

# AUI Honoured in UAE

# THE AUI News

Volume IX - Spring 2003 Issue N° 1

A Publication of the Students of Al Akhawayn University

FEBRUARY 2003

## Editorial

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Qods Benjelloun  
.....

The AUI community is back after the Aid rites, and so is the AUI News after the semester break. The New Year 2003 seems to have started under snow and sun in Ifrane. Snow, offering us glittering views of the surrounding areas, and sun, to keep our spirits up. As every semester, our university welcomes new faces from Morocco as well as from other countries to maintain the richness of the interaction between all the members of our small community. The orientation leaders, who put great efforts in making the adaptation process as pleasant as possible, once again honoured their mission successfully.

Our official Football and Tennis team are back from Dubai and are sharing with us the best moments of their trip in this issue. Hard-working students will see their names in the President and Dean's list. The Campus issues and Opinion corners are here to express student's views, feelings and reaction about what's going on around us. Don't forget to take a break with our entertainment and poetry page. It has been almost a month now that the semester started. I am sure there are more events, and reactions to come. In the mean time, and after you all had your dose of "Boulfaf", I wish you good luck for what is coming up next.

## In This Issue

- Teacher recruitment and other issues with VPAA.....P.8**
- Dr Ghayur's Survey on students' perception of academia and other facilities in AUI.....P.7**
- Dr Jallal Taoufiq talks about psychology for the first time in a university newspaper.....P.10**
- Review of the Fall Semester .....P.5**
- Special Interview with Adel Kamane "sbaa" about the great performance.P15**

## Tennis and Football teams' journey to UAE

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Taoufiq El Ouali  
.....  
For the first time in the history of

AUI Sports teams, AUI soccer and tennis teams participated in an international sports tournament organized by the American University in Dubai, UAE. The results were a total sweep of all medals in Tennis. In fact, the first, second and

third places were for the university. The soccer team got the third place but it deserved more. The tourna-

ment includes teams from the following cities: Dubai, Sharjag, Ras Al Khaima (United Arab Emirates),

Beirut, Muscat, SQU (Oman), Doha(Qatar). All the teams participated in a hard competition over

the trophy of American Universities Sport Tournament. The activity was sponsored by the International Shopping Festival.



## Zoning

The University signed an agreement with Dubai Internet City to develop the university's Techno Park. It also assures promoting investments and creating and exchanging opportunities in different areas. Check [www.dubaiinternetcity.com](http://www.dubaiinternetcity.com)

The perseverance of the university to get the famous EQUIS accreditation is reinforced by the invitation of the SBA Dean and Mr Slimi to The Annual Meeting of Deans and Directors General in Lausanne (23-25 Jan. 2003). See [www.efmd.be](http://www.efmd.be)

AUI joined arms with EuroProspective. It is another step to encourage the young potentials through preparing future leaders. EuroProspective will help in funding projects on draught, water and the promotion of urban areas. The cooperation with this international network aims at exchanging information on Prospectives in the scope of building a common database. See [www.europrospective.org](http://www.europrospective.org)

An important agreement was signed Monday 10th February between the Arab Investors Club in Morocco and Al Akhawayn University. The agreement revolves round offering the University's students through the different member companies, job and intership opportunities, promote AUI in the Middle East through the subsidies of the different companies that are members of the Club; organizing seminars in the University in order to enrich the general knowledge of the students and enable them to benefit from the experience of the Arab companies' executives in the fields of business administration and investment. Check [www.ciam.ma](http://www.ciam.ma)

# Santana on Campus

Brahim Ouzineb



The Mustang Band has been solicited by lovers of Blues, Bob Marley and Santana. The activities asked them back to AUI to please our students. Indeed they were pleased. An empty concert does not make the pleasure of anyone. We have talked and talked about the students' indifference or complaints about the activities. On January 29th, the auditorium of building 17 starts to get filled as the music went on. People started to get in the mood and free their

bodies to the sweet melodies of Khalid and his band. Indeed, everything was there to entertain us. Soon the interaction between the students smoothens. Such activities not only appease the load of studies but it is also a bridge to thaw the ice between newcomers and continuing stu-

dents. It is also a good opportunity for exchange students to see a bit of our love for music and openness to various other cultures. Everybody whispers in the restaurant, the game room and the *cafette* their willingness to go and see the new comers in action. Are they good dancers? Would they take the lead or be just observers? In fact; new elements jumped to the front of the scene as they made sure that there is no harm in distinguishing oneself. In this context they may grow confident and look forward to being leaders. □



# Security Off Campus

Imane  
Being one of the students that were about to get aggressed by some strangers in the area near the lake, I feel obliged to raise this issue to make the AUI community aware of what is going on off campus. It is true that we feel safe in campus, and we felt safe also off campus, however, and lately it is no more the case. Around two weeks ago three other girls and I were

about to be attacked by 3 guys that apparently are not from Ifrane. While walking towards a restaurant off campus and near the lake those three guys were trying to aggress us, and the road was empty from people and from policemen that are supposed to be in there to prevent such incidents. The only thing that saved us at that time was running as fast as we could so as to escape. We were really afraid, and it is sure that if those guys caught us we

would have had problems with them. When we came back from town in small taxis, we talked of course to the security in the main gate. Later on, we got an e-mail from the DSA stating some procedures to follow in such cases and it seems that there will be reinforcement of security off campus with the contribution of security members from campus and policemen outside. We hope such incidents will not happen again. □

## Statistics on Disciplinary Action

The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs communicated statistics on disciplinary action taken by the Disciplinary Committee for the semesters of Spring and Fall 2002. The Committee reviewed cases involving academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, drugs, drinking, theft and misbehavior. Sanctions ranged from a simple warning to final expulsion. Since January 2003, the Committee has examined or is examining a total of five cases. Decisions will be communicated in a few days.

Cheating	4	2
Drinking	11	1
Drugs	2	0
Misbehavior	1	0
Plagiarism	5	6
theft	2	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>26</b>	
<b>Sanctions</b>	<b>Spring 02 fall 03</b>	
1 semester	9	1
2 semesters	3	0
Counseling	1	0
Expelled	1	2
Failing the course	7	5
No action	1	1
Community service	1	0
Warning	3	1
<b>Violations</b>	<b>Spring 02 fall 02</b>	
Academic dishonesty	1	0

# The Housing Service: THE WICKED SAMARITAN

Rajaa Chbihi  
A memorable day was that of January the 17th 2003. The welcoming of new comers had a new taste this semester. Housing services with the presence of orientation leaders organized a welcoming dinner for new comers in the restaurant. Fun, making new friends and especially forgetting the feeling of isolation that normally haunts the new comers were the goals of this activity. New comers met in the restaurant with the housing staff, orientation leaders and Mr Rachid Hadre to share the dinner meal in a cheerful atmosphere. In presenting each other, there was that feeling that a small community is being constituted smoothly. Exchange, inter-

national and Moroccan students intermingle to make one family in AUI. Gathering around one table with housing officers or orientation leaders, easy conversation of myriad topics flow as the dinner is served. I have been told by a new comer that after her parents left the university, she had a feeling of loneliness and fear. However, after attending the housing reception activity where she met new friends, she soon forgot about her former anxiety. We all know that living away from one's family in such a critical age is difficult but the student

confessed to me that now she had a new family. An exchange student also told me "I now feel satisfied that it was not a mistake to convince my parents and friends of my choice to come to study in Morocco especially in Al Akhawayn university. I found here my new family." After finishing dinner in the restaurant, new comers had a meeting in dorms with hall directors and orientation leaders. There were asked not to leave their rooms as the Dean may stop by not knowing what was awaiting them. The "Candid Camera" idea was well defended by Ms Yasmine Bahaji aiming at putting the new comers in situations of pro-

blems with which they would be confronted while on campus. In fact, through this activity, the hall directors could explain to new comers the important role of the hall director as a person who shares the residents' everyday problems and preoccupations. New comers could learn the housing regulations. The activity had all the fun a candid camera promises but it worked with the help of Dr. Bel Fekih and Ms Yasmine Bahaji who shared the memorable moment with us. After these activities and stories to tell their fellow students, everyone went to bed. This is just another melted brick in the wall of trust between the administration and students. □

**the important role of the hall director as a person who shares the residents' everyday problems and preoccupations**

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# Go Explorers

.....  
**Wadia Ait Hamza**  
 .....

The first weekend of this Spring semester was marked by the organization of the first trip of this semester. The explorers, as usual, schedule those trips so that students are more familiar with the environment where they live and where they spend at least 4 years.

Michelifen was the destination for more than 40 participants. But before that, the *marbê* was the first step in order to buy "*kefta*" "*chamya*", sodas and all the things that we will need to cook our meal. 19 km to walk,



many students thought that was impossible, but with the encouragement of the old members, the news members were able to make it... not all of them because there were some who, as we say in the Moroccan Arabic "sold their donkey" and they took taxi half way to Michelifen. The others continued to walk... walk and nothing but walk to get to the same goal: reaching Michelifen, eating *kefta* and having some fun.

From time to time, someone told us a joke, but no one laughed and I guess that was due to the fatigue of those explorers. The Japanese man, Mr. Chanaoui and Ouzineb were in their heyday singing all that came to their

minds to help the members forget about the road.

The explorers who took the taxis, prepared the place where we had lunch, and get the fire ready to cook the meat ... when we reached the camping fire, we were very happy, we walked nineteen Kilometers... Wow

What was wonderful in this trip was the team spirit. I noticed that during cooking each one did something, from preparing the minced meat ... to taking care of the "*chamya*." We called Adil "*Rabou*" because when a fire fades away, he was there to fan it ... Miam miam. It's delicious sorry for being late.

After eating and having some rest, we dragged our feet which had started to regain life to the ski station. There again several clashes of the titans like Hind, Chanaoui -who showed a good mastery of toboggans- and Fouiska guaranteed a lot of fun. The inci-



dent of Imad (lkh3a) tearing his pants while skiing is worth mentioning.

The next step after taking the vans was to go to the *marbê* as usual to have some *Melou* and tea. This habit was and still is one of the most important steps of exploring as it serves to recapitulate the major happenings of the trip, sometimes to plan for the next trip and how to avoid the mistakes made. Now that we mention mistakes, some students complained about the walking as being exhausting, but that is what exploring is all about. Life is not always a happy experience. At the end I want to thank all those who took part in the trip to Michelifen. You were great! □

## Environment Club's Trip to Bou Iblan

.....  
**Khaled Faical**  
**Nizar El Ouarti**  
 .....

