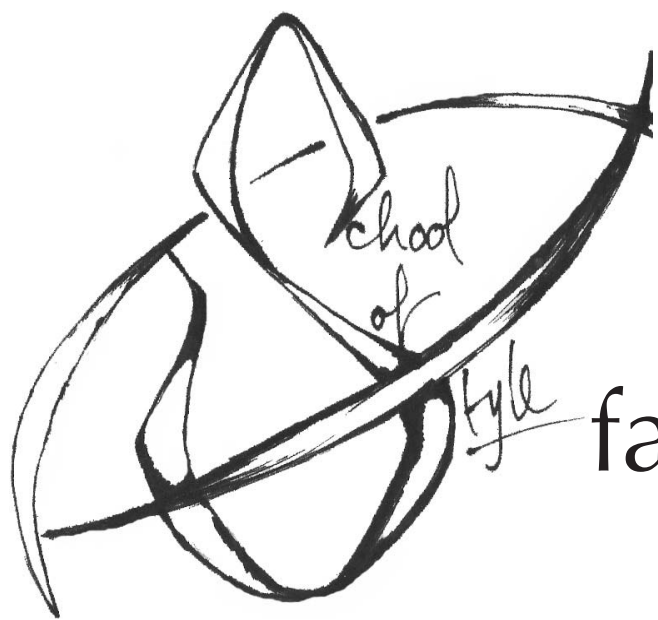
Ibrahim was supposed to write his memoirs but events in the Middle East happened so fast that he ended up giving 25 public speeches, making more than 50 television and radio show appearances and writing six opinion columns, some for American newspapers like the New York

Times.

Ibrahim is also head of the Ibn Khaldoun Center for Development Studies, a non-governmental institution for the "advancement of applied social sciences," according to its official website. In this capacity, Ibrahim aims to promote democracy in Egypt and the Middle East.

He said his next task would be monitoring the upcoming parliamentary elections.

"We will try to make sure there is international monitoring and full judicial control of the parliamentary elections, as well as equal access to media for all opposition party candidates," he said.



# Ten simple rules of fashion (for girls)

BY PASSAND EL HAMMAMI  
Caravan Reporter

What's hot and what's not. A fashion guide for the female students of AUC.

In the world of fashion, there are fashion oops and fashion wows, and anyone who sits on campus notices both clearly. This semester the Caravan decided to document some of these, and perhaps help you differentiate between a fashion YES and a fashion NO.

Many AUC students say there are no rules to fashion. They are wrong. How else would you know, for example, not to wear matching denim? Fashion is just one part of how the world perceives you. Having it all also includes having a sense of style, whether you choose classy, high or low casual chic, trendy or urban.

Here are 10 simple rules to help young ladies dress comfortably and elegantly at school:

1. Do not wear a top or a pair of pants that do not fit or suit your body type. In other words, don't wear your little sister's clothes.
2. Keep your tops and pants with glitter all over them, no matter what color, for any occasion other than university.
3. If you decide to wear a skirt to school, make sure it falls below your knee and that it's not too tight; looser skirts give a better impression and are far more flattering to your body.
4. When choosing your outfit, make sure you wear matching colors. For example, do not mix red with green or pink with orange.
5. If you have a tanned skin tone, go for lighter colors like yellow, lime green or white. If you have a lighter skin tone, never hesitate to wear black to bring out your features. Black clothes always look more flattering and sophisticated.
6. Leave your sweat pants for the gym.
7. Make sure your underwear is not visible for everyone to see; that's why it's called underwear.
8. Baggy pants were made for both sexes, but if you girls own a pair, there are certain rules on how to wear them. Make sure it's fitted at the waist and hips; baggy pants for girls usually have an "A" shape.
9. Never wear white pants that are see-through; nobody is interested in the color of your underwear.
10. Leave your "Spice Girls" heels at home.



Illustrations by Hassan Hassan / THE CARAVAN

## Q & A

### QUESTION:

What is the strangest incident that happened to you at AUC?



"I got lost in the Main Campus at my first day at AUC, and cried and kept calling my brother and mother."

- Donia El Saddat,  
JRMJ junior



"I attended the wrong class for a week and took notes."

- Marwan Mahrous,  
MENG senior



"I fell from the fourth step of the Political Science stairs (1st floor of the SS) until the very last step, but thank God it was 9 a.m., no one saw me."

- Aliaa Ismail,  
Psychology senior



"I insulted a professor in class not knowing that he was seated among the students."

- Omar Mansour,  
JRMJ senior

## After a life of challenges, El Omari overcomes odds

BY MONA ABDIN  
Caravan Reporter

A true pioneer in the field of psychology in Egypt, she's traveled the world to get the highest quality education available. Iman El Omari, a psychology professor at AUC, has fought battle after battle to achieve all that she has accomplished. A sheer combination of determination and class, El Omari adds freshness to the psychology department.

El Omari works at AUC's Counseling Center and its Student Mentoring unit in addition to teaching psychology.

Born in Palestine, El Omari moved to Egypt at the age of 12.

"My high school teacher at Cairo American College made me interested in psychology and human relations. I enjoyed classes, I enjoyed the readings and I decided that I wanted to learn more about it," El Omari said.

She graduated from AUC with a psychology major and a minor in music. "Music is another thing that used to occupy a lot of my time."

She spent less than a year training at Behman Hospital in Egypt. After that, she decided to travel to the U.S. to study for another four years for her master's degree.

"Four hours before my flight to California, I decided that I wouldn't leave my family," said El Omari. But she stayed just one more night with her parents in Egypt, and then told herself she had to stick with her decision to travel. She returned to Egypt five years ago at the age of 26.

El Omari explained that the Egyptian society does not encourage psychiatrists, but she insisted



Photo courtesy of Iman El Omari

on going for what she was interested in.

"What makes the job rewarding is that you make a difference in someone's life. You can't understand how happy you become when someone decides that they need to talk to you," said El Omari.

"Counseling is not about comforting patients, its about making a change that's going to make the patient happier and in a better place," she said.

She has a special teaching philosophy which drives her to steer away from the bad habits her own professors used when she was a student at AUC. "My students like my teaching more than my counseling," she said.

