



# CARAVAN

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## New Campus Update:

# Don't pack up just yet

By REHAAM ROMERO  
*Caravan Reporter*

The move to the university's new campus in New Cairo has been postponed until the summer of 2008, "which will surely disappoint many people," said Hussein El Sharkawy, vice president of new campus development at the American University in Cairo.

"The delay is simply due to a slow start," said El Sharkawy. "There were issues in handing over the property."

Samsung Corporation, the contractor in charge, was also late starting construction. "It is an international company and they may not have been familiar with the scene in Egypt," said El Sharkawy.

Currently, construction is 72 days behind. The reason for pushing the move back an entire year is that, "moving the university between semesters is a risk," stated El Sharkawy. "What if something doesn't go as planned and the date has to be further pushed back? [The university] would look worse if we missed the deadline again," said El Sharkawy.

The delay will affect many students who expected to be in the new campus by 2007. "I wanted to be in the new campus earlier so I could be there longer," said Sally Abdel Razak, an undeclared freshman.

Moudhi Il Twiagri, a biology sophomore who expected to graduate from the new campus, did not seem to be phased by the postponement. "We live in a country where time is irrelevant; I expected a delay," she said.

However, the university has been looking into holding graduations in the new campus by next year, even before it's completed, said El Sharkawy.

According to El Sharkawy, "by February next year we will have room for a graduation in the new campus; it's a beautiful and large place to hold commencements."

Despite what some may see as a large set back, construction is going "perfectly well," said El Sharkawy.

During their annual visit to Cairo last week, the Board of Trustees visited the new campus. "It's very dramatic," said Hight, "most of the cement work and the walls and structure are up to two of the three floors."

El Sharkawy said that the board was pleased with what they saw.

"One year isn't much of a sacrifice for quality," claimed El Sharkawy.

In an interview, Hight repeatedly affirmed the board's support for changes in every aspect of the university where they would increase quality.

"We're trying to improve the physical facility of AUC," said Boyd Hight, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, "It's really quite crowded here downtown."

"The board was completely understanding, accommodating and supported the change in schedule," stated El Sharkawy. "The previous construction schedule was very aggressive and we were a bit too optimistic."

# AUC remembers beloved professor

By AMIRA EL-GAWLY  
*Freelance Reporter*

The AUC community is mourning the death of the university's professor of anthropology and renowned author Cynthia Nelson, best known for her interest in women's rights and her 'joie de vivre' (joy of life), who died last Tuesday in Elk Grove, California of leukemia. She was AUC's first female dean.

According to Provost Tim Sullivan, Nelson had traveled to the U.S. for the holidays to attend the first reunion in her family's history. Five days later, she was hospitalized after a bout of bronchitis which her immune system was unable to fight because of her leukemia. After a bone marrow test, her leukemia was found to be acute. She then moved to her brother's home until she passed away.

Nelson was diagnosed with cancer approximately a year and a half ago, the provost said, but it did not become active until the past winter holiday.

Nelson, who was the founding dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HUSS) in 1993, was a member of the university community for more than 43 years and had a tremendous impact on it, said those who knew her.

"She was a great teacher, a mentor, a fierce fighter for things she believed in, a defender of students' rights, and, to a lot of us, a close friend," Sullivan said.

Amira Abd El-Khalek, a part-time anthropology professor who is currently teaching one of Nelson's classes, said, "You could not miss her. If she was walking somewhere, you knew that she was someone great."

"It was always a learning experience to be around her," said psychology lecturer Hala Abdalhak. "I am proud to have known her. She was a genuine, honest, no-nonsense person who always knew what she wanted from life."

Abdallah Cole, a professor of anthropology who knew Nelson for more than 35 years at AUC and whose office adjoined hers, spoke fondly of her. "She excelled as a teacher, as an administrator and in creating new directions for research. She

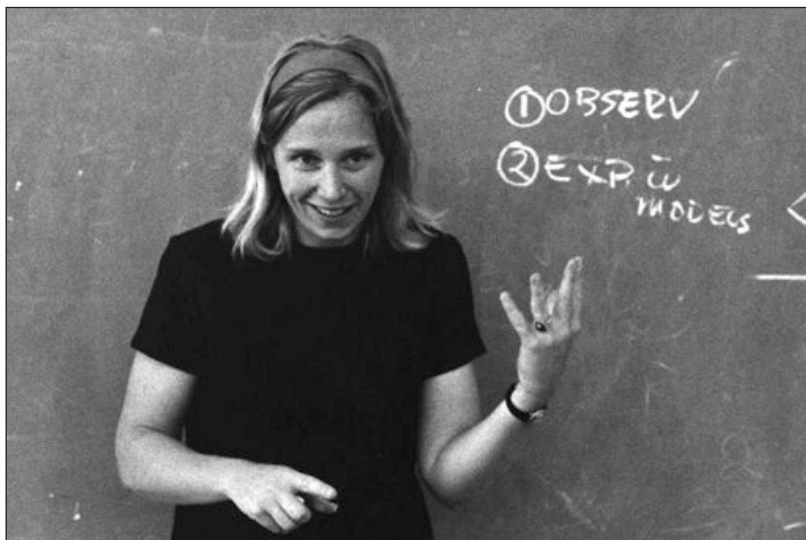


Photo provided by the Rare Books Library

**DOING WHAT SHE LOVED:** Nelson at her best teaching in an AUC classroom.

[understood] the changing roles of women, in Egypt in particular, and the Middle East as a whole."

As one of the longest-serving members of the AUC community, Nelson left a deep mark on hundreds of students.

"She had deep respect for students and was a mentor for hundreds of students over the years, especially graduate students. She was always interested in their research and collaborating with them," said Cole.

Abdalhak, who has known her since 1971 when she was a student, said, "She helped me become more critical and more analytical - things we don't usually come out of school with." Nelson was the supervisor for her masters' thesis and was the one who initially influenced the psychology professor's decision to study psychology.

"She was always proud to have her students back as faculty, and treated us as equals," Abdalhak said.

Nelson supervised more than 200 masters' theses that dealt with women's issues, according to Sullivan. Abd El-Khalek, one of Nelson's ex-students said, "She's very demanding of her students to look into themselves, to think critically, to see what they really want to do. I'm very,

very lucky to have been her student."

Nelson was a pioneer in the study of women's issues in the Middle East, according to Cole, which is reflected in her establishment of the Institute of Gender and Women's Studies at AUC in 2000.

"She was the first to introduce us to feminism and women's liberation," said Abdalhak.

The anthropology professor, known for her excellent tennis skills, "had an excellent last semester" at AUC and was "in very high spirits," said Cole.

Remembering her mentor, Abd El-Khalek said, "Those who really knew her know that she's still here, inspiring everything that is yet to come."

Nelson served as chair of the Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology and Egyptology (SAPE) department for three terms, the first from 1968-1972. She also served as chairperson of the faculty, director of the Freshman Year Program and director of the Core Curriculum in addition to her deanship of the school of HUSS from 1993 until 2000.

A memorial will be organized by faculty in the near future, said Sullivan.

## African Cup win ignites celebrations



Chereen Zaki / THE CARAVAN

**SOCCER CRAZY:** Eighty thousand people chanted, held their breath, screamed for joy and cheered as the Egyptian team played the final game. After a grueling overtime and penalty shots, Egyptians celebrated their victory.

By HEBBA HASSABOU  
*Caravan Editor*

The AUC students and professors who attended the Egypt - Ivory Coast match were ecstatic.

"It was a great triumph. It started with a huge crowd and people started jumping up and down in disbelief yelling, 'Hadary... Hadary' in the Cairo Stadium after Egypt beat the Ivory Coast and won the African Cup for the fifth time," said Dina Hassan, a business administration senior.

Cairo Stadium was packed with AUCians holding up signs and screaming. "We will rock you," "Au Revoir Cote d'Ivoire" (Goodbye Ivory Coast), and "Drogba don't be mad, second place is not so bad."

After the match was over, AUC students streamed out into the streets to celebrate the victory. "We were running in the streets," said business administration senior Ahmed Fahmy. "Everyone was honking their horns and singing the chants from the stadium."

According to Nile FM, people were celebrating in the streets until 4 a.m. and more than 500,000 people were partying in Gamaat El Dowal Street, closing it off completely.

In Heliopolis, "people were dancing, screaming and playing with fire," said Heba Abdel Monsef, a mass communications senior. "I was there with my friends because I was curious what people would do. They were going crazy."

"I was ecstatic and jumping for joy," said Mohamed Abou Samra, a business administration junior. Mustafa Kolaly, an economics senior, said, "I really hoped that Egypt would win on our land. We didn't play well but God answered the prayers of 70 million Egyptians."

Although many students agreed that Egypt's win was as a matter of luck, others disagreed. Ramy Radwan, a mass communication senior, said "we deserve it because the team exerted a lot of effort and I'm really happy

because this event cheered up the Egyptian community a little bit after the disastrous sinking of the ferry."

"We were afraid at first to let down all of Egypt but thank God we won the cup at the end," said Egyptian soccer player Emad Meteeb. "The fans gave us an adrenaline rush and pumped us up during the game."

