Association of Egyptian American Scholars

34th Annual International Conference

"Science & Technology in Egypt"

'Identifying the Priorities, Building the Infra Structure, Creating Investment Opportunities'

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Long Beach – California – USA

December 14th – 16th, 2007

Sponsored by:

Letter from the President

Welcome to the 34th International Conference of the Association of Egyptian American Scholars (AEAS). The hard work of the organizing committee, the executive committee and friends of the AEAS as well as wide based participation by the membership at large make this a landmark conference. The scholarly input by the academic community, the generous support of Egyptian American businesses, foundations, and individuals as well as the important collaboration of the Egyptian American Organization (EAO) set a new foundation for supporting each other and interconnecting as one viable community.

A year ago, I presented to my colleagues in the AEAS and our friends and partners in the U.S., Canada and Egypt an action oriented, ten points, strategic plan which was supported by them and formally adopted by the Executive Committee. One point in this strategic plan called for strengthening the development of an indigenous science and technology as a long term strategy and an investment in the future social and economic development of Egypt and its appropriate role in the world. This year's conference is an embodiment of this strategic plan as illustrated by its theme: Science and Technology in Egypt: Setting priorities, Building Infrastructure and Creating Investment Opportunities".

The results of these collective efforts are impressive. A great AEAS California Conference with about 40 papers presented in three simultaneous tracts , two panel discussions, three keynote speeches , one session for recommendations and implementation mechanisms as well as a collaborative Gala Event with the EAO where the AEAS pays its own tribute to young persons of the EAO with leadership promise.

As we address the science and technology aspect of the strategic plan, we start addressing another strategic point –- mentoring our junior scholars. This conference witnesses a noticeable presence of graduate students as we launch a new initiative of addressing the needs of this important group of future scholars and leaders. This is a concrete effort in this area. It is also a new beginning.

Together, we are on the road to building on past accomplishments, creating present day achievements, and designing our preferred future. Judging by the quality of the AEAS, its lofty mission and the dedication of its membership, I have reason for optimism.

Your attendance is most heart warming. Your participation is important because human resources, including intellectual capital, are what make organizations great and conferences successful. To all of you, I express gratitude; and I wish you a productive conference and a pleasant stay in beautiful Southern California.

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf
President, Association of Egyptian American Scholars (AEAS)
Professor of Health Sciences and Vice President Emeritus
California State University, Dominguez Hills

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Medicine & Health:
Tawfik Ayoub, MD
Tamer Mahmoud, MD, PhD
Ayman El-Mohandes, MD, MPH
Anwar Abdel-Fattah, PhD

Technology & Education:
Dr. Marc Massoud
Dr. Lotfi Geriesh

Business & Investment:
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Dr. Ramses Toma

Engineering & Science:
Dr. MahmoudWagdy
Dr. Mohamed Attalla

Economics & Humanities:
Dr. Ibrahim Badawy
Dr. Hamoud Salhi

Panel Discussion Chairs

Morning Panel Discussion: Dr. Mohamed Attala
Afternoon Panel: Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy

Resolution & Recommendation

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf Dr. Tawfik Ayoub Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf
President, AEAS

Dr. Hassan Hathout
Los Angeles – California

H.E. Ambassador Abderahman Salaheldine
Counsel General of Egypt – San Francisco – California

Participating Egyptian Dignitaries

By alphabetical order

Dr. Farouk Abd El Kader
Advisor of Minister of High Education & Scientific Research

Dr. Abdallh Bazaraa
Director, Egyptian Cultural and Educational Bureau, Washington-DC

Dr. Salwa El Gharib
Secretary General, Supreme Council of Universities

Dr. Nabil El-Hefnawy
Dean, Environmental Studies, Sadat Branch, Menofya University

Dr. Hazem Ezzat
El Nile University, Representative of Ministry of Communications

Dr. Mohamed Hamza
Cultural Attaché of Egypt, Washington-DC

Dr. Hind Hanafi
Vice President, University of Alexandria

Dr. Mostafa Kamal
President of Sohag University

Dr. Ahmad Khairy
First Undersecretary, Minitry of High Education
Director of Educational Missions

Dr. Galal Said
President, El Fayoum University
Liaison of Supreme Council of Universities