"El Omari is a great professor. We really enjoyed her class and she made us discover new things about ourselves [as well as others]," said Nadine El Alfi, who studied abnormal psychology with El Omari.

"I try to be friendly and get my students to apply what we do in class in their everyday life, either with their children, or for themselves. They walk away with a better understanding of what psychology is," she said.

## Movie Review: *Skeleton Key*

BY HASSAN HASSAN  
Caravan Reporter

Watching a horror or thriller movie keeps you riveted while taking your breath away.

The best horror films are an adrenaline-filled ninety minutes packed with screaming, jumping out of your seat and finally, relief. This summer was a horror movie buff's dream come true, with a plethora of movies released in this genre.

One of the summer's hits was Kate Hudson's *Skeleton Key*, released by the same team which created *The Ring*. Although Hudson is new to the genre, she gives a good performance in *Skeleton Key*. Her usually bubbly persona has been taken down a notch, yet is still there. Hudson plays Caroline, a hospital nurse in New Orleans who takes a job in a house, caring for an elderly man who has suffered a stroke. However, all is not well in the house where the dying man, together with the often clichéd semi-scary old woman, bring about a series of events that will leave tingles going up your

spine. Caroline begins to doubt his condition and explores the house and the town for answers.

*Skeleton Key*, unlike other chilling horror movies leaves you with a stuffy and claustrophobic feeling. One of the major disappointments in the film is its slow pace. As an audience you are not sure of Caroline's objectives and the questions she poses. In typical thriller style though, the movie leaves you with the question of what you would do if you were in the same situation, which fills in some of the slower points: "Would I do that? Hell no, I'd just run." The plot is not quite as captivating as it could have been.

The house itself plays a pivotal role, as it successfully adds a thrill, but the characters are rather superficial throughout the movie. The film, however, employs an excellent script and great cinematography. The images will scare you more than most of the characters.

The climax of the movie will leave you breathless, with one of the best twists since movies like *The Sixth Sense* and *The Others*. You will gasp and turn to the person next to you with an aghast "what?", ultimately leaving you with a satisfied movie-going experience.

## Makani imports taste of Mediterranean

BY MOSTAFA YOUSRY  
Caravan Freelance Reporter

This year Sharm el Sheikh has sent a branch of an original café over for Cairo to enjoy.

Walking into Makani on a Saturday afternoon, there was the air of a quiet summer day on the North Coast. There were few lights on, but the café got plenty of sunshine. The furniture design and color themes of the walls offer a bright and warm atmosphere, with colors ranging from off-white to burnt orange.

The decor is easy on the eyes yet still manages to smoothly blend different styles together. The wooden furniture and tables give off a rustic look, while the ceiling ornaments and the floor patterns suggest classical Arabic design. And the use of logs in the ceilings resembles those used in beach houses. All this comes with Bose speakers mounted on the walls and



Ahmed El-Laithy

wireless LAN for those who want to surf the net.

There are no menus in the café, only chalkboards (obviously a booming trend) where the items are listed for you to choose from. The menu mainly offers sandwiches and salads, with classic desserts served as well, including cheesecake, cinnamon rolls and enormous doughnuts that only a champion eater would be able to finish in one

sitting. Other items include the soup of the day, a choice of fresh juices and surprisingly enough, sushi. The sandwiches look and taste fresh, and the food is well prepared. The price for a large sandwich averages around LE 15, while soup averages a little over LE 12 and desserts range from LE 5 to LE 10. The service and staff are friendly and fast, leaving you satisfied after a healthy meal.

Although there is an area outside the café that has been designed to match the interior, no tables have been set up yet. But you can count on this place making changes once the weather eases up enough for people to enjoy sitting outdoors.

It's nice to see that Cairo has an easygoing café that has managed to bring that special summer flavor to the busy city.

27 Hassan Sadek St.,  
Heliopolis (behind Baron Palace)  
Telephone: (02) 691 0310



AMIRA EL-GAWLY, *Editor-in-Chief*  
HANAA AHMED, *Managing Editor*  
MARIA VINCI, *Senior English Editor*

YASMEEN EL MALLAH, *English News Editor*  
SHAREEN NASR-EL-DIN, *Editorials and Features Editor*  
MUSTAFA NAJI, *Sports Editor*  
HASSAN HASSAN, MUSTAFA NAJI, NANCY HENEIN, SHEILA OUDA, and YUMNA YOUSRY, *English Copy Editors*

ETHAR SHALABY and MARIAM NASR, *Arabic News Editors*  
EKRAM IBRAHIM, HAGAR TAHA, and MOHAMED ABU BAKR, *Arabic Copy Editors*

AMIRA EL-GAWLY, JOSHUA ADLAND, and MARIA VINCI, *English Production Editors*  
MARIAM NASR, *Arabic Production Editor*  
AHMED SHASH, AYMAN HAKEA, and MAHMOUD BIZZARI, *Cartoonists*

JANET KEY, *English Advisor*  
AHMED SHAWKI, *Arabic Advisor*  
MAHER EL MELEGY, *Secretary*

## Letter Policy

The Caravan welcomes letters to the editor responding to published material or commenting on subjects that are of interest to the general community. Only e-mailed letters ([caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu)) not exceeding 400 words will be accepted. All letters must be signed with the student's name, ID number, major and year.

We reserve the right to edit any submission to the Op-Ed section for libel, grammar, punctuation, clarity, and space. The Caravan is under no obligation to print all pieces submitted.

Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

## Editorial Disclosure

The opinions, columns and cartoons printed in the Caravan do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editorial staff.

## Correction Policy

The Caravan welcomes corrections for any of the content on our pages. Please e-mail corrections to [caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu).

Submit your corrections by Tuesday at 3 p.m.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### JRMC Chair commends Caravan on first issue

I just finished reading the Caravan issue 1, Volume # 86, the first issue for the fall semester 2005/2006 and I want to congratulate you on your wonderful contributions and excellent performance. It looks like it is going to be the year of the Caravan. Please allow me to express my gratitude to all members of the Caravan family. Also, allow me to salute the energy, creativity, vitality, and hard work of all the journalism and mass communication students who acted as professionals and young experts to deliver this product of high quality. Let me thank you for setting the standard for the new generations of journalism professionals in Egypt and for being one of the leading university newspapers in the country. Congratulations again, and please keep it up.

