

Volume XIV - Spring 2004 Issue N° 1 A publication of the students of Al Akhawayn University February

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NATIONAL TEAM

DUBAI 'OPENED' ITS ARMS TO US

Jessica
Rasmussen

EDITORIAL

One can say with some certainty that I was noticeably miserable while traveling to Morocco. The entire trip lasted 34 hours. I spent half of those 34 hours in a state of nearly unbearable nausea. Inundated with foreign languages, I was beginning to doubt any possibility of psychological health for the duration of my 4-month stay.

However, after recently reading Wadia Ait Hamza's "Arrived 'safely' to Montana" (see page 15), I no longer view my journey as a struggle of any kind. I am fortunate for what I did not have to experience, and I admire the character he exhibits in laughing about something I could not imagine.

In comparison to with continual security checks, I experienced one and a half. The first, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, was extensive but without anxiety. I removed my shoes for the first, and only, time. My next "check" consisted of merely walking through a metal detector in Casablanca. I began to remove my belt as the alarm sounded, but the guard waved me through as if I were an obviously passive first cousin.

In Seattle, security guards repeatedly questioned Wadia; in Casablanca, the only words directed to me were, "you are a student?" and "welcome." I simply left the airplane, located my luggage and walked out the door without a second look from anyone.

A number of conclusions can be drawn from this comparison. One could say Moroccans are more trusting and sensible. Another would undoubtedly defend the United States, citing September 11 and the subsequent need for heightened security.

Regardless of the answer, I cannot deny the guilt I feel for having such an obvious, albeit undeserved, advantage in such situations.



Back from AUD, our teams have resumed their normal trainings. Once there they were astounded by the sport facilities available for students in the United Arab Emirates. Of course, we cannot compare to such a country. Yet we can still applaud our teams for their good performances in the competition.

The drawbacks of the organization include putting the football team in a strong group. In fact, it was the difference in goals

that disqualified them however they were the only team to beat the winner. In tennis, the N°1 tennis man in the Emirates played for the American University of Dubai even if he is not a student at the university. Besides, the local press featured a fake interview in which our "Sbaa" thanked everyone for the good organization and did not stress the win of AUJ in the tennis tournament. Stealing the gold, bronze and silver medals is after all good. Well done Meriem, Lamia, and Simohamed.

Two alumni students visiting a changed campus

AUI has definitely to learn from the experiences of not only the University of Arizona but also other old academic institutions. This requires strong academic exchanges, both at the level of professors and students. I also believe that for AUJ to succeed it needs a strong graduate program which involves research.

Aomar Boum in page 13

Every organization, be it small or big, has three important resources: time, people, and money. Extracurricular activities give you a chance to be a manager, they give you the opportunity to apply what you study. Maybe it's not clear for you now, but you will feel its importance later.

Mohammed Rherrass in pg. 12



Dossier:

is our **Restaurant** in safe hands?

Unexpected
Inspection
p.2

Water
Symposium
p.5

Lifting the Veil
p.11

Snow Queens
p.19

SAY WHO YOU ARE!!!!

Brahim Ouzineb

An orientation leader is supposed to assist a newcomer. I would joke to my friends saying that a new comer is likely to mix Hassan Haifouf with Lahcen Ounabi. With all the respect due to these two loved staff, I would like to stress the fact that testing the orientation leaders on their knowledge of the campus is a must. Interviewers should make sure that they do their job for the love of the university and not to inculcate bad habits in the new comers. Examples here are at hand. Calling a hall director 'lhall' or never knowing where the office of parent services is located.

The transition for the new 'cmamers' is a thorny one as the load of information is huge. Articles have been written about this issue which has become a familiar sneering point. It seems newspapers are either unread or taken with a grain of salt. Talking to students ascertains the fact that having a mandatory presence in all the orientation is just a way that would detach them from the administration.

The orientation is normally meant to smooth the transition from public studies to the university, put newcomers' fears to rest and start them on the right foot. Instead it becomes a mind-boggling experience that leaves the newcomers more confused than ever.

One suggestion to harness that nightmare is posting some basic information on the web about the university or sending the new comers stepping stones in a leaflet. This would make their first days at AUI less perplexing. Surely the university offers plenty of opportunities to acquaint the newcomers to the new environment such as Quiz Show Night, the outings with orientation leaders and the visit to Zawiya. When I asked an orientation leader about his feelings about helping the newcomers, he responded, "It is an occasion for me to help these freshman find ways on campus; however, the university has to set guidelines because I give this



student only my experience...they are reluctant and we should devise more time to gain their trust and change the preconceived - usually wrong - ideas about the university." Taking a look at any American university would show that the orientation is a continuing process that follows the new student until 'total' integration within the new environment.

newcomers, we often omit the returning students who were either on exchange or on probation. We never think of orienting them to a campus or a syllabus that changes regularly. In most cases, these returning students tend to cocoon themselves thinking that the campus is not good enough for them compared to an ideal model they have seen elsewhere.

In discussing the B.Ouzineb@alakhawayn.ma

UNEXPECTED INSPECTION!

Zineb Chraibi

When would our administration realize that they do enough to let us hate them? In our rooms, we do not get the freedom to enjoy a weekend rest. I was sitting in my room with my roommate preparing lunch. We heard a knock at our door. It was a Sunday, so the person would certainly be a girlfriend. I opened the door; it was the hall director. I thought she was alone, but she was with a male security guard. And since I am a veiled girl, I felt very embarrassed because I was not wearing my scarf. The security guard came for an inspection about the electrical material, which is, of course, the hot plates. I was very upset because, first, the inspection was done on a weekend day. This time is



supposedly reserved for relaxation. Those who ordered the inspection did not care about this. Also, since we are in female dorms, NORMALLY a female security guard should do this job. Instead, a man did the inspection, and he even started to fumble in our personal belongings. It was really ridiculous and embarrassing, especially that he looked into our bathroom as well. Also, it was surprising because we did not receive any

announcement regarding the inspection. I noticed that even some exchange students were amazed at the inspections and felt that it violated their personal liberty. I think that there are smoother ways to inspect the students' electrical material.

Yasmine Bahaji's Response:

I would like first to refer you to the Housing regulations and forms posted on the back of the door of your room. You will find the following statement concerning inspections: "The University has the right to enter and inspect rooms in the interest of health, safety, and proper conduct of residents. Entry may be made at any time, whether or not the resident is present, and without any prior notice".

Second, inspections are headed by a Housing

officer depending on the gender of the concerned resident. The hall director usually knocks on the door of the resident and informs him/her about the inspection, then, when authorized by the resident, allows other concerned persons to participate in the inspections when necessary (security, maintenance personnel...). If it did not happen that way in your case, I urge you to make an official complaint.

Last, there is nothing weird about the fact that a male staff gets access to your room at anytime. Otherwise, we will have to hire female maintenance technicians (electricians, plumbers, painters, ..) to perform their duties for daily requests or in case of emergencies. This suggestion is very unrealistic and impossible to achieve.

Z.Chraibi@nstud.alakhawayn.ma



General Supervision:
Brahim Ouzineb

Editorial Team:
Rajae Berjal
Zineb Chraibi
Kawtar Messat
Imane El Fechtani
Jessica Rasmussen
Fatim-Azzahra Fattachi

Photography:
Brahim Ouzineb

Layout:
Editorial Board
Proofreading
Jessica Rasmussen

Advisors:
Marina Casals
Fatima El Ouadi

Cartoons
Adnane Arima
Scanning
X-Graphics
Printing
Imprial

The views expressed in the publication do not necessarily represent those of *The AUI News*

ELECTIONS : MEAGER VOTER TURNOUT

Imane El Fechtani

As part of the blood changing of the SGA association, the SGA elections took place on the 12th of February 2004. The candidates' results were high, which "maybe" shows the high contribution of the students to those elections. The high contribution does not mean the efficiency of those elections. Nor does it mean that students who will represent their peers are qualified. Among the people I asked about the subject, all of them showed a negative altitude. I was surprised that they all showed the same altitude as me. Most of them complain about the number of people that chose to be candidates and also that some of them are not qualified to represent them. Most students, IF they vote, vote for a friend or somebody that asked them this favor. Also students do not even attend the candidates' speeches to decide who is more qualified than others to be an SGA member; they even think that with or without SGA there is no

difference; they do not see what they do for students' benefit. Also the low contribution of students to be candidates gives no real choice to the few who want to vote. The absence of candidates from some schools like Humanities and Social Sciences is surprising. Perhaps the reason is that it is a school of speech not deeds. It maybe also is due to the fact that the students in

Generally, the meager number of candidates raises questions on the inertia of the previous SGA boards. It is more and more seen as an extension of the administration's manipulation. Each board practically repeats the same issues, and the administration has been rehashing the same arguments again and again. A major issue that should be stressed as well is the failure of

meeting the other members fail to attend for misunderstandings or just not liking a member of the whole team. Irresponsible as this behavior is, nobody cares to solve these tensions. The administration has intervened in the SGA body, double checking any new idea, which kills innovation.

From the school of BA: Lalami Laaroussi Ahmed, Oulahboub Kenza, Addoum Zineb, Filali Aoual Zineb, Ghizlane Fouadi, Youssefi Med Ayoub, Meryem Habibi.

From the school of SE: Bari Anass, El Mehdi El Khachia, Ahmed El Oufir, Faical Embarch, Abou Abdallah Med Kamal, Aziz Krimi Benchqroun, Imad Maouli.

From the school of HSS: Aitlmodden Sara

The results are:

SBA School: Lalami Laaroussi Ahmed, Filali Aoual Zineb, Youssefi Med Ayoub, Addoum Zineb, Meryem Habibi.

SSE School: Ahmed El Oufir, Faical Embarch, Bari Anass, Aziz Krimi Benchqroun.

SHSS School: Aitlmodden Sara.

I.Elfechtani@nstud.alakhawayn.ma



the school lack confidence in themselves to solve students' problems.

the CADS' attempt to inculcate in our students the team spirit. The majority of candidates after

CONNECT THE DOTS

Brahim Ouzineb

There is a tendency to join clubs just for friends' sake instead of being convinced totally of its objectives or ideas. It seems that the youth are far from being agents of change.

* "The library is a world apart. It seems that they are not part of this university" a student said once.

* Why is it that we see all the time the same faces in parties and in building 17.

* Some clubs have reached professionalism

in our institution, however organizing or attending forums to compare their experience with national or international clubs would be very beneficial.

* Nobody contests the importance of sports, yet the numerous facilities that the university offers are not used at all. There is a very friendly team in there that needs to be explored.

* The TV channels are a heart-breaking issue on campus. The survey promised by the SGA should be done as soon as possible.

* Watching the matches of Morocco has shown that our students lack fair play. The university equipment pays the price. A tour of the game room after the match against Algeria proves that.

* Khalifa remembers the good days when the gymnasium was crammed with students cheering up their teams. While watching a match of our teams you get the impression that we are visitors not the host of the game.

* The matches of Morocco have been a

good outlet for our students just as it was the case in Morocco. Soccer is just so mesmerizing.

* Garbage bins are dispensed all round the campus. A comparison of those of the academic area where everything is in its place with the ones of the residential zone where cups are thrown here and there is a different story.

* The number of viruses increased recently and you are likely to lose either all your work saved in your G drive or

get weird emails in your inbox. However the students liked the new inotes.

* Many changes are in store in the restaurant and it is due to the pressure and comments of students. Keep up!!!!