The first day of February 03, the members of the environment club had the opportunity to participate in one of the



most wonderful trips. The destination this time was BOU IBLAN, the highest mountain in the middle atlas (3200m). BOU IBLAN is situated near Sefrou. A huge area of forest characterizes it. We asked the repre-

sentative of the ministry of agriculture there but he did not have a precise idea about its size. The main types of trees are Oak and Cedar.

However, this forest is suffering from a massive human exploitation. During our walk round, we witnessed a tremendous forest degradation,

due to overgrazing. Yet, we should not forget that this is the only source of living for the inhabitants of the region. We were also informed that this degradation was due to the use of lumber for heating, especially that the region is among the coldest areas of the kingdom.

We enjoyed the merits of this marvellous natural site, which is mainly mountainous, for a long day. The road was very difficult because we had to go for a long way on twisted routes full of snow. This obliged us to stop because the van could not go on. People living in the region were really happy to help us. We purchased two chickens and let them be cooked. Then, we started for a new adventure. We walked another rough rocky road ushered by some kids till the fountain from which a lot of lakes in the region spring. We spent good time listening to the undisturbed melody of the stream. We danced and helped each other especially girls who were very courageous indeed. Then, we came back to the house where our poor chic-

kens were laid ready to be devoured. Music, of course, was always on, in all its different kinds: starting by Caabi, RAI, RAP and Rock and Roll.

Before arriving to Ifrane, we stopped in Fez for a coffee break in ADEN Café. The trip was a real success thanks to the cooperation of all the participants and the forestry guide who provided valuable information on this beautiful natural site. Indeed, the experience encouraged seeking more knowledge about our environment, which translates the myriad contrasts in our country. □



## Very nice lunch at Zaouiya Sidi Abdesslam

.....  
 Mouaad Ibriz  
 .....  
**T**he first time that I went to the Zaouiya of Sidi Abdesslam was on Sunday January, 19th 2003. In fact, this visit was organized by the HRCWEC and incorporated in the Orientation program. The purpose behind this small trip was to inform the students, especially the new comers and international ones, about the living situation in this

region. At 12:00 pm sharp the vans started taking people there. At the arrival, we found people waiting for us in the center and gave us an overview about their goals. After, and to say that the Moroccan hospitality is everywhere even in the most deprived families, the women in the center prepared for us a variety of Moroccan cookies- really delicious- and some tea. Not only that, but for 20 miserable dirhams

we could get a big couscous traditionally cooked chicken plate. We were six (6) in each table, each group was hosted in a family. In fact, we tried to mix new comers with international students and teachers so that we create an ideal environment for a fruitful discussions about everything and nothing. At the end, we were so happy that coming back to the university was not our priority. □

## AUI welcomes its New Comers

.....  
 Brahim Ouzineb  
 .....  
 The AUI community prepared as usual the new Spring entrance. The staff moved the different services to building 4 to ensure a better service to the new comers. The Orientation Leaders did their best to break the ice and help the new comers adjust to the new environment. The program was loaded and it gave

Mr Hadre - the Outreach Officer and responsible- people to run after. The OLs were performing a good job though they roamed sometimes despite the close surveillance of Wadia and Bassam. Anyways, the orientation is always a delight as it offers the new comers the possibility (a tiresome one I should admit) to know where everything is on campus. Despite all this, the program needs to concentrate more on how to give the new comers more time to grasp the pile of information they get. Anyway, it is a foreshadowing of what their life on Al Akhawayn might be. We always end up losing people after weeks. Some even do not remember where they live. Worse is the misinformation students get about teachers, residences and the staff that they should consult if they have any problem. □

# Hail the President's and the Dean's Lists

**T**hese students got the honor of being in the President's list. They got straight As in all their courses for the fall 2002 semester and thus deserve our esteem. The second list is that of the dean. It includes those who got between 3.5 and 3.99 GPA.

### THE PRESIDENT'S LIST

#### Business Administration

AL GUEZAUI SALMA  
 BELHNA ANISS  
 GADA ABDESSAMAD  
 MAHBOUBI ZAKARIA  
 OUAZZANI CHAHDI BRAHIM

#### Bachelor/Master of Sciences

BOUZOUBAA MAROUANE

#### General Engineering

BELAAZIZ HICHAM  
 BENRAHHALI ISSAM  
 BENSALD SOUFIANE  
 EL GHANI SOUMIA  
 FAOUZI-ZIZI MOHAMMED YASSINE  
 HAMMANE NAOUAL  
 HIBA BTISSAME  
 JAZOULI ZINEB  
 LAKHLIFI HOUDA  
 TAOUFIK IMANE  
 WILSON LUKE  
 YOUNINE SANAA

#### Human Resources Dvpt

BEN YAHYA LOUBNA

#### International Studies

CHEBIHI HASSANI ZINEB  
 EL BASRI NAJIB  
 EL MAHDI ASMAE  
 MEDARHRI FAICAL  
 MOKHTARI SANAA  
 TBER HAMZA

#### Social Sciences

CAPELLE MARGUERITE  
 MAY JENNIFER  
 REUNING SOPHIE  
 ROZAN ANGELE  
 SWICK SARAH

### THE DEAN'S LIST

#### Business Administration

ABBAD MOHAMMED  
 AKHANCHOUF ZINEB  
 AMAJOUJ KHALID  
 BADIS MYRIAM  
 BAKKAR BADR  
 BELAMQADDAM OTHMAN  
 BEN ZAKOUR MEHDI  
 BENKIRANE SAADI YASMINE  
 BENNOUNA LOURIDI MAJID  
 BENNOUNA MARIAM  
 BENZEKRI NORA  
 BERRADA MOHSINE  
 BIRNECKER ROBERT  
 BOUALI YOUSSEF  
 BOUDEKKARA KAMAL  
 BOUNOUARE BRAHIM  
 CHOUKAIRI KARIM  
 DRIOUCHI TARIK  
 EL BENNA YACINE  
 EL BEZZARI NAZIH  
 EL HABIB SAID  
 EL KHAMLI CHI ZINEB  
 FATHI IMANE  
 FOUADI GHIZLANE  
 HACHIMI KENZA  
 IDRISSE KAITOUNI REDA  
 IRAQI AICHA  
 JOUAHRI CHARIF  
 KHARBOUCHE SIHAM  
 KNAUER BETTINA  
 LAHLOU ZINEB  
 LAHRECH LAMIAE  
 LASAROV MERI  
 LEKCHIRI MOUNA  
 LEMBARKI KADIRI SANAA  
 MANSOURI MOURAD  
 MARJANE YASSINE  
 MASSAOUDI CHOROUC  
 MEZIANE MTALSI ABDELKARIM  
 MHAMMEDI ALAOUTI MOHAMMED  
 REDA  
 MOUBJIL LOUBNA  
 MOUKBIL SALMA  
 NAFAR ASMAA  
 NAOU EL MEHDI  
 OULAHBOUB KENZA

#### SBA MOUNA

SEKKAT MOHAMED CHARAF  
 SLAOUTI HIND  
 STOTI MOHAMED REDOUANE  
 TAGMA MOUNIA  
 YACOUBI SOUSSANE MOHAMMED  
 ZAOUDI SOFIA  
 ZOUAG NADA

#### Bachelor/Master of Sciences

HASSANAIN ASMAA  
 ZAHY ABDELALI

#### Communication Studies

EL HAMDANI MONA  
 FAIZ JIHANE  
 HOUARI SALIMA  
 KETTANI LALLA RABIA  
 KHOMRI NADIA

#### General Engineering

ABDELJAOUAD IMAD  
 AGUEJDAD MEHDI  
 AL KASIMI ALYA  
 AMIMI ILHAM  
 BARGACH MOHAMED AMINE  
 BELAHSEN HAJAR  
 BEN JIRA YASSINE  
 BEN SAID YASSINE  
 BEN YAHIA YOUSSEF  
 BENABDELJALIL LAMYAE  
 BENKIRANE GHITA  
 BENLAMLH NADIA  
 BENZINA AMAL  
 BOUHLAL OMAR  
 BOUZID FARAH  
 CHAHID MOUNIR  
 CHHOUL OTHMAN  
 DIOP AMINATOU  
 EL ALAMI EL HALIMI MARIEME  
 EL JABRI FAIZA  
 EL KHENATI FAYCAL  
 EL MOUFATICH FAYSSAL  
 EL MOUJAHID FAHD  
 GUENNOUNI SOUHAIL  
 HAMDANE NARJISSE

Hejjouji Marouane  
 KARAFI AMINE  
 KASSITE HIND

#### Khaldoun Siham

KHIZRANE HAMZA  
 LAOUNA MAROUANE  
 LAYADI MOHAMED HICHAM  
 LAZRAC MERIEM  
 MOUTALIBI MOUNCEF  
 MTOUGUY AHLAM  
 NBOU OMAR  
 OUHAJJOU NAJD  
 REHIOU AMINE  
 RHOULAMI OMAR  
 SAID FAICAL  
 SOUFIANE NABIL  
 TADLAOUI MYRIAM  
 TALEH HANAA  
 TOUHAMI EL OUAZZANI LALLA  
 MERIAM  
 ZAHRANE ASMAA  
 ZEMMOURI IMANE  
 ZIADI GHITA

#### Human Resources Dvpt

JAI HIND

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 BENRYANE MOHAMMED ALI  
 BENYAICH YOUSSEF  
 BOUGHANOU AMAL  
 EL BOUAYCHI SIHAM  
 IBRIZ MOUAAD  
 KLEUSER GEORGE MONKHOUSE  
 LAHLOU SANAE  
 LAKHBABI FATIMA-ZAHRAE  
 NEJJAR BASSAM  
 TBEUR GHIZLANE  
 ZAIDI AMAL

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 JOHNSON JENNIFER  
 MARGOLIN ARIANNE  
 MIVILLE NADINE  
 PATTERSON KATHERINE  
 SOLANA DE LA CRUZ LIDIA  
 WALTERS KATE □

.....  
Brahim Ouzineb  
.....

# THE SEMESTER IN REVIEW

The events of the last semester were just too numerous to be mentioned in one go, so the editorial board decided to reproduce them to bring good memories back to life. This also targets those who spent one semester here, and then go back to their homes, mainly exchange students. This is the best way to get an idea of the various activities pertaining to Fall Semester. The events will not be sorted by dates or prominence, but will just be discussed "ad hoc,"

some mistakes of translation. The credits for such a huge event go to the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. It was said that this activity will be repeated and indeed enlarged. The students liked it - partly because they had the chance to meet famous 'showbiz' Moroccan actors - so why change it?!



The second major event was the first activity of the Diplomacy Club: The Diplomacy Night on Elections, on the 27th of September. Away from the ornamental language of

and we leave you the right to arrange them the way you like. One thing is for sure is that they would remind some people of good moments on campus but also be an incentive to others to work on new ideas. Remember that any idea is applicable; it only needs innovative and committed people.