- Hussein Amin, Ph.D.

Department of Journalism and Mass Communications Chair

### Cartoon imagery was ignorant and insensitive

When I saw Ayman El-Hakea's "4 Years after 9-11" cartoon, my initial reaction was that of shock which grew to anger. Now I am sorry for the author who has shown his ignorance. The event of Sept. 11, 2001, which he so ficklely portrays, was a tragic loss of innocent lives. Nothing is gained and any point he may have wanted to make was lost when he failed to honor the symbol of that awful day. As far as the Caravan goes, I hope you all strive toward legitimacy. Please begin this by not allowing trash like this to be published.

- Tommi Drum

Arabic Language Institute Student

# The Voice

The Caravan planned to run a cartoon this week depicting a split campus. In its essence, the drawing depicted the prevalent image that the "cool kids" hang out in the Greek Campus quad and the "losers" hang out in the Main Campus quad. Fortunately and unfortunately, the cartoon is not in this issue because it was misplaced. While it is unfortunate that we will not be able to display the hard work of one of our talented cartoonists, we are fortunate that this cartoon sparked a thoughtful discussion among our staff. After some reflection, we arrived at these thoughts.

Frankly, the message of the cartoon is one we might expect from a high school student. Creating and encouraging a rift between those who are "popular" and those who are not is a terrible way to build a community. Instead, we encourage the student body to reach out to those who are less social, make a new friend and possibly learn a great deal from someone who more than likely has much to offer this university.

Some will say that these are the best years of our lives. However, if we do not learn by the end of our college experience to look for the good in other people, these years were a failure.

We encourage the freshman to resist the temptation to divide this campus between "beauties" and "geeks," and we encourage those who are in their last semesters to join the Caravan in the spirit of inclusion.

- CARAVAN STAFF

Have an  
opinion?  
Put it here.

Send your  
thoughts to:  
[caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu)  
or  
[amiraelgawly@gmail.com](mailto:amiraelgawly@gmail.com)

## View from the top: Egypt is not...

HANAA AHMED  
Managing Editor  
[baroua@aucegypt.edu](mailto:baroua@aucegypt.edu)

The year 2005 witnessed a revolutionary presidential election, paving the way for democracy by allowing Egyptian citizens to choose their ruler for the first time. However, our governmental system is still operating under a constitution that does not reflect the changes that have occurred in Egypt and the whole Middle East since 1971.

Functioning under a constitution that was established in 1971 by the late president Mohamed Anwar El Sadat, Egypt's current political, social and economic circumstances do not match the conditions when the constitution was written.

Let's start at the beginning.

I must say that I find it both funny and sad that the first article in the Egyptian constitution says, "The Arab Republic of Egypt is a Socialist Democratic State based on the alliance of the working forces of the people." Describing Egypt as a Socialist Democratic state is one of the funniest things I have ever heard. But what makes it even funnier is that it then also says Egyptian society is based on the alliance of the working forces of the people. You get the feeling that the constitution is describing a different country, not the one you were born and raised in. It is as far away as possible from the truth.

Egypt is neither a socialist nor a democratic state. When the 1971 Egyptian constitution was written, Egypt was implementing socialist concepts under the late president Gamal Abdel Nasser. But these concepts have been eliminated after a series of reforms beginning in El Sadat's rule. I am not going to talk about the changes that took place; I just want to say that Egypt now is in a transitional phase.

After changing the 76th amendment, some said that Egypt is on the route to democracy. But still, it takes more than one amendment for Egypt to be considered a democratic state.

President Mubarak, after winning the presidential elections, I urge you to complete what you started with the 76th amendment and give Egypt what it truly deserves, a constitution that actually represents Egypt.



## GUEST COLUMN

### Cross-cultural studies: Braving Cairo

From toilet troubles to taxi drivers, an American shares her experience to date

TASNEEM CHITHIWALA

Journalism Study Abroad/Northwestern University

"You're going to Cairo for a semester? Wow, that's really brave." That was pretty much the general reaction I received last year when I decided that I wanted to study in Egypt for four months. As the days before my departure to the "Land of the Pharaohs" (as our ISSO staff calls it) came to a close, I found myself confident, almost arrogant, at the prospect of spending the next four months in such a unique place. I was confident I wouldn't experience so-called "culture shock," thanks to my ethnic background. After all, I'm Muslim and Indian. Yeah, so what if I've lived my entire life in the States? Let me begin by putting my foot in my mouth.

After having a minor anxiety attack in front of Hill House upon my arrival, I knew this semester would certainly be memorable. I've never been one to see misfortune as an obstacle; rather, I live my life for these awkward moments. Like when I first arrived at the Cairo airport. Let me just say that the bathrooms here are fairly different from those in the U.S. It's no surprise I was confused. As I went to flush the toilet, I was faced with a debacle—which button was the right one? After some time, I decided to press the one on the side of the wall. Bad decision; water came squirting up from the bowl. I flung the door open as the bathroom attendant raced in. Flustered and embarrassed—and with limited Arabic under my belt—I couldn't even apologize to her as I rushed out of the bathroom.

Since then, my life has been a series of awkward moments. From Khan el Khalili to the streets of AUC, I have found myself in bizarre situations. I have slipped in puddles of water dripping from air conditioners above my head, and been chased by cab drivers yelling at me for more money. Yet, this city has made me feel comfortable and at ease. I don't know whether it's the call to prayer that marks the hours of the day, or the "golden arches" of McDonald's, or just the general hospitality of the Egyptian people, but in a mere three weeks, the city has managed to become my new favorite place. Still though, a full semester awaits me, and I wonder where my adventures in Cairo will lead me.