* The Office of Exchange Programs has organized talks about Kuststein university in an attempt to familiarize the students with the universities they are going to attend for an exchange program. Guess who came ... the organizers+friends.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN MOROCCO

Sanae Menouni

Entrepreneurship in Morocco" was the theme of the career talk that Dr. Hammad Kasal addressed to AUJ students on Jan. 22. Dr. Hammad is the president of La Federation des PME-CGEM (Petites et Moyennes Entreprises- Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc). He was accompanied by Ms. Sophia Allali, coordinator of "La Fédération des PME – PMI" and an AUJ alumnus.

President Rachid BenMokhtar Benabdellah began the talk by briefly introducing

competitiveness of Moroccan companies and improve their capacity to adapt to changing environments by developing managerial leaders. In this context, CGEM endorses an approach that is based on several components:

contribution to the national effort of development dialogue, as a mode of management defense of business morality respect of its obligations

As a business entrepreneur, Dr. Kasal emphasizes the confederation

sectoriels and 2 transversals), 8 Regional unions distributed throughout some cities of the kingdom (Rabat, Marrakech, Tangier, Fes, Tafilelt, Oujda, Agadir, and Laâyoune), and 9 commissions.

He continued by addressing the issue of SME (PME) and the role it plays in the Moroccan economy. According to Dr. Kasal, an SME is defined as an enterprise consisting of fewer than 200 employees that satisfies the following conditions:

Having a turnover that does not exceed 75 million dhs.

Employing 50% of (actifs) within private sector.

Having a participation of the group that does not exceed 15%

Reaching a total bilan of 50 million dhs.

The SME forms 95% of the national economy tissue. In fact, SME employs 50% in the private sectors, realizes 31% of exportations, 40% of national private investments, and 39% of national productivity, and only 19% of added value. This low rate weakens the role of the SME within Moroccan economy due to the lack of technological means, deficiency in capitalization, absence of monitoring and transformation process, lack of investments, low productivity, and finally bad management.

Since the SME is limited by operating in only three to four important sectors that vary from textile, agro alimentary,

chemistry and para-chemistry, it is unable to face competition. Even with the presence of the previously stated weaknesses, the SME paves the way to the creation of more jobs, decentralization or regionalization, security and globalization (SME can easily react to globalization).

Dr. Kasal said free-trade, or what we call in French, "Libre- Echange," has no real impact on the SME.

At the end, Dr. Kasal addressed three main points to AUJ students, the future entrepreneurs, by saying: "to be a strategic entrepreneur, one should respect three things:"

* Love what he/she is doing.

* Be hard working

* Enrich the enterprise before enriching him/herself.

Before closing the presentation and opening the floor for AUJ student questions and comments, Ms. Allali gave a brief summary of "Entrepreneurship in Morocco," stating that: "the basic wealth of Morocco economy is based on SME's internal integration of confederation."

The talk was closed by answering several questions from AUJ students with different backgrounds in order to clear up any ambiguities and thus understand the role of entrepreneurship in Morocco.

FYI:

Visit the website:

www.cgem.ma

S.Menouni@nstud.alakhawayn.ma



Dr. Kasal and Ms. Allali. Dr. Kasal is a business entrepreneur who received his doctorate in economics from the University of Paris. He worked in the food industry and actively contributes to the development of Morocco.

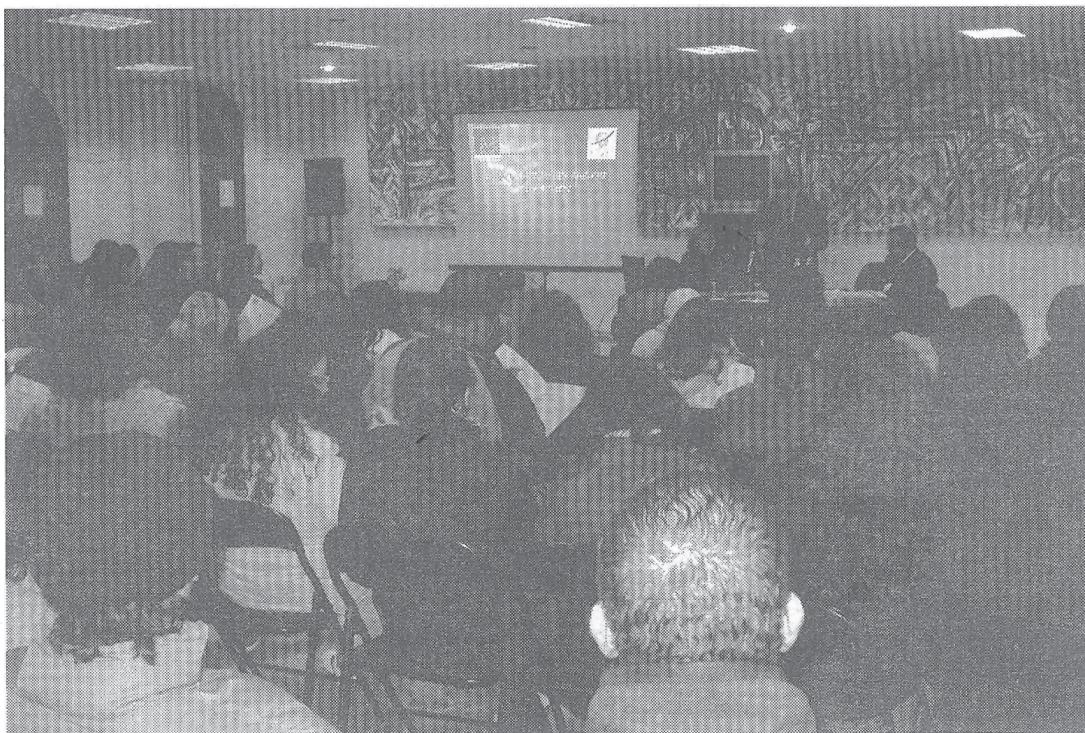
Dr. Kasal began by defining the CGEM, which was constituted on October 20, 1947, under the name "La Confédération Générale du Patronat au Maroc." It became "la Confédération Générale Economique Marocaine" on April 16, 1956. In 1995, CGEM changed to "Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc" or CGEM.

According to Dr. Kasal, CGEM is an association, restricted by law, that orients, frames and informs Moroccan enterprises about their quality and productivity. It seeks to support and enrich qualitatively the action, which the confederation leads to the profit of the company in particular and the deprived sector in general. CGEM aims to increase the

values, mainly entrepreneurship, professionalism, engagement and ethics. With entrepreneurship, he focuses on five important issues: innovation, initiatives, risk taken, creativity and dynamism. He said professionalism is mainly reflected in the performance and quality of the business and human resources. Engagement is considered a vital value that necessitates implication, solidarity, sense of belonging and listening.

In addition, Dr. Kasal said that dealing with ethical issues is very common in the business world, and that respect and confidentiality within business organization are very crucial.

Dr. Kasal said CGEM is organized into 26 Sectoriel Federations (24



Asma **EL KASMI**



in an interview on the
Water SYMPOSIUM

Majda Moutchou: Why did you choose AUI to organize this symposium?

Asma El Kasmi: AUI is very good for this because we have connections at the national and international level. So, what we did is provide a platform in order to bring these experts together. The Ifrane symposium is also meant to promote the International Water Symposium that happens every year in Cannes in June. It aims at organizing the active participation of Morocco in the annual International Water Symposium of Cannes. The university is a member of the organizing committee of the international water symposium. Above all, water issues in general are of much importance to us. In the school of science and engineering, we look more closely into water issues.

Q- What are the main objectives of this event?

A- This symposium also aims at promoting the role that we are playing in AUI, and that we would like to play a larger role in anything that has to do with water issues. We have been working in the laboratory on water issues for the last two years. Moreover, this symposium was meant to connect people from AUI with professionals in Morocco and abroad. I hope that we will get some collaboration projects. Above all, one of the very important achievements that we attained during this symposium is the signature of a convention with I'ONEP.

Q- What are the problems that the organizing committee faced?

A- If I say none, would you believe me? Actually, we have a terrific team. I have to say that students from AUI were absolutely marvellous. They played a key role in this symposium. They really impressed all the participants. They were there for the reception of people. They were active during the sessions; they

What was decided is that we will have a meeting in order to organize the contribution of women in Morocco in the water sector

were active in the discussions and after the discussions. So, they showed their concern and their interests in water issues.

Last but not least, everybody was impressed by the show that took place on Saturday. Students have shown their talents. I am really proud of what they did. They demonstrated clearly that they could be present on the scene and be extremely involved when it comes to discussing very serious issues as sustainable water management, but at the same time, they were present with their talents in shows, so they sang, danced, and had fun. Actually, I need to stress here that all AUI community actually played an important role before, during and after this event.

Q- You have chosen two themes for this symposium; would you

tell us more?

A- Absolutely, the symposium was co-organized between AUI and ONEP. We met with ONEP officials and discussed with them how we can get the best out of this symposium. We decided to address the key issues that the country is facing right now. One is portable water in rural areas; how can we generalize the access of potable water in rural areas. ONEP had already started a project on that, but they were interested in hearing a feedback from other national and international professionals. The Ifrane Symposium offered them the opportunity to meet with very important personalities and discuss the points with them. Among the participants, we had people coming from the the United Nations. Such international organizations are focusing more than ever on rural areas in North Africa and in the Middle East.

The second theme is wastewater treatment. There is an industrial wastewater and a domestic one. Now, we are working on new technologies in order to face this water pollution. I hope that our plans and strategies will contribute to solving problems in rural areas.

Q- What are the conclusions that you came to at the end of this symposium?

A- We came up with a number of important conclusions. First, academic people and people in the industrial sector need to join their forces and work together in order to best address water issues. Second, we came up with the conclusion that we need to make the Ifrane symposium an annual event. We would have annual workshops, where we would be able to bring all these professional people together, to have experts talk about such important issues, to identify ways of acting, and have a permanent follow up. Our tenet is to be able to bring all these people together, and to have some kind of capacity building around water issues. Another important thing is to consolidate relations between Moroccan professionals and international institutions; and

mainly those who were present here i.e. the UNESCO and the UNICEF.

Another important point is that we had a representative from UNESCO who came in order to promote the role of women in decision-making in the water sector. What was decided is that we will have a meeting in order to organize the contribution of women in Morocco in the water sector. In fact, women are always present. It would be interesting if they can see what could be done within this network of water, women, and decision-making.

Q- How do you think AUI students would benefit from such events

A- Well I have a very important announcement to make here. Following the involvement of students in this symposium and their involvement and work in the school in water actions, we can say that they did a very very good job. Therefore, the organizing committee of the Ifrane International Symposium has actually nominated AUI to get the prize for water and young decision-making. They will get the prize in June during the Sixth International Symposium of Cannes. I think our students did a very good job in promoting the university, and they will do even a better job in Cannes. They will go there to get the prize and will be able to have more experience, and to get in touch with other international students and professionals.

Q- Do you want to comment on any point or add anything?

A- Well I think it is really a great pleasure when everybody contributes into the setting up and the organization of such important events. All the participants were pleased of what happened in AUI. We want the water symposium to grow every year. We would like it to go beyond just the preparation of the Water Symposium that takes place in Cannes every year so we would like to have more people involved; we would like to open this manifestation to all people who have some interest on water issues. So, maybe my last word would be: I'm proud of AUI students, and I wish them all the best.

M.Moutchou@nstud.alakhawayn.ma

IS OUR RESTAURANT IN SAFE HANDS??

Imane El Fechtani & Zineb Chraibi

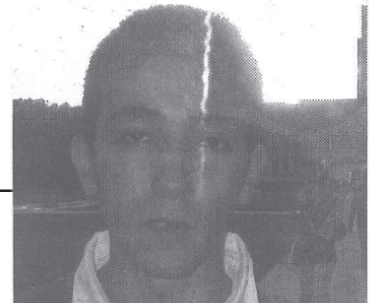
Sara Lmouden (SHSS)

Concerning the restaurant, I see that they kept the same meals, apart from the pizza that is improved. Concerning the prices, I noticed that some increased and others lowered. Anyway, we have to survive with this because we will never find food like cooked at our homes.