"Winning was the greatest feeling ever, especially since it was on our land," Meteeb added.

The match united Egyptians of all social classes and even non-football fans were eager to attend the match to cheer for the Egyptian team.

Mass communications junior Mona Koueider, said "I think we deserve it because we really worked hard. This is the first time to see all Egyptians unite."

Many fans believed the win was due to Essam El Hadary, goalkeeper. "[The last match] was nerve wrecking but El Hadary saved the day," said Amin Henein, computer science sophomore.

## THERAPEUTIC ART



Rym Ibrahim / THE CARAVAN

Colors and art say a lot about your personality. Find out how you can know more about yourself from what you draw at the Art Therapy Center. Full story on page 3.

## SU and university unite for future graduations

By YUMNA YOUSRY  
Caravan Editor

Reactions of the parents, friends and other guests who attended AUC's undergraduate commencement on Feb. 9 at the Cairo International Conference Center ranged from resigned acceptance of the new system of invitations and the split ceremony to criticism of the Board of Trustees for not staying to see students get their diplomas.

"Overall, the noise level was less," said mass communication professor Naila Hamdy.

"The new way was better, but not for the whole family," said electronics engineering senior Soha Saleh.

"I think that this solution was a lot better than having it on two days, separating the three schools," said Mohamed Abu Bakr, a construction engineering senior.

"People were very satisfied with what happened at this graduation, including the security office, President David Arnold, Provost Tim Sullivan, professors, parents and students," said Student Union vice-president Mohamed Fathi. "We got a perfect evaluation from the Office of Student Development and the security office. Above all, we received a thank you letter from Dean Jan Montassir thanking us for our efforts and all the hard work we put into this new method."

Some guests had expected an improve-

ment in the organization of the ceremony, while others anticipated more problems than there had been previously.

"When I first heard about the change, I thought the ceremony would be better," said Osama Saada, the father of Mohammed Saada, a mechanical engineering graduate.

"I honestly didn't think they would be able to pull this off but this new way could be this successful," said Abu Bakr. "I thought that things would be disorganized, and they wouldn't be able to control the noise level."

During the first part of the commencement ceremony two guests per student watched the awards and heard the address by Nobel laureate Mohamed El Baradei, who was awarded an honorary doctorate. However, Saada was disappointed when some of the guests, particularly the members of the university's Board of Trustees, left in the middle of the ceremony. "When some of the guests left after the speeches, it showed disrespect for the graduates and their parents," he said.

During the second half of the ceremony, more people were admitted to the hall, and things became noisier and less organized.

"In the second half, people were going in and out as they pleased," said Ayah El Kharbotly, a mechanical engineering senior. "Nobody was seated and it was very disorganized."

"The splitting had no effect when it came to the overcrowding," said Saleh. "People who came in early got in easily. Those who came later had to wait in a long line to get in."

Saada speculated that perhaps those who had tickets for the second portion of the ceremony had built up their energy levels while outside and so were more enthusiastic when they entered the hall. "The noise level in the second half was a lot [louder] than in past ceremonies; the people standing outside were enthusiastic and had more energy," he said.

"At the beginning the noise level was tolerable," said Abu Bakr. "During the second half there was a lot of cheering, but that's expected."

He added that he thought that "there were no signs of the audience being disrespectful to the speakers."

Some recommendations were suggested by those who attended the commencement ceremony.

"Maybe we should have a better space for the reception," suggested Hamdy. Abu Bakr recommended having special invitations for each graduate so that family members could all sit together.

"The parents and guests should be asked to respect the graduates at the ceremony," said Saada. "That way, they will know that they should keep the noise level down. Parents want to hear their kids' names being called out."

## New marketing course is one of a kind in Egypt

By NADINE EL SAYED  
Caravan Reporter

The business administration department is offering a branding and brand management course (MKTG 470), the first of its kind at AUC and in Cairo.

"Branding is a hot topic now globally and it isn't discussed much in Egypt," said Ronald Fullerton, professor of this course. Fullerton came up with the idea of offering a seminar course to undergraduates majoring in business administration to discuss special topics in marketing. He said he chose branding as this semester's topic because of the growing importance of brands worldwide.

According to Fullerton, there are many good quality products in Egypt that simply lack good branding. He argued that Egypt used to be "sheltered" from competition under Nasser's closed-door economic system, but now with the open market economy, competition requires strong branding skills to succeed.

Because the course is taught in a seminar form and is based upon class discussions, Fullerton limited enrollment to only 13 students, an unusually small number. The course is designed for seniors. Fullerton's approval for registration was needed, which he gave only after interviewing each student intensively for half an

hour to ensure that he or she had a background in marketing and was willing to put in the effort required.

The course is based primarily on case studies, class discussions and field projects. Projects consist of comparing the features of a product to the perception people have of that product.

"Many seniors, including myself, didn't take the course because it is difficult," said Dina Naguib, a business administration senior.

Students enrolled in the course were warned about the amount of reading involved and the hard work it required, which didn't stop them from signing up anyway. "I am interested in branding and it is a new and interesting course that is not offered anywhere else in Egypt," explained business administration senior May El Sherbiny.

Basma Shiha, a business administration senior, was interested in the benefits that the course offers. "The course is very beneficial and the topic is interesting and it is worth the difficulty," said Shiha. She added that this course is one of a kind in Egypt and that branding is an important topic now.

"[A brand manager] cannot tell people what to do but he can motivate them to do it," said Fullerton, adding that this makes branding difficult yet crucial to any product. He also explained that a product with the right branding could be worth a lot of money.

## Department changes Arab history course

SHARAZAD EL FAR  
Caravan Reporter

The history department at the American University in Cairo has introduced a new history course, the Making of the Modern Arab World (HIST 247) as an alternative to required course, the Survey of Arab History (HIST 246).

Mark Sedgwick, an associate professor in the history department, said the new course is being introduced because the department wants to make history courses more interesting for students. The department also wanted to offer a course that deals with modern history that is more relevant to students.

David Blanks, the chair of the history department, said the course is meant to be more dynamic, with teaching methods involving more interaction and dialogue between students, because they are studying a more contemporary time period. "We are moving away from lecturing and more toward student centered learning," he said. This is attempt to help different students learn through a variety of methods.

According to Sedgwick, students can register for this course instead of HIST 246, adding that the course has been carefully planned to ensure students of all academic levels would be able to benefit from the course.

Ashley Payne, a study-abroad student taking the course, said she enjoys the flexibility of the course. As an American student among Arab students, Payne said that taking the course is somehow intimidating but challenging. "The professor is learning about teaching the course as much as we are learning from it," she said.

## Ouija cast stirs controversy on Student Union talk show

NERINE EZZELDIN  
Caravan Reporter

The Egyptian director Khalid Yusuf accused the Mubarak government of "not [caring] for the souls of its citizens" in the El Salaam ferry disaster that killed at least 1,000.

Yusuf, who directed *Ouija*, made the statement when the cast and crew of the recently released Arabic film were guests in last Monday's Talk Show hosted by the Student Union.

The cast included actors Hany Salama, most famous for his role in *Al Sellem wel Teiaban* (Snakes and Ladders), and Dolli Chaheen and Mostafa Khla'i.

Yusuf, talked about a variety of cultural and political issues, including his future filmmaking plans. Computer science senior Mootaz Dinana and construction engineering sophomore Sara Hanna hosted the show, which took place in an almost-packed Ewart Hall.

The film revolves around a group of six friends who decide to play a game of *Ouija*, more commonly known as a Ouiji board, a game that involves contacting the dead in

an attempt to foretell the future.

Yusuf has directed four films and written the screenplays for two of them. He wants to release two more films in the near future. Yusuf was very satisfied with the controversy surrounding *Ouija*, which tackled issues such as premarital sex, adultery and murder.

For his part, Salama enjoys the fame that comes with being an actor but claims that there are also drawbacks. "The main disadvantage of fame is that you have to pretend all the time," said Salama. "People do not see stars as normal human beings... [but] the most important element is the love of the crowd."

The guests also discussed the controversial Danish cartoons and the tragedy of the Al Salaam 98 ferry accident. Dinana was impressed with Yusuf and his views: "It was interesting meeting [him] and getting to know his opinions about the cartoons," he said.

On a lighter note, actress and singer Chaheen sang one of the songs from the film. Hosts also asked questions about Valentine's Day.

"It was just another day," said Salama, "My fiancé and I celebrate love every day."

## On The Wire

American archaeologists in Egypt discovered a tomb with five sarcophagi (coffins) containing mummies in the Valley of the Kings on Feb 8. The tomb is the first one to be found since King Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered by British archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922.

Although there is a possibility that this is the tomb of a king's wife or son, a priest or a court official, experts have not yet identified who is inside. The 15-foot by 15-foot tomb has only one chamber and contains five wooden sarcophagi, surrounded by pottery jars which Egyptologist and chief of antiquities, Zahi Hawass, said were used to store food and drinks for the afterlife. The five sarcophagi are in human shapes with colored funerary masks. The mummies are presumed to be from the 18th Dynasty, which is about 3,500 to 3,300 years ago.