The first event that draws our attention is the Film Days. It was an event that was appreciated and applauded by some press organs in our country. The Film Days, on the one hand, show the university's interest in a thriving Moroccan cinema. On the other hand, they were a response to students' repetitive requests to broadcast Moroccan films in Building 4 instead of only American movies. The university has to boast as well about its students who were, according to the actors, film critics and directors, up to the challenge. We can say that they surprised them. The quality of questions wavered between short-sighted and probing; however, the mediocrity of some questions stemmed from inexperience with Moroccan movies and using high standards to judge a developing cinema. More, the university needs to more fully explore the idea of working on the subtitling of the movies, since several people noticed that there were

diplomacy, the night was a striking identification of ills of our society. In fact, we witnessed the different stances of famous thinkers and politicians versed in the different issues debated. The moderator of the conference would surely have a word to say about that. He was faced with a group of reporters overflowing with information about the topic at stake from El Jamai l'Opinion and the effaced Reuters reporter Stephen Hughes. Once again, the auditorium of Building 7 was packed and students had their share in making the conference as beneficial and as substantial as possible. Again, the call for the students of Al Akhawayn to bring about the awaited change in our society was stressed by all the speakers. The Club has a lot in store for the student population. Check it out!

The Theater Club's resurrection was witnessed this semester as it showed its play A View

From the Bridge. Surely, our Club either does not find pieces that would meet the expectations of the AUI audience or the time of the semester was too short hence the meager presence of spectators. A major problem here pertains to the availability of students for activities, and the dilemma of choosing between attending a lecture and going to a bar.

One solution to avoid squandering one's money and especially time in a bar is to attend the 'Samaa' Night organized by the Andalusian Music Club in the Mosque of the university. Unluckily such events are organized only once in a while. One thing that the students complained about is the fact of letting the non-Muslim members of the AUI community students attend the night. The activity showed a consideration for the spiritual side of the students which plays a role in stabilizing their psyche as Muslims. The members of the Andalusian Music Club chose the right time to invite people known in this field, since there is nothing more gratifying than celebrating the Ramadan nights through reciting the Koran and remembering the Prophet's deeds.

The invitation of the prestigious Nas El Ghiwan, which has become a rite in AUI, has always been a major attraction. Having this great world famous group at a critical time (during the illness of Allal) was a testimony of their esteem of AUI students and their love of Moroccan serious music. We do not need to mention the deep immersion of Nas El Ghiwan in our culture. In fact, they have become part of it if not one of the brightest pillars of it. As Omar Said puts it; 'it is always our pleasure to be in such an aura where youngsters recite our songs better than us. The grouping of so many cities in such comfort-

table conditions is a pride to our country.'

To satisfy all tastes, Maria Naciri was hosted once again. This Moroccan sweet voice, as the students describe it, is getting more of an audience at AUI, as the Maria Nights repeat themselves. What makes her greatly appreciated is her readiness to interpret any song that links to students. Shirley Bassey, Gloria Gaynor,



Mariah Carey, Whitney Houston, Bill Withers, and Brian Adams are perfectly sung by a voice that transcends all styles. With Maria students easily find themselves on the stage sharing songs with her.

One of the best student-led and well-attended activities that stirred students was undoubtedly the Rap Concert, which was a real success this semester, not only because the performance was outstanding, but also due to the involvement of students in it. El Padre "Yassine Marjane" was in high heels as his Club was triumphing after two semesters away from the university. It was also a kind of a farewell party to Gus who was solicited by a Canadian agency to train Rappers (lol). We should not forget the touch of Mr. Tyrell Hughes whose spell appalled all those present. He was, together with Abdullah Dhuhane, simply marvelous and produced the best performance on stage ever done in AUI.

The Halloween party organized by the AUI Radio drew interest as well, since it is the suitable moment for students to show their creative talent as far as clothing is concerned. It was also an occasion to enjoy the latest music and mixes of our DJ Mehdi. □



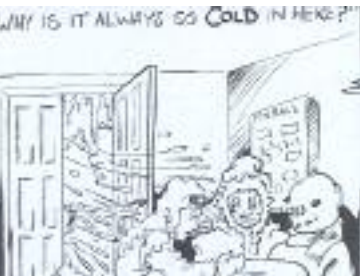
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# Ifrane and the Cold

# Our Clean University

Sara Oubidar

Have you ever asked yourself if the cold of Ifrane affects your physical and emotional health? The answer to this ordinary question may not be as obvious as it may seem to be. Almost all of us have been sick at one point or another. While shivering in the cold of Ifrane, we caught a cold; we got the flu; we had stomach problems, etc. Obviously, the cold does affect our physical health,



but the question is: does it affect our emotional well-being?

I walk down to the *Marché* and people do what normal people do; they are smiling, screaming and crying sometimes; you feel that they really are human beings; that they have feelings that all human beings have. I walk around the campus, people are smiling and screaming too, but very rarely do I find someone crying, letting his or her feelings out. I wonder why. Aren't we human beings after all? Aren't we supposed to cry when it hurts, when our feelings are wounded or overwhelmed and when we

don't find someone to talk to. Aren't we supposed to stop acting from time to time? It is tiring to keep on acting all the time!

I don't know if there is really someone who thinks as I do; however, I know that all of us feel this walled-in, shut-in ambiance here. It may not be the cold of Ifrane that affects our hearts, but the cold here is freezing the walls we build around ourselves, making us more and more inaccessible to each other.

Guys, I have a favor to ask, but please, try to think about it seriously before granting me the favor: try to break down these walls. It's going to help you in your life, it's going to help you live in and find peace, and most importantly, you are going to feel what freedom truly means. □

Brahim Ouzineb

The Environment Club has been very active these days. It has concentrated its green eyes on issues that relate to the environment off campus, while disregarding the management of the on-campus garbage cans. One sees people dumping tons of paper without making the tiniest effort to see if the garbage can is for paper waste or for garbage, despite the smart idea of the color-coded receptacles (national elections reflection on our university). Take a

look behind the buildings and you will see a different image of our identity: plastic bags and all sorts of garbage. Worst of all is that some students leave their garbage in the



dorm hallways despite the fines imposed by Housing Services; nobody really cares. The phenomenon goes on and on. What is also shocking is the fact that students leave their

empty coffee cups everywhere except in the *cafette*. This is really a big issue that requires not a fine but a real disciplinary shake so that culprits respect that beauty for which a lot of people envy us. Taking all this into consideration, the Environment Club should address more on-campus issues before going on long-distance walks off campus.

Meanwhile, I encourage us all to be rational and humane, and to think at least about those people who stand the whole day in the sun picking up other people's litter. □

## My Experience

Ilham Rifai

It's December 1999, I just finished my finals. It is going to be the last time I will come to AUI to study! Without even thinking, I went to Rabat to get prepared for the GMAT Test. Continuing studies was so familiar that I didn't think that there are other options. The only matter was when and where! I did apply for different universities in USA and I waited for the TOEFL and GMAT scores, as they will definitely alter my choice. The financial aid was as major a factor as any other, indeed. As expected, I did get the needed score and my application was retained in two universities. I initiated all the preparations to leave Morocco when suddenly and smoothly, an idea started penetrating my mind. I've been at AUI for almost four years ... I don't know what such diploma may provide me with... What is its real value? Is it only a step towards leaving my country? is this it?! What if I suppressed a

valuable experience that I would get if ever I decide to go through testing my competencies that I gained from my courses in a university known to be the first in Morocco. I even heard from some exchange students how experience plays a role in determining the field of study one might end up choosing after a brief experience, no matter where or how. I finally realized that I got a diploma and that gaining some work experience will definitely mark my choice afterwards.

I remember those hard times I underwent when looking for a job. Originated from Fez, getting a job was extremely difficult. However, one day, while preparing to go out, I got a phone call. I was required to a job interview the following day.

For the first time I enjoyed an interview. It was composed of general questions; the interviewer who was also the General

Director, instead of asking me, was explaining how difficult working with people is and that it's a street; we don't ever know who we will meet. Only those who can adapt themselves fast to all kind of users could get what they want. I did not really understand all that he was talking about and what I did was to shake my head each time saying "Yes, you are



right ..." We agreed that I will start as a trainee; the company would take a decision on my behalf after three months.

I remember my first days at work. Some kept looking at me strangely whenever they see me; others did not even say "hello". I was reading in their

eyes their astonishment; what would be my job as I am sharing the office with the boss? What would a twenty-two years old girl have as competence to be close to their boss? In fact, even if I were so confident about what I learnt, I realized that I lack a lot. I couldn't solve deals on the phone as I felt shy whenever dealing with somebody. People would take advantage of that, I said to myself.

I had to start from the beginning; confronting people, imposing myself and working extra hours to be always on time regarding my duties. Sometimes, I skipped lunch hours and had to work on my French as it's the first step toward better communication. Talking about communication, I had to learn what should be said and should be neglected, what should be proven and what should be taken for granted, when to say things,

when to call, how to arrange meetings, how to write administrative reports, ... In general, how to be able to present yourself through writings, talks, decisions, or any other means of communication that the other will offer you to get what you want. It's all about your efforts to be efficient along with the image you give of yourself and the skills you have to get what you want from others and realize your objectives. As soon as one understands this, work becomes a rewarding journey where as long as you give, you gain. Now after a three-year work experience, I can say that I do not regret staying in my country and if I came back to AUI, it is to express that what I learnt here was as valuable as what I got at Work. One should never stop learning! Your work will always gives you as long as you learn, because it gains from what you are and what you would be. So be prepared to all that!!

To my boss □

# Students' Perception of the Academic Programs and Other Facilities at AUI



Dr Arif Ghayur

This is the second and final installment of the article about my survey findings regarding students' attitude toward various aspects of the academic and non-academic life at the AUI. The survey was conducted in Spring 2002. Students had registered the highest amount of dissatisfaction about the following: Present grading system (72.1%), campus store (64.7%), net connection/ITS (62.2%), and the food service (59.3%). On the other hand, the highest amount of satisfaction was expressed about: Better quality of education at AUI compared to other Moroccan universities (97.4%); AUI's high 'prestige' ranking among Moroccan universities (97.4%); Good campus credit card system (84.2%), and that AUI degree helps in providing a good start to one's career (82.9%).