Nabil Hallou (SSE)

I think there is a positive change in hygiene, but the price is the same. The quality of food is better. But the ketchup is kind of hard to get from those gadgets. I think the service is better, employees are somehow helpful and smiling which is crucial.



Jihad Samar (SSE)

With Rahal we found some changes like more control of hygiene. The food quality is slightly better but there is no major change in the diversity of meals. For me Rahal is better than Sogeres.

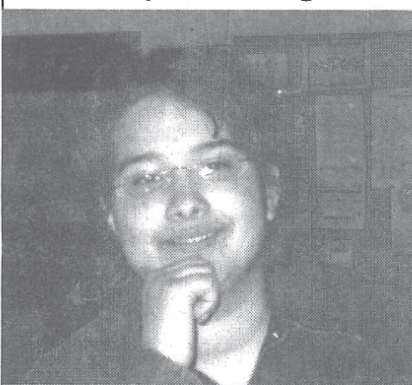
BenMokhtar Mohamad (SBA)

There is no change in quality or prices, but there are changes in the hygiene. But it would be better if there is much more diversity in the meals because we do not find lots of choices.



Meriem Habibi (SBA)

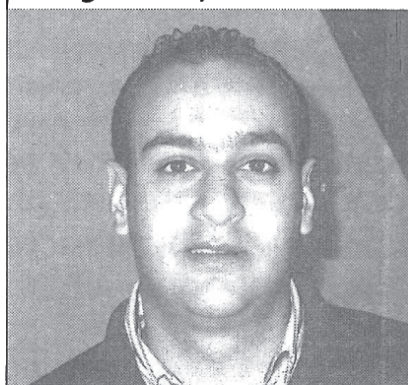
I think the service is not as expected. What we noticed is the same as the previous semester, so I do not see why they change names without changing the food. Concerning the hygiene, it is very good, but the food is the same, same menus, same way of cooking. We want spices, knor...etc for the prices I



think they are the same, apart from the wheat bread is twice the one sold outside. The service is the same; I see the old faces with some new, but same service. The cafeteria opens now till 2 am which is good, we stay there late playing pool, spend more money...

Oussama El Habach (SHSS)

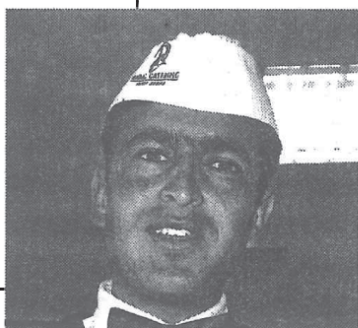
The changes are quite obvious; the most positive one is that in the pizzeria. Regarding the grill, I do not see any kind of enhancement; especially, chawarma. I think it is worse than the previous one. Regarding the self, I do not like it and I do not go there, so I have no idea what is offered in there.



Concerning bread, it is in a better quality. For employees, the staff is not all new, and they are kind and helpful. For the cafeteria, there is a huge improvement; I like the juices, the pancakes, and everything in general is good.

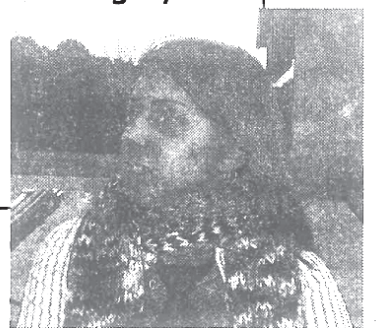
Said (Cafeteria agent)

As I noticed, students are satisfied with the cafeteria. Concerning the hygiene, there are more cleaning ladies in both shifts; which means that there is more hygiene. I think there is more organization and hygiene. Also the cafeteria stays open till 2 am which is a good thing for students.



Nadia Stoti (SSE)

I think the service is very good, the prices have been slightly lowered. The biggest change is in the grill; the food is cooked better, especially meat. There is also more variety of desserts. So far, so good. Hope it will continue like this.



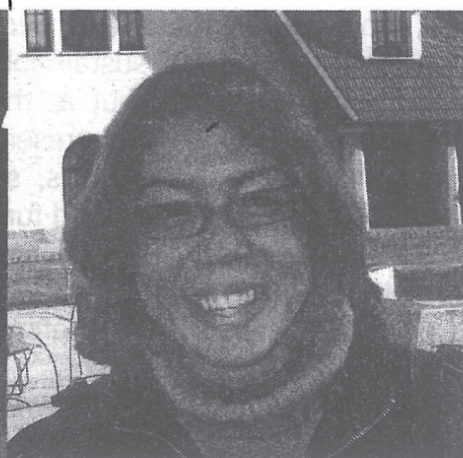
Wafaa Dabagh (SBA)

I liked the fact that the cafeteria closes at 2 am because sometimes we stay late in labs and we feel hungry. Concerning the food, there is some improvement, which is a good thing. But I do not like the sauce in the pizzeria; it causes me stomach-ache. As for the service and hygiene they have improved. At the psychological level, even if there is no hygiene, when you see supervisors going round to check things, you feel that there is control.



Asmaa Morsli (SBA)

There have been some good changes even though the quality of the food is the same. We always feel that the food that is not consumed in the restaurant is recycled in the cafeteria. Concerning the hygiene, I noticed some care given to this subject in the restaurant but not in the cafeteria. For example last night while walking in the cafeteria my feet were sticking to the ground; you can imagine.



MR BERRADY: RAHAL'S SPOKESMAN ON CAMPUS

Dossier Prepared by Zineb Chraïbi

Zineb Chraïbi: What is RAHAL CATERING?

Mr. Berrady: Rahal catering is a fusion between Rahal Traiteur and Grup SERHS catering. We have the exclusivity in Tangiers; we have sites like ISIT in Casablanca and in techno park where there are 150 companies. Of course, we have also the privilege of being here at Al Akhawayn University for 2 months now. We will also be providing our services in BMCE that will open in the near future. We are working on a project with the OCP. Our company is a fusion between two companies: Rahal and the Spanish multinational company that is very important in Europe. It is the fusion between the know-how of Mr. Rahal Soulami in his domain of catering, and that of Grup Serhs.

After being at Al Akhawayn for two months, how have your perceptions changed?

Of course, since we had a similar experience on a smaller scale in L'institut supérieur d'ingénierie de textile. We had an idea about Al Akhawayn given to us by the old caterer of the university, Sogeres. However, we are more professional. We tried as much as possible to keep the same old personnel of Sogeres, to have a kind of continuity between both caterers. Besides, we are training the personnel on our standards. We try to be closer to the students' needs and that is the most important thing for us. We noticed that we kept the old menus; that is why students did not feel the change. We did not want to let them feel the sudden changes. The university procedure requires that each menu has its own technical card to be inserted in the system. We've started to introduce new meals since the start of February, if you have noticed. For example, we have completely changed the self restaurant to a Moroccan one. We'll change its decoration; even the costumes of the personal would be changed to traditional ones so that it'll be a purely Moroccan restaurant. So, it's an elaborated work in terms

of preparing the technical card for every meal. As for now, we submit about 40 technical cards to the university every 1 to 2 weeks. Then, the meals should be entered to the system. Then, we can get started. Now, there are just Moroccan meals in the self. Before, the Moroccan 'buffet' used to be organized by a foreign company, but we prepare them by ourselves. Concerning the other restaurants, we try more or less to keep a standard of international dishes and gradually add Moroccan ones with the objective to reach a diversity of meals for our students. If students want Moroccan dishes, they will have them. If they want international meals, they will find them in the pizzeria. If they want grilled meals, they will find them in the



discover each others habits. Concerning the cleanliness of the cafeteria, we've agreed with the concerned people of the university that they will take care of cleaning the cafeteria, except the counter and behind which will be our responsibility. But the university did not bind to its agreement. And we brought 2 cleaning ladies twice a day. We always have controlling procedures that are run every day. And you can notice that no one can go down the kitchen without a white coat. We even control the water, and we check samples of the prepared meals each day. Lately, the university did a control by itself and found out that it was negative (see page 8). Also, our laboratory comes once a month to do our own controls.

It is very normal that we get remarks because we have

university that suggested these gadgets. Soon we will get you to visit some of our sites and you will see that we use a better way. Concerning the meals, we do not use any substance, I am strict on these things. And I am ready to show you the ingredients we use. It is strictly forbidden to use ingredients which are not part of the norms of the catering. Also, we throw away everything that is not consumed; we do not recycle food. We launch meals for 1200 students, and we throw away the rest. This is proved by the negative result of the control. For the taste of food, we kept the same chef; that's why you still have the same taste. And currently we are looking for a good chef from Casablanca for a change in taste. And we are welcoming your criticism because you are our final client.

The crowd in the restaurant and the cafeteria is time-wasting. Did you discuss this with the university?

There are some students that will perform a marketing project about this. It will include the change of the international restaurant and the division of the cafeteria, where there would be a place for games and the cafeteria. We did a plan for this division already, and we are waiting for the approval of the university. We buy things beforehand in order to accelerate the process. Moreover, the university staff is very helpful and is for the change. In this respect, we want to thank Azzedine Radouane who is very understanding and accepts our conducted studies.

Concerning the communication of the company with the community: some of them are not aware of the changes, what do you do about this?

We held a meeting with Mr. Himdi and they are building a website for the university restaurant, and they will devote part of it for Rahal Catering. This part will include the 15 days menus for receptions and presentations and any changes will be included.

Is there a possibility that you

grill. We have extended the cafeteria working hours from 6 am to 2 am, because we noticed that students tend to stay out late. So, our goal is to keep them as much as we can inside the university where they are safer and also, for students who stay late preparing for their exams and projects.

Are there any complaints?
We noticed some complaints about the hygiene in the cafeteria.

At this level, complaints are normal because it is the beginning. It is like in a new marriage, where both partners

1200 clients. The meals are a question of taste, and tastes are not to be discussed and at the same time cannot be all satisfied. The hygiene, however, can be guaranteed. We promise that soon you will see only the new meals, unless the students ask for the old ones.

Are the remains of the salads of the VIP's brought to the students' restaurant? Because sometimes we see that the salads are not fresh, the degree of acidity is high, the sauce is not good and the dispensers are not easy to use.

For the dispensers, it is the



will impose the changes on the university immediately so that students will not suffer from the old problems of food poisoning? Because only yesterday around 5 students complained from this problem.

and hot dogs...etc Some students complain about the quality of the meat; they say it is the same as Sogeres.

No this is not true; we have a different provider. So concerning the quality, I will see with the provider and seek a better quality.

What about the chawarma that is served everyday with no considerable choice ?

What about the prices? We decide on prices and the university adds its margin. We provide a reasonable price, but the university adds to it because of the electricity

No, this is not true. there are about five meals in the grill. There are steaks

and water...etc fees. We can hold meetings each month to get the feedback of the students because again it is our final client. We are reactive, and we resolve any problem that is under our control. And if you see anything that is not pleasant to you please let us know, and we will be happy to change it immediately.

What is your opinion concerning Al Akhawayn students as clients?

We are very happy with these clients. They are

well educated students compared to other students in other universities. They are mature and make civilized remarks. I expect that we will not have problems with them. And we are proud to serve students that are the future elite of Morocco.

Concerning the environment?

We will try to use plastic glasses since it is more hygienic

Concerning the activities?

We'll try to do some special days. This is not an immediate project. We have first to settle down and acquaint ourselves to the university then start this. Don't worry. Many projects are in store for the university.