## GUEST COLUMN

### Student life for a Muslim in the U.S. & Egypt

RAYA SHOKATFARD  
JRMC Graduate Student

As an older student returning to university life in U.S., I was pleasantly surprised to find incredible openness and lack of prejudice in various universities. In the small college I first attended, I was the only Muslim. I attracted curiosity among the faculty and the students. I was more than happy to explain about some of my religious beliefs and restrictions. The faculty would go out of their way to accommodate my needs. In a very short time I felt totally at home.

Had it not be for this kind of openness, I would have probably not continued my higher education. After obtaining my B.S. degree, I decided to come to Egypt, to an American university in order to get my master's degree in journalism and TV broadcasting. I would have the best of both worlds: an American degree in a Muslim country.

Again, I was pleasantly surprised to find AUC following similar guidelines. The staff and faculty have been quite nice and welcoming. It is also quite comforting to see so many females wearing hijab. The prayer rooms here are heavenly gifts for me. I appreciate them so much.

In many larger universities in U.S, there are religious, or specialty groups and clubs of various kinds. These kinds of organizations are encouraged and welcome.

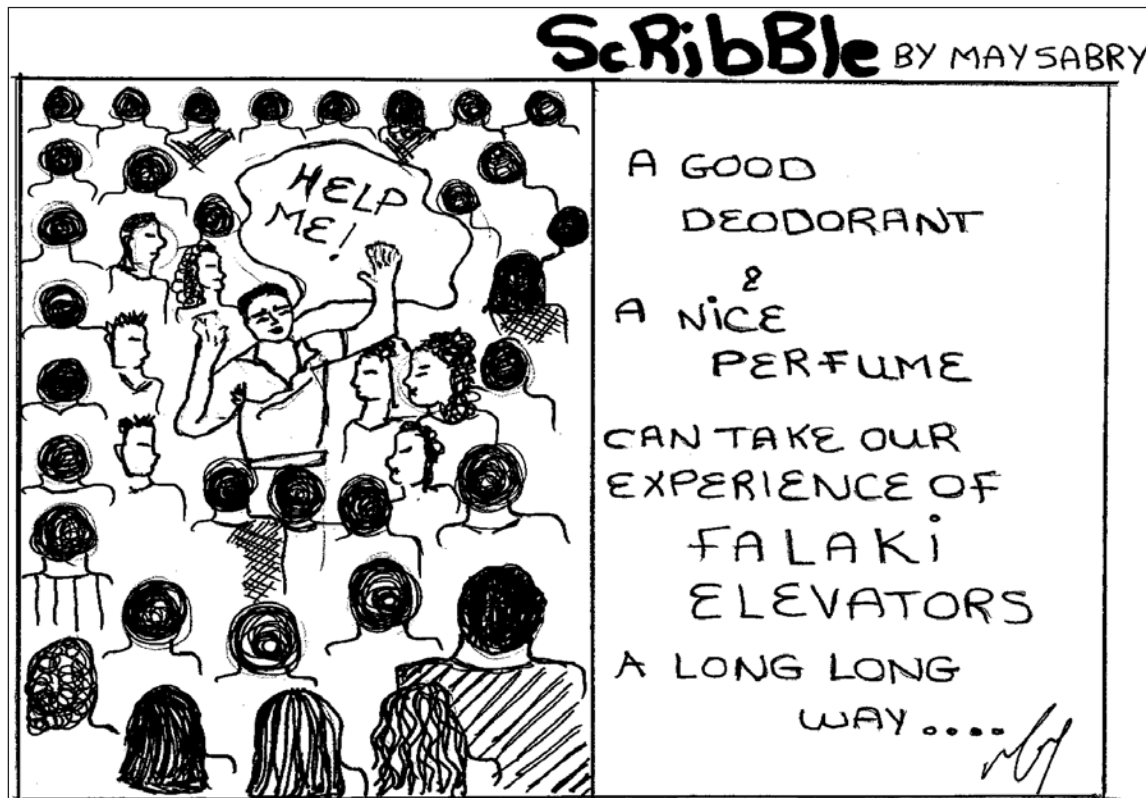
I was a bit taken aback when I learned that religious groups and gatherings are not encouraged at AUC. This is especially hard for international students who have certain religious beliefs and would like to form a club so they can socialize and study among their own kind. Also, the international Muslim students could find themselves isolated here. I found several students expressing concern and interest about this issue. I hope that AUC will reconsider this policy and follow the American universities' examples.

In other areas, many students share with each other their good and bad experiences here at AUC. I had a bad experience in the gym that turned into a great ending. Inquiries about women-only exercise time resulted in no set time for the past three weeks. Following the suggestion of one of the staff, I tried the early morning time in the main campus, hoping there would be no men and no music. I was wrong. I shared my frustration, need and concerns with Mohamed Taher Ragab, the acting sports director. After asking a few questions, he made some calls and arranged a daily 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. daily gym time for females only and with no music. I am grateful and I hope other females interested in privacy while exercising will take advantage of this opportunity and come for the all-female gym time Sunday through Thursday.

## WORD SEARCH

- |         |           |          |            |
|---------|-----------|----------|------------|
| adjust  | change    | furnish  | robe       |
| adorn   | clothe    | garb     | set        |
| align   | deck      | garnish  | straighten |
| apparel | decorate  | groom    | tend       |
| arrange | dispose   | habit    | treat      |
| array   | don       | ornament | trim       |
| bandage | drape     | plaster  |            |
| bedeck  | embellish | prepare  |            |