Hawass unveiled the tomb to journalists on Feb. 10. He, as well as the archaeologists, hopes to find hieroglyphics to help determine the exact date the tomb was made. According to archaeologists, this discovery proves that the Valley of the Kings is not empty, and there may be more tombs waiting to be discovered.

Do you know about the tombs recently found in Luxor?

YES 36% | NO 64%

"I heard about it and I heard that it was five meters away from King Tutankhamun's tomb."

-Mohamed El Araby,  
Physics senior

"I heard that they found another statue of pharaoh from the news."

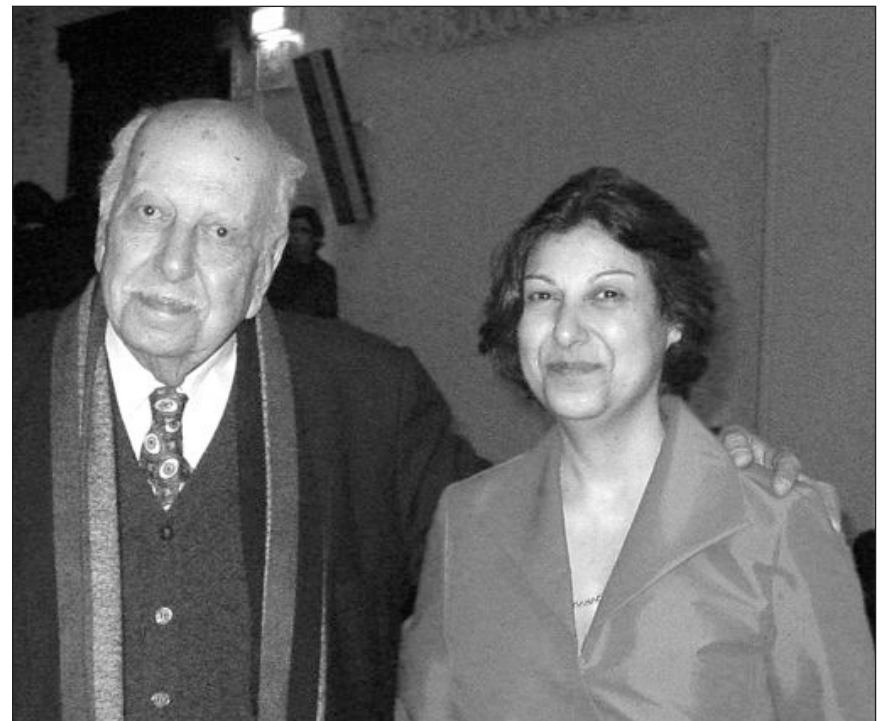
-Mohamed Sabah,  
MENG senior

"I can't wait to go see them."

-Fady Salama,  
Economics senior

"It's a great and exciting discovery because for the first time they discovered five sarcophagi in one tomb."

-Mina Farouk,  
Art senior



Saleh El Azab / THE CARAVAN

Eighty-four-year-old composer Kamel Al Rimali returns to AUC after 50 years for a concert in Ewart Hall. "AUC Celebrates Egyptian Composers" was organized by the department of Performing and Visual Arts last Wednesday. From left to right: Kamel Al Rimali poses with his daughter Rose Al Rimali.

## Plagiarism cases increase by the semester

FARIDA HELMY  
Caravan Reporter

The number of plagiarism cases has increased over the past few semesters at the American University in Cairo, to more than 50 during the last quarter of fall 2005, according to Ahmed Hisham, a student member of the Academic Integrity Committee (AIC) and a member of the Student Judicial Board.

This increase has caused concerns among the university's AIC members and officials.

"AUC students cut academic corners sometimes thinking they will not be caught. Others [think] that they will not be punished in proportion to the potential, perceived benefits of cheating," said Ralph Berenger, a member of the Academic Integrity Committee and a mass communications professor.

In instances where plagiarism is suspected, the case is sent to the Academic Integrity Committee. The committee then decides on the penalties, which range from permanent expulsion, to loss of scholarship(s), suspension, or an 'F' in the course, depending on each specific case.

"Some of these students have cheated or

plagiarized two or three times. A record is kept in the Provost's office of all cases reported and penalties increase in severity according to the number of offences committed," said Berenger.

Hisham said that plagiarism comes in different forms, including copying from a source without citing it to cheating from a colleague, making multiple submissions of the same essay, using someone else's essay or paraphrasing an essay.

AUC has a code of academic ethics that encourages students to use their own work because plagiarism not only violates their own personal integrity but also violates the AUC community.

"You are not doing anything but insulting yourself," said Samira Gebriel, a mass communications junior.

But some students have a different view about why students are dishonest. "It's 100 percent the students' fault but I understand why they would sometimes slip and do it because sometimes you have so much work in different courses [that] you think no one will notice if you use someone else's work," said Mariam Auda, an economics sophomore.

# Color your way through therapy

**RYM IBRAHIM**  
Caravan Reporter

In a simple room on the roof of an old building in downtown Cairo, artwork covers the walls and clay sculptures lay scattered on the tables. Clients of all ages unleash their creativity, drawing and painting while waiting to have their work psychologically analyzed.

Art therapy is a creative process that helps people understand their emotions through artistic expression. Dr. Magdi Refaat, a trained psychotherapist and artist who combines the fields in color therapy, analyzes clients' personalities through the simplest of drawings.

Although he opened the Art Therapy Center more than three years ago, Refaat has been engaged in this field for around six years. "[Art therapy] is a means for my patients to visualize and recognize the unconscious deep inside them," Refaat said.

Refaat explained that a person's inner self and emotions can be expressed without words through their drawings.

Art therapy is mainly about how to create images that explore your own feelings, dreams, fears, or memories.

The art therapy center draws clients from 18 to 40, free of charge. The goal is to help them express themselves freely.

The friendly atmosphere makes people feel at home as everyone works on his or her own personal

artistic expression.

Some AUCians admire its simple atmosphere. Aly Atef, a political science junior, said it was a "nice place to chill and relax. It is also a good place to paint for [beginners]."

Layla Arafa, a political science junior, agreed with Atef, and added, "It is a very relaxing atmosphere that makes you feel encouraged and free to express yourself."

Refaat was encouraged by a colleague and friend to come up with this new idea, after starting in his friend's hospital Behman, a private psychiatric hospital in Helwan, where he treated patients suffering from psychological disorders. Some Behman patients continued their treatment even after being discharged to benefit from the therapy of art and expression.

According to Refaat, art therapy provides the client artist with critical insight into emotions, thoughts, and feelings. The key benefit of the art therapy process is personal fulfillment.

"Personal fulfillment comes from both the creative and the analytical components of the artistic process," said Refaat.

Refaat sees this therapy as extremely helpful for psychiatrists who want to expand their fields and discover issues hidden within their patients' psyche.

Sessions open to the public are only available on Mondays.

*The Art Therapy center is located at 45B Champollion St. on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor.*

Your choices in art are a reflection of you. If you're interested in finding out more about yourself from your art, it's only a few steps away in downtown Cairo.



Rym Ibrahim/ THE CARAVAN

**ANALYZE THIS:** Al Muhannad Al-Hammadi, left, and Karim Soliman, right, admire art work as they wait for their own work to be analyzed by the art doctor.

## AUCian in the news

**BY NEHAL SALEH**  
Caravan Reporter

After hearing that the Al-Salam Boccaccio 98 ferry was missing from the Port Authority's radar screen in Safaga, Mariam Fam, a reporter for the Associated Press (AP) in Cairo and former editor-in-chief of the Caravan, immediately drove to the scene with her recorder, pen and paper to investigate.

Fam, who majored in journalism and mass communications at AUC, was one of the first journalists to cover the ferry sinking that has claimed more than 1,000 lives, mostly Egyptians returning from work in Saudi Arabia.

"When I first heard about the ferry disappearance, I was clueless where to go, whether to Safaga or Hurghada, and where to start [investigating]. It was a typical breaking news story," said Fam.

After arriving in Safaga, Fam was overwhelmed by the sight of the crowds of parents, relatives and friends of the approximately 1,500 passengers on the ferry who were camping in the port, desperately awaiting any news. They were in a horrible, clueless, frustrated and miserable condition, she added.

There was so much confusion about what really happened and who was to blame for the ferry's sinking that Fam decided to tackle her reporting from several angles at once. She interviewed many officials, policemen and eyewitnesses, as she would in a regular breaking news story, but she said the most valuable information she got came from the survivors.

Trying to gain information from the survivors' and victims' families, Fam was hit and her cameras broken by them. In order to get a better story than her competitors, she slept on the streets of Safaga for two days.

"It was a tiring experience to cover, physically and emotionally," Fam said.

Fam credits her successful career to her education at AUC where she first studied journalism. She gives most credit to her work on the Caravan, where she worked for three semesters as a reporter, managing editor, and editor-in-chief.

"It is the best thing I have done at my years in AUC," she said. Fam added that it was the newspaper that gave her real-life experiences in how to be committed, worry about deadlines, and balance her courses and reporting at the same time.