Don't you have projects for the region?

Of course, as I told you earlier we have to study the needs then implement ourselves here in the region.

Thank you and we wish good luck.



GRUP SERHS

PROGRAMME DE FORMATION POUR LE PERSONNEL

DATE	PERSONNEL	THEME	NOMBRE DE PERSONNE
06-mars-04	Cuisinier	Methode HACCP	30 Personne
06-mars-04	Non cuisinier	Methode HACCP	30 Personne
13-mars-04	Economes	Gestion de stock	10 Personnes
20-mars-04	L'ensemble Personnel	Hygiène	60 Personnes
21-mars-04	Serveurs	Atelier	20 Personnes
27-mars-04	Chef de cuisine responsable self	L'administration dans la collectivité	10 Personnes

ALAKHAWAYN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
FOOD CONTROL UNIT
BUILDING 9

ANALYSES BACTERIOLOGIQUES DES DENREES ALIMENTAIRES

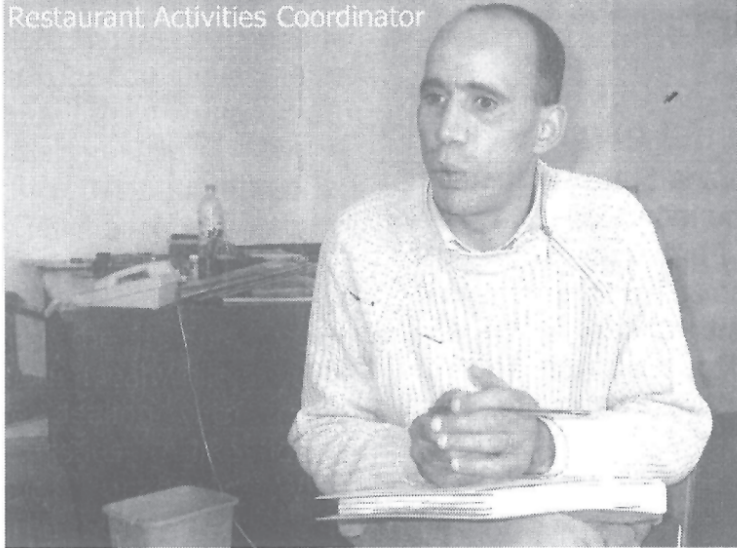
Nature de l'aliment	N° de l'échantillon	Coliformes totaux/g	Coliformes fécaux/g	Staphylococcus aureus/g	Salmonelles dans 25g	C.S.R /g	Levures Mois/g	Interprétation
Chawarma de volaille	823	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Chawarma de boeuf	824	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Benchettes de volaille	825	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Pizza margarita	826	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Pizza au thon	827	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Tagine d'agneau	828	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Gratin de courgettes	829	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Foie	830	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Fèves en sauce	831	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Pomme de terre au fromage	832	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Bruneaux	833	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Oeuf dur	834	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Pâtes avec sauce de viande hachée	835	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Gâteau moka	836	15	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Paris Brest	837	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Garniture chawarma	838	0	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Salade brest	839	30	0	0	Absence			Conforme
Salade vermicelle de chine	840	45	0	0	Absence			Conforme

Origine : Restaurant de AU1 (Menu du (Self-International, Self-Grill et Self Pizzeria)).
Date et l'heure de prélèvement : 20 / 01 / 2004 à 12 h 15 min
Date d'analyse : 20 / 01 / 2004 au 30 / 01 / 2004
Date de la remise des résultats : 04 / 02 / 2004

Signee: - Assistante du lab
R. Oubakalla
- Responsable du lab
M. El Hadj

** Ces analyses ont été effectuées par R. Oubakalla assistante de lab, confirmées par Mr A. El. asti responsable du lab et les résultats sont remis au Dr A. Bensaid doyen de la faculté des sciences et d'ingénierie

MR. AZZEDINE : THE UNIVERSITY'S STANDPOINT



I did get complaints about the similarity between the former and the new caterer. I try to explain to most of the students who talk about their disappointment that the contract with Rahal is very special. The new caterer is stuck with technical cards to give the students more variety. We have been working these three weeks and have added thirty dishes so far. Our community will feel the changes in a short while.

Paying for the plastic cups

It is not Rahal's decision to put them in the cafeteria. It was the idea of the university to cut down the losses. We are experiencing very heavy losses of utensils. It is only the takeaway containers that are paid for. Consuming the food of any sort inside the restaurant or cafeteria does not oblige one to pay for the takeaway. The cups are sold at cost and neither the university nor the caterer does profit anything from selling them. We have invoices that certify this, and we do not add any benefit. The access fee that students pay is to cover the electricity, water, my salary and that of my assistant. You have been paying for it since it was introduced to cut down the losses since we have to replace the utensils at the beginning

of each semester and it costs round 200.000 dh.

Cafeteria's Opening hours

It has been working very well the last two weeks and the rate of operations done by the employees there ascertains this. The university is conscious of the need to extend the opening of the cafeteria. The staff come at 8 am and students stay up late either in the library or in building 17 if there is any show, so we had to satisfy our clients. The new caterer suggested the time span that you all know now and we welcomed it warmly.

Sometimes, the cafeteria is open but there is no food. Some students complained about buying a chicken sandwich with cheese for the price of two, what is your comment on that?

Let's be frank, the price of cheese is not the price of tomatoes or any other vegetable put in the sandwich. This said, I think that the caterer has to stick to the ingredients that we agreed upon. There are penalties for the catering company for not respecting the technical cards agreed upon. We have to admit that there are positive changes in the cafeteria. For example, we have a hot dog machine, and the variety of pastries will be served gradually.

The caterer complained about the delay in accepting a new menu by the administration?

Yes, the people of Rahal Catering are not used to the internal system of AUI. Normally, once they send me a new menu proposal, I have to see the price and the quantity of ingredients used in the meal then sends it to the DSA who forwards it to the VPFA for approval. The VPFA, after consenting, sends it to the ITS to insert it into the system. They used to send me a new menu each day, but I suggested gathering a number of files so that the procedure would go smoothly and quickly.

What about the prices, the inconsistency and the recycling of food?

It is not true because the VIP is open on reservation, so the food is consumed and nothing is left. For the faculty part, the food served there is the same as in those for students so it is normally such comment that should come from other places. The articles in the cafeteria are totally different from the ones served in the three restaurants.

As for the prices that any caterer decides, the students pay the sales price plus 13% in the articles that are cooked. 10% VAT 3% transformed. For

example, for the chicken couscous we buy it 16.92 and sell it to the student for 19.11 but for the caterer we pay 18.61 so the gain of the university is 50centimes. It serves to cover the expenses of the restaurant. For the uncooked food like yogurt, milk and the

other staff it is sold at cost adding the tax and the university does not make any profit out of that. I have figures that can ascertain this (See the monthly invoice in the picture).

Rahal Catering coordinator said that they agreed with you to have cleaning ladies in the cafeteria but students notice that it is still not that clean?

We did not agree on that, it is the stock-in-trade. The cafeteria is self service so the students should clear their trays once they finish. This is how it should be and I am not happy about it. I called the lady in charge of the cleaning women to have extra-staff to help with the cleaning. We are blaming anyone but some people have to respect the fact that they have to clear the tables. However, the caterer staff have to do it and not think about boundaries because we are serving the same client. Bearing this in mind, I would talk to the DSA about the possibility of adding a new person to help with the cleaning.

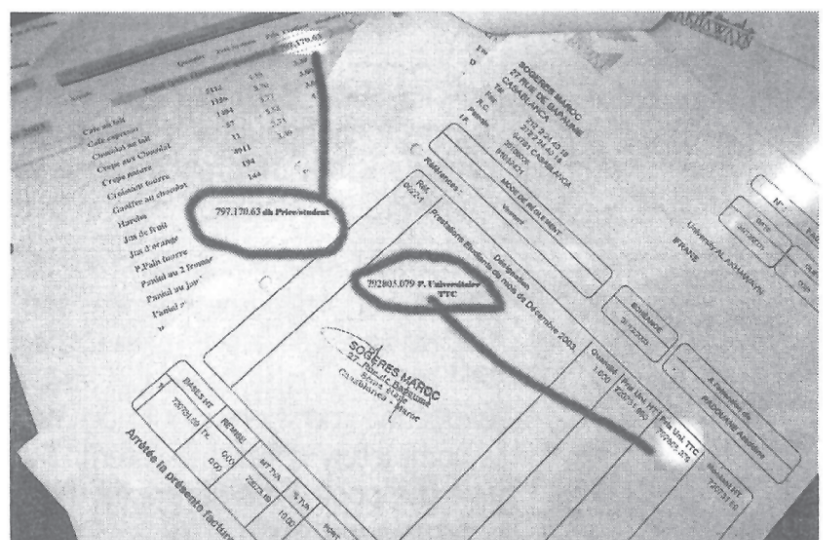
Rahal catering staff complained from the loss because they throw away food in order not to recycle it?

What can I say, it is their management problem. They should produce the

exact quantities that they are selling. My main duty is to make sure that there is no recycling. We don't want them to lose money because if that happens they will just leave. We have been helping them to know the procedures of AUI. We gave them all the reports and statistics and it is their job to be more effective.

Something to add about the new caterer and our students as clients?

For our students, they have different tastes. Students ask about Moroccan tagines while others are fed up with Moroccan food. Others desire a good quality of food and are ready to pay anything to have that here and claim that it is not their fault if others cannot afford to pay for expensive food. Our objective is to give the community well balanced and various meals. We intend to add new articles and up to now we prepared 30 technical cards i.e. proposals of meals. We hope to have the help of our students since they are our main client. We are ready to work in parallel with the clubs and the activities. Starting next semester new changes will be implemented to satisfy your desires. All we ask for is the comments and the fruitful criticism of our clients.



EXCHANGE STUDENTS' VOICES

Zineb Chraibi & Kawtar Messat
011H330898@nstud.alakawayn.ma



Kathleen O'Neill, New Jersey.
I came to Morocco to explore, learn about the culture and have a good time. I tried not to have any expectations because then I could not be disappointed; I could only be surprised. Once back home, I will strongly suggest to my friends to come here."

Kristen Woods, Montana State University
I thought AUI would be more conservative, but it is not the case. I am enjoying my time here and people are amazing. It is hard for every exchange student to deal with curfews because in America there is no rule. There are things that surprised me like room searches and the lateness to class."

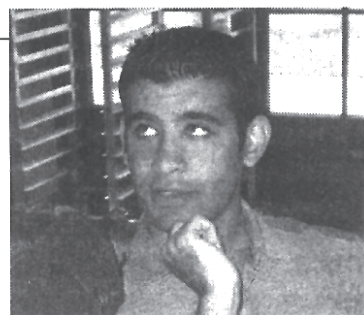
Senan Mashat, West Virginia
My parents are from the Middle East, but I grew up in Europe. As for what I expected, AUI is different from the rest of the country. I wanted to go to Egypt, but I came to Morocco since I can practice both Arabic and French. Till now, I am enjoying myself and meeting good people."



Paul Winfield, Louisiana
Honestly, I chose to come to Morocco because it was the only option in Africa and I was interested in coming to Africa. Also, last year, I was living in Paris and I had many Moroccan friends. I do not like all the rules but people are fantastic. I knew that Morocco is the most liberal Arabic country. So, I figured out that I will fit best in here, but still I wanted to experience it."



Etan Schwartz, New York.
I was curious about Morocco. Learning Arabic here is useful considering the number of people who speak it. I hope there will be better dialogue among the Islamic countries and the US.



Curtis Guy, New York.
I wanted to try something fun and different. So, I came to Morocco to have a great experience and just to have fun through absorbing the culture. I did not have any specific expectations."