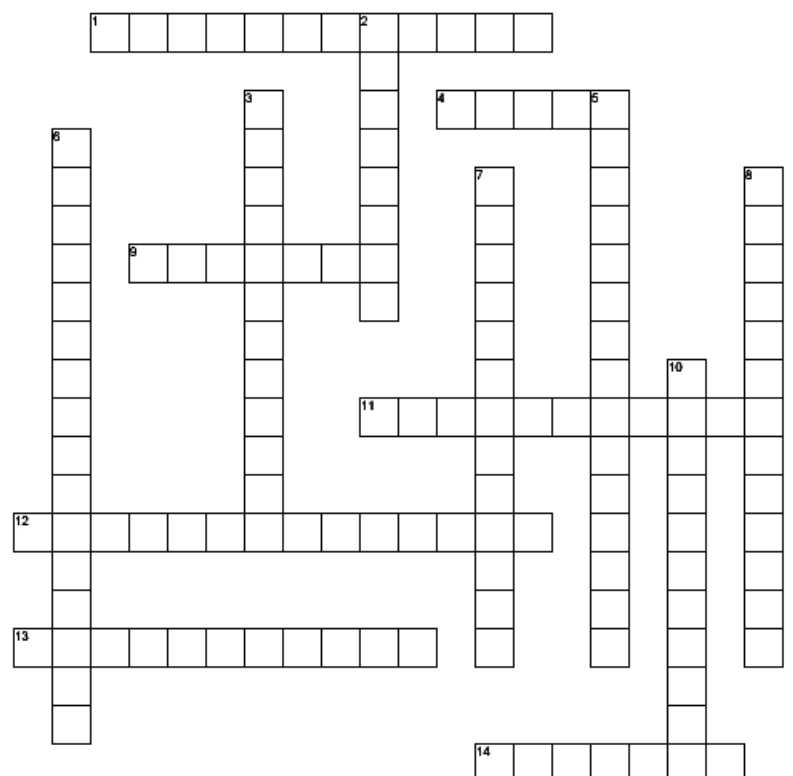
N A K N N Z N E T H G I A R T S C L  
 T P F Q R P L E T D H A D O R N L C  
 V P K U R R R C D O R N A M E N T K  
 L A X F R A N E L Y A R R A N N Y R  
 K R Q A P N C N L O R Q B T N L N E  
 C E X E L O I M O A T R D X L K N T  
 E L R X R I I S N D Q H I N S T H S  
 D P P A R R G G H T Y R E G E S Z A  
 E F T K T D E N F I T M Z K I T J L  
 B E L H F E S O P S I D W L R G F P  
 T R K N P C R H T Z J T L M O O R G  
 A E R M D K O K D I S E G G S L E Q  
 E H G N B D B Y S U B A F A S F P F  
 R L I A V X E E J M R A D R E G A R  
 T B V X D F T D E N K J H B C K R F  
 G T F N D N A C I N Y K L L C F D L  
 C H A N G E A S C K F R Z M A Q K M  
 G N D K N X H B J L N R P W M K R Q



Caravan seeks cartoonists  
**SPEAK NOW ...**  
 or forever hold your peace!  
 Send your thoughts to [caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu) or [amiraelgawly@gmail.com](mailto:amiraelgawly@gmail.com)

## Music Buzz

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 'I don't think you're ready for this jelly'        | 2 British band that recently released their third album           |
| 4 Song that shares its title with a fashion magazine | 3 He did it 'his way'   |
| 9 Originally Lebanese, but sings in Spanish          | 5 Theme song from Fantastic Four                                  |
| 1 Missy Elliot and Ciara collaboration               | 6 Dating star of Charlie's Angels                                 |
| 2 'Newlywed' turned Daisy Duke                       | 7 Triple threat of singer/dancer/actress with a body part insured |
| 3 Biggest selling female artist                      | 8 Winner of American Idol's 1st season                            |
| 4 These girls' 'destiny' is in the army              | 10 Will Smith in the 80s  |





## معرض يضم أعمال طلبة الفنون



كتبت- هدى سعيد

ضم معرض طلبة قسم الفنون -الذي افتتح يوم الأحد الماضي- أعمال طلبة الفصل الدراسي السابق في مجال النحت والتصوير والوسائل الإعلامية المختلفة. افتتحت المعرض ناز شحوخ -أستاذة بقسم الفنون- وقالت أن المعرض جاء نتيجة لتعاون الطلبة في اختيار الأعمال المناسبة بعد النقد النهائي لأعمالهم أثناء الفصل الدراسي. والجدير بالذكر أن المعرض نظم للعام الثاني على التوالي ولكن هذا العام يختلف عن العام الماضي حيث ضم المعرض أعمال طلبة الأساتذة شحوخ فقط.

أعربت ناز عن إعجابها وفخرها بطلابها وأشادت بمجهوداتهم حيث قالت أن جميع الطلبة عملوا بإجتهد في الفصل الدراسي السابق وهذا الجهد واضح في جودة أعمالهم المعروضة.

قالت ناز أنه في إمكان هؤلاء الطلبة أن يصلوا إلى مراحل الإحتراف في المستقبل، خاصة وأن بعض الطلبة لم يكن لديهم أي خبرة سابقة قبل الدراسة في هذا القسم.

قالت دينا دنش -خريجة الفنون وأحد العارضين بالمعرض- أنها دائماً ما تتطلع لهذا المعرض، حيث تسعد بعرض أعمالها بجانب أعمال زملائها. كما أضافت مايا جويلي -ثالثة قسم فنون- أن الأساتذة ناز ذات علم وخبرة في الفن الأكاديمي، فقد تعلمت منها الكثير في فني الرسم والنحت.

أما عن رأي بعض زوار المعرض، أبدى كريم الشافعي -ثانية هندسة ميكانيكا- إعجابته الشديد بالرسم

إحدى اللوحات المشاركة في المعرض. تصوير هدى سعيد/القائلة الإفتباعي والكلاسيكي للفنان كريم همام بينما أبدى استيائه من الفن التكعيبي.

وخالفته في الرأي سارة مرسي -رابعة علم نفس- حيث أبدت إعجابها بالفن التكعيبي بالإضافة إلى الفن المجرد.



تصوير هدى سعيد/القائلة

أحد الطلبة يتفقد لوحات المعرض.

## مركز خدمات الحاسب الآلي الأكاديمي يوفر خدمات تقنية عديدة للطلبة

كتبت- دينا العرابي

في الهيل هاوس في الدور الرابع غرفة ١٠٤ في مختبر مركز الحاسب الآلي الأكاديمي. وتم افتتاح هذين الفرعين في عام ٢٠٠٢ بعد دخول محمد عبد الرؤوف -ثالثة إعلام- أول طالب فاقد للبرص.