"It is a very good experience for anybody who wants to be a journalist," she said.

After graduating from AUC, Fam entered Columbia University's graduate program in journalism and got her



Photo provided by Mariam Fam

**MAKING HEADLINES:** Mariam Fam, former Caravan editor-in-chief, covers the Middle East for the Associated Press.

master's degree in 2003.

Fam has earned several awards in journalism. For graduating at the top of her class at AUC in June 2000, she earned the Mustafa and Ali Amin Journalism Award. After taking part in the coverage of Saddam Hussein's capture, she earned the Associated Press Managing Editors Association's award for Deadline Reporting. As a graduate student, she was also awarded the Columbia University's Henry N. Taylor Award for the international student, "who has best demonstrated the qualities of a superior journalist."

During her time as a graduate student in Columbia University, Fam was awarded many scholarships, including the Overseas Press Club Foundation of America scholarship and the Scripps-Howard Foundation scholarship in recognition of her reporting on Islam in Russia during a 10-day class trip.

Fam continues to report for AP from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Gaza and hopes to report from different parts of the Middle East, where religion is part of the region's politics, culture and lifestyle, she said.

## Bloggers aid AUC

**FOUAD HAMMOUD**  
Caravan Editor

AUCians can finally reveal the good, the bad and the ugly of the university --- and do it by becoming official 'bloggers' for the office of marketing and communications. Like the song says, nice work if you can get it.

Plans for the website launch are set for March 31, and Academic Computing Services (ACS) is setting up blog accounts for all faculty and staff.

The office of communications and marketing, along with the ACS, began to set up a link to the university's undergraduate website, offering 10 students the opportunity to represent AUC in an informal manner.

Many universities in the U.S. use this tool, allowing the office of communications and marketing to experiment with a new marketing strategy. "It's a good way to get students to read about the university other than through the administration," said Inas Hamam, marketing manager for the marketing office.

The 10 students selected to be bloggers will be as diverse a group as possible, including international, Egyptian and Middle Eastern students. They will also represent a wide selection of majors and classes. According to Hamam, this diversity will give people reading the blogs a broad view of what AUC is like. For example, freshmen students at AUC can see what the upperclassmen have to say of about their experiences at AUC and international students can sample life in Cairo.

The marketing office has tested a similar concept on the university website with student diaries, which are updated three times a semester. Six students expressed interest in keeping the diaries and wrote 500 words about their experiences at AUC.

The marketing office must approve the blogs before they are

posted, because they represent the university. But students will still have some freedom.

"We're hoping students won't look at it as a venue just to vent something," said Nanci Martin, associate vice president of institutional advancement. Students will be allowed to personalize the blogs and

**Blogs are diaries posted online. Ten students will be selected for the job of official AUC bloggers.**

speaking on topics which are publicly debated, even if they are unhappy about something.

Hamam added that online language will be allowed because, "it makes it much more informal and much more casual."

Some students like Heba Rabie, a mechanical engineering senior, have shown interest and feel it is an important form of expression. "AUC is the only place I feel at home and I felt I could be a good representative of [blogging]," said Rabie.

Martin believes that the blogs will be especially helpful for people outside Cairo: "We would want them to know the good and the bad."

Ethar El Katatney, a business administration senior who is also interested in blogging for AUC, wants to write about her country and university and she plans on telling the whole truth. "I will talk about everything I like and don't like," said El Katatney.

## Q & A

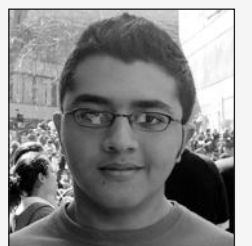
### QUESTION:

What is the craziest thing that you've done at AUC?



"I came to college on a bicycle."

**Radwa Monib**  
BADM junior



"I ate seven times in the caf one day."

**Mazen El Menshawy**  
Accounting sophomore



"I danced to rap in the Greek campus and people kept looking at me from the windows."

**Marina Khayat**  
POLS junior



"Attended the first day of classes."

**Mohamed Sabry**  
JRCM senior



"I sold sandwiches with the caterer."

**Sara Hamdy**  
JRCM senior



"I slept in the bathroom for three hours."

**Walid Ads**  
BADM senior

# The Voice

The board of trustees has decided that the university's move to the new campus will be postponed for a full year to the summer of 2008. Meaning that most of the freshly enrolled students who were "guaranteed" a place at AUC's newest academic investment will not get that place.

Is this fair?

What about the students who have been here for three years? Or four? What about all the tuition increases and extraneous "mysterious" fees they have paid? More importantly, why are we paying for a "world class" institution that we will never benefit from and more than likely never attend?

Instead, the university should take bank loans necessary to finish construction on time and then pay them off with tuition increases from the students actually attending classes on the new campus. Or, why can't the new campus move occur when we have attained the necessary funds from our original tuition? There need to be solutions that don't penalize current students for something they will never see or use.

So please, anyone with the authority to do something about this blatant form of unfairness, revise your decisions and, for once, make AUC students your main priority.

- CARAVAN STAFF



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## 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. Subject headings of e-mails must distinguish between e-mails that are personal comments to the newspaper and publishable letters to the editor.

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.

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Submit your corrections by Sunday at 6 p.m.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Everything is under control

"Everything is okay," "everything is under control," were the last words of the crew of the Ferry Al Salam 98, according to the few survivors of this disaster. I insist on the word "crew," as it includes 98 persons. I wonder what they really meant by under control. Maybe under control of "negligence" or perhaps they should have said "everything is under control now, but will be under water in few minutes." It sounds sarcastic, but I believe this scenario occurred before in similar Egyptian tragedies, both in maritime and railway transportation. One should admit that these terrible incidents do happen even in the most advanced countries of the world. Yet, in Egypt, the problem is crisis management.

According to the director of the Al Salam Maritime Transport Company, the passengers on board were supposed to be given safety instructions, but since it was a short trip, the crew allegedly thought it was not worth it. He even went a little bit far by affirming that the victims did not properly use the safety boats, implying that they are the ones responsible for their own deaths. Maybe the crew of the ferry assumed that all these poor illiterate people have already watched "Titanic" and had become experts in maritime catastrophes. Even the survivors complained that the life jackets and the boats were obsolete.

History just repeats itself. This reminds us of the non-functioning emergency exits of the 2002 Upper Egypt train accident in which the main victims were poor illiterate people too. Isn't that a coincidence?

Only one simple conclusion can be made out of this obvious resemblance: people, especially poor illiterate ones, are not worth much to the Egyptian government. Perhaps this is part of a new policy of family planning intended to reduce the number of Egyptian citizens as well as their miserable relatives who might also die of a heart attack simply because they are not allowed to get information on the unidentified victims.

What is really shocking is the alleged comment of one of the crew to the passengers on board: "It's the lucky day for the fish." I believe this is the worst comment in the worst time in the worst place. I guess the only way to rescue oneself in such incidents is to follow the echo, "Everything is just under control!"

-Ahmed Gomaa  
Construction engineering senior

\*Note: The writer of this letter got most of his information from TV news, local newspapers and testimonies with survivors.

# Reaching out

## Family Structure in Egypt through the eyes of a foreigner

RAYA SHOKATFARD  
Editorials Editor

As a mother of two university students in the U.S. and as a graduate student here at AUC, I am awed at the differences between the two cultures when it comes to family and marital issues.

Having lived in the U.S. most of my life, I had to struggle to keep my children at home. They always wanted to spend the night with friends. We often had heated debates about this issue. As soon as they reached university age, they left home and went to other cities to pursue their higher education. Not my choice, but theirs.

I am pleasantly surprised to see such a close family bond here in Egypt.

Regardless of the age, young men and women live at home with their parents until they get married. I am also amazed at the number of arranged marriages that actually work out great for both parties. Even the dating process is different and not very long. When the couple find out they are compatible, the marriage process begins with engagement. The most intimate pleasures of a male-female relationship are also saved only for when they are married. Life seems so much easier this way.

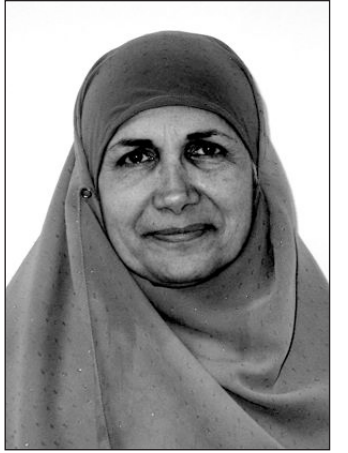
When I asked one of my colleagues to spend the night at my home to study together, her shocked look made me think I asked the wrong question. She said she never spends the night outside of her home except with her family. I thought this is a rare case. But soon I found others who did the same.

I also found Egyptians' hospitality very heart-warming. They love guests and go out of their ways to provide a pleasant reception for them. Coming home and finding dinner waiting for me at the door made me realize how easy it is to love these people.