Rachel Rucker, Arkansas.
I lived in Egypt for a while but I came here with different expectations. People here are more European in a way, but they are very nice and hospitable. AUI is really nice; I integrated easily because the rules are like my university back home.



Emily Spiegel, California
It is my first time being in a Muslim country, I am having good time so far. I love the food. AUI is very pretty, but a lot smaller than my university. Also, it is a lot stricter but not too hard to follow."



Sarah Chaudhari, Columbia, Missouri
I like the university, but I think that the students would become more responsible on their own if policies such as curfews were omitted. The campus is extremely beautiful. I was surprised because the campus is not that much conservative, but I am having a great experience in here."



Tom Kelly, Montana State University
Check out an Islamic country and to discover more the culture. I like AUI even if the rules are ancient like obliging us to come to class, and curfews. I was expecting that here would be more Western but it is a completely different system. I am pleased here; I like the pool. I am surprised that we can't have female visitors"



EMERGING MOROCCO 2004

Rajae Berjal

Oxford Business Group, the publishing and consulting firm specializing in the markets of the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and North Africa, has presented its latest, 200-page publication, **Emerging Morocco 2004**. Produced in association with the American Chamber of Commerce in Morocco, "It is the most comprehensive English language review of the Moroccan economy ever published internationally."

A team of six Oxford Business Group analysts spent six months researching and

EMERGING MOROCCO 2004



writing on all aspects of the Moroccan economy, conducting some 400 interviews with the leading political and economic figures of the country. These include interviews with Prime Minister Driss Jettou, Minister of Finance and Privatisation Fathallah Oualalou and Andre Azoulay, King's Counsellor for Financial and Economic Affairs. In addition to comprehensive overviews of Morocco's political and economic situation, the publication reviews events and trends in all the major economic sectors, including banking, capital markets, insurance,

industry, real estate and construction, tourism and agriculture.

A useful legal and accounting section follows these sectoral overviews. The book is rounded out with *The Guide*, which provides a more light-hearted look at Morocco's regions and culture, including hotel listings and restaurant reviews. *Emerging Morocco 2004* is on sale in bookstores throughout Europe, North America, North Africa and the Middle East.

R.Berjal@nstud.alakhawayn.ma

LIFTING THE VEIL ... IN FRANCE

Fatim Azzahra Fattachi

One of my friends told me: "I am wearing the veil just because I am obliged to!" it was not the first time I hear such statements and it just mixes me up more than ever before. It is true that the veil is an obligation for all Muslim women; however, it remains controversial. The first reaction of the Moroccan society to veiled women is prejudice and negative criticism. Personally, I often find that veiled women are worse than others that are not so sensitive towards religion. They pretend that they have much more faith than others do just because they are covering their heads. Concerning the choice to wear the veil itself, it has many meanings: apart from those who do it heartedly to apply Islam, there are others who wear the veil just because of poverty. They cannot afford a new garment every now and then so the scarf and the djellaba are the easiest solution for that. Then comes those who compel their children to wear it and this is the

real problem. This obligation does not always entail success. It affects the personality and in this case, it just contributes to social hypocrisy. Of course, if the person is not convinced of wearing the veil, it becomes against



her main beliefs and thus has bad effects on her: the sooner she gets some freedom, she will go astray.

Now, if we go beyond the frontiers we find that the Muslim community is getting larger and larger especially in France where they constitute over five million people. There also, of course, the rules of religions do not change even in another country. In France, which is obviously not an Islamic country, veiled women

seemed to be at ease wearing the veil in the latest years till a new law has made a turning point in their lives. The veil or any minor religious sign is now banned in schools and public places. Many explanations answer this new phenomenon.

There are those who argue that it is just a French "islamophobia", and others that think that it is all a fuss by some radical parties to cut down immigration rates, even if they never succeed in elections. Well, I am standing on two arguments that represent the cause of all this: we heard about this law many years ago; however, its application was cancelled until today! In my opinion, this was done in order to preserve France from fundamentalists

especially that the planes that crashed into the US left from France. It is done as well to stop the will of some Islamists to destabilize the French secularism. However, as a community, Muslims do not do anything to threaten the French secularism, they just emphasize their Islamic identity as if they were in their own country. What I do not understand is that France has done a lot of positive things. For Muslims in the past for instance: building mosques for them in Paris and now they just go against them in order to preserve France's secularism! Another important thing is that it goes against the cultural expression as well. Now that girls are compelled to wear the veil, they become obliged to take it off thus we can applause for the French motto: liberty, equality, fraternity and Secularism! As a response to this, Marwan Bishara said that: "the great mottos of the French democracy (liberty, equality and fraternity) are best upheld when they are inspired by good

governance, not coercion." Islamic countries did not do anything. At least discuss this with the French government. Apart from manifestations and petitions signed by people, nothing has been done diplomatically speaking. Even the sheikh of alazhar Mohammed Tantawi approved this law by saying that it is France's right to forbid the wearing the veil in schools. In my opinion, this is not the way things should be done! The concerned countries must at least defend this community who is struggling to get a minimum of cultural expression. It is true that in other countries we do not have total freedom however; this is the minimum strict.

This issue still covering the main subjects of the media has not reached a satisfactory point for everyone, except for the French government. Thus this affair is to be continued.

F.Fattachi@nstud.alakhawayn.ma

MR. RHERRAS : THE SGA GODFATHER - PART 1

Rajae Berjal

In t r o d u c e
Mohammed Rherras
for those who don't
know him?

My name is Mohammed Rherras. I was born in the province of Kenitra in 1977. I graduated from AUI in 1999 with a BBA, concentration in management and minor in international trade. Since then I went through four job experiences; the most enriching ones were my experiences at the Dev & Com department of AUI where I worked as internal and external communications and development officer and at the National Democratic Institute in Morocco and Iraq. Now I am in charge of cooperation at "La Caisse de Depot et de Gestion, CDG".

How did you come up with the idea of SGA and what were your intentions?

In fact, the Student Government Association (SGA) was not my idea; it was a need that we all felt. Three semesters after the inauguration of the university, the student body started to grow, and its needs grew bigger. Thus, as students we needed our voice to be heard and in an organized manner. We were conscious as responsible students that it was time to have a student representative structure that would serve as a liaison between the student body and AUI officers. The first step we took to sensitise the administration of our needs was a sitting in front of the restaurant. It was not a strike; it was a sit in in the free time. This lasted about two days; afterwards, the Vice President for Student Affairs

organized a series of meetings with students to listen to our concerns. The first elections were organized on 1998 to elect the members of the Student Council (SC). The SC main task was: drafting the SGA constitution. Meanwhile, we were dealing with other issues like restaurant, academic affairs...The SC started with 27 members, unfortunately, we ended up with only seven members. Some elected students were not responsible enough to take care of their colleagues' issues. The SC finished its mission successfully, and the first SGA elections occurred. AUI students elected 30 representatives from all schools and levels. I was elected president with a majority vote of 24 out of 30, if my memory serves me well. It was a very interesting and enriching experience. It is very important to feel that people believe in you and trust that you will be their best representative. The experience served and it still serves my life both at the professional and personal levels. I am especially proud, because I did a lot for the AUI community and mainly for students.

Do you think that extracurricular activities have an importance and a contribution in shaping student's personality and in influencing his future career?

I just said that my SGA experience served and it still serves my professional and personal life. In extracurricular activities we learn many things that we cannot learn in classes or books. What's more important is that it's a personal

experience; it's not something you hear from others. It's an opportunity you give yourself to make a difference. When my friend Nawfal Benda and myself decided to create the AUI Charity Association (now Hand in Hand); we wanted to make a difference; we wanted to do something for the Ifrane community. When we started our social work, we discovered things we never knew before: poverty, illiteracy, marginalized women...and we sensitised students to this and many of them joined our association. Now I'm proud to see that my 'baby' is known nationwide. A few weeks ago, I was watching TV and I heard His Majesty's advisor, Zoulikha Nasri, talking about Hand in Hand. Won't you be proud? Won't you be delighted when you feel that you are the initiator of such a big social project? From another side, clubs and associations are small non-profit organizations that students manage. Every organization, be it small or big, has three important resources: time, people, and money. Extracurricular activities give you a chance to be a manager, they give you the opportunity to apply what you study. Maybe it's not clear for you now, but you will feel its importance later.

Can you talk to us more



about the importance of extracurricular activities?

There are some basic elements in the development and management of any operation, and that holds true for extracurricular activities. Some of these elements are operational, such as organizing social events for fund raising (eg. The Fun Run) and some are strategic such as setting the goals of the organization and the reasons for its existence. This mirrors exactly what happens in the world outside the academic life. These are the same aspects that govern the existence of corporations, government bodies, NGOs ... etc. By being involved in these activities, you learn mechanics that are essential to your success later in life and which can't be taught in the classroom. Here are some specific areas of learning:

Best fit: Finding your best fit in a structure is sometimes difficult and can only be learned by being involved at different functions and knowing your strengths. Do you enjoy working on organizing the events or would you rather be the one to count the revenues from the

events and handle the accounting side? Which aspect are you good at, and where do you provide the most value? There are no right and wrong answers as all aspect are needed in life, but answering such questions is essential to answering questions about what kind of jobs to look for when you graduate.

Managing through people: Accomplishing tasks that involve many moving parts and many people is quite challenging. Doing it more often—even at the extracurricular activities level—makes you acquire organization behaviour skills that are practical and essential to your future success. Things like organizing a meeting, finding the right room, having an agenda, etc., might seem to you as non-learning time, but they play a major role in your emotional intelligence, which can be key to your success in the future.

Time management and achieving balance: Learning how to manage your education goals in parallel with extracurricular activities teaches you prioritising and time management skills. By doing that, you learn to differentiate tasks in your mind by

urgency level and importance level. These are differentiations you have to make all your life, and the sooner you face them, the better you are likely to be at managing your agendas.

The list of benefits is much longer and having "fun" is probably one of the most important things I have not mentioned above. The Moroccan student in general is seen to learn more theory and less practice than the American student and the European student at school. However, that is not totally true for you AUJ students. You



guys have a competitive advantage in this area; you should be well aware of it and try to capitalize on it.

You should also know that life is now easier for you. When we just came to AUJ, there was nothing and we had to start from scratch. Now, you have a very active department of student activities that is here to

provide help; now they give you offices and budgets. They provide you with everything and you just need to act. I advise students to be active and responsible towards themselves and towards their community. Be active, creative

and have fun and don't forget that extracurricular activities are rewarding; they have a weight on your curriculum vitae too.

Would you please talk to us more about CDG and your department?

As defined in our official presentation, Caisse de Dépôt

et de Gestion was created by Dahir in 1959. It is an incorporated public establishment with financial autonomy. The legislator gives it the mission of collecting and managing institutional savings at the service of the country's development.