In total, 851 suggestions were put forward by the sampled 154 students - 15.5% of the total 1002 AUI student population in Spring 2002. However, these total 851 suggestions obviously included many of the same. In other words, there were a total of 145 DIFFERENT suggestions. Highest number of suggestions/complaints was put forward about the AUI Library, i.e. 23 different ones. The lowest number of suggestions were given about the credit card system, i.e. only five. Obviously, some of these complaints/suggestions have been 'taken care' by the University during the last one year. For example, demand for a 'faster Internet connection' (67 complaints) has been met to a great extent since Sept 2002. Similarly, a functioning swimming pool is also a

non-issue since Sept 2002. All complaints about the Campus Store have not been taken care so far. But since the conversion (to quote a student) of the Campus Store into a "mini-Marjane" last year has solved the problem of the availability of a greater variety of Items to some extent. Second the highest number of complaints (58) were received about the lack of variety of items and the high prices. I believe the problem of high prices is still hanging in the atmosphere as a question mark. With the installation of the electronic surveillance equipment in the library has relieved students of the problem of taking off their coats, leaving bags and having arguments with the guards sometimes - to a great extent. but the situation regarding the 'extended photocopying and opening hours' still remains more or less the same as a year ago. Sixth largest number of complaints (19) were received about this issue.

I have listed all the 10 different complaints/suggestions in the table below (Table 1). Unfortunately, due to the problem of space in the AUI News, I am not able to discuss all of

rent types of complaints. But going through the list is a good opportunity for the AUI community to see what are students' demands and how they believe the university can improve academically and otherwise. The remaining complaints are illustrated in Table 2. If anybody is more deeply interested in finding out the details of all the 145 complaints and their frequency please contact me directly. I will be happy to help out. I believe that going through the list of the 'top 50' is a good opportunity for the AUI community to see what are students' demands and how they believe the university can be improved academically. I am including one more table in this article (i.e. about the AUI library) as it received the highest number of comments/suggestions (23) from students. Obviously, library plays a very crucial role in students' academic life anywhere. Therefore, they are concerned

Table1: Ten Most Frequent Comments

COMPLAINTS/SUGGESTIONS	FREQ.
1. Faster connection to internet and/or email computers	67
2. Cheaper products and sell cheaper products (e.g. coffee)	58
3. Open the swimming pool outdoors for cottiled	38
4. Food quality and prices need to be revised (e.g. chicken)	36
5. Make the sports available again in the sports stadium	35
6. Expand the library and open more hours of work	19
7. Increase the number of books (library)	19
8. Offer courses in the major (e.g. computer)	19
9. Make variety in meals (e.g. cafeteria service)	18
10. Increase job not sold (e.g. in the campus facilities)	17

COMPLAINTS/SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE LIBRARY	FREQ.
1. Photocopying and opening hours should be extended at night	19
2. Keep coats and bags inside the library	10
3. Have an electronic database of old and new books available	11
4. Add more study rooms	2
5. Increase the number of books	19
6. Put periodicals in study rooms according to school affiliation	3
7. Increase security measures to prevent theft	2
8. Have a more effective assistance from the librarians	5
9. Place for coats and bags must be changed	1
10. Have a better light system	2
11. Books should be re-shelved correctly	1
12. Early editions	1
13. More journals and magazines in English and French	1
14. Less noise of mobile phones	2
15. Authorization make any kind of copies	2
16. Have a suggestion box proper in the library	1
17. The library should be provided by the latest books published	1
18. Have more privacy	1
19. Photocopying should be available to students personally	3
20. Add the exhibitions, new and used books, publications, etc.	1
21. With those guards we feel we are in prison	1
22. Without coat can't bring. Librarians not heated good	2
23. Guards ask some to remove coats, not others	2

the suggestions/complaints individually nor can I give the table with all the 145 different types of complaints. However I would like to point out that the top 50 complaints cover 76.85% of the total 145 different

types of complaints. But going through the list is a good opportunity for the AUI community to see what are students' demands and how they believe the university can be improved academically and otherwise. The remaining complaints are illustrated in Table 2. If anybody is more deeply interested in finding out the details of all the 145 complaints and their frequency please contact me directly. I will be happy to help out. I believe that going through the list of the 'top 50' is a good opportunity for the AUI community to see what are students' demands and how they believe the university can be improved academically. I am including one more table in this article (i.e. about the AUI library) as it received the highest number of comments/suggestions (23) from students. Obviously, library plays a very crucial role in students' academic life anywhere. Therefore, they are concerned

Table1: Other Most Frequent Comments

COMPLAINT OR SUGGESTION	FREQ.
1. Opening hours of the campus store must be expanded	16
2. The Campus Store must be expanded	16
3. Learning service in the dorms should be better frequent	15
4. Professors should explain more details and be more involved	15
5. Professors should expand classes related to the major	12
6. Student choice of courses and flexibility of time / scheduling of classes	11
7. A well-kept system must allow students to receive cash	11
8. The curriculum must be more specialized	11
9. Hours are unfair for five people / dorm conditions	11
10. Hire more professors who have a good sense of pedagogy	10
11. Make a better selection of books in the library	10
12. Increase the number of books in the library	10
13. Increase the number of books in the library	10
14. Buy more services / have a new hardware / computer lab / etc.	9
15. Books are not returned in appropriate quantities	9
16. Professors should be open to new ideas and new courses need to be introduced	9
17. Professors must be respectful towards students	9
18. Greater choice of majors	9
19. Important products need to be available in the campus store	9
20. Increase opening hours of the restaurant / food catering service	9
21. Green room need not to be present necessarily	9
22. Expand the present restaurant and build a new one	9
23. More contents will speed up the process	9
24. Students must be allowed to go to each other's dorms during the day	9
25. More contact with the professionals in the field (e.g. lawyers, etc.)	9
26. Have more services / books sold in the store	9
27. Reduce the number of students in classes	9
28. Increase Accounting as a major in the business school	9
29. Increase and popularize the staff towards difficult operations	9
30. Increase classes of English / phonetic	9
31. Increase classes of French / German / etc.	9
32. Food in the restaurant needs to be well heated	9
33. Change ruling / policies about the library	9
34. Change the staff in the administration	9
35. Increase the number of books in the library	9
36. Have a better catering company	9
37. Food for students must be better	9
38. Increase the number of books in the library	9
39. Increase the number of books in the library	9
40. Increase the number of books in the library	9

on a scientific basis at the AUI. I strongly believe that the University should make it a regular feature for every year. I was not able to investigate many aspects of the issue this time. I have many more aspects in mind which should also be included in the future surveys. I am willing to take the responsibility to conduct such surveys each year if the AUI asks me to do so. Any students and colleagues are most welcome to join me in the future research efforts.

*[Dr. Arif Ghayur is the only sociologist at AUI. He is author of four books. He has publications in Harvard University Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups, Collier's Encyclopedia, and The Annals of American Academy of Political and Social Science - to name just a few. He has been a visiting faculty in Germany two times and in U.K. three times]*

The Opinion section welcomes contributions from all members of the community. Submissions can be directed to The AUI News Office (Bldg. 2, upstairs). The Office can be reached at 2013, or via e-mail at [auinews@alakhawayn.ma](mailto:auinews@alakhawayn.ma).

# Professors: hired/fired, CADS courses.....

Mouaad Ibriz

**Q : How are AUI teachers and professors are hired? On what criteria is the selection made?**

A: There are various steps that we follow in hiring, it's a long process and it should be long because we want to make sure that the hiring is done properly and that we hired the appropriate person for the appropriate job. So, first the need has to be identified in a particular school or center; and once the need is identified, we discuss what profile we are looking for and then we advertise the positions that are open generally in The Chronicle of Higher Education. All the applications come to the VPAA first, and then they are sent to different schools and centers. Now in each school there is a hiring committee and the latter has five (5) members; three of them are permanent; the dean appoints them for their experience, knowledge of the school; and the outlook they have in the school and then one member is appointed from outside the school; so that there is an external view that's not so involved in the school's details and matters. There is an "ad hoc" member who is chosen depending on the specialty of the faculty that's being hired. The files are examined, and those who do not suit the profile are sent letters of regrets and those that have been short-listed are interviewed. As the distance makes it very difficult to have a face to face interview, they are generally interviewed over the phone by the five members. Out of the people interviewed, those that have been retained are ranked ; the dean examines the files in the order recommended and makes an offer in terms of salary in consultation with the vice-president for academic affairs. If the candidate accepts, then that position is filled, if that candidate turns down the offer then we move to candidate number two (2) and the same thing with candidate two and so on...In fact, we look at the fit between the job advertised and the profile of the candidate. We want to know, "Have they taught in the specialty? Do they have a degree in that specialty? What is their academic backgrounds related to the positions that are open?

Their publications records? Sometimes we consider their international experience so that we can have an idea about their ability to adjust to a different culture, to a different environment. Once we finish, there is a deliberation among the members of the committee and there is an extensive report written on the assessment of the committee and its recommendation.

**Q: You said that the hiring is done through a phone conference. Don't you think that this way is NOT the appropriate way for hiring?**

A: It's a very important question. Our preference of course is to see the professor at work performing. In fact, it happens occasionally, if the teacher is in Morocco or is close by, we invite him/her for a week in which they give two or three lectures and we have evaluations from the students and the faculty who attended the lecture and at the end of the evaluation form we ask them "Would you take this person as a professor of yours?" and we also ask the professors "Would you take this professor as a colleague of yours ?" The telephone interview is the second best; it's not our first option. We do it because if somebody is in the US it's extremely expensive to pay for their travel here. The other option is to send people and interview the eligible persons over there and that's more difficult to achieve because you need the committee and you can't fly the whole committee and pay for their stays there. So the first choice is the face-to-face interview, and the second choice is the phone conference.

**Q: Despite the need, is there any specific period of time during the year in which the hiring is done?**

A: We do hire twice a year. We identify the needs for those periods of time, October/November is the hiring time for January, but for September we generally hire around April.

**Q : Dr Ouauoucha, a question that imposes itself in this context is the following : How does the unfortunate firing process take place ?**

A : First, we don't like to fire, because to fire the teachers and

the professors mean that we, the administration, are also responsible because we misjudged. However, sometimes there are people who tell us one thing and they turn out to be something totally different, and in that case it's painful but we go through it. Before we do it we document. The documentation comes from the students; you are the first people we trust by looking to the students' evaluations, but sometimes for various reasons students are reluctant to write negative things about professors. Consequently, we try to read between the lines, and sometimes we hear things orally people say but don't write. Not only that, but we rely also on colleagues because team work with other faculty is important so we hear from the other colleagues. Third, there is the evaluation committee in each school composed of five mem-

**The documentation comes from the students; you are the first people we trust by looking to the students' evaluations, but sometimes for various reasons students are reluctant to write negative things about professors.**

bers elected by the faculty themselves and we look at the evaluation of the coordinator and the dean and then it gets to the VPAA, who makes the final recommendation to the President, who makes the final decision. So it's a long process of evaluation; we do not fire like that generally; we prefer to finish the contract and not renew it. But sometimes the University is forced to do this if there is misconduct, and severe lack of responsibility towards the pedagogical and the educational duties. Here I stress on the separation between teaching and education; the responsibility towards the teaching, the classes, the curriculum and how it fits with the overall degree plan for everybody and then the relationship with the colleagues, the staff and with the students. Professors play, in addition to teaching, a role of education; the professors do give a model of behavior to students.