Dr. Nihal Shaker
Dean, Faculty of Science, Al Azhar University

Schedule of Events – Overview

Friday, December 14th 2007

7:30 – 9:30 pm	Pre-Registration, Soft drink & Cheese Reception
Seaview Rotunda	

Saturday, December 15th 2007 – Social Program

10:00 – 12:00 pm	Visit to Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802
4:00 – 6:00 pm	Visit to Queen Mary Museum 1126 Queen's Highway, Long Beach, Ca. 90802 (562) 435-3511

Sunday, December 16th 2007 – Scientific Program

7:00 – 7:30 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
Beacon A Rotunda	
7:30 – 8:00 am	Open Ceremony – President Address
Beacon A	Recognition of the AEAS Los Angeles Chapter Founders Dr. Amer El-Ahraf
8:00 – 8:30 am	Keynote Speech
Beacon A	Dr. Hassan Hathout
8:30 – 10:30 am	Morning Scientific Sessions
Regency D,E,F	
10:30 – 10:35 am	Coffee Brake
10:35 – 11:35 am	Morning Panel Discussion
Beacon A	
11:35 – 12:35 pm	Lunch & Keynote Speech
Beacon A	H.E. Ambassador Abdel Rahman Salah El Din
12:35 – 2:55 pm	Afternoon scientific Sessions
Regency D,E,F	
2:55 – 3:55 pm	Afternoon Panel Discussion
Beacon A	
3:55 – 4:25 pm	Resolution & Adjournment
Shoreline AB	

Sunday, December 16th 2007 – Banquet & Entertainment

In Collaboration with the Egyptian American Organization

05:30 – 07:00 pm	Business meeting of The "Egyptian American Organization"
Shoreline AB	
06:30 – 07:00 pm	Registration & Reception
Seaview Rotunda	
07:15 – 8:15 pm	Hyatt Delight Buffet Dinner & Desserts
Seaview Ballroom	
7:40 – 8:30 pm	EAO Young Leadership Awards - AEAS Awards AEAS & EAO Highlights
8:30 – 9:30 pm	Entertainment - Brentwood Strings Quartet
9:30 pm – …	Mazzeeka, Farfasha, & Egyptian Salamat…

Social Events

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"Hyatt Seaview Rotunda"

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10:00 – 12:00 pm — **Visit to Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific**
100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802

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Sunday December 16th 2007

7:30 – 8:30 am

Open Ceremony

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf

7:30 – 8:00 am — President Address:
"Indigenous science and technology within a social cultural context: A prescriptions for Egyptian progress"

Recognition of the Founders of the AEAS Los Angeles Chapter

Dr. Hassan Hathout

8:00 – 8:30 am — Keynote Speech:
"To Egypt with Love"

Scientific Presentations Schedule

Medicine & Health – Regency D

8:30 – 8:50 am	Fouad Kandeel. *Diabetes in Egypt*
8:50 – 9:10 am	Tamer Mahmoud. *Building a world-class health care delivery system in Egypt*
9:10 – 9:30 am	Tawfik Ayoub. *Blood conservation strategies in transfusion free liver transplant anesthesia*
9:30 – 9:50 am	Diana Messadi. *Oral cancer chemoprevention: from bench-top to bedside*
9:50 – 10:10 am	Eba Hathout. *Stem Cells and Diabetes*
10:10 – 10:30 am	Amer El-Ahraf. *Description and Analysis of Environmental and Public Health in Ancient Egypt: Implications for the Future of Egypt and a Call forIndigenous Egyptian Scientific and Social Bases for Action*
12:35 – 12:55 pm	Ayman El-Mohandes. *Health behavior modification sciences: is there a role to play in the improvement of health profile of the population in Egypt. A case study on exposure to tobacco smoke (ETS) and obesity*
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Moustafa Abdel-Nasser. *Problems in scientific research*
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Omar Alfi. *HCV liver failure in Egypt: the stem cell promise*
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Michael Bishara. *Effects of abuse of drugs in Egypt*
1:55 – 2:15 pm	M. Mostafa Bayoumi. *Transgenetic overexpression of Profilin 1 induces vascular hypertrophy and hypertension*
2:15 – 2:35 pm	M. Mostafa Bayoumi. *Cardiac overexpression of constitutive active form of ZEA MAZEC RAD-D in transgenetic mice deteriorates postischemic contractile recovery*
2:35 – 2:55 pm	Olfat Mohamed. *Recognizing post polio syndrome in Egypt*