This reminds me of when I went to my country, Iran, after 32 years of absence. I was pleasantly surprised to see similar values there as well. In fact most Muslim countries seem to have similar traditions. I sometimes wonder if this is because of the culture or the religion. I can't help but to think it may be a combination of both.

Surprisingly, many Egyptians don't see this gift. Perhaps they are too close to the trees to see the forest. Yet, you ask an Egyptian who spends a few years in a Western country how they feel about being outside the country and they will tell you how much they miss being home and their good old traditions.

This great land, with great history and rich culture, easily makes a foreign person feel like it is their own new home. It is certainly true for me.



# Have an opinion?

## Put it here.

Send your thoughts to:

[caravan@aucegypt.edu](mailto:caravan@aucegypt.edu)

or

[yasmeenelmallah@gmail.com](mailto:yasmeenelmallah@gmail.com)

## Think about it...

PASSAND HAMMAMI  
Copy Editor

Okay so we've all seen the cartoons. Personally, I have never felt so insulted in my life — and from a cartoon! To begin with, drawings of the Prophet Muhammad are forbidden in Islam since nobody knows what he looks like and therefore making that assumption is just wrong. So, for someone to draw a caricature of Prophet Muhammad that portrays him as a terrorist and ridicules him is just unforgivable.

There are many ways in which religions have been criticized or mocked, whether by people believing that Islam endorses terrorism or that the Kabala is just another celebrity 'must have' item. But to have such a mockery in print that circulates throughout countries is taking it to another level, especially when dealing with Arabs.

Now let's take the artist of the cartoons itself. What would you guess was running through his head while drawing that sordid representation of Prophet Muhammad? Jyllands-Posten's culture editor, Flemming Rose, said he did not ask the illustrators to draw scornful caricatures of Prophet Muhammad, but instead asked them to draw the Prophet as they saw him.

So, if Arab Muslims are perceived as violent terrorists and our reaction to the cartoons are brutish riots, the burning of Danish flags, the burning down of the Danish consulate in Syria and the Danish embassy in Lebanon, and the boycott of Danish products, then all we are doing is proving the cartoonists right: Arabs are aggressive and destructive.

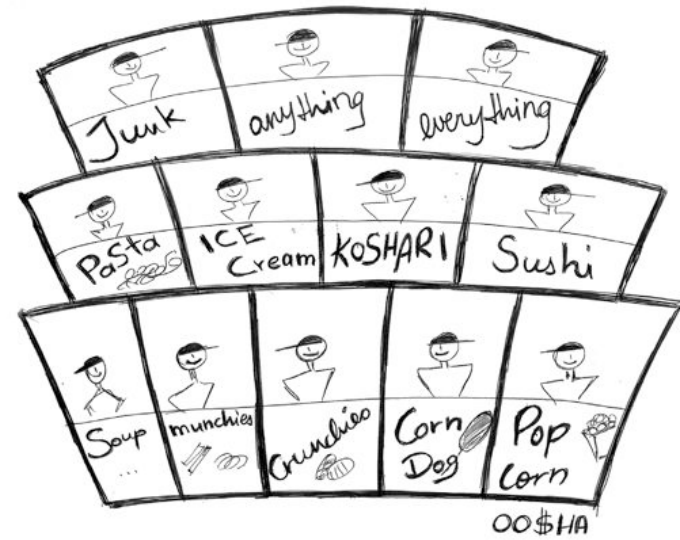
Yes, by boycotting Danish products, Denmark is losing an amount of money large enough to save the Egyptian economy. But think about it, we're losing too. For example, according to a news report by The Daily Star, the company sales of Hempel, a Danish food importer in Lebanon, have dropped by almost 80 percent, and now the marketing manager is seriously considering closing down all of the company offices. This would mean that many employees would be laid off. It doesn't stop there. Many of the company's shareholders in the Middle East are Arab Muslims, not Danish. To finish it off, all the company's products are manufactured in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. So as you can see, the consequences that come with our reaction will badly hurt Arab business in the long run and the Danish economy can always find other remedies to control the impact of the boycott in the Arab world.

As a person, I am offended and disgusted by how Jyllands-Posten, a well-known newspaper, could allow such illustrations to be published, even if it was done out of innocence and humor. But as a Muslim, I am not going to allow something like this get to me to the extent that I would join riots and burn flags. I know my religion, I respect my religion and I do not care about what some infidel thinks of Islam.

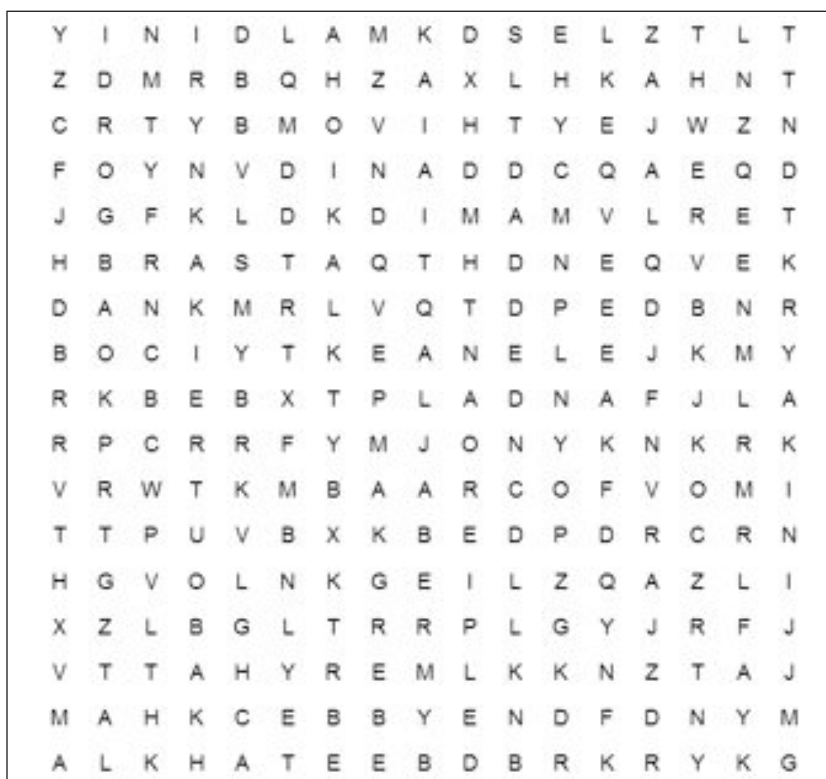




## Greek Campus - by Fall '06



## Word Search: Soccer Fever



- |         |            |           |             |
|---------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Kahn    | Maradona   | Del Piero | El Hadary   |
| Shearer | Bergkamp   | Ronaldo   | Beckham     |
| Yakini  | Nedved     | Keane     | Ronaldinho  |
| Dauids  | Al Jaber   | Zidane    | Abou Treika |
| Maldini | Al Khateeb | Drogba    | Pele        |

Solutions to the word search are posted on the Caravan website.

## The newest AUC craze



## بريد القافلة

## حوار بارد جدا جدا.....

شعارات زائفة لا تمت للدين ولا للعادات الشرقية بأي صلة من قريب أو بعيد.. ولأنني أتق تمام الثقة أن كل إنسان على وجه الأرض له رؤيته الخاصة للأمور والتي قد يصعب عليه في بعض الأحيان تفسيرها للأخرين فإني تقبلت ما قاله بروح رياضية عالية جدا مجبرة لا مخيرة.

ولأنني ذكرت أهمية الروح الرياضية في هذه المواقف المأساوية فإني أحب التنويه إلى أن الرياضة وإن كانت مفيدة للجسم فإن هناك نوع آخر من الرياضة مفيد للقلب وهو أن ننظر لأنفسنا ونعانتها على التقصير قبل أن نتقده ونكون مجالاً للسخرية ممن لا تغفل أعينهم عن أخطاء الغير وإن كنا نتحدث عن أعين بشرية تقفل أحيانا فما بالنا بمن لا يغفل سبحانه وتعالى؟؟ عافانا الله وعافاكم!!