وقالت منى قداح -مدير مركز خدمات الحاسب الآلي الأكاديمي- أن من أهم أهداف هذا المشروع مساواة الطلبة ذوي الاحتياجات البصرية الخاصة ببقية الطلبة في الجامعة. توجد بالمركز برامج مستخدمة في هذا المشروع والتي تتمتع البرامج بخاصية قراءة الشاشة بصوت الحاسب الآلي للطلبة.

قالت مروة منصور -كبيرة محلي البرامج- أن المشروع يستقبل طلاب من خارج الجامعة علي شرط أن يكون من طلبة الماجستير أو الدكتوراه، وهذا بعد صدور بطاقة هوية لهم ولرفقائهم الذي يحق له الاستفادة من مكتبة الجامعة. وأكدت مروة أن المشروع يقدم جميع هذه الخدمات مجاناً إلا أنه لا يحق للطلاب أن يستعير الكتب.

وقال أحمد الشرييني -رابعة إعلام وأحد الطلبة من ذوي الاحتياجات البصرية الخاصة- أن هذا المشروع علي كفاءة عالية وأنه يأمل أن يعلو مستواه في المستقبل. وبالرغم من تعدد مشاريع مركز خدمات

الحاسب الآلي الأكاديمي إلا أن الطلبة ليس لديهم أدنى معلومة عن وجوده. قالت منى البنا -رابعة إعلام- أنها علي علم بالخدمات التي يقدمها المركز ولكن هذه الخدمات ليست متسلسلة ومن الصعب الحصول عليها حيث أن المركز يقع في المبنى اليوناني. فإن منى ترى أنه يجب أن يكون له فرع في مبنى الفلكي والمبنى اليوناني.

وأكدت داليا بدوي -رابعة هندسة اتصالات- أن المركز يحتاج إلى دعابة مكثفة حيث أنه لا يعرض خدمات للطلبة بالشكل المناسب. وصرحت منى أن المركز يفتقد هذه الصفات بسبب عدم وجود مكتب خاص للعلاقات العامة يهتم بهذه الشؤون.

وقالت منى أنه المركز إستعان بمكتب شؤون الطلبة بالجامعة ومكتب شؤون الطلبة الدولية. أما بالنسبة لإقتراح عمل مكاتب في مبنى الفلكي والمبنى اليوناني فقالت منى أن هذا ليس بالأمر السهل وذلك لعدم توفر المكان المناسب.

وقالت منى أنهم دائماً مرحبين بإستفسارات الطلبة وأنهم في أشد الحاجة لمعرفة رأيهم في الخدمات التي يقدمها المركز وذلك سيساعدهم في تطوير برامجهم.

## بقية ص ١: الطلبة الجدد يختلفون

لناحية الدراسية والاجتماعية، وذلك يضطهم لتأجيل الإشتراك في أي نشاط، أما البعض الآخر فهم غير مهتمين بالأنشطة أصلاً ويفضلون قضاء وقت فراغهم مع أصدقائهم. وأضافت ياسمين أن بعض الطلبة الجدد ينتابهم الشعور بالخوف والرهبه مع بداية السنة الأولى بسبب عدم الدراية الكافية بأمر الجامعة، لذلك فهم يفضلون عدم الإشتراك في الأنشطة لكي لا يتقلوا أنفسهم بالتزامات جديدة. ورداً على ذلك فقد قال أحمد بهجت -رئيس نادي يد في يد لرعاية المسنين- (أنا أنصح الطلبة الجدد بالتسجيل في أنشطة مختلفة قبل الإشتغال بالمواد الدراسية ولأنها مهمة لسيرتهم الذاتية). كما قال شريف عبد الخبير- رئيس المؤتمر الدولي للإقتصاد العالمي- أن على الطلبة الجدد الإشتراك لأنها أكثر ما تميز جامعتنا على سائر الجامعات.

## بقية ص ١: مركز تنمية الصحراء

سنواتياً ولاقت برامج التدريب إقبالا كبيرا من قبل السيدات على وجه الخصوص، ففي هذا العام تراوحت نسبة عدد السيدات ما بين ٢٥ و ٣٠ من بين نسبة العدد الكلي للمتدربين. أما بالنسبة لبرامج تدريب طلبة الجامعات، يعمل المركز على تدريب ٣٠٠ من خريجي الجامعات المصرية سنوياً، أما طلبة الجامعة الأمريكية، فإن زيارتهم لمزارع المركز تقتصر في رحلات اليوم الواحد أو عطلة نهاية الأسبوع، وهي عادة ما تكون تابعة لإحدى المواد الدراسية كالأحياء والكيمياء. وعن نتائج الأبحاث الزراعية، يعرض المركز بعض منتجاته الزراعية في الكشك التابع له بالمبنى الرئيسي، بالإضافة إلى المعارض المؤقتة التي يقوم بها المركز في أنحاء الجامعة بين الحين والآخر وبيع القمح الخالي من الكيمياءات لوزارة التموين والتجارة الداخلية. تقوم الباحثون في مشاتل المركز بتجارب عديدة لزراعة أنواع متعددة من الأشجار في الصحراء ومن ثم يتم بيعها أو نقلها إلى أماكن

## رأيك إيه : في الخدمات التي يقدمها مكتب التسجيل بالجامعة؟



محمد إبراهيم  
رابعة اقتصاد

لا يبديون احترام كافي للطلبة.



هبة توفيق  
ثالثة محاسبة

من تعاملاتي الشخصية معهم كانوا خدومين جداً.



المهند الحمادى  
ثالثة علوم سياسية

الطلبة لا يسمعون ويتزامون مما يترتب عليه أن يكون سلوك العمال بمكتب التسجيل دفاعي نوعاً ما.



سوزان ميلاد  
أولى جامعة

لم أتعامل معه كثيراً، لكنه يغلق مبكراً مع أن هناك كثير من الطلبة عندهم محاضرات بعد الساعة الثالثة.



كريم منسي  
رابعة حاسب آلي

المكتب صغير جداً، يجب أن يجعلوا الطلبات الكترونياً ليسهلوا الحصول علي الخدمات.