**Q : There are some students and teachers who complain about the unbalanced ratio "advisor/advisees" what do you think about that ?**

A : That is true and we are giving it thought, take the exam-

ple of the Business school that has over 400 students and 12 or 13 professors.

So if you divide 400 students by 13 teachers you will end up with a high number (30 students for each professor), the question is, "Can we have professors from another school, where there are fewer students advise students in the Business School?" In fact, there are pros and cons, the cons is that those professors may not know the details of the business program, the pros is that if the ratio decreases students may have access to better quality time and quality advising. What did not make us change the actual system is that not all the students go to see their advisors often enough. In fact, they may have a high number on paper, but not that high in reality; once everybody would take advantage of this service, I think we will have to find a solution.

**Q : There is a problem that all students face, especially in the SHSS that concerns the courses offered once a year. Is there a solution for this specific issue?**

A : I think the solution is to follow the degree plan worked out with the advisor who knows more about what will be offered and what will not. If the students follow carefully the degree plan they would have no problem on that issue. The problem happens when we offer classes with small numbers of students, then the class is, sometimes, cancelled because only one or two students registered for it. Otherwise, it would be a big loss for the University to keep the course for only two students and if it is cancelled there is a problem for the student that is discussed with the advisor; if the student can wait until it is



offered, if the student cannot, then we do find a formula either a course that has similar requirements or some other formula. We have been flexible to work on individual cases.

**Q : Concerning the combined Bachelor and Master's degrees. Is there any concrete project for the SBA and SHSS?**

A : Yes, there is. We are working on it. I did get the proposal from the school of Humanities and Social Sciences and the likelihood is that next year you will see something that is feasible for the majors where there is a Master's program such as the International Studies and Diplomacy program. Concerning the Business school the thinking is going on.

**Q : Even though some students entered AUI before the implementation of the CADS program, when they want to switch they are obliged to take the courses of that program ?**

A : Those students entered the university before the opening of the CADS and started in a certain program that doesn't require CADS courses. But if they change to another program that has experienced some changes like the BBA, this is a new program that has CADS as a must in it, so the student is entering a new degree that has its own requirements. Those students would be taking CADS or testing out of these courses if they demonstrate they have acquired the skills taught in these classes. This is because of the degree requirements not because of the University requirements. But if they go to another degree with the old format, there are no CADS requirements. □



# Dr JALLAL TAOUFIQ speaks of Psychological Counseling and other important issues

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 Fatima Zahra Brown  
 Brahim Ouzineb  
 .....

**Q. Thank you doctor for allowing us this interview. First we would like to know what is Psychological Counseling?**

A. I am Jallal Taoufiq, MD. I practice my job in the school of Medicine. I offer the AUI students counseling and psychiatric services on a weekly basis. Psychological Counseling is an initiative that started in AUI in 1998. It should be there first because it is an American university so it has to resemble its alike in the US and the whole world. In fact, it had to exist because it is something that students need badly. .

**Q. Do you think that being here once a**



**week is enough for your patients?**

A. Yes, what is important is that these meetings are well managed. Right now I am overbooked.

**Q. How do you establish contact with students?**

A. It is essentially through emails that students talk their problems out. Students come to my office regularly but it is better to send an email or plan a meeting ahead. In case of crisis, the patients still can come to my office in Rabat or Salé. The fact is that when there is something serious my being here will not solve the problem, as the patient should be taken where the treatment materials are. In case of emergency the patient is taken at once to Meknes or Fez. Actually, I am here just for problems that may range between lack of sleep, stress, memory problems, adjustment and personality and psychiatric disorders. Like panic attacks, phobias, schizophrenia, depression, and drug and alcohol abuse.

**Q. Is there any interaction between you and the health center as far as cases of emergency are concerned?**

A. Very little. Because when a crisis occurs, they have to get in touch with me. Of course they provide primary treatment but book the patients for me. Talking about a crisis is kind of magnifying the issue as we rarely deal with real emergencies like suicide. Most of the time the cases we encounter are hysteria. Students need actually

many types of counseling and psychotherapy for example CBT (Cognitive Behavior Therapy) that has to do basically with phobias, health disorders, obsessive and compulsive disorders. They also need sometimes medicines, supporting therapy, prescriptions of different types. Sometimes the original doctors refer me to their patients as I am close to them. Students find it comforting to be carrying on their visits here. The university refers to me in case of academic problems of some of my patients because of absences. I insist on being asked by the university to give written formal data about my patients because I insist always on confidentiality of the files of students. None has access to my office unless s/he gets my consent even as far as cleaning is

concerned.

**Q. Speaking of trust, do you think that the number of patients is increasing or decreasing lately or**

**is it linked to exams?**

A. Of course there is trust and what ascertains that is that I am overbooked. This is something nice and I am having nearly ninety active files. In fact, up to now, I have had more than 1800 visits of students since October 1998. There are 280 students' files this year.

**Q. Is it easier to get in touch with patients on campus or off campus?**

A. Either way, because they come to see me in the office. The office's place has been chosen on purpose so that it would be

far from the health center and recreational places so that students can come and discuss whatever. I make them comfortable and we talk all subjects over. They know what they say here will never cross building 06 unless they state that it is no problem to disclose their personal life for administrative purposes. Another side of my job has to do even with helping students with their home works. When they have papers related to psychology or psychiatry or communication. I also give a course of Psychology Class Introduction and I take part in Drug Awareness Campaign held on cam-

pus.

**Q. Do you think that one campaign is enough to combat drug consumption?**

A. The issue is large. Drug prevention is a process that is related to their health and social status. Students have to be encouraged to say no to bad things; stealing speed driving, smoking... Second treatment is when they start taking drugs, they should be made to talk and this calls upon special and complex techniques: information about drugs, cognitive prevention. Sometimes, it happened that I had some cases that were hospitalized in special centers. It is not only a matter of one day but that is important and it should be repeated again and again.

**Q. In this respect, we have noticed recently that the number of smokers has increased**

A. You cannot take that for granted. Nothing is for sure unless there is scientific research that proves that. That is something for you journalists to do and I would help in that if you initiate it. Do not forget that the AUI community of students is very specific and has social and economic status that makes smoking really ordinary. On top of that, they range from 17 to 25 years old so that is the most exposed and vulnerable age period for first showing mental disorders and experiencing drug abuse. The other side of the coin, because it is a selected population, it is responsive to such awareness days.

**Q. The students complain more and more of boredom and the load of syllabus; don't you think that this affects their psyche and academic performance?**

A. Well the university has to offer students not only classes but recreational areas. The students need to spend their times in having fun. Fun is very important. The fact that the university is in Ifrane adds up to the difficulty but it could also be a good

thing. Students come here to study and have conditions to do that. I have been in

other places in the US, Asia, Canada and Europe, numerous colleges are located in remote areas. Students have ideal conditions to study and work hard. The issue here is that students are not used to live far from their families. Our Moroccan family is based on communal life so when students first come here, they face adjustment problems. It is hard for them to cut ties with their families at that age.

**Q. The university provides facilities and the activities are just too numerous but the students are reluctant to take part in that, why?**

A. Let me tell you that it is not enough to provide these facilities. The university has to promote the spirit of working together, of having fun together. Being an AUI student has to be an identity. S/He has to belong to a group and in order to belong you have to be accepted by it so you have to make efforts. Our problem is that we are linked to the family and mistrust the outside world. People are not used to join parties because they decide to. Someone has to decide for them. People are not used to organize a club or a party. That is why the university community is divided into groups and sub-groups which are decided by specific interests (smokers, soccer players, same city...) I think the university has to promote the group spirit by giving free access to personal initiatives, make sure that students come up with projects and be involved in decisions related to campus; for example, the colors of walls. That is how we create an identity and push people to be proud of their belonging to a community life.

**Q. Do you think that AUI community is psychology-phobic?**

A. Sure; we are human beings and we have our own stigmas. Human beings usually fear to see a dentist. I am older, so people feel confident enough to come to see me.

**Q. What do you think is the reason behind this lack of communication and the division to different groups? Even the idea of teamwork tends to be a failure in the university?**

A. As I said in the beginning, people do not have this independent spirit but individualism reigns. In order for you to feel safe and serene, you seek the group and belonging to a group somehow makes you feel less fearful and anxious. The group protects you; it is a container that once rejecting you lingers again in loneliness and anxiety. My point is that we have to build interest groups not natural ones which attract more people.

**Q. You talked about interest groups, don't you think that clubs are effective in this sense?**

A. Well the clubs are effective. They give students the impression that they belong to a family. Being a member of a club compensates for family-sickness. The diversity does not apply to where you come from but also who you are. Thanks God we do not have clubs, because the number of members is not a positive thing if there is no effectiveness.

**Q. Which cases of illnesses happen recurrently on campus?**

A. Most of the cases have to do with depression or anxiety. At the beginning of each semester, new comers encounter adjustment disorders. Some end up adapting well to the new surrounding. The others who fail to do so come to see me about their personality or anxiety problems. □

**The university has to promote the spirit of working together, of having fun together. Being an AUI student has to be an identity. One has to belong to a group**

# Stressed Out?!

.....  
Fatim Zahra Brown  
.....

All of us experience stress at one time or another. Some of us know how to deal with it and others of us just can't handle it. When stress gets to the point where it starts to rule our lives, it's time to do something about it.

As students, we are particularly subjected to several stressful situations such as academic work overload, exams and tests, social problems, and moving to a new school away from family and friends. Of course it's completely normal to experience stress at these times; we just need to try to deal with the stress and eliminate it when it arises.

The number one key to minimizing stress, especially for the student is TIME MANAGEMENT. If we manage our time wisely, we will be able to find sufficient time for work and sufficient time for leisure.

Here are some tips to managing our time:

Draw up a weekly schedule:

- Write in all classes at their times
- Write down all the assignments and test that you have and when they are due and estimate as to how long they will take to complete or how long it will take to study for the test.
- Break into parts any long-term assignments and work on a little at a time
- Don't forget to leave time for leisure activities and exercise
- Make sure you allocate the correct amount of time it will take to complete a task; there's nothing worse than running out of time
- On the contrary, do not allocate too much time for a task either

Once you've drawn up the weekly schedule, try to stick to the schedule. But remember you can always make modifications. Also, when studying, try to avoid distractions - go to the library if necessary.