مها السعدني

رابعة محاسبة

إستوقفني منذ أيام قليلة تعليق أحد الزملاء عن أنه رأى إحدى زميلاته مع خطيبها في إحدى المقاهي الشهيرة. وعندما سألتني ما إذا كانت قد تزوجت فأجبت بالنفي، ففوجئت به بثور ويتهم البشرية أجمع لهذا الخطأ المشين والعار الذي لحق بشباب الأمة من كل حذب وصوب. ولأنني تعودت مؤخرا- أن أفكر قبل مناقشة أي موضوع.. فإني لاحظت أن هذا الشاب نفسه وما شاء الله ولا حسد يقوم بما هو أروع من هذا. فهذا الزميل كان يتباهى منذ أيام تعد على أصابع اليد بأنه قابل لإحدى السيدات على الطائرة وأخذ رقم الهاتف الخاص بها وقام بالاتصال بها بل وبمقابلتها حتى يتم واجباته الإجتماعية ويصل (الرحم). فهذا الزميل يفخر بأن حياته الإجتماعية وكثرة معارفه لها أكبر الأثر على تنمية الشعوب وتوحيد الفكرة والمساواة وما إلى ذلك من

## إنشودة في حب مصر

وبكشافة كبيرة. ببساطة ومع التجديد الشامل الذي تم لإستاد القاهرة والفضل يرجع للجنة المنظمة بالتعاون مع هيئة إستاد القاهرة، شعر الناس أن هناك من يحترم أديمتهم من خلال وجود دورات مائة للسيدات بالإضافة إلى وجود مقعد مريح لكل فرد يكون معه تذكرة بالإضافة إلى وجود مطاعم الوجبات السريعة بمختلف الدرجات وهو الذي لم يكن متاحا من قبل. ولكن العامل الأهم تمثل في العامل البشري الذي اختارته بعناية شديدة للجنة المنظمة وأقصد المتطوعون الذين كانوا يستقبلون الجماهير بإبتسامة عريضة ليرشدوهم إلى أماكن جلوسهم وذلك بداية من خارج الإستاد. هذه العوامل كلها أدت إلى الشعور بالأمان والطمأنينة فعادت الأسرة بالكامل الرجل يصطحب زوجته ومعهم الأطفال ومعهم الأعلام بالإضافة إلى سيدات من مختلف الأعمار. ومما لا شك أن هذا العامل قد أتى بجمهور محترم يهتف لمصر فقط ويغني النشيد الوطني في ملحمة صوتية تقشعر لها الأبدان ولذلك فقد اختفت الألفاظ والسباب الجماعي واستبدل بدلا منه هتاف (مصر- مصر، تحيا مصر).

ثالثا: المصري يظهر في وقت الشدائد وقد وضع لكافة المصريين أن البطولة صعبة وقوية ولذلك لم يكن غريبا أن يمتلىء إستاد القاهرة في كل لقاء بتلك الجماهير وذلك في إشارة واضحة إلى لاعبي المنتخب أن الجميع يدعمكم بداية من الرئيس مبارك وقرينته وبنائه نهاية إلى أصغر طفل وذلك من أجل تحقيق انتصار بحجم كأس الأمم الإفريقية انتظرتة طويلا الكرة المصرية.

محمود حمدي

خريج الإعلام

منذ نعومة أظفاري وأنا أعشق تلك الساحرة المستديرة أقصد كرة القدم وأدوم على مشاهدة المباريات في إستاد القاهرة وربما يصل الأمر إلى السفر خارج القاهرة أو حتى خارج مصر ولذلك لم يكن غريبا أن ألتحق بإحدى المؤسسات الصحفية الخليجية الموجودة بمصر للعمل في إحدى إصداراتها الرياضية المعروفة على مستوى الوطن العربي. من خلال عملي الصحفي تعايشت على مدار الأربعة أسابيع مع حالة فريدة من الإهتمام والتجمع بين مختلف طبقات الشعب وذلك على هدف واحد وهو بطولة كأس الأمم الأفريقية التي استضافتها مصر وفازت بكأسها للمرة الخامسة منفردة عن جميع الدول الإفريقية.

لدى الملاحظات الآتية على تلك الحالة الجميلة من الإهتمام والتي افتقدت على مدار فترات طويلة.

أولا: من خلال ذهابي للملاعب على مدار أكثر من خمسة عشر عاما، كانت السمة الأساسية هي سماع السباب والألفاظ النابية وذلك في شكل جماعي ولم يكن ذلك مقتصرًا على لقاءات الأندية بل كان يمتد لمباريات منتخب مصر وخصوصا إذا أقيمت بإستاد القاهرة وربما يصل الأمر إلى إلقاء الطوب كوسيلة للإعتراض بالإضافة إلى التذافع الجماهيري غير المنظم الذي كان يؤدي في أحيان كثيرة إلى إصابات جسيمة. كل هذه العوامل كانت كافية لأن تكون طاردة للإستاد فقلما ما كنا نرى إناث أو شابات أو حتى أطفال صغار يقدمون على الذهاب للإستاد وذلك للعوامل التي سبق ذكرها.

ثانيا: إذن ما الذي تغير حتى تعود تلك الفئات إلى الإستاد



## الحيقة وهم الإنطباع الأول

إيثار شلبي  
محررة

كانت تجمعهما، وجد الفتاة جالسة تتحدث إلى أقاربها في موضوع جاد ورأى الرجل الجميع ينصتون جيدا إلى ما تقوله الفتاة. كانت الفتاة تروي اهم حكايتها مع الرجل، لم تذكر اسمه ولم تذكر التفاصيل الجارحة التي كانت تشعر بها في كل نظرة ينظرها إليها ولكنها قالت (كنت أشهد أحد البرامج على التلفاز واستوقفتني حديث شريف، هز كياني وأجبرني على إعادة التفكير في حكمي على الناس ومعاملتي لهم. فقال لها الناس: (وما هذا الحديث إذن الذي جعلك بهذه الجدية؟) فقالت: قال رسول الله- صلى الله عليه وسلم- في حديث له لأنه أسود اللون (إن الله لا ينظر إلى صوركم وأجسامكم ولكن ينظر إلى قلوبكم وأعمالكم). وأضافنا دعنا نطبق هذا الحديث على حياتنا فالإنسان ليس بهيئته أو لونه ولكن بقلبه وعمله. فاهتز الرجل لحديث الفتاة المنطقي المدعم بحديث شريف وغرورقت عيناه بالدموع، فقد ظلمها كثيرا....

من صلة القرابة التي تجمعنا بها). لم يقتنع الرجل بحديث ابنته وصحبها بعدم الإحتكاك بها. وفي ذات يوم، وفي إحدى الزيارات العائلية التي اعتادا أن يجتمعا فيها، إلتقى الرجل مع الفتاة. ففوجئ بها تقول له: (أعلم أن صورتي في ذهنك صورة مشوهة، فأنت لم تحاول الحديث معي لتحكم علي قبل أن تحكم علي مظهري، لن ألومك على حكمك الظالم لي ولن أعاتبك على ذلك الإنطباع الذي شعرت به تجاهي منذ أول مرة رأيتني أجلس فيها فأضحك وأتحدث لهوا ولكنني سأتركك وقتا تجلس فيه وتفكر عما يدور بداخلك لعلك ترى سببا واحدا لهذا الشعور النافر مني). صمت الرجل وصدم بما قالته الفتاة، فهو لم يكن يعرف أن الفتاة تعلم قيمتها الرخيصة عنده ولم يدرك أنها تفهم ما يدور بداخلها فاشعر بالهزل الشديد من نفسه، فهي لم تؤذ حتى ينفر منها لهذا الحد. وفي إحدى الزيارات العائلية التي

رأيته ينظر إليها نظرة ساخرة مليئة بالإحتقار وعدم التقدير. كان يتحدث إليها وكلماته مليئة بحروف ذابحة، فهي لم تتوقع أن صورتها في ذهنه صورة مشوهة إلى هذا الحد. بالرغم من أنه رجل كبير حكيم، قرر أن يعتبرها فتاة عاصية لا تعرف للأخلاق مدخل أو للإحترام مكان. في نظره، كانت ملابسها لافتة للأنظار وكانت هيئتها مثيرة للإشمئزاز وكان حديثها مليئ بالتفاهات. منع ابنته من الحديث معها أو الإحتكاك بها، وقال لها: (يا ابنتي، أضحك الإبتعاد عن تلك الفتاة، فهي لا تناسب أخلاقك سموا ولا دينك احتراما ولا أنوثتك عفة). فنظرت إليه ابنته وقالت: (لماذا؟ هل حدث منها شيئا يجعلك تنفر منها هكذا؟) فقال لها: (لا، بل ابنتي عنها كما نصحتك. فهي ليست بالفتاة التي اشجعك على صداقتها). واجهته ابنته وقالت: (يا أبي إنك لم تجلس معها ولم تتناقش معها فقد حكمت عليها ظلما ولم تحاول إكتشاف محاور شخصيتها بالرغم

## بصراحة قيم لا يجب أن تنتهك باسم الحرية

عمار نوح  
محرر

ثم تلا هذا التطاول احتجاج من قبل المسلمين في كل بقاع الدنيا وامتلات الدنيا صخبا وتحركت الكثير من المظاهرات في كل البلدان الإسلامية وفي بعض الدول الغربية أيضا. وتحول الظاهر في بعض الأحيان إلى ممارسة لعنف غير مقبول تجاه الأخر. نعم تحركنا بقوة ونعم مارسنا حقنا في الاعتراض وأقصد بذلك نحن كشعوب مسلمة بعيدا عن المؤسسات الرسمية والتي دائما ما تكون الأعراف الدبلوماسية هي اللاعب الرئيسي في ردود الأفعال الرسمية وهي غالبا ما تكون دون تطوعات الشعوب.