## أرنولد للقافلة: العمل في المبنى الجديد يتقدم ولا علاقة لذلك بزيادة المصروفات الدراسية

زيادة المصروفات بمحاولة الجامعة تغطية نفقات المبنى الجديد، أكد أرنولد أنه لا علاقة لهذا بذاك إذ أن الجامعة لا تهدف للربح وبذلك تكون المصروفات التي يدفعها الطلبة هي من أجل تغطية مرتبات الأساتذة وتحسين الخدمات التي يستخدمها الطلبة في دراستهم مثل معامل الكمبيوتر والفصول الدراسية وتقديم المنح الدراسية وغيرها.

قال أرنولد أن المصروفات تزيد بزيادة النفقات على هذه الخدمات المقدمة للطلبة وأن نفقات المبنى الجديد لا علاقة لها بزيادة المصروفات إذ أن هناك ثلاثة مصادر لتغطية نفقات المبنى الجديد وهي المساعدات المالية المباشرة من الجهات المختلفة وذلك ما يقوم به رئيس الجامعة بنفسه ومعه فريق مساعد والمصدر الثاني هو المساعدات الدولية من جهات مختلفة مثل الوكالة الأمريكية للمساعدة وأما المصدر الثالث والأخير لتغطية نفقات المبنى الجديد هو بيع مباني الجامعة القديمة كالمبنى اليوناني بالتحريم ومبنى سكن الطلبة بالزمالك.

انتقل بالفعل في نهاية الفصل الدراسي السابق إلى هناك وبذلك يكون أول مكتب من مكاتب الجامعة ينتقل من المبنى القديم بالتحريم ويبدأ العمل في المبنى الجديد.

وأشار أرنولد إلى أن المبنى الجديد سيحتوي على عدد من الخدمات التي لم تكن متوفرة للطلبة في المبنى القديم مثل وجود مكان كبير لانتظار السيارات والذي سيكون محاطا بالكثير من النخيل والأشجار التي سيحرف عليها قسم تنمية الصحراء ليكون ذلك وجهة طيبة للجامعة. كما أكد أرنولد أنه بالرغم من أن الجامعة الأمريكية هي جامعة مختصة بالتعليم وحسب ولا علاقة لها بالاتجاهات الدينية لطلبتها، إلا أن المشرفين على بناء المبنى الجديد حرصوا على وجود أماكن مناسبة لتجمع الطلبة فوق أسطح المباني الدراسية للأغراض المختلفة سواء كانت للصلاة أو للتعبد أو غيرها، إلا أنه لن يكون هناك مكانا مخصصا للصلاة لمعتنقي دين معين.

وردا على تساؤلات الطلبة التي تربط

كتب- ماجرطه  
قال ديفيد أرنولد -رئيس الجامعة- أن العمل في مبنى الجامعة الجديد المقرر إقامته في القاهرة الجديدة يتقدم كما هو مرجو وأن لا دخل لهذا بزيادة المصروفات، جاء ذلك في حديث صحفي عقده عدد من محرري القافلة معه يوم الثلاثاء الماضي.

وأشار أرنولد إلى أن فكرة المبنى الجديد للجامعة لم تأتى بين ليلة وضحاها بل هي نتيجة تخطيط متواصل منذ منتصف التسعينات، لإيجاد مكان ملائم لبناء حرم جامعي جديد يستوعب الطلبة وجميع الخدمات التي يحتاجون إليها ويليق بمركز ومكانة الجامعة في مصر والشرق الأوسط.

وأضاف أن جزءا كبيرا من المبنى الجديد تم بناؤه فعلا، حيث تم الانتهاء من العمل على أفواق الخدمات التي تربط الحرم كله ببعضه ببعض والانتهاء من تشييد بعض الأدوار الأولى والثانية في المبنى الجديد. وقال أرنولد أن المكتب المسئول عن مشروع المبنى الجديد وتطوره

## مجلس الطلبة يهدد بتجميد أنشطة لجان الإتحاد



من اليمين ثريا بهجت ممثلة قسم العلوم سياسية و جورج ثابت رئيس المجلس و عمر الحطيطي ممثل الطلبة الجدد في الاجتماع الماضي. تصوير إيثار شلبي / القافلة

خليل -والذي كان يرأس مجلس الطلبة العام الماضي- تخرج ولم يعد لديه الوقت الكافي لمباشرة المجلس وقد عين جورج ثابت رئيساً للمجلس يوم الاجتماع؛ لذلك لم يكن للإتحاد علما لمن يرسل الخطة الثانية.

وردا على ذلك، أكد خليل أنه أبلغ أبو زيد بموعد تسليم الخطة شفها كما أخبره أمام بعض الشهود منهم سارة رشدي -ممثلة قسم الهندسة الالكترونية بموعد الاجتماع يوم الأربعاء وبالتالي حضره أبو زيد وهذا يدل على معرفته السابقة بالموعد.

كما أضاف خليل أنه مازال يدرس بالجامعة كطالب دراسات عليا ولم يتخرج بعد وبالتالي فإن المعلومات التي قالها أبو زيد عنه غير صحيحة. أما بالنسبة لتعيين جورج ثابت كرئيس حالي لمجلس الطلبة، فأكد خليل أن ثابت لم يعين بل نال مركز رئيس مجلس الطلبة الحالي بعد فوزه في انتخابات رئاسة مجلس الطلبة.

وقال خليل وثابت: (نحن لدينا السلطة والقدرة على وقف نشاط اتحاد الطلبة كليا لو لم يأتوا بالخطة المطلوبة في الميعاد الذي حدده المجلس).

بينما قال أبو زيد ردا على ذلك: (الخطة جاهزة وموجودة منذ أن رشح وليد السلاب نفسه رئيساً لاتحاد الطلبة والنسبة لوقف نشاط اتحاد الطلبة فهو ليس أمر يسهل تنفيذه، فعلى مجلس الطلبة عمل اجتماع بعدد كافي من الأعضاء ثم إجراء محضر يتبعه تصويت بين الأعضاء للموافقة عليه).

### كتب- شرين الجزائر وإيثار شلبي

قرر مجلس الطلبة عقد اجتماع غدا الإثنين لإتخاذ قرار إما بتجميد أنشطة لجان الإتحاد الطلبة أو السماح لهم بمد المهلة لحين تقديم اللجان خططتها السنوية والتي تأخرت عن ميعاد تقديمها للمجلس يوم الأربعاء الماضي، جاء هذا القرار بعد خلافات حادة بين الطرفين.