The University of Florida Counselling Centre1 gives some tips for maintaining time management skills:

1. Review your long-term and intermediate goals often. Keep a list where you will see it often.
2. Continually try to eliminate unnecessary tasks that are not related to your goals or to maintaining a balanced lifestyle.
3. Take advantage of your natural cycles; schedule the most difficult activities when you are sharpest.
4. Learn to say "No" to people, includ-

ing spouses, friends, children, and parents.

5. Reward yourself for effective time management.
  6. Solicit cooperation from those around you. Let your spouse, family members, roommate, and others know about your efforts to manage time.
  7. Attend to your needs for spontaneity.
  8. Do not set yourself up to fail. Be realistic and work toward an individualized approach that makes sense for you.
  9. Record things - the process of putting schedules, priorities, and plans on paper - is helpful in itself.
- In addition to time management, in order to cut down on stress, we should eat proper meals, get proper sleep, exercise regularly, worship, help others, and have fun. □

.....  
<http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/self-help/timeManagement.asp>

## FREE ZONE

## A Staff Diary

.....  
Hamid Nouamani  
.....

It was nearly one hour since I am awake, but my body is too heavy to move as if I was defeated in a boxing match. Like a tortoise, slowly and unwillingly I pushed my head out of the blankets. What a regret! The clock was obedient as usual and interrupted the "Mozart-like" music that my groaning bed was offering me whenever I tried to adjust my position. As a revolt against that uncomfortable and silly situation, I rushed out and pushed the blankets away. When I stood up to open the window, the white surroundings advised me to collect my blankets and rejoin the bed; yet of them was already wet because the force of the push has put it in the sink where my laundry waited for more than a week. The weather was always bad and snowy so much that I could not wash it. What made it worse was the fact that there was no space where I could dry it; the only source of energy was the heater but the phrase "DO NOT COVER" written on its corner and translated into all languages except Arabic made it a holy apparatus that should not be approached. Neglecting all this, I

had my bath which I confess was a good one thanks to the hot water. Shortly after that, the phone started to ring. Mr. X: good morning (without any further salutations, the speaker asked)  
Mr. X: You will go downtown, won't you?  
I: Yes, I have to go shopping  
Mr. X: So please be kind enough to bring me four loaves of bread, milk, a bottle of oil, and 20 eggs. To make it spicy and drinkable, he added, "thank you." (just after hanging up, someone else called)  
Mr. Z: I heard that you are going downtown, please bring me two kilos of potatoes, two kilos of tomatoes and a chicken; I am also in need of eight pieces of bread. (The third one was kind because he asked only for cigarettes.) To carry all the stuff, I was obliged to change my plastic bag whose size was small enough even for my needs, which include bread, milk coffee and some vege-



tables. Dressed in three trousers, two pullovers, a jacket, a coat and a long hat that covered all my face except my eyes and nose, feet tightly hidden in three socks before being pulled in military shoes, my umbrella on one hand and my voyage bag on my shoulder, I left the room. The first person I saw was a security agent who was shouting as he came near me; in an extraordinary gesture he pulled my shoulder and shouted "who are you? Where do you come from? Take that bonnet off and show me your ID." In reality, he had the right to treat me in the way he did because I was dressed like an old veteran who participate in Indo-china war; I did not hold any sign on which our poor agent could rely to identify me. Given the ID and after a long comparison between the picture and my face whose color changed to a mixture of the red and the

black because of the cold, the security guard hesitated to give me the green light to leave but unfortunately he did. While talking to this later, I did not realize that my feet were going deep in the snow, a fact which demanded approximately five minutes to free them. Walking attentively because if you happen to slide, you would be a gossip and a funny joke in the mouth of my colleagues, who actually when they saw my bag, thought I was travelling and asked me to transmit their greetings to my family. If they knew that I was only going to the market, they would not hesitate to add new items to my list; hence make my burden heavier. Once at maingate, I was wondering how can my weak legs overcome the hard and long distance that awaited them. "How lucky I am" I whispered to myself, I could not believe my eyes; a van had an off campus mission and the driver was so polite to give me a ride to the so-called 'Market'. After many rounds in the market place, I came to the conclusion that the prices were the same at every corner and that they were so high that their heat made me forget the cold and the snowy weather... □

### Unique

I am unique, I defy the norms  
 When I speak, you can ride the melody of my poems  
 The natural rhythms that flow the rivers,  
 From the thoughts that are my minds ocean  
 I break the boundaries of stereotypical realities,  
 And shatter the glass ceilings called norms, which are fallacies,  
 Travel thought galaxies, and bring 'em back to the earth,  
 I master a verse like any poet masters his words,  
 Traveling to the end of time and taking it back to the birth  
 I am unique, I defy the norms,  
 Much like the Nile, the longest river, and it flows North  
 I'm like a four-leaf clover, type of brother that's hard to find  
 Few and far apart, separated by distance and time,  
 It's the norms I defy, going against the grain,  
 Like hair brushed backwards under a stacking cap to get waves  
 A rose in a concrete bed, a light inside a cave,  
 Traveling a different road, other than the way that was paved,  
 I defy the norms; I am unique in my own way,  
 I'm looking at you through the bars, but you think I'm in the cage  
 No, I flipped it, I'm not the one on lock by the masses  
 Bodies all full of life, but minds inside a casket,  
 No, I transcend the norms, which are a fashion,  
 So it is that I'm out of style, or in your style in the past tense



These two poems were written by the exchange student Abdullah Dhuhan

### Natural Beauty

You possess the type of beauty that nature intended  
 Your very presence caresses my delicate senses  
 One glance puts me in the zone like dim light and incents  
 The type of beauty that can't walk past without being mentioned  
 As you dance in the melodic tones of nature's rhythms  
 You bring warmth to my soul as I watch and listen  
 Every fiber of my being is teased by your smile  
 Like an afrikan desert being teased by the Nile  
 As I drift through the beauty that is you  
 I am in since with the rhythm of nature humming its tune,  
 You take me beyond comprehension, beyond logic and reason,  
 Beyond the cycles of nature, like the changing of seasons,  
 Into the stars where my thoughts drift and all the year,  
 The seeds you're sown in my heart can be reaped all year  
 It's all clear, yet somehow makes no sense at all,  
 Whether I 'Spring' into 'Summer' or whether Winter 'falls',  
 I'm lost in you, no map could get me back on course,  
 For this is nature's beauty, and you possess it all

### Free

I hear a voice calling me to come  
 Again after being free, to see what  
 I'll never see, but I surrendered my eternal  
 Key to be thrown in a deep sea.  
 There is no way to capture me.  
 I've known the meaning of liberty.

### No more brave

Could I reach the top again?  
 Could I reach it or my attempts would be in vain?  
 The mountain is so high.  
 Where can I fetch new wings to fly?  
 The path is so long.  
 Where is my will? Where is my song?  
 I was once brave, but now all my strength is in a  
 grave

Hidaya Lebeiw

### To Anyone

I was digging and digging...  
 Maybe searching and searching,  
 Then finding what?  
 A past year waving for the coming one,  
 Whishing it to be better than that one,  
 Yep, years are passing in front of us...  
 Without paying attention to their speed,  
 Good and bad  
 But still, unforgettable memories,  
 And irreplaceable moments,  
 Isn't it true?  
 Then, happy New Year ;)

Kawtar Messat

### Chimera Definition

The lights will never brighten again  
 An unclear face  
 In the dark it looms  
 Though daring and vivid  
 It remains motionless  
 Intrepid and left-behind  
 The very eyes veiled  
 the nose stuffed with  
 sour odors of make believe  
 all the books read and heard...  
 Meaning gets lost  
 Containers of truth go astray  
 Leaving floor to doomed hopes  
 Once the curtains on  
 Elated, they tamper here and there  
 Then the curtains go off  
 To leave them at bay

B.O.

### The Liar I Love

Your face's besides mine.  
 You start lying about your past.  
 You said that you were nice.  
 You said that you were kind.  
 You lie, you always lie.  
 On people, on me you lie.  
 When you start talking, I know you going to lie.  
 Stop please, lies are enough.  
 Stop please that's enough.  
 Late at night, when I remember  
 Your talks your stories.  
 I can't believe even one word of yours,  
 because I'm confused about your real personality.  
 Baby please, if I could know your real feelings.  
 I can swim all my life,  
 I can dream all my days  
 Just of you, You'll be my friend family and future.  
 But just make me believe our story.

Imane

### Love U

Sea, that's where I imagine you holding me tight.  
 Be, my love and promise you won't leave me tonight.  
 Love, that's what I felt for you when I  
 first knew what you felt.  
 Passion, that's what attach me to your heart.  
 Home, that's where I need you to be.  
 Inside, you'll find whatever you have been dreaming  
 of.  
 Moon, that's where i see your face each time i miss  
 you.  
 Stars, that's what your eyes mean to me.  
 Cry, that's what I do when I don't find you near.  
 I love you, so never leave me dear.

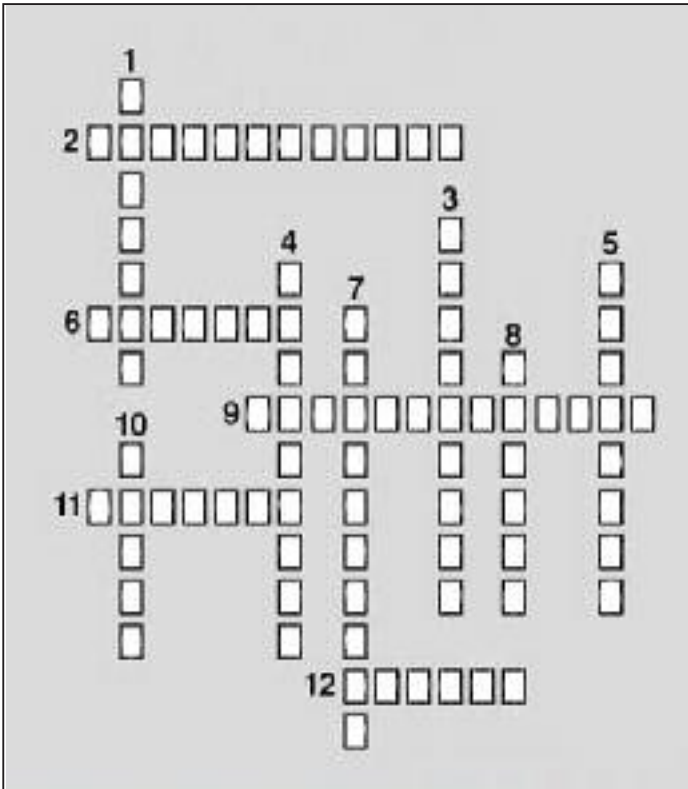
Imane

### Mind Vs Heart

The mind can think  
 But the heart can feel  
 What a disagreement!  
 The mind can control  
 But the heart is obliged  
 What a logic!  
 The mind can hate  
 But the heart can love  
 What a difference!  
 The mind is materialistic  
 But the heart is emotional  
 What a sensation!  
 The mind can cheat  
 But the heart is ardor  
 What a position!  
 The mind can't break  
 But the heart is already broken  
 What a contradiction!