بالتأكيد كان لا بد من وقفة تتناسب مع هول الحدث ولكن ألا ترون معي أن هناك الكثير من الأحداث التي كان يجب أن نتوقف أمامها ونعلن غضبنا واعتراضنا كما كان رد فعلنا قويا في هذا الحدث. رغم كل ذلك فنحن كمسلمين مخطئون تماما في حق نينا. نحن لم نوصل رسالته السامية إلى الغرب، لم نوضح لهم ديننا. أصبح سفراء هذا الدين في الغرب مجموعة من المتطرفين وأصبح الإسلام مرادفا للإرهاب في عقول الغربيين. تركنا الغرب على هذا الظن وهذا الاعتقاد ولم نكلف أنفسنا مشقة الدفاع عن ديننا. تنكرنا لحضارتنا وقيمنا فوصل بهم الحال إلى الاستهزاء برسولنا. نعم هم أخطأوا ولكن خطانا أكبر وتقصيرنا أكبر وأكبر. بالتأكيد هناك حرية يجب أن تصان ولكن في نفس الوقت هناك قيم لا يجب أن تنتهك باسم الحرية.

قيم لا يجب أن تنتهك باسم الحرية مرت بنا في الأيام الأخيرة مجموعة من الأحداث الصاخبة وكان من أشدها الأحداث صخبا تلك الرسوم الكاريكاتورية التي أساءت لشخص نبينا الكريم محمد (ص) ووما تبعها من ردود أفعال مختلفة في كلا العالمين الاسلامي والغربي، وتحول الخلاف إلى مظاهرات غضب واستنكار تطورت إلى المطالبة بمقاطعة إقتصادية وتعالص اصوات الاحتجاج ودعوات المواجهة وتحول الأمر إلى نوع من صراع الحضارات.

في بادئ المشكلة كان دفاع الصحيفة بالأساس يدور حول حرية التعبير وحرية الابداع وأنه لا مقدس في عالم الصحافة والإعلام فكل الموضوعات بلا استثناء يمكن تناولها أو انتقادها وأصبح الخلاف وكأن الغرب ينادي بحرية التعبير ونحن نرفض هذه الحرية ولكن نفس هذا الغرب ونفس هذه الصحيفة رفضت نشر صور كاريكاتورية عن قيامة السيد المسيح عيسى عليه السلام في عام ٢٠٠٣ طبقا لتقرير اعده جريدة الجارديان بالإضافة إلى أن رئيس تحرير الجريدة أعلن رفضه نشر أية رسوم تنتقص من مذابح الهولوكوست في مقابلة تليفزيونية. ذلك (التابو) في الصحافة الغربية. الصحافة الغربية تشدد بحرية التعبير وعدم وجود سقف لتلك الحرية. الصحافة الغربية تكذب. وبالتالي التطاول كان مقصودا لشخص رسولنا الكريم.

ترحب القافلة بإسهاماتكم وأرائكم في حدود ٣٠٠ كلمة والتي سننشرها

تباعا أرسل الرسائل إلى :

caravan@aucegypt.edu



## الجامعة تقيم أمسية شعرية لشاعر صاعد أبو زيد رئيساً جديداً للهندسة الإنشائية



تصوير: ياسمين الملاح / القافلة

يعتبر الأستاذ محمد نجيب أبو زيد من أنجح أساتذة الهندسة الإنشائية بالجامعة حيث بدأ مشواره العلمي بالحصول على ماجستير الهندسة عام ١٩٩١، ثم خاض حياته العملية بعد ذلك. كان إضمامه إلى هيئة التدريس وحصوله على لقب أستاذ نقطة تحول في مشواره بالجامعة. نشر عدد كبير من الأبحاث، التي وصل عددها إلى ١٠٠ بحث بمساعدة زملائه و طلابه. بعد ذلك تم إختياره كعضو بمجلس نواب الجامعة، ثم عين بعد ذلك رئيس مجموعة عمل القيم والأخلاق. كما أشرف الأستاذ أبو زيد على الكثير من الأنشطة، على رأسها مؤتمر القادة لمدة ست سنوات على التوالي. وفي بداية هذا الفصل الدراسي تم تعيينه رئيساً لقسم هندسة التشييد.

يرى الأستاذ أبو زيد أن الجامعة الأمريكية جامعة رائدة ينظر لها الجميع نظرة تميز وقوة في الكثير من الشؤون. فعلى سبيل المثال، فالجامعة هي أول من وضع سياسة كاملة لمكافحة الغش. إلى جانب كونها جامعة فهي تعتبر نموذجاً حياً في التقييم المستمر والمتواصل لبرامجها الدراسية وأفرادها. كما أن الكثير ينظر إلى الجامعة الأمريكية كنموذج لجامعة صغيرة تعمل بكفاءة وتساعد في خدمة المجتمع والبيئة.

أما عن رأيه في طلبة الجامعة، فكان واضحاً حينما قال: (طلاب جامعتنا قريون مني وهم يتفوقون على أقرانهم من

### كتب- علي الجمال

الحر، حيث تخلى الشعراء عن القافية. ثم ظهور تقنية الطباعة، فظهر الكتاب المطبوع بدلاً من الشفاهية. وقال معلقاً على ذلك (الشعر الشفهي ليس أدنى أو أعلى من الشعر المكتبي). الشاعر جرجس شكرى بدأ بكتابة الشعر والأغاني في بداية مشواره. وكان عمره ١٢ عاماً حين ذهب إلى الكاتب عبد القادر القط ليعرض عليه بعض أعماله. فأعجب به ونشر له، وقال (في باديء: واجهني القط بقوله أنني شاعر جيد ولكن القصيدة ليست جيدة). وكانت هذه نقطة إنطلاق هذا الشاب الصاعد. قام بكتابة الكثير من الدواوين، أولها (أسفل

حذائي) عام ١٩٩٦ وأخرها (الأيد عطلة رسمية) في بداية ٢٠٠٥. تم إستقبال الديوان الأول في هذا الوقت بإقبال. يقول الشاعر أنه توقف عن الكتابة عام ١٩٩٠ لمدة ثلاث سنوات، وذلك لأنه شعر خلال هذه الفترة بشيء ما مفقود، بجانب أنه في هذا الوقت أراد أن يكون لشعره روح الحياة التي يعيشها. يتميز أسلوبه إلى التوصليل حيث أنه لا يكتب قصائد ذات إيقاع سابق التجهيز. أيضاً دائماً ما يكون هناك حكاية وراء كل قصيدة. كما أنه يعتنى جيداً في كتابته بالأشياء المحسوسة. ويقول الشاعر أن كتابته ترتبط بخياله

من اليمين إلى اليسار: د محمد بريري منظم الحفل و الشاعر جرجس شكرى في أثناء الأمسية الشعرية.



تصوير: علي الجمال / القافلة

## مركز خدمات الحاسب الآلي ينظم برامج مجانية للطلبة

### كتب- نهال صالح

ينظم مركز خدمات الحاسب الآلي برنامج أكاديمي مخصص لتنمية مهارات الحاسب الآلي لدى الطلبة وذلك عن طريق عقد بعض المحاضرات لتعليم البرامج المختلفة للحاسب الآلي لهم مجاناً. قالت منى القداح -رئيسة مركز خدمات الحاسب الآلي- أن البرنامج يتضمن خمسة مواد جديدة ومن أهم هذه المواد مادة تعليم إستخدام شبكة الإنترنت وكيفية البحث داخل صفحاته الإلكترونية بالإضافة إلى مادة الجرافك بإستخدام برنامج الفوتوشوب. أشارت منى إلى أن هذه المواد يدرسها مجموعة من الأساتذة المميزين بالجامعة. وأوضحت منى أن تعلم إستخدام البرامج المختلفة بالحاسب الآلي جزء مفيد في حياة الطلبة؛ وذلك لأن الحاسب الآلي أصبح شرط أساسي لأي وظيفة يقبل عليها الخريجين في الوقت الحالي. وأجمعت آراء الطلبة عن إعجابهم بهذا البرنامج. قالت رنين سالم -رابطة إعلام- أن هذا البرنامج يعتبر فرصة جيدة للطلبة لتعلم بعض مهارات الحاسب الآلي. ووافقتها في الرأي هبة عثمان ثالثة إعلام- قائلة أن الإلتحاق بهذا البرنامج يمثل فرصة كبيرة لها ويجب الإنتفاع بها لأنها مفيدة في الحياة العملية. أما حسام الدين عبد الحي رابعة هندسة وأحد الطلاب الذين التحقوا بمحاضرة تعليم (الفوتوشوب)- قال أن التدريب على البرنامج كان مفيد للغاية وأوضح أنه قد اكتسب الكثير من القدرات التكنولوجية بعد إتمامه التدريب من خلال هذا البرنامج.



تصوير: صالح العزب / القافلة

الموسيقار كمال الرمالي الذي كرمته الجامعة في حفل يوم الربيع الماضي الذي أقيم بقاعة إيوارت وذلك بعد خمسين عاماً من تاريخ أول حفل موسيقي له في هذه القاعة. الرمالي يبلغ من العمر ٨٤ عاماً وله مؤلفات موسيقية عديدة.

## رأيك إيه : في التحقيقات التي تمت حول فرق العبارة ٩٨؟



محمد حسب الله  
ثالثة هندسة ميكانيكا  
مسرحية معروف نهايتها.



سارة ثاقب  
أولى جامعة  
غير جادة وتحتاج لعقاب صارم.