The recent move towards greater liberalism in the Moroccan economy have not fundamentally affected the nature of its mission, but have encouraged it to reform its structures and method of management to become more

competitive and more in touch with its customers' interests. In this mindset le 'Pole Stratégie et Développement, PSD' was created last October. PSD is composed of 5 department: The Cooperation Department, a Department of Institutional Marketing and Communication, The CDG Foundation, The CDG Institute (think-tank), and the

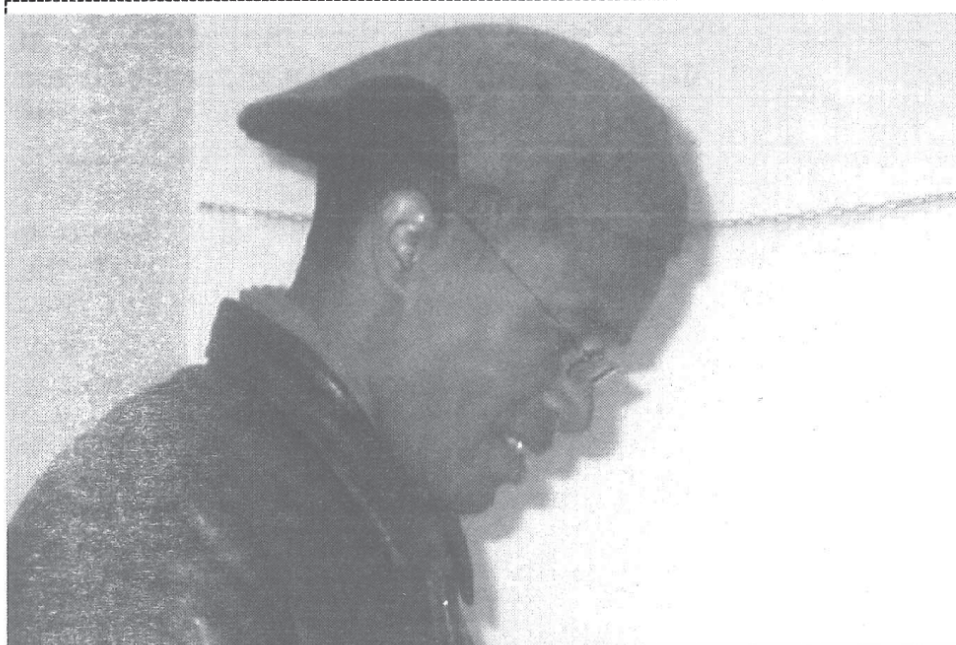
department of Research and Strategy.

The mission of PSD is the accompanying and follow-up of CDG development strategy. The savings deposited with CDG are invested essentially in capital markets (interest rate markets and share markets), the real estate and tourism sectors, the development of industrial and tourism zones and, very recently, in venture capital.

At CDG there is a relatively important AUJ community. Graduates are spread in different areas; we are three AUJ graduates in PSD. Our CEO, Mr. Mustapha Bakkoury, is now Vice Chancellor of AUJ Board of Trustees. I am also pleased to inform you that a partnership agreement was signed between the two institutions. Three weeks ago, following the instructions of Mr. Slimi, I came to AUJ with a CDG delegation to explore more areas of cooperation. And I am glad to announce to our graduating students that CDG is an official sponsor of the 2004 Job Fair.

▲ STRONG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS A NECESSITY

Brahim Ouzineb



Though here for a couple of days, Mr Boum found himself a place easily in the hearts of the students who stop by the student activities regularly.

Aomar Boum????

I was born in an oasis, Foum Zguid, in southern Morocco on 21 July 1970. As a child, I grew up in the Anti-Atlas region, one of the unique cultural and historical areas in the country. On the other hand, the region is one of the poorest places that relies on subsistence agriculture and migrants' remittances. Growing up I had the

opportunity to live a traditional tribal life within the historical and captivating ksurs and Kasbahs. I attended Quranic school initially and continued my primary education partly in my village and later in the cities of Ouarzazate and Marrakesh. Urban life brought another perspective to my world vision, especially in high school which I completed in the small community of Bzou in the Azilal

region. Away from my comfort zone, my village, I learned if I wanted to succeed I had to adjust to situations and work hard to achieve my goals. Coming from a culture where children drop out of school and illiteracy rates are high, the odds were against me. Most students never make it past their primary education. Nevertheless, with modest means I learned from other villagers' experiences and stoicism that patience, humility and hard work can turn a negative environment with limiting factors into a green garden.

In 1989, I graduated first in the Academie of Beni Mellal. Afterward, I took the general Baccalaureat in Rabat that was introduced by His Majesty King Hassan II and which heads of promotions from the different academies of the country take. After this achievement, all of my energy turned toward succeeding in higher education and becoming a university professor. As I attended the

University of Cadi Ayyad in Marrakesh and specialized in English language and literature, my belief in the importance of foreign languages in the transmission and safeguard of our cultural heritage was stressed. After four years I finished my BA as the head of my class. In addition to a degree in English, I left the university with a rich profile of extra-curricular activities especially with good experience in theatre. In fact theatre has refined, to a large extent, my personality since I learned how to be a better communicator. In addition, theatre enhanced my observational skills and attention to psychological states of mind ideas which have served me well as an anthropologist. Before I attended Al Akhawayn, I registered for a DEA at the University Mohamed V in the English language and literature department.

I think that the library is one of the best places in the country. I am glad to be part of this institution and see that as a future academic haven and research center, it possesses a library that includes as many books as possible

Al Akhawayn University

Al Akhawayn was the one of the major turning points in my life. It was important both at the academic and character building levels. I started my Masters in Applied Humanities in spring 1995, when the university was still in infancy. There was a high sense of experimentation. Students had to initiate many projects if they wanted to create an environment where they could have fun and at the same time do well in school. I brought my theatre and stand-up comedy experiences to campus life. I was part of a number of plays and talent shows from 1995 to 2000. I also directed other plays. I remember less than a year after the university started that we participated at the International Festival of University Theatre. It was a great moment for us as a new university. As soon as I graduated I was hired by the university where I became the university publication editor-in-chief. I also worked for Amy Fishburn as International Programs Office Assistant. Finally, I taught for a year at the Language Center. This experience and hard work paid off when I joined the doctoral program at the University of Arizona in Tucson, in 2000. My familiarity with American culture and the American system of education provided me with all the necessary tools to succeed in a very stressful and demanding context such as the department of anthropology.

Away from AUI

I joined the University of Arizona with a research assistantship which covered my tuition fees and a stipend that

covered my living expenses. I also received a small grant from His Majesty King Mohammed VI. The department of anthropology is one of the best programs in the United States, and I decided to add a minor in History and Near Eastern Studies. Attending these departments turned out to be one of the best experiences in my life. History and anthropology gave me an insight not only into our culture but also into American culture. Theories of social sciences were for me skills that as a researcher were important not only to refine my critical skills but also to provide me with methods appropriate to analyze social situations. In Arizona, I taught many courses at the department of Near Eastern Studies and Geography. For the last three years, I not only took classes with some of the best professors in the field but I also worked as a research assistant on key projects. In the department of anthropology I worked with Dr. Thomas Park, my advisor, on a project funded by the National Sciences Foundation on Urbanism in Africa. In addition, I have been working with Dr. Bonine, head of Near Eastern Studies, as his research assistant for his coming text book on the Geography and Culture of the Middle East but also on other research projects. I am also an active member at the Center of Middle Eastern Studies in Arizona.

During the last three years, I was privileged to display some photographic exhibitions about Morocco at the Center. I also gave many lectures on Morocco to the children of Tucson school districts as well as other members of the community within the context of the Center's outreach program.

Away from Morocco

I have returned to Morocco to carry out my fieldwork in the region of Tata on the social memories of some Berber tribes about the Jews of the region. I am also co-authoring two books with my advisor. The first book is a historical dictionary of Morocco which provides a general introduction to researchers who intend to work on Morocco. The second book is a historical analysis of some archival documents written in Judeo-Arabic and which discuss economic transactions among the Jews of Safi and Marrakesh at the beginning of the twentieth century. My research interests also include the history of Morocco and North Africa, applied anthropology and development studies, as well as urbanization issues.

AUI Vs Alumni

As an alumni, I have a strong relationship with AUI. I am very happy to be back and visit the campus because it reminds me of one of the most important

learned outside the AUI campus that as humans we should always look at the positive side of things. Complaining is not a good way to look at things and face issues. My experience in the United States is no better than that of AUI. In both contexts, I learned different things. Yet I have come to view my culture with a different perspective. I also realized that it is not always green on the other side of the river.

Changes at AUI

I think that one week is not enough for me to judge whether AUI has changed or not. But I can definitely say that the AUI library has largely improved. I think that the library is one of the best places in the country. I am glad to be part of this institution and see that as a future academic haven and research center, it possesses a library that includes as many books as possible. As an academic institution, AUI's image is closely related to its products i.e. its students. Having a strong alumni association is a necessity. I do believe that if we want to reach that goal we should have a full time job alumni organization closely related to the administration and a full participation in the strategic vision of the university. Right now, students have just planted the seeds of this organization, but it is going to take a lot of energy on the part of both the student body and the university administration to reach that goal.

Advice to AUI students

We cannot talk about a comparison between the university of Arizona and AUI. They are two different contexts and cultural as well as economic settings. The University of Arizona is a very old place. AUI has definitely to learn from the experiences of not only the University of Arizona but also other old academic institutions. This requires strong academic exchanges both at the level of professors and students. I also believe that for AUI to succeed it needs a strong graduate program which involves research.



stages in my life. AUI helped build my character through its good and bad moments. I

ARRIVED "SAFELY" TO MONTANA

Wadia Ait Hamza

When the moment approached, I knew that my trip was full of surprises waiting for me. All the aspects of this trip seemed to be frustrating. What made me nervous was the media coverage of the new policy for visitors entering the USA. It was on every channel at any time. It just drove me crazy!!!

The security checking in the airport of Casablanca was very high, and I truly never expected that kind of security in Morocco. Believe me, it's more than the AUI main-gate.

In the Casablanca airport, no one can enter without a plane ticket. The first check was done at the entrance of the airport. Another check was waiting for us when we were boarding the plane. But here they searched us and re-searched as if we were carrying bombs or drugs. The majority of the passengers removed their shoes as they approached the security officer as they knew that he would ask them to do that. I was not excluded. I took off my shoes.

Everything went smoothly until we reached the Chipol Airport in Amsterdam. In Amsterdam, another security checking was waiting for us before boarding. An interview by the people of "Falk Group 4" was crucial in order to get to the plane. They asked all of the passengers questions about their personal lives, their destinations and so on.

After the interview, another check by the security guards was done. Removing the shoes this time was funny because the security guards were looking inside the shoes and searching for something other than the smell of the shoes of more than 200 passengers. I think at the end of the day, the security guards should have examined their noses to see if they were still functioning.

The flight from Amsterdam to Seattle lasted 10.5 hours. On the plane, they gave us papers to fill out. Customs services were looking for food and commercial things that should be declared; thankfully, I did not have any of those.

In Seattle, I was among the first to get off the plane, and the last one to leave the registration hall. When I arrived to the registration desk, the officer looked at me and started looking at my passport. After scanning my visa, he gave me a red paper and told me that he could not deal with me because I had a "complicated passport." He sent me to another officer. I smiled because I knew what was waiting for me. After all, I am an Arab.