Technology & Education – Regency E

8:30 – 8:50 am	Marc Massoud. *Business education: the need for change*
8:50 – 9:10 am	Mahmoud Elsayess. *Advanced education delivery tools via the internet for worldwide learning of arabic as a second language with broader implications for scientific development and investment*
9:10 – 9:30 am	Mostafa Maksy. *Factors associated with student performance in the capstone course: contemporary issues in financial accounting*
9:30 – 9:50 am	Nagui Elyas. *Vocational education in Egypt: from vision to implementation*
9:50 – 10:10 am	Tarek Rashid. *Developing technology infrastructure for repository spectral libraries and quantitative remote sensing applications in Egypt: an Egyptian-American Partnership in Remote Sensing (EARS)"*

Scientific Presentations Schedule (continued)

Business & Investment – Regency F

8:30 – 8:50 am	Tayyeb Shabbir. *America's sub-prime mortgage crisis: implications for investment opportunities for the emerging economics*
8:50 – 9:10 am	Samir Arafeh. *Helping to employ the Egyptian disadvantaged by an online qualified matchmaker business*
9:10 – 9:30 am	Samir Arafeh. *The American Egyptian business & investment – the best, the good, the bad, and the ugly*
9:30 – 9:50 am	Shereef Ellaboudy. *Efficiency of Financial Institutions in Egypt and the Middle East*
09:50 – 10:10 am	Mohamed Abo Hebeish. "White Collar Crimes: are Accountants ready?"

Engineering & Science – Regency E

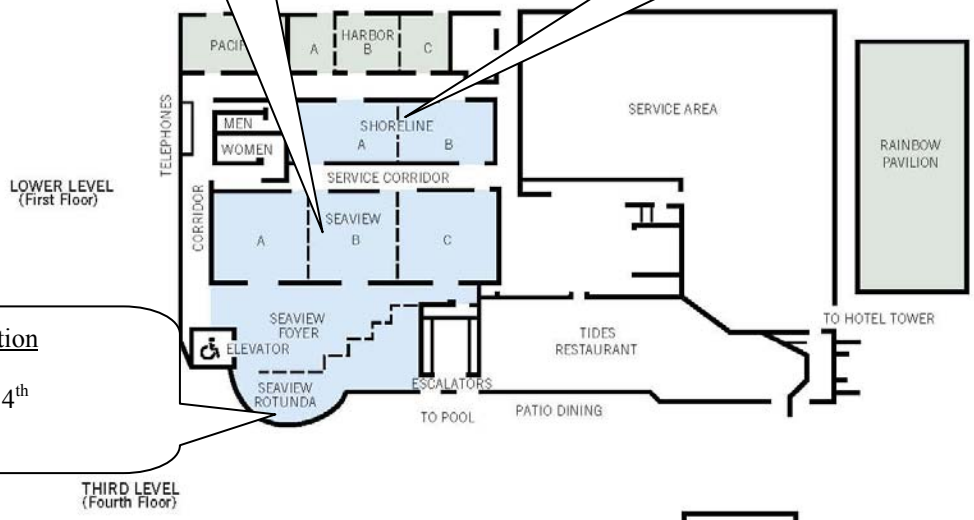
12:35 – 12:55 pm	Mahmoud Wagdy. *Incorporating R&D into Egyptian research institutes: an example plan for restructuring the electronics research institute*
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Yousry Madkour. *VAC-VES sea-waves powered evaporation desalination system*
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Ramses Toma. *Lycopene content in raw tomato varieties and tomato products*
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Khaled Nassar & Mohamed Hegab. *Planning and using a work breakdown structure in construction projects*
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Baha Abulnaga. *Slurry pipelines for Egypt and Sudan*
2:15 – 2:35 pm	Nicolai Haydn. *Shannon's entropy and the distribution of frequency of words*
2:35 – 2:55 pm	Essam M. El Saeed. *The development of boats industry throughout the early rook inscriptions in South Upper Egypt*

Economics & Humanities – Regency F