محمد يسر  
ثالثة هندسة  
غير كاملة.



منى بباوي  
ثالثة إدارة اعمال  
تنتهي دائماً بعدم معاينة المسؤولين الحقيقيين.



محمد مصطفى  
ثالثة هندسة إلكترونيات  
يتم التعامل معها مثل الكوارث السابقة.



يمنى علي  
ثالثة هندسة أنشائية  
مازال الحكومة تعتقد أن المصريين يمكن شراؤهم

# القافلة



تصدر عن طلبة قسم الصحافة والإعلام بالجامعة الأمريكية في القاهرة

الأحد ٢٠ محرم ١٤٢٦هـ - ١٩ فبراير ٢٠٠٦م

العدد رقم ١٥ - المجلد ٨٦

## سامية محرز تناقش كتابها عن معركة الثقافات بمصر



تصوير: خالد الضبيعي / القافلة

سامية محرز في أثناء المحاضرة التي تناقشت معركة الثقافة في مصر.

كتب- خالد الضبيعي

الأمريكية قد تغيرت مقارنة بالسنوات الماضية، حيث كان المجتمع ينظر لطالب الجامعة الأمريكية نظرة سلبية ولم يؤمن المجتمع بأن طلاب الجامعة قادرين على إحداث تغيير أو المساهمة في المجتمع. وأشارت إلى أن هذا المفهوم قد تغير نتيجة للمشاركة الفعالة التي تقوم بها الجامعة في خدمة المجتمع المصري. وعلى صعيد آخر، ناقشت سامية تجربة الرقابة المصرية ومدى نجاحها. وخصصت جزء من الكتاب عن الرقابة الإعلامية والتي تتضمن الرقابة على الأفلام والمنشورات. وأوضحت أنها قد قامت بعرض عدد من الدراسات على مسلسل (عائلة الحاج متولي) وفيلم (بحب السياما) و(الخيز الحافي) لأنها تناولت بعض القضايا الحساسة في المجتمع المصري. وفي نهاية المحاضرة، أجابت علي أسئلة الحضور التي تناولت الرقابة والكتاب بصفة عامة ودور الجامعة في معركة الثقافة.

ناقشت سامية محرز -أستاذة الأدب العربي بالجامعة- موضوع كتابها القادم الذي يحمل عنوان (معركة الثقافة: مصر علي مشارف القرن الواحد والعشرين) والذي يسلط الضوء علي حرب الثقافات بمصر في عهد الرئيس مبارك، جاء ذلك في المحاضرة التي نظمت يوم الأربعاء الماضي بالقاعة الزرقاء. إستهدفت سامية المحاضرة بالقاء كلمة سريعة عن كتابها وأوضحت أنه يتكون من أربعة عشر فصلاً وقالت أن الكتاب يحتوي على أربعة أبواب تناقش دور الجامعة الأمريكية في نشر الثقافة في المجتمع المصري، قائلة أن الجامعة تدخل ضمن معركة الثقافة المصرية، فقد إنتقلت من مرحلة التهميش الثقافي إلي قلب الثقافة المصرية. أوضحت سامية أن نظرة المجتمع المصري لطلبة الجامعة

## برنامج يطور الحس القيادي لدى السيدات

وأكدت أن البرنامج مخصص لشرح التحدي التي تواجهه المرأة في عملها وفي المجالات الأخرى في حياتها مثل مكانتها في المجتمع وإحتياجاتها كمرأة عاملة وناجحة في حياتها. قالت غادة عبد الله -مديرة مكتب التسجيل وإحدى السيدات المشاركات في محاضرات البرنامج- أن سلوكها بدأ يتغير بعد إنتهاء المحاضرة الأولى وهذا يظهر واضحاً حينما تحاول أن تتجنب أخطائها مع أولادها. كما أبدت ليلي خليل إحدى المشتركات بالمحاضرة- إعجابها الشديد بالبرنامج لأنه يركز على الفرق القيادي بين الرجل والمرأة في مجالات عديدة وأكدت أنها ستلتزم بحضور كل المحاضرات المقبلة. قالت ريتا بسيلي-المحاضرة- فقالت أن هذا البرنامج سيفيد السيدات في عدة مجالات و بالأخص المحاضرات القادمة لأنه يركز علي العديد من المواضيع التي تهم حياة المرأة العاملة.

كتبت- نانسي كمال

ينظم مركز تكافؤ الفرص والتميز الإيجابي لأول مرة برنامج لتشجيع الحس القيادي للمرأة العاملة تحت عنوان (تنمية قيادة المرأة) وذلك من خلال ست محاضرات تستمر حتى شهر مايو. وقالت ليلي خطاب المستولة عن البرنامج بالمركز- أن البرنامج مخصص للسيدات العاملات بالجامعة ويهدف إلى تعليم المرأة بعض المهارات التي تؤثر في سلوكها بنتيجة إيجابية. أشارت ليلي إلى أن البرنامج يركز على إعطاء السيدات مهمة قيادية لكي يمارسوها عملياً في أيامهم العادية وقالت أنه بعد الإنتهاء من الستة جلسات من المفترض أن تكون المرأة مهينة للقيام بالإدارة في المستقبل والوصول إلى مراكز عليا بالجامعة. أوضحت ليلي أن هذا البرنامج له فوائد عديدة تتمثل في إجتياز تجارب الحياة والعمل على بناء الثقة من خلال بعض التمارين التي تمرن عليها السيدات في محاضرات البرنامج.

## طلبة وعمال الجامعة يروون قصص أقاربهم ضحايا العبارة المنكوبة

الموقف وصعوبتها اضطر الرفيقين إإخطار عائلة عبد المقصود أنه مازال على قيد الحياة وأنه عاد إلى السعودية حيث كان ضمن الناجين غير أن الحقيقة ظهرت بعد ذلك بإعلان اسم عبد المقصود في الصحف ضمن المفقودين. وقال أحمد شكري ثانية رياضيات- للقافلة أنه تلقى مكالمات هاتفية من والده يخبره بأن إثنين من أقاربه المنتظر قدومها في ذلك اليوم ربما قد لقيتا حتفهما في العبارة؛ إذ أن هناك باخرة واحدة تنطلق ذهاباً وإياباً كل يوم فقرر شكري أن ينطلق إلى سفاجا حيث ينقل كل من لقي حتفه بينما يذهب والده وآخرين من أقربائه إلى الغردقة لنقل الناجين. قال شكري فور وصوله إلى سفاجا صدم بالطرق القاسية في التعامل مع أشلاء الضحايا، وتلك الفوضى العارمة التي تكسو هذا الموقف المأساوي حيث أشلاء الضحايا في كل ركن وأصوات الأهالي والأصدقاء تلعو وهي تصرخ باحثة عن أمل ولو ضئيل في إيجاد أعزائهم. ثم تلقى شكري مكالمات هاتفية أخرى من والده من الغردقة قال له أن أقاربه نجوا من الموت.

كتبت- شهرزاد الفار

عاش عدد من طلبة الجامعة والعاملين بها جو المأساة في أعقاب غرق العبارة التي راح ضحيتها المئات من الأشخاص. قال عبد الفتاح طنطاوي -أحد أفراد الأمن في مركز تكافؤ الفرص والتميز الإيجابي- أن جاره إبراهيم عبد المقصود والذي يبلغ من العمر ٥٠ عاماً كان من ضمن ضحايا العبارة. وأوضح طنطاوي أن عبد المقصود له ثلاثة أبناء ويعمل سائق سيارة. وله من الأبناء ثلاثة. وقال أن جاره كان قد خرج للحج وأمضى شهراً بعد أداء الفريضة هناك للعمل حتى لقي حتفه غرقاً في العبارة. قال طنطاوي أن القصة رواها إثنان من رفاق عبد المقصود كانا يتناولان وجبة العشاء معه على متن السفينة قبل غرقها ونجيا. أوضح طنطاوي أنه عندما شاع خبر الحريق وشاعت معه الفوضى أخرج عبد المقصود القرآن الكريم ليقرأه وبما أنه كان مصاباً بالسكر أصابته غيبوبة سكر قضت على حياته. ومع توتر



تصوير: نيرين عز الدين / القافلة

نظم قسم المسرح والفنون المرئية معرضاً لعرض بعض اللوحات المرسومة بالخط العربي للخطاط أحمد سلطان ومجموعة من الطلبة قام بتدريبهم على مدار العام الماضي وجاء ذلك ضمن فاعليات ورشة الخط العربي التي نظمتها قسم التمثيل والفنون المرئية وذلك بمبنى الفلكي الجديد بدنا من الخامس من شهر فبراير الجاري وتستمر حتى الثالث والعشرون. بدأ سلطان العمل خطاطاً منذ أربعين عاماً وقد كان يعمل بالجامعة في مكتب أعمال الطباعة وبعد إحالته إلى المعاش تم الإنفاق معه للعمل مرة أخرى في معهد اللغة العربية بمبنى مركز تعليم الكبار والتعليم المستمر وذلك لتعليم الخط العربي للطلبة عامة والأجانب خاصة.