قال مصطفى خليل -الرئيس السابق لمجلس الطلبة- أن إتحاد الطلبة لم يعد خطته السنوية ولم يقدمها في الموعد المتفق عليه وهو يوم الأحد الماضي. وتحجج أعضاء الإتحاد بأن مجلس الطلبة لم يخطرهم رسميا بالاجتماع يوم الأحد، الأمر الذي أدى إلى هذا الخلاف الذي انتهى بفض الاجتماع يوم الأحد.

وعليه سمح المجلس للإتحاد بمد موعد تقديم الخطة ليوم الأربعاء الماضي إلا أن لجان لاتحاد لم تقدم الخطة المفصلة بالميزانيات المطلوبة لإلجنة الأنشطة، فهي اللجنة الوحيدة التي قدمت الخطة مفصلة.

ومن المتعارف عليه -طبقاً لدستور إتحاد الطلبة- أن يقدم الإتحاد خطته السنوية إلى مجلس الطلبة في اجتماعهم الأول وهذا لم يحدث هذا العام وترتب على ذلك، تأجيل الاجتماع. أما عن رأي إتحاد الطلبة في هذا الأمر، قال سيف أبو زيد -رئيس لجنة العلاقات العامة بالإتحاد- أن مجلس الطلبة يعاني من مشاكل داخلية كثيرة حيث أن بعض أعضائه يستقبلون ومصطفى

## مركز تنمية الصحراء بدأ تخضير الحرم الجامعي الجديد

تدريبية في المجال الزراعي. قيمت وزارة التعاون الدولي برنامج المركز مؤخرا بإعطائه تقدير ا عاليا بالنسبة لبرنامج التدريب. قال ريتشارد توتو- أستاذ باحث ومدير مركز تنمية الصحراء- أن المركز يعتبر من أكثر المراكز الزراعية نجاحا، حيث قام المركز بتدريب ألف مزارع

والنبت والحماض في الأسبوع المقبل. بالإضافة إلى مشروع تخضير الحرم الجديد، يقوم المركز بثلاثة أنشطة رئيسية يتمثل أولها في زراعة الفاكهة والخضر والعلف بدون إضافة أي كيميائيات، بجانب تربية الأرناب والمواشي وبيعها في الحرم الجامعي وثانيا إقامة أبحاث زراعية وإجتماعية وإقتصادية وأخيرا، توفير برامج

### كتب- أمنية عثمان

بدأ مركز تنمية الصحراء -التابع للجامعة- عمليات زرع وتخضير الحرم الجامعي الجديد، حيث تم زراعة ٣٥٠ نخلة في الحرم الجامعي الجديد خلال الشهر الماضي، كما يعمل المركز أيضا على تخضير نظام الري والإستعداد لزراعة أشجار السرو



تصوير أمنية عثمان / القافلة

بعض النباتات المعروضة للبيع بالمبنى الرئيسي.

## الطلبة الجدد يختلفون حول فائدة الأنشطة الجامعية

### كتب- دينا العرابي

في الأسبوع الأول من الدراسة، لذا يجب على بعض الأندية إطالة فترة التسجيل بها. كما عبر عن استيائه من طرق الدعاية التي تتبعها بعض المؤتمرات والنوادي للإعلان عن أهدافها. فتلك الطرق تخلو من المعاملة المباشرة مع الطلبة. وأضاف أن على الطالب أن يذهب بنفسه ليستكشف عن المؤتمر أو النادي فإن أعضاء اللجنة المنظمة ليس عليهم أن يتعرضوا للطلبة ويعرفوهم على برامجهم، فمهمتهم تقتصر على توزيع المنشورات الخاصة بهم فحسب.

كما يعتقد بعض الطلبة أن معظم أعضاء اللجان المنظمة للأنشطة غير مشجعين للطلبة الجدد للتقدم وتسجيل أسمائهم للاشتراك بها، بالإضافة إلى تراحم أعضاء اللجنة المنظمة أمام جناح العرض، فإن بعضهم لا يجدون الإهتمام الكافي الذي يشجعهم على التسجيل.

قالت ياسمين البيلي -أولى إدارة أعمال- أن معظم أعضاء اللجان المنظمة يجلسون حول جناح العرض في الظل للإستمتاع بوقت فراغهم مع الأصدقاء، تاركين مهمتهم كممثلين للمؤتمر.

تضاربت آراء الطلبة الجدد حول مدى الفاعلية والاستفادة التي تحققها الأنشطة المختلفة بالجامعة، إذ رأى البعض أن تلك الأنشطة لها إيجابيات متعددة بينما رأى البعض أن لها سلبيات كثيرة.

قالت يسرا قورة - أولى إدارة أعمال- أنها كانت على معرفة سابقة بالأنشطة الموجودة بالجامعة، حيث قال لها أصدقائها وأقاربها الأكبر منها سنا عن تلك الأنشطة ولكنها قالت ان الطلبة الجدد عادة لا يكون لديهم أي فكرة عن أنشطة الجامعة وذلك بسبب عدم تواجدها في المدارس. وأكدت يسرا أن الأنشطة هي جزء هام من الجامعة وعلى الطلبة أن يستفيدوا منها.

قالت هند كمال -أولى جامعة- أنها لم تسمع سوى عن عدد قليل من المؤتمرات في مدرستها قبل التحاقها بالجامعة مثل مؤتمر نموذج الأمم المتحدة والمؤتمر الدولي للاقتصاد العالمي. وقال محمد السماع - أولى إدارة أعمال- أن الدورة التوجيهية التي ينظمها إتحاد الطلبة للطلبة الجدد لتعريفهم على الأنشطة المختلفة كانت مفيدة ومختصرة وأعطت الطلبة فكرة كاملة عن الأنشطة المختلفة في الجامعة.

وبالرغم من ذلك فلقد عبر السماع عن استيائه من طرق التسجيل في الأنشطة، فالطلبة كلهم منشغلون بإضافة وحذف المواد