A part of Egypt’s youth, faith, history and country are deeply rooted in the real development, which can never exist until we transform our country to one that produces more than raw materials. This is what the 38-year-old Egyptian televangelist, in an exclusive interview last Sunday.

“Revival and development can be achieved when we manage to produce and exchange products with other foreign countries and succeed in getting our resources to the rest of the world, instead of being absolute consumers,” said Khalid in an interview with the Caravan.

Khalid came to the American University in Cairo (AUC) to speak in a development forum organized by the Student Union (SU), Alashanak (AYB), and the Entrepreneur Society (ES).

In his speech, Khalid highlighted three effective methods that each person should follow in order to achieve real development.

“First, we must take the sense of belonging and never give up. These are the three main messages for development,” said Khalid.

Mai El Nawawy, a mass communica-
tion graduate student, said that the most important thing in the speech was the way Khalid encouraged the youth to have a great faith and feel responsibility toward their country.

Khalid said he expanded his Islamic preaching efforts to include development because for more than 200 years Egypt has been a country of culture and without giving back and hasn’t added or produced anything new.

In the interview with the Caravan, Khalid said that until now, Egyptian development hasn’t taken place anywhere in the world.

“Real progress should not only appear in fields like agriculture, industry or engi-
neering, but should appear on the moral side of people as well,” said Khalid.

Khaled said many people misunder-
stand the concept of being religious and don’t consider development as a major part of religion.

“In my perspective, the real meaning of being religious is to turn your faith into development that can benefit everyone in the society,” Khalid told the Caravan.

“In his development project ‘Life Makers,’ Khalid wants he says to convert the static energy of faith to a dynamic energy of development. ‘Life Makers,’ Khalid’s development project for young Muslims. includes educational seminars and forums, community service activities, and helps in financing individual and group projects.

“My slogan in ‘Life Makers’ is ‘Development through faith.’ In this project, I encourage [youth] to turn the faith filling their hearts into a new, effective step toward development in Egypt,” said Khalid.

Mohamed Ibrahim, the student development manager in ES, said it was easy to find similarities between the development goals of “Life Makers” and that of ES.

“Life Makers” promotes all types of development and this goes along with our goal, which focuses on community devel-
opment from the perspective of social entrepreneurship,” said Ibrahim.

AYB president Mouad Kamil said that the development goal of “Life Makers” complements that of AYB. “AYB sets nine development programs, which are imple-
mented in El Eini Sira district, and acts in accordance with Khalid’s main develop-
ment project,” said Kamil.

According to Khalid, the success of “Life Makers” will not be demonstrated in short-time fireworks, but will appear gradually in the coming years. The program will begin by undertaking joint development programs with other organizations.

The project plans to found new com-
panies and work with various national and international institutions which believe in accomplishing a real renaissance in Egypt,” said Khalid.

LEAD students face challenges, cope well

By Mosmin Mohmed

Caravan Reporter

Students in the Leadership for Education and Development Program (LEAD) face major adjustments to adapt to the atmos-
phere of the American University of Cairo (AUC), but they aren’t complaining, said Nehal Salah, the coordinator of the LEAD pro-
gram.

Nada Hamada, a freshman in the LEAD program from the El Fayoum province, said that AUC has helped her interact with people from different religions and cul-
tural backgrounds, but “my ongo-
ing problem is that I am always feeling homesick.”

Despite the culture shock of moving from governorate to a major university in a huge metropoli-
tan area, complaints like homesickness are vir-
tually the only ones.

Hamada’s “homesickness” is typical of the students coming from the metropolitan area, complaints like feeling homesick.”

The students in the LEAD pro-
gram receive a scholarship from the university which includes housing fees, health insurance and meal plans.

This year, 34 students are participating in the LEAD pro-
gram, one from each governorate of Egypt; all ranked at the top of their schools.

According to the coordinator Salah, the big challenge for us, as we try to make them feel [like] part of the community that we are in... and actu-
ally, they are,” said Salah.

Because of different traditions the students come with the pro-
gram informs the students about the type of cultures they will be exposed to so that they do not feel alienated from the AUC com-
nunity.

“The students in the program are politicled andsculpted so they can cope with the community,” said Salah.

The Ministry of International Cooperation, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and AUC itself serve as the main financial contributor for the program.

As for interactive activities, the students have the option of inter-
acting through the career advising and placement services office, an opportunity that, according to salah, is “effective in coping with the uni-
versity atmosphere.”

However, the students must in the program must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to stay enrolled in the program, which requires frequent reports from their coordinators.

Drug users suspected

By Rym Ibrahim

Caravan Reporter

Three freshmen were suspended for one semester from the American University in Cairo (AUC) for smoking hash, an illegal drug, on campus.

The Student Judicial Board (SJB) made the decision to suspend the 16 to 18-year-old students 10 days ago.

The students were caught on the fourth floor of the Main building’s balcony with hash that was purchased in front of the Main campus for LE 50.

“This was not the first time they were spotted, but they were given a second chance,” said Donia El Saad, an SJB member and a representative on the disci-
plinary committee.

“It’s normal,” said one of the students who was caught but wished to remain anonymous in an interview with the Caravan, “I don’t think it’s a big deal to smoke on campus.”

“The parents of the three students were notified of their sons’ incident and were called by the administration,” said Ahmed Magdel, another representative of the discip-
linary committee.

The students were observed by the main campus security for a period of one week. They were caught by the end of the week smoking the illegal substance.

The decision to dismiss the three students was taken by the disciplinary committee a week after they were caught.

The students are only allowed to register for the summer course if they are proven to be “clean” or drug-free. The AUC clinic will randomly examine them throughout the semester, said Magdel.

“Many other students that we have been told are taking and dealing drugs inside our campuses are currently under observation,” said El Saad.

“One major reason the three students were dismissed was because of their weak academic history. The university was not able to compromise with them,” added Magdel.

ECLT department short on professors

By Reham Romero

Caravan Reporter

Ten students majoring in English and comparative literature (ECLT) at the American University in Cairo (AUC) voiced their concerns about losing more than half of their professors next semester.

Four professors attended the meeting, which was headed by ECLT professor Stephanie Gearhart and took place in the sem-
inar room on the university’s main campus on March 23.

“We basically heard rumors that every professor in the department was leaving,” said Noura Eltaba, an English and com-
parative literature junior and vice president of the Literature club. She wrote a petition asking the department to address the stu-
dents’ concerns.

“People panicked because they thought they wouldn’t graduate if the professors who teach their required courses were going to leave,” said Gearhart.

Currently, the ECLT department has six full-time faculty members, four of whom will not be teaching next semester. Both professor David Sweet and Gearhart have resigned from their posts.

According to William Melaney, professor and chair of the department, he will be on sabatical while Dan Balsamo will take a leave of absence to do research.

However, all courses will be taught as scheduled, said Melaney. “No course will be left... The schedule will remain the same, but the name of the instructor might be different,” he said.

The department has managed to fill two positions for Daniel Seldon, a professor of Renaissance and Classical Literature, will teach Gearhart’s courses and Barbara Harlow, a professor at the University of Texas at Austin, will fill in for Melaney.

“Barbara Harlow has taught in AUC before,” said Ferar Ghazoul, professor of ECLT, adding that both Seldon and Harlow speak Arabic.

The department wants to replace Sweet with a faculty member who can also cover Balsamo’s courses next semester. “Dr. Sweet is to be replaced by a scholar in eighteenth century literature and romanticism. But this is currently under negotiation since we still have to get the administration’s ok,” said Melaney.

ECLT students 2:1 in English and Comparative Literature (ECLT) announced this year.

The Student Union (SU) has launched the ECLT tournament as one event, said Hatem Alaa, the SU activities committee chairperson.

The opening ceremony was held on March 24 in the Rare Books garden at the American University in Cairo (AUC).

Ahmed Barada, an Egyptian singer and a former squash champion, attended and sang at the opening cer-
emony. Other performances included the band Marbleheads as well as Yousof Dabbash, who won first place as a solo singer at this year’s SU talent show.

“I like the fact that there were live bands playing...,” said Mohamed Abdur, a member of the fundraising committee.

“They combined these two events to do something on a bigger scale and do [job it] better,” said Alaa regarding the new event.

“This is a bigger project compared to past years as well as when it comes to structure,” said Minya Busta, the director of internal operations committee.

“The idea of the tournament is good. They are different and have lots of traditional games. I think the opening is an excellent step to attract people to the con-
cert itself,” said Ramy Elaff, an economics student.

The SU wants to change the perception that the Caravan is merely a social club, and attract famous Arabic singers such as Amr Diab, said fundraising head YB. "A

“I think the decision is good. [They are] different traditions,” said Salah.

The university was not able to compromise with them,” added Magdel.
Arabic youth unite

**BY NERINE EZZEDDIN**

*Caravan Reporter*

**Calling youth to embrace Arab identity: Mahmoud Al-Fayed**

Egyptian humanitarian Nourya Louisa Savis founded the fifth annual conference of the Arab Youth Development Congress (AYDC) last Saturday.

“Members of this congress and all youth are navigators of tomorrow. You are our hopes for tomorrow,” she told students from across the Arab world.

The conference, which was established in 2001 and is AYDC’s only Arabic-language conference, is an opportunity for students to debate significant political, social and economic issues that directly affect youth in the Arab world.

“Our target is mainly to identify students and make them critically analyze what is happening in all the Arab countries,” said Radwa El-Ghabry, general secretary of AYDC and a mass communication junior.

Savis, mother of the renowned Egyptian businessman Naguib Sawiris, emphasized the importance of looking to the future and leaving the past behind.

The opening, which was covered by several television stations, including El Bist Ruhak and Nile TV, was the culmination of 10 months of preparation for the AYDC team.

“I feel relaxed now after the ceremony because the opening is the most important part for me. I am very happy too with the coordination, publication and the most successful fundraising of all the past years,” said Soha Rashid, president of AYDC.

**On the Wire**

Mohamed Al-Fayed, the Egyptian billionaire and owner of Harrods, one of England’s most prestigious department stores, has announced that he plans to thank Al-Fayed after his death.

According to newsweek, Al-Fayed, 77, wants to be installed on a clock top of his famous store, with his body resting in the hour hand.

He is famous for his controversial declarations, such as when he announced he wanted to be cloned, and his theory regarding the car accident in which his son Dodi and Princess Diana died, saying that it wasn’t an accident but a conspiracy by the Duke of Edinburgh to kill the princess and her lover.

Al-Fayed is also the chairman of the Fulham Football Club and the owner of the Hôtel Ritz in Paris.

**Grove to the music**

**By Khaled El Dibaba**

*Caravan Reporter*

Grove Music Online is a new music database launched by the library of the American University in Cairo (AUC) to help students in their music research, said Kalia Bussert, reference access librarian.

“The database is comprehensive, useful and easily accessible,” said Kalia Bussert, an economics senior who is enrolled in a music course.

Bussert, the music program director who requested the subscription to the Grove database, said it is an important source of bibliographic and orientation materials that music courses need. He added that it particularly helps in providing information to studies of music history and theory.

Busser said although Grove Music Online is not the first music database introduced in the library, it includes other world-renowned music databases like the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, the New Grove Dictionary of Opera and the New Grove Dictionary of Jazz.

Babokis said there are differences between the new database, Grove Music Online, and the Classical Music database, which was introduced last fall.

Grove Music Online includes standard reference works in the field of music research,” said Babokis.

He added that although Grove Music Online tends to be technical, any student interested in music can benefit from it, but only musicians and students interested in music can benefit from the Classical Music database.

Azzza Mohamed, an art senior minorining in music, said, “I’ve never heard about this database and I usually use other databases for my music researches.”

Nader Saed, a political science junior, also said he doesn’t know anything about this new database.

“I heard about it (the database), but I never used it because I think it is only useful for advanced music courses while I’m only taking an introductory course in music,” said Yasmine Raslan, a business administration senior taking a music course.

**National team a no-show**

**By Hera El-Batrawy**

*Caravan Editor*

Egyptian national soccer team players, including Essam Meteb, Essam El Hadary, Hossem Hassan and Mohamed Shawky, disappeared an almost full El-Watt Har when they failed to show up for the Student Union’s (SU) weekly talk show, last Wednesday at the American University in Cairo (AUC). Avid student fans from different majors, classes and genders waited outside El-Watt Har’s closed doors and quickly filled the seats once the doors opened at 11 a.m.

While a video clip and songs played in the background, the two hosts Mostat Dinah and Rafah Sawalla delivered the news to the audience.

Students did not believe Dinah when he first told them the news. “I felt really disappointed and a little disrespected by the news. “I felt really disappointed and a little disrespected by the news,” said psychology senior Sarah El-Tarzi.

“They disappointed AUC and the SU,” said Seif Abou Zaid, the public relations chairperson of the SU. “They were not up to their word.”

He said that he wouldn’t want to bring them again but if the student body wants them to come they will work on it.

According to Abou Zaid, a letter of “reprimand” from AUC and the SU was coming but he had to go get an x-ray on his leg because of his injury at the opening ceremony.

All the players, except El Hadary, confirmed the night before that they were coming. El Hadary said he would try to come,” said Amira Salama, head of the guest relations committee. Wael Gomaa had also been invited to the talk show but he apologized the night before.

“I was ready, but there was no way I could come alone. Shawky was coming but he had to get on an x-ray on his leg because of his injury during the night that took place a day after,” said Meteb, adding that he was willing to come again.