I gave the passport and all the papers to the immigration officer, who told me to sit and wait. I saw a security guard who took all my papers and left the hall. Waiting was the key

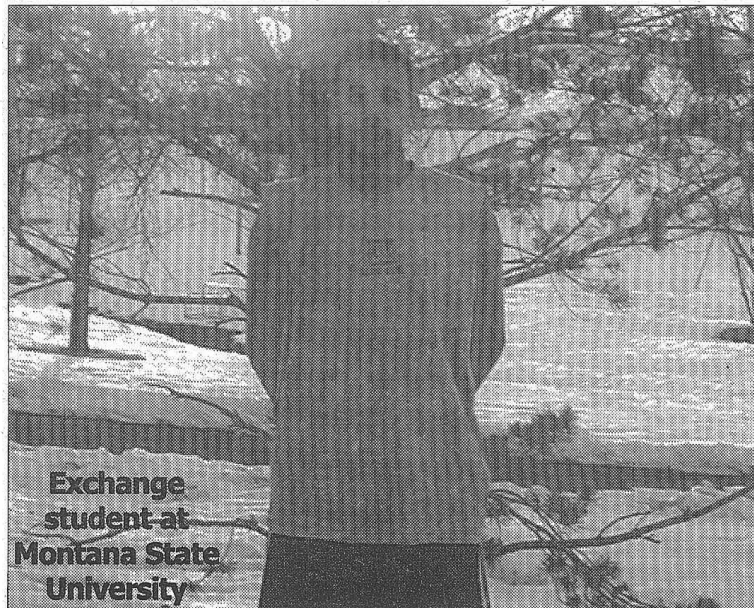
word in that moment. After 45 minutes, an officer called me and asked if I had luggage. The answer was positive. How can I stay in cold weather without clothes? He told me to bring my luggage to his desk. I brought it. I had to wait another hour. A lady called me and interviewed me. "Where are you from? Why are you here? What do you study? Have you been ever arrested? Are you gonna work? When will you leave the country? Do you plan to work in the USA after graduation?"... I answered, "I am just a student from Morocco who is going on an exchange program (I think that I repeated this statement dozens of times) I am a nice guy. I never killed a rat"..... She told me to go back and

wait.

After dozens of minutes, an officer told me to follow him. What could I do? I followed him to his office. When I entered the office, a security camera was filming everything.

He told me to give him my wallet and to open all of my luggage for another search. He opened my wallet, searched all the cards and the money. He looked at the pictures.

He searched my backbag and looked at all the papers. He asked me if I had a resume or a letter of recommendation with me. The answer was negative of course. If I had them, it would



mean that I was planning to work. Smart guy!!!! After finishing, he sent me to another officer. At that time, I was thinking of taking the next plane to Morocco.

This officer was Hispanic, and he gave me some paperwork to do. He asked about my family, my home address and everything you can think of. He eventually returned my passport, a sign of finishing the registration. I opened my passport; a Special Registration stamp was there. Only the Arab and Islamic countries go through this process and have a special registration.

When I left the hall, no one was there. Unfortunately, at the gate of the hall two other check desks were

waiting for me. The first was the customs services. They searched my luggage and removed everything from the bag, leaving me to re-pack it. After I left the hall, I put my luggage on the belt that took them to the boarding area. I had to take my shoes off again at the security gate that took me to the big hall of the Seattle airport.

Another security gate was at the entrance of the boarding gate for the next plane. Arriving to the gate, a screen displayed "The Flight of Horizon Airlines N°983AR to Bozeman: Weather Advisory." I knew that something unusual was waiting for me.

The flight was from Seattle to Butte then to Bozeman. Because of the weather, the plane could not land in Butte. Those who were going to Butte had to go to Bozeman then take a bus for 2 hours to their final destination. Thankfully, I was not going there. It took 1h30 to reach my final destination from Seattle, but 28 hours from Casablanca. I found two people

waiting for me; both were French. When I left the airport, a cold wind slapped me in the face. It was -35°C. I could not breathe; it was the first time I in my life that my body felt numb. I hurried to the car in order to get to a warm bed as soon as possible. When I arrived to my room, the first thing I did was to lie down and sleep, and I don't remember if I took my shoes off or not. Only God knows if this story was a dream or reality.

011A376323@stud.alakhawayn.ma

Observe, listen, talk

& WRITE

...Enlighten your Thoughts

ISOLATED AND WITHOUT MUCH SENSE

Khalil Honsali

I chose to write a hand-written letter. It is rather funny for a computer scientist, who is comfortable with emails, to start writing letters. Yet, I believe that a letter is more than a simple medium to deliver messages; let it be the personalized calligraphy or the paper that can be touched; a letter is much more valuable for being personal and hence alive. Besides, I have discovered through the writing process - of this letter especially - that one takes much more time preparing his ideas and putting them into words. Indeed, I have required all the summer to finish mine.

Probably the best way to thank a professor is to always keep in mind his teachings and use them in one's own life. And probably the best way to thank a friend is to simply return his friendship as sincerely as it was given.

The experience I am having now in Japan is the first of its kind for me. I have never been out of Morocco before. I never left home or the university - my second home - for more than a month. One year in Japan is a very long time for me in a completely different environment. Although it is a rather short period to fit in your definition of "long" period. Still to me, it is long enough to be a rich experience abroad. I actually believe that those who visit a country for a week-long or so in touristic expedition, do get as much or maybe less than those who visit the virtual touristic websites of that country.

Since the very beginning of my stay I recall the first weeks of the literature class that were dedicated to the question of identity.

Since then and even now, identity is by far one of the most challenging subjects that I have discussed - mainly with myself. It is one of those subjects that hold astonishing observations and simple questions but hard answers, related to the identity of myself and that of the Japanese people.

When concerned with my identity, I surely fall into the inevitable questions: "who are you" or "what are you". Yes, who

am I to myself? Since I have to define myself first before I can define it to others. It's the inside-out approach of proactive people: something I found out on my own but that's another subject. So who am I? Under what identity am I visiting Japan? Is this identity going to hold my Moroccan background (what background?); or is it going to fully adapt to the Japanese identity? In other words, what price does my identity have to pay so it can melt into the Japanese society. Until now I still don't have the answer.

Then what am I to the Japanese? When people ask you such questions, you should give answers that do not negate the identity that you have chosen, but it should also be appropriately adapted so that people from different understanding mechanisms can absorb it easily.

Morocco's geography, history and culture by themselves make things harder than ever to explain for people like the Japanese. For instance, let's tackle the point of the language. Until I came here I didn't know how hard it would be to answer the question, "what is

Morocco's geography, history and culture by themselves make things harder than ever to explain for people like the Japanese

your language?" Of course, it is Moroccan (darija). But how to explain to a foreigner with average to low general culture (due to Japanese cultural isolation) that Moroccan is derived from Berber, Arabic, French and Spanish; that the official languages are Arabic and French; that historically it is Berber with its multiplicity and regionality; that Darija is not written but still used in everyday

life, etc.

I believe this is the minimum information required to understand what the word "language" means in Morocco. You probably know all this, but I explicitly wrote it down to give a dimension to it. In contrast, most people ask you by curiosity, and hence are not prepared to hear all of this. I find myself obliged to choose a short answer based on my identity which doesn't reflect Morocco's diversity. But guess what, I always do it the hard way; that is, I give the long speech



above for the sake of truth and realism.

One thing that I have discovered is what I baptized "generalized cultural paradigm." That is when my identity has an effect on people's perception of all those who share with me that identity and all of its origins. Since I am Moroccan, my identity is rooted in Arabic-Muslim, African, Berber and Mediterranean roots. The most pertinent point is the one of Islam especially with the image it suffers in this informational era. If I give an image of Islam to the Japanese, then it is not only considered as my own perception of Islam, but rather generalized to all the Muslim-Arabic community. I am referring to the unpleasant situation when someone before you has already negatively affected the cultural paradigm that others have on your identity.

Another point I remember from our discussions in World Literature is that any experience changes you even in the slightest. This is definitely true. But what I realize now is that this change is not passive. Experience changes a man because he actually chooses to change his personality in order to best fit into

his environment. This is indeed in the best cases. Whereas we can say that in the worst case, that man simply breaks like a small branch trying to counter water flow in a river. Besides that, change still should not affect the core of one's identity to the point of being stranger to his origins.

This is also true in the other sense, where the majority is affected by the experience of the minority. I am referring to the Japanese and their contact with the rest of the world as it opened its lands to foreigners, typically Americans. I am always surprised and sometimes shocked by the change in Japan under the name of globalization, or more specifically Americanization. Probably I could see that because it's the case in Morocco. The similarity between the two countries is that they have rich cultures - due to their past; ironically, that tradition is turning to folklore for tourist attractions. Moreover, the Japanese have traded sumo for baseball, enka for rock, rice for hamburgers, etc. They even have a liberty statue in Tokyo! One day I said to a Japanese friend: "If you truly believe in your culture and in the powerful heritage of your ancestors, then I am sure your identity will rise and shine, and you will feel harmony within yourself. Besides, if you embrace the American - or any other identity - and try to become American, then you will realize that you'll never be an American; neither will you remember how to go back to being Japanese. Your identity will be something in between: isolated and without much sense." When I said this I realized it is completely applicable to Morocco as well.

I sometimes think that if "the big fish eating the small fish" wasn't the nature of most people, then it would have been possible to imagine the globalization of the world where all the identities are mixed together but as complete, consistent and independent entities.

I have probably exaggerated in most of my assumptions, but isn't it at the extremes that we find the true meaning of people and motions?

FREE ZONE ENGLISH ON CAMPUS AT AUI

Lynne Dahmen

In spring 2002, I made my decision. I would return to Morocco. This time, instead of teaching at a public university, I would teach at AUI, an English-speaking university. Believe it or not, I spent idle moments wondering about what language (Arabic, English or French) I would speak and when, as well as to whom. I wondered about the social implications of speaking a certain language to colleagues, staff and, of course, students. Would it be clear which language to choose? Two years later, I don't worry which language I use when I speak with colleagues, administrative staff or the numerous security personnel, housecleaning staff or restaurant workers. However, I still worry about what language I speak with students and more importantly, which language they speak with one another.

In my first semester, in Fall 2003, I noticed a resistance on the part of many of my students to speak English. They would respond to me in English when I addressed questions in class in English, but when talking with one another inside or outside of the classroom

(even with other faculty if they were Moroccan), students almost immediately moved to Arabic/French. I quickly heard



the rumors about speaking English ... that students often spoke poorer English when they graduated than they did at the end of their 4th or 5th semesters (after CAD, English Composition 1 and 2, Communication through Speaking). So I decided to talk to some of my students about this issue.

I was told by students that, in addition to being 'harder' than speaking one's native languages, speaking

English was often discouraged by one's peers. Students told me that they often perceived Moroccans speaking English outside of class as 'pretentious' or 'snobby' (unless they were around foreigners who did not speak either French or Arabic). Some said they feared their spoken English was not improving—others, that it was deteriorating. Still others said they would like to speak more English outside of classes, but that there was little opportunity or support.

It seems to be a problem with no solution, at least not one that faculty or administrators can solve. We could create "English-only" zones in academic buildings. We could more strongly encourage ALL faculty, Moroccan and international, to insist more on speaking English both in the classroom and in offices. We could require more spoken English classes in later semesters during the already long degree plans.

But all of these would not address the core issues that students suggested to me: it's just not cool to speak English outside of class. Or, in the 'real

world,' many students will be working in a purely Moroccan context, thus English is not really important. Or, in some degrees (i.e., Computer Science), English is not needed. Or, many believe their English is 'good enough.'

Some would ask, as a professor, why should I even care if students improve their English? Aside from being a teacher of English and Communication, I realize the doors that open from excellence in spoken language. I have seen how people respond, for example, if I choose to speak Arabic instead of French when I travel outside of AUI.

I have also seen the differences in how 'ok' English speakers versus 'excellent' English speakers are perceived in professional contexts. In addition, I believe that it is essential for AUI and its graduates to encourage this skill in order to maintain and develop AUI as a successful English-speaking university. If we don't foster this aspect that separates AUI and its students from many other institutions both here and abroad, why bother studying in English at all?

THE CINEMA CORNER

THE OSCARS 76

by Nadia Khomri

Does The Lord of the Rings get your vote in the Best Picture of the Year? Would you be in favor of Bill Murray in Lost in Transition, or would you say Johnny Depp all the way?

This year's nominations are very diverse in terms of range, genres and budgets. There is something for everybody!

The final chapter in Peter Jackson's trilogy, The Lord of the Rings, is leading the race with 11 nominations including Best Picture and Best Director. Right behind was Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World with 10

nominations, including Best Picture and Best Director.