Kawtar Messat

# Word Puzzle



ACROSS:  
 2 - Lack of proper nourishment; absence of food  
 6 - Esp. a disease-causing bacterium  
 9 - Increase in apparent size; intensification  
 11 - Sole and absolute ruler of a state/nation  
 12 - Performance of musical parts at the same pitch or octave

DOWN:  
 1 - Disease characterized by attacks of chills, fever and sweating  
 3 - Greatness of size or amount; extent  
 4 - An athletic contest (10 different track-and-field events)  
 5 - A number larger than 1/2 the total  
 7 - Tediiously unvarying; sounded in one unchanging tone  
 8 - Any unhealthy condition or irregularity  
 10 - Attractive; pretty; pleasing (chiefly British)

The photo is suggested by Adil Lasmak

A black and white photograph of a soccer team posing on a field. There are 11 players in total, arranged in two rows. The front row has five players kneeling, and the back row has six players standing. They are wearing light-colored jerseys with dark accents and dark shorts. The background shows a grassy field and some spectators.

# My Name is Valentine

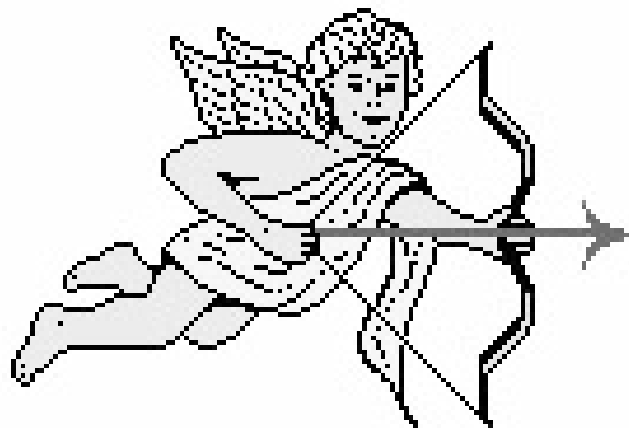
.....  
 Gods Benjelloun  
 .....

"...My name is Valentine, and I still watch with amazement all the celebrations that take place around the world every February 14th. Although there are varying beliefs, as to the origin of Valentine's Day, they all share in common the place, Rome, and the person, Valentine. I'll be very glad to tell you my story. I lived in Italy long time ago, during the 3rd century. At that time, Rome was under the rule of an emperor called Claudius II, nicknamed Claudius-The-Cruel, as he was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. As Roman men didn't want to leave their families, and freshly married young men didn't want to leave their loves, Claudius was having hard time getting soldiers join their military leagues. This made Claudius furious, and guess what? He had a crazy and evil idea: He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius

decided to cancel all recent marriages and engagements in Rome, and not to allow any more marriages! That was so ridiculous and cruel that there was no way I could support that law! Oh! I forgot to tell

small room, with only the bride, the groom and I, whispering the words of the ceremony. We heard footsteps. It was the emperor's soldiers. The couple was lucky enough to escape in time. I was caught.

came to the jail to visit me and help me keep my spirits up; they were throwing flowers and notes up to my window, all carrying the same message. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love. At least my deed was not vain! One of the young people who visited me very often was the daughter of the jail guard. As he allowed her to visit me in my cell, we would sit and talk for hours. On February 14th, 269 A.D., the day I was to die, I left my friend a note thanking her for her support devotion, and signed it: "Love from your Valentine". I guess that started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine's Day. Now, every year on this day, people remember by celebrating love, even though some people tend to take advantage of it by launching commercial campaigns to sell more products. It doesn't matter anyway since it carries the message of love..."□



you that I was a priest, and that marrying couples was one of my favourite activities. That's why I kept on performing marriage ceremonies, secretly, even after the emperor passed his law. One night, I was performing my secret activity in a

I was then apprehended and dragged before the Prefect of Rome, who condemned me to a very heavy and pitiless sentence: to be beaten to death with clubs and to have my head cut off. That's what I got from this kind deed. Many young people

# Jokes Jokes Jokes

## FRESHMEN VERSUS SENIORS

Freshman: Is never in bed past noon.  
 Senior: Is never out of bed before noon.  
 Freshman: Reads the syllabus to find out what classes he can cut.  
 Senior: Reads the syllabus to find out what classes he needs to attend.  
 Freshman: Calls the professor "Teacher."  
 Senior: Calls the professor "Bob."  
 Freshman: Would walk ten miles to get to class.  
 Senior: Drives to class if it's more than three blocks away.  
 Freshman: Memorizes the course material to get a good grade.  
 Senior: Memorizes the professor's habits to get a good grade.  
 Freshman: Knows a book-full of useless trivia about the university.  
 Senior: Knows where the next class is. Usually.  
 Freshman: Shows up at a morning exam clean, perky, and fed.  
 Senior: Shows up at a morning exam in sweats with a cap on and a box of pop tarts in hand.  
 Freshman: Has to ask where the computer labs are.  
 Senior: Has own personal workstation.  
 Freshman: Lines up for an hour to buy his textbooks in the first week.  
 Senior: Starts to think about buying textbooks in October... maybe.  
 Freshman: Looks forward to first classes of the year.  
 Senior: Looks forward to first beer garden of the year.  
 Freshman: Is proud of his A+ on Calculus I midterm  
 Senior: Is proud of not quite failing his Complex Analysis midterm  
 Freshman: Is appalled at the class size and callousness of professors  
 Senior: Is appalled at the campus restaurant's food  
 Freshman: Conscientiously completes all homework, including optional questions  
 Senior: Homework? I knew I forgot to do something last night  
 Freshman: Goes on grocery-shopping trip with Mom before moving onto campus

Senior: Has a beer with Mom before moving into group house  
 Freshman: Is excited about the world of possibilities that awaits him, the unlimited vista of educational opportunities, the chance to expand one's horizons and really make a contribution to society  
 Senior: Is excited about new dryers in laundry room  
 Freshman: Takes meticulous four-color notes in class  
 Senior: Occasionally stays awake for all of class

## SON & DAD

Dear Dad,  
 School i\$ really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff I \$imply can't think of anything I need, \$o if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you.  
 Love,  
 Your \$on.

Dear Son,  
 I kNOW that astroNomy, ecoNOmics, and oceaNOgraphy are eNOough to keep even an hoNOur student busy. Do NOt forget that the pursuit of kNOwledge is a NOble task, and you can never study ENough.  
 Love,  
 Dad

An English professor wrote the words, 'A woman without her man is nothing' on the blackboard and directed the students to punctuate it correctly.  
 The men wrote:  
 A woman, without her man, is nothing.  
 The women wrote:  
 A woman: without her, man is nothing.  
 Punctuation is everything!!

# Fun Fun Fun

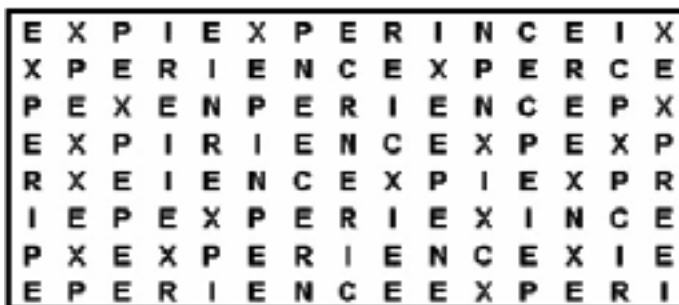


This section centers on your contributions, be it cartoons or puzzles of yours or found on the internet. This issue's contributions are submitted by Imane Fechtani (phobias) and Fatim Zahra Brown (Experience). The picture is suggested by Abbas Samer.

Find the types of phobia in the following graph. They can be read in any direction.



Find the word EXPERIENCE in the following puzzle



# Mr Adel Kamane talks about the Ups and Downs of AUI participation in Dubai

.....  
 Taoufiq Elouali

**Q: First of all I would like to congratulate you for the outstanding achievements of both the Tennis team and the soccer team. Before tackling these achievements, I would like to ask you to present yourself for the AUI news reader.**

A: My name is Adel Kamane. I am the Associate Director of Sports in AUI. I have been holding this position since 1997.

**Q: How do you find your job?**

A: I find it agreeable because I know that if you are a sportsman for all your life, and that you spent a big part of your life in sports, the most important thing will be to work in sport milieu. For me my present job is a kind continuation of my sport's life: looking for competition, looking for good results through AUI teams. And when the teams are winning, it is myself who is winning as a coach and as the one who is in charge of the sports department.

**Q: So it seems to me that you are enjoying yourself though it is a very hard mission.**

A: It is a hard mission; but when you do things you love in your life, you just forget the hardship of the mission.

**Q: let's now move to this international event. What was your first impression when you heard about this event?**

A: I think this is the second edition of The AUD Sports Tournament. Before taking part in the event we didn't have any idea about it. We just looked in the internet about the level of the competition of last year. And the web doesn't give you all the information, you have to be on the field in order to see the real level of the other universities that are taking part in the tournament.

**Q: How were the contacts with the AUD?**

A: Through an e-mail sent to the communication department which sent it back to me. And I made the necessary measures so that some teams would take part in the tournament and represent AUI.

**Q: Can you just tell us in brief what was the reaction of the AUI administration?**

A: I think that in the beginning, and since it is a new tournament for AUI, there were problems related to the budget because it was not expected and there were no budget measures for that tournament. I talked to the DSA who thought it was a good idea and he talked to the president whom gave his consent on having some AUI teams participating in the tournament.

**Q: Can you tell us who are the teams that participated in this tournament?**

A: There were basically 18 teams. The

host university, AUD, two other universities from Lebanon: American U in Beirut, and the A U of Balamane. There was also Sultan Qabus University in Oman, AU in Qatar, and other universities from UAE such as Sharjah, Ras Al Khaima, and Dubai Men's College.