“We had a game the day before that finished at 11 p.m., but I still said I would try to come,” he added. El Hadary confirmed the night before that he was willing to come another time, if he does not have a game to play or prepare for.

“I apologize on behalf of the players for what happened,” said Meteb, adding that if they come again, he would help organize and bring any of the players.

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**Did you know**

Mohamed Al-Fayed wants to be mum-mified after death?

**NO** 33%

**YES** 67%
Philosopher’s journey leads him to AUC

BY NADINE EL SAYED
Caravan Reporter

A strong believer in the “will of God” with a constant thirst for knowledge, Steffen Stelzer, a philosophy professor and the chair of the philosophy department at the American University in Cairo (AUC), shares his philosophical beliefs with his students.

Stelzer’s journey at AUC started in 1978 when he received a job offer from the university. Spontaneously, Stelzer accepted the offer without having visited campus where he’s been ever since.

“I had no idea about Egypt or going to Egypt, I never thought about it. The invitation one day appeared and I said, why not?” said Stelzer, reeling his red spirit. This new job was the “official” reason he went to Egypt but the other reason, he said, was the feeling about coming here.

Stelzer is teaching two philosophy courses this semester: Critical Thinking (PHIL 220) and Advanced Ethics (PHIL 330). Stelzer received his master’s degree in Comparative Literature from the Free University of Berlin and began pursuing his PhD in philosophy in Paris. But this journey was not the outcome of thoughtful deliberation but of something he felt he needed to reach.

“I was always looking for something and it kept pushing me further,” said Stelzer. “Thirst for knowledge drives you through landscapes and acres,” he said, adding that this search for “truth and reality” is what interested him about philosophy.

He finally found what he was looking for in his newly embraced religion and in it he also found what he could not find in philosophy. “I found the source of water but I need to keep drinking from it,” said Stelzer.

Stelzer exposes deep belief in the will of God and completely rejects planning ahead. “I do not find a need to plan anything,” he said, adding that he does not know where he will go next but it does not matter to him because it is all God’s will. “Planners believe in their own will but those who give up planning believe in someone else’s will,” he said.

His teaching career was, like his life, unplanned and came by coincidence. “I did not intend to teach,” said Stelzer. But through his teaching experience, he said he discovered his passion for “giving back what you have.”

“Students found his lectures inspiring and continue to visit his office after graduating. He is highly respected,” said philosophy alumnus Moataz Atallah.

“I feel alive while teaching,” said Stelzer.

All the food you desire

BY FARIDA HEMMY
Caravan Reporter

Vega, a cozy new lounge and café in Mohandiseen, caters to the hungry, the dieting, and those with a sweet tooth, simultaneously.

The staff at Vega adds to its comfortable ambiance. They cater to your every need, leaving you with nothing to worry about. Their hospitality, politeness and efficiency constitute nothing short of world class service.

Vega offers entertainment such as TV, magazines, and even games. If you think you and your friends may get load, Vega’s seating is arranged with glass partitions to ensure privacy.

The cozy eatery merges Chinese, Italian and French inspirations in both its food and design. This eclectic mix is also reflected in furnishings that also include a touch of Egyptian flair.

For a juicy main dish, try their irresistible Special Fillet, where a tenderloin is cooked to perfection in a special sauce. For those who are weight-conscious, try the diet pasta, which will fill you up, without the added calories. In case you bring children along, a kid’s menu is also available.

“I usually do not spend more than an hour in a place; I get bored very easily, but I actually spent three hours in Vega and I enjoyed it very much,” said Ranim Salem, a communication senior.

Chocolate-lovers will enjoy Vega’s hot chocolate drink with frothed milk and marshmallows, which will make your mouth water just looking at it.

If the variety of all the different menus doesn’t appeal to your senses, the international chef will happily prepare a customized dish for you.

Prices at Vega are reasonable; a main dish and a smoothie shake will cost you around LE 60. In addition to there being no minimum charge, your first visit to Vega also warrants a 10 percent discount on your bill. Vega opens at 10:30 a.m. and closes its doors at 2 a.m.

Students say AUC discriminates

BY FAREH BANMY
Caravan Reporter

The American University in Cairo (AUC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, disability or nationality... or so it claims in all its publications and announcements.

But students have complained about discrimination by professors based on sex, dress, political beliefs, and marital status and contend that the balance of publications and announcements.