Joining them on the list of best directing nominations for the 76th annual are Fernando Meirelles for City of God, Sofia Coppola for Lost in Translation and Clint Eastwood for Mystic River.

Besides The Lord of the Rings and Master and Commander, four other films have been nominated for Best Picture. Those are Lost in Transition, Mystic River and Seabiscuit.

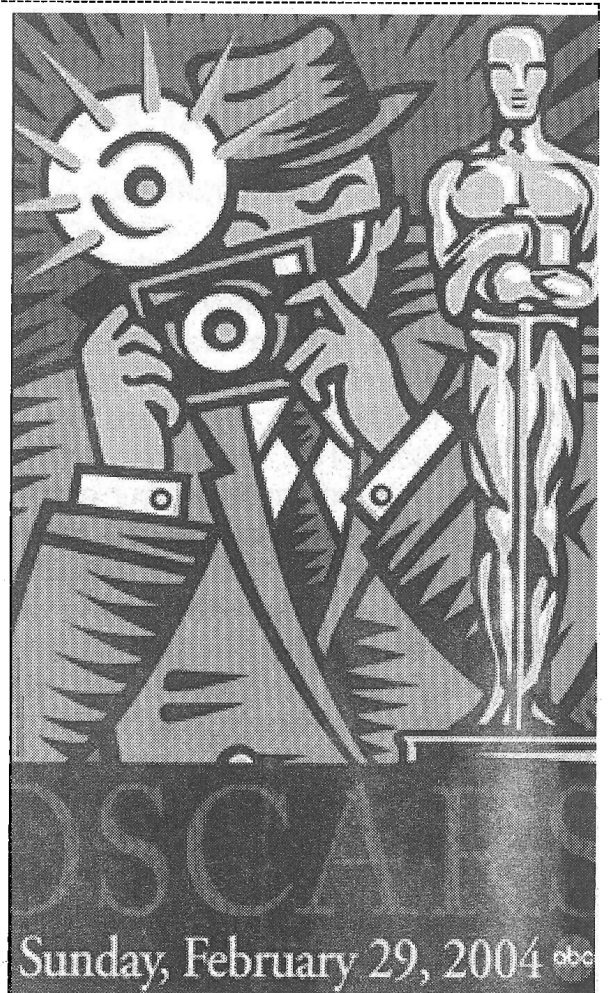
The nominees for Best Actor in a Leading Role nominees include Johnny Depp in Pirates of the Caribbean, Ben Kingsley in House of Sand and Fog, Jude Law in Cold Mountain, Bill Murray in Lost in Transition and Sean Penn in

Mystic River.

Naomi Watts in 21 Grams as well as Samanta Morton in In America are among the five nominees for Best Actress in a Leading Role.

Other nominations have been credited to a number of films for Best Original Screenplay, Best Achievement in Cinematography, Best Film Editing, Best Original Song, Best Foreign Film and others nomination categories.

The Oscars will be handed out in Hollywood on February 29. Only then, can you see if your predictions were correct !!



JOKES ON MEN

Page Prepared by: Imane El Fechtani

What is the thinnest book in the world?
"What Men Know About Women"

How do you save a man from drowning?
Take your foot off his head

What do men and bottles have in common?
They're both empty from the neck up

How can you tell if a man is happy?
Who cares

How many men does it take to change a roll of toilet paper?
We don't know... it has never happened

What's a man's idea of helping with the housework?
Lifting his leg so you can vacuum

What do you call a man with half a brain?
Gifted !

What do you call an intelligent man in America?
A tourist

What are two reasons men don't mind their own business?
1. No mind 2. No business

Only a man could buy a \$400 car and put a \$4000 stereo in it

Why is it good that there are female astronauts?
When the crew gets lost, at least she will ask for directions

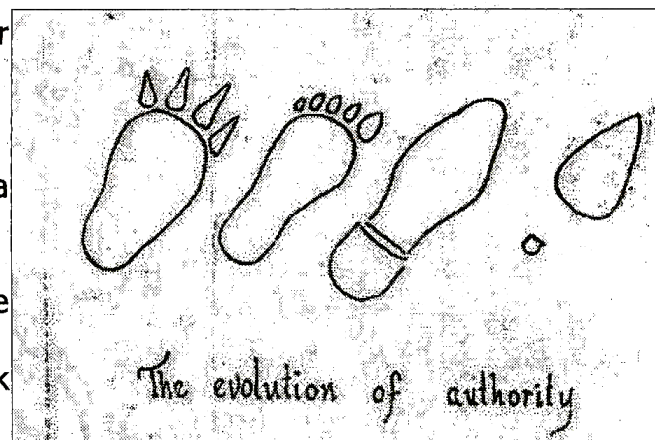
Why do men act like idiots?
Who says they're acting?

Why do men complain women have no sense of humour when they have no sense and even less humour?

How do you confuse a man?
You don't - they're born that way.

When do men insist that women are illogical?
When a woman doesn't agree with them

When's the only time a man thinks about a candlelight dinner?



When the power goes off.

Why is psychoanalysis a lot quicker for men than for women?

When it's time to go back to his childhood, he's already there.

Why do men like BMWs?
They can spell it.

Why are men like commercials?
You can't believe a word they say.

How is a man like the weather?
Nothing can be done to change either one of them.

Ask for salary increase

One day an employee sends a letter to his boss to increase his salary!!!

Dear Bo\$\$

In thi\$ life, we all need \$ome thing mo\$t de\$perately. I think you \$hould be under\$anding of the need\$ of u\$ worker\$ who have given \$o much \$upport including \$weat and \$ervice to your company.

I am \$ure you will gue\$\$ what I mean and re\$pond \$oon.

Your\$ \$incerely,

Norman

The next day, the employee received this letter of reply:

Dear NOrman,

I kNOW you have been working very hard. NOWadays, NOthing much has changed. You must have NOticed that our company is NOT doing NOticeably well as yet.

NOw the newspaper are saying the world`s leading econOMists are NOT sure if the United States may go into aNOther recession. After the NOVember presidential elections things may turn bad.

I have NOthing more to add NOW. You kNOW what I mean.

Yours truly,

Manager

ARE YOU HAPPY?

Happiness, this mysterious word that cannot be defined with simple definitions; this thing that people live and die for. The reason why they create days to celebrate events such as Valentine's Day. But do they feel it? I believe happiness cannot be reached by any means but by self-satisfaction. The moment you feel happy with what you have without envying those who have what you do not. At that moment, and at that moment only, you reach happiness. This may sound too "perfect" to be realized. So what are some practical steps to chase sadness and open the door wide for a happy mood?

According to Ed Diener, PhD, a psychologist at the University of Illinois: Don't wait until you win the lottery. Right this instant, decide to bring a little more sunshine into your days and ways. Here are five steps on the stairway to happiness.

1- Change your actions: Changing circumstances will give you a short-lived

boost, but then you're right back where you started. On the other hand, the students who took on new activities — they switched majors, joined a new club, or began a new exercise program — gained lasting joy(Ken Sheldon, PhD, a psychologist at the University of Missouri).

2- Do that thing you do: These are some of the best moments in life; they happen "when a person's body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile." At the time, you may not say to yourself, Ha-cha-cha, I'm so happy. You're too full of seriousness and purpose. But afterward, when you look back, you say, That was excellent. That's the happiness that follows flow(Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, Czech-born psychologist).

3- Set a goal and get going: Although we often overestimate how much we will accomplish in any given day, we generally underestimate how much we can accomplish in a year (David Myers, PhD, a psychologist at Hope College and author of The Pursuit of Happiness) so we have to set goals and stick to them and try our best to

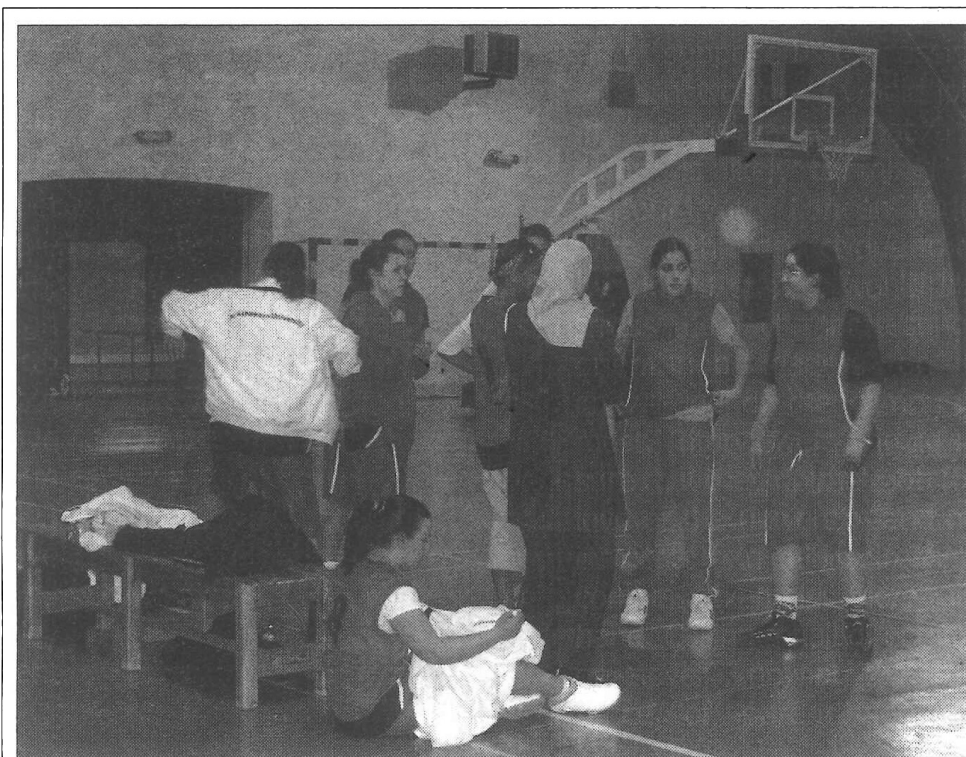
achieve them, because once achieved we have an overwhelming feeling of happiness.

4- Be grateful: The feeling of being grateful gives some happiness. In a nutshell, they've found that being grateful makes people happier. They asked volunteers to keep daily diaries for two weeks; one group recorded daily hassles, another group jotted down events, and a third, the "gratitude group," listed up to five things they were thankful for each day. By the end, people in the gratitude group were so much happier.(Psychologists Michael McCullough, PhD, and Robert Emmons, PhD, have done the pioneering work on gratitude).

5- Make time for friends: Reserving time for friends brings happiness. Doing activities together, going out or simply sharing some talks will bring you happiness. Some studies that were conducted by Diener and Martin Seligman, PhD (author of Authentic Happiness), showed that the happy people among their sample study had at least two of these three associations: a romantic partner, a group of friends, or strong family ties.

GO SNOW QUEENS

Fatima-Azzahra Fattachi



The AUI women's basketball team, known as the "snow queens" has achieved success after changing to a female coach. The new coach has made important changes in the technical side of the team. The training sessions are sterner and the coach emphasizes the physical efforts as well as the application of the techniques that include speed, concentration, sense of competition and more importantly, team spirit.

All these elements have given concrete results in the team's last matches : the snow

queens have reached the semi-finals in the Moroccan universities championship (university selection) on the 20th of this month. They met the university of Tetouan for the same championship. Unfortunately they lost although they were leading till the fourth round. The game was tough but our snow queens have enhanced their level in comparison with the 2002/2003 season. The players have learned to be ambitious and never give up. All what they need now is the encouragement of AUI community members.

AUD CUP ALBUM



The Tennis Team with the prize they got after a brilliant championship



Mr Kamane getting the prize of the team competition championship