**Q: I think AUI was represented with just two disciplines and just two teams : Men's soccer team and Men's Tennis team. Can you tell us the reason why?**

A: First of all, I think it is related to the budget. And you know the flight ticket to Dubai is expensive and we can not afford to take a group of 90 players like the other participating universities that were near Dubai. And there is also another reason, and this is my own opinion, I chose the teams that can represent best AUI and have good results. I really was surpris-



ed because there were at the beginning other teams wondering why tennis and soccer. I chose those two teams because they are having good results this year. The soccer team won two games, lost one, and got a draw in the National Universities championship. Tennis, AUI has always had good tennis teams.

**Q: In other words you chose the best teams susceptible of representing AUI in a good manner. And I guess you want it also to be an opportunity for having the other teams competing to reach the level of these two teams and have their place in the next tournament?**

A: Sure. I think AUD will organize this tournament every year. Next year it will be the same; so, we want to take part in the tournament, and we will take only the team that shows good results and will represent AUI best.

**Q: So the door is always open to other teams provided they show good results?**

A: Sure.

**Q: Can you give us your comments on our teams' results in the tournament?**

A: For me, as the associate director for athletics, and the soccer and tennis teams

coach, the results were expected because we have good teams, the level was not very high, it is average. The proof is that we won the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in tennis, and the Bronze medal in soccer. In Soccer, I think the results could have been better because during the round-robin tournament we lost a game against DMC because they have a professional team. They have a very good physical condition and we lost 1 to 0 due to a big referee mistake: he awarded a penalty while the ball was not in play. The second game, which I regret a lot, we had a draw against Balamane University team and we could have won this game, the players lost so many opportunities to score. But I think this is due to the trip, it is a nine hour trip, and the players were really tired, plus the time overlap: four hours difference between Morocco and AUE. We

third game due to a forfeit - University of Sharja didn't come- and they played just two games. We played four, with two games on the same day. We were physically exhausted and we could not follow the rhythm of the game and we lost the semi-finals. Unfortunately, they were not sportsmen-like because they could have accepted to play the game on Friday, which was a day off. And they should have given us a day to rest. We lost in the semi-finals against the SQU of Oman.

**Q: So what was the rank of our soccer team?**

A: It was the third place -the Bronze medal- because we played the placement game against AUD and we won 4 to 1. I think, all in all, I am satisfied with the result; the soccer team did well; and we should not forget that some soccer players are also Tennis players. And those players had to play two games every day (a soccer game and a tennis game); it is a bit exhausting.

**Q: I would like to congratulate the teams and you for these great results especially that it is the first time that AUI takes part in such a tournament I hope this is going to be a habit for AUI; and each year, our teams participate in this big event.**

A: Since my nomination as the head of the sports and Athletics department, I had hard times to motivate the players. And I think that this tournament should be an incentive to the players and the official teams to work hard and to train regularly and try to develop their sporty level.

For me, only the good teams will participate in the tournament.

**Q: How did you manage to control the players knowing that AUI players - especially soccer team- have a very hard character?**

A: I think that I have a good relationship with them; they all consider me as their old brother. It is like if you're riding a horse and you have the reigns in your hands: sometimes you need to let loose the reigns and give them time to have fun and when it is time to work seriously and hard, you just make it so. It is a little bit hard especially when you're having two teams at the same time.

**Q: Thank you very much Mr Adel Kamane for your sincerity and for the time you devoted to the AUI news. Wish you good luck.**

A: A last word. I would like to encourage all AUI students to take part in sport activities because this is the best way to cope with the environment, to relieve stress and to have some other thing to do beside their academic program. and Thanks to AUI News. □

# Younes the Formidable

.....  
**Brahim Ouzineb**  
 .....

**R**ecently, during the Australian Open tennis tournament, the campus community of students spent a wonderful time. They admired the Moroccan tennis man rallying as he played against Andre Rodick, the hope of all Americans to replace legends like Andre Agassi and Pet Sampras. And neither one wanted to give in. They kept producing the most impressive shots and serves!!! It was almost five hours that these guys were playing and they must have been exhausted!! Who would crack first? That is how the combative spirit of both men was put forward in Eurosport's website. Asking some students who were in the game room, they said that they had never watched a match like that in their whole life. As a member of the tennis team, said: "it was a pleasant match. Surely the factor of age was of much influence in the match."

El Aynaoui lost at the end to Rodick who prove very vivid, but Moroccans as we are, we accept the loss. Psychologically, it would be a blow to Younes but he has done great job up till now and we have to be proud of him. He is the sixth in the ATP Tour statistics so there is no reason to lament. We should rather find a new spirit to take the Moroccan tennis to podiums. Let us not forget that the load of growing old is there to play tricks on Younes. Here are questions he was asked in the Press conference after his success against Leyton Hewitt who was at the time the first tennis player in the world: ([http://www.ausopen.org/en\\_AU/news/interviews](http://www.ausopen.org/en_AU/news/interviews))  
**Q. At what point of your career did you realize you could be that good of a player, or did you always know that you could be that good?**  
 A: No, when I start, I never thought I could make it even to the Top 100. I was looking at those guys like they were from

another planet. Slowly I took confidence.  
 Today every time I'm playing a big tournament, I'm thinking of winning it. Since last year that I've won a little bit more tournaments, I really believe I can improve. This goes by working a lot, working out. That's what I do. Then I feel better on the court.  
**Q. You are doing well, Hicham Paradorn is doing well from Thailand, guys from South Korea are winning tournaments now. Not traditional tennis countries. That is good for the game. What do you think it does for tennis with guys like you winning?**  
 A: I think it's good. It gives the chance to other countries to dream about, the youngsters, playing tennis. For us I think it's also a very positive thing because we are from small countries where there are not so many athletes. We get great support. That can push you. I received a call from the King when I won last

year in Qatar. That's just feeling great.  
 I think Paradorn, too, got a lot of big connections in Thailand. I think it's good for our countries.  
**Q. What did the King have to say?**  
 A: Well, that was last year when I won Doha. I was wearing this little pin that I was wearing today, the yellow.  
**Q. What is this?**  
 A: This is a charity thing that the King does in Morocco. I give \$100 every ace I make.  
**Q. Expensive day.**  
 A: So (smiling). No, he just congratulates me, just having him on the phone, it was a great honor. Later on during the year, I received a medal.  
**Q. A medal?**  
 A: Yes.  
**Q. What is it called?**  
 A: Oh, no. I know in Arabic. I have to think. It's a kind of medal that they give to sportsmen. They have three degrees in that medal. I had the highest one, gold.

**Q. A gold medal?**  
 A: Yeah (smiling).  
**Q. What is the King's charity called?**  
 A: Foundation Mohamed VI.  
**Q. And he's Mohamed VI?**  
 A: Yes.  
 We are waiting for our heroes Adil. Asking about our university team, they are preparing hard for the University championship to be organized in Al Akhawayn in March. Good luck guys!□



## Some Impressions on the Participation of AUI in Dubai Tournament

### Laaroussi: Tennis and soccer player

**Q: Mr Laaroussi Ahmed is now a well-known tennis and soccer player, you won the AUD international sports tournament in the tennis discipline. Can you give us your impressions on the tournament?**

A: First of all I would like to thank AUI for giving us the opportunity to participate in this big event. The organization was good. I had a difficulty to play in both teams- tennis and soccer. But we tried to manage

our physical capacity and give the best in the two disciplines.



**Q: In other words, you were the iron man?**  
 A: (laughing) Not that much. But I tried. We all tried our best. Tennis players got the three first ranks: I got the gold

medal, Khalil Yamani got the silver medal, and Fouad Oppab got the Bronze medal. And the soccer team too, I mean the third place is also a good result. We only lost against the winners of the tournament.  
**Q: Thank you very much. A last word?**  
 A: *Inch Allah*, we'll be back next year and we will try to win the soccer tournament, and also keep the same results in Tennis. I'd like to thank Adil Kamane for his hard work. Thank you AUI news!□

### Khalil Jabrane: Soccer player

**Q: What are your impressions about the AUD international sports tournament?**

A: It was a very good experience for us to show what we worked out with Mr Adil (Sbaa). And a learning experience because we competed against good teams from different countries: Lebanon, Oman, United Arab Emirates ...etc. We were happy of our third place but we felt that we deserved the first place and that we could have done much

better. But we were not used to play in a such hard rhythm; besides, we are used to cold weather



one should not judge things by their appearances- Appearances are misleading. Also, that we should work hard and keep on working hard to achieve better results next year *Inch-Allah*.

**Q: A last word Khalil?**  
 A: I would like to thank all my teammates for their hard work, also the tennis players for their excellent results. Special thanks goes to Mr Adil Kamane "Sbaa" who did a very good job and a lot of sacrifices. Thanks to him for his patience with us. Thanks AUI news. □

and we were playing in hot weather. But still we can do better.

**Q: What did you learn Khalil from this experience?**

A: What I learned is that

### Youssef Ittobane: Soccer player

**Q: Can give us your impression on this event?**

A: As soon as I landed in Dubai, I said "WAO". The city was beautiful, the soccer field nice, the organization was impressing, the referees were there, and everything was fine. But as the tournament went by, I noticed that



some manipulations were done. We were forced to replay the game against the AUD team and we did so and won. But the problem is that we had to play the semi-final game on the same day. We were exhausted and the Sultan Kabus Team was composed of professional players, and we lost. I

think that a third place was somewhat fair though I am not happy about it. I also want to say that The Sultan Qabus University team were the national team under 21, and it was not an English speaking university, and we know that the tournament was for English speaking Universities. So they did not have the right to take part in the tournament. We could have taken the first place.

**Q: A last word?**

A: My last word is that we should not

base our judgment on appearances: being rich from inside has much more value than being rich from outside. I also want to thank AUI for making this competition possible for us. Thank you Adil and Raja for all the sacrifices you made and good luck in your professional careers. And I mean it.

Thanks AUI News.□

**Our sport Correspondent:**  
 Taoufik Elouali





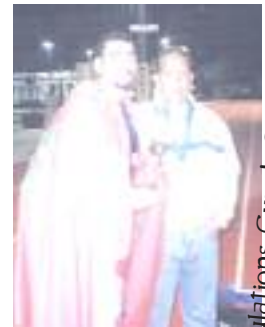
The two teams during the first day...All eager to perform well



The team spirit was at its peak as they won AUD team 6/2

Congratulations Guys! Congratulations Guys! Congratulations Guys!

Congratulations Guys! Congratulations Guys! Congratulations Guys!



"I chose those two teams because they are having good results this year. The soccer team won two games, lost one, and got a draw in the National Universities championship. Tennis, AUI has always had good tennis teams." Adil Kamane