According to Ralph Berenger, a mass communication professor, the relationship between professors and students is a two-way street based on respect and guidance, which would make it pointless for either to discriminate against each other. “You always hear stories about different preferences, but the bottom line is, you grade students according to how well they do in class, not according to dress code and religion,” he said.

Although he had never been discriminated against directly, Fady Helbush, a mass communication senior, said that he realized that many female professors tend to favor male students over female students and vice versa. “The same goes with conservative professors who prefer conservative students over more liberal ones,” he said.

Layla Afzal, a political science junior, agreed with Helbushi’s point saying she took a class with a professor who specifically asked that “the girls be covered up and the guys not wear shorts when coming to class, as well as keeping their hair and jewelry simple.”

According to a construction engineering student who asked to remain anonymous, sed conservative professors will alter your grade if they catch you smoking or sitting with girls, or respect you more if you are seen with them.

According to Mohsen, there are well-known means for faculty to report student violations, but students who want to complain against professors usually have to go to the department chair. If that doesn’t work, students can continue to try the dean, if not the Provost. The academic integrity task force, which deals with issues such as discrimination, has been discussing and formulating a clearer structure for students.

Students say AUC discriminates

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The entire AUC student body has made plans for the upcoming spring break, but many students have already begun stressing about the workload they will face when they return from holiday.

Many professors have scheduled midterms, assignments and projects that are due at the end of the break, which forces most students to either work during their well-deserved vacation or to put everything off until the last few days and then hurry through their work to meet the deadline.

It is understandable why some students want to use their available time in work in order to lighten the heavy load towards the end of the semester. However, students have complained not only about the amount of work assigned, but also that classes start up again on Wednesday. After two days on campus, they face a weekend.

What students don’t realize, though, is that they are not the only ones who have work over the break, but that professors as well must prepare for their classes. Also, they must come back for only two days before a week-end. Their hard work must be recognized and appreciated.

So get over it. It is not only the students who are forced to return to university for a scant two days, but also the professors. And in the end, they are trying to teach us.

The Voice

Yasmeen El Malla
Editor-in-Chief
Yunus Yousry, Managing Editor
Heba Habboud, Associate Editor
Yasmeen El Malla, Associate Editor

The AUC administration doing its test?

With all the different tests that are being administered in the university; the graduation remaining a one-day ceremony, accreditation for the management department underway, “new” emergency procedures, it sounds like the administration is in a way or another actually responding to students’ requests and complaints.

But is it really true, or are these “good proceedings” of the administration publicized in a way or another just to keep us (students) thinking that they are doing their best? After taking a look at the Caravan’s archives (with permission from Caravan staff), I found out that the same problems that are students having today in a wide variety of issues existed over 20 years ago!! Some of these include the Janameel Center elevator breaks, exams putting a strain on students, tuition fees and their hassle and even the cats issue.

It’s true that the administration responds to a few student suggestions, but are they giving it all they’ve got?

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It’s true that the administration responds to a few student suggestions, but are they giving it all they’ve got?...
The solution to the word search is posted on the Caravan Web site.

WORD SEARCH: PLACES IN EGYPT

Alexandria  Marsa Matrouh
Aswan  Minya
Cairo  Munifiyah
Dahab  Qalyubiyah
Domyat  Sharm El Sheikh
Fayoum  Sinai
Giza  Siwa
Hurghada  Suez
Kafr El Sheikh  Tanta
Luxor  Zagazig
كانت المملكة العربية السعودية في القرن الثاني والعشرين مركزًا لهوية كاسحة، فازت فيها الأهداف والتحديات، وقامت بجاهد كبير للتقدم والازدهار في جميع المجالات. من خلال تطويرها والعمل على تحقيق السلام، وتعزيز التعاون الدولي، قامت المملكة العربية السعودية ببناء مستقبل أفضل للعالم العربي والعالم العربي العربي. وتعتبر هذه الفترة جزءًا من التاريخ العربي الحديث، حيث شهدت المملكة العربية السعودية بالعديد من الإنجازات والتحديات في مختلف المجالات. وبهذا، فإن التعليم، والتنمية الاقتصادية، والشراكة الدولية، وال🌞 حماية البيئة، والدفاع عن حقوق الإنسان، وتعزيز التعاون الإقليمي، لها أهمية كبيرة في تطوير المجتمع العربي. وتعتبر هذه الفترة مثالًا صريحاً على كيف يمكن للدول العربية أن تتأهر من التحديات وتحقيق التقدم في جميع المجالات. وفقًا للأدبيات، فإن هذا الفترة يمكن أن تكون مصدرًا للإلهام وتشجيعًا للعالم العربي في تحقيق النجاح في جميع المجالات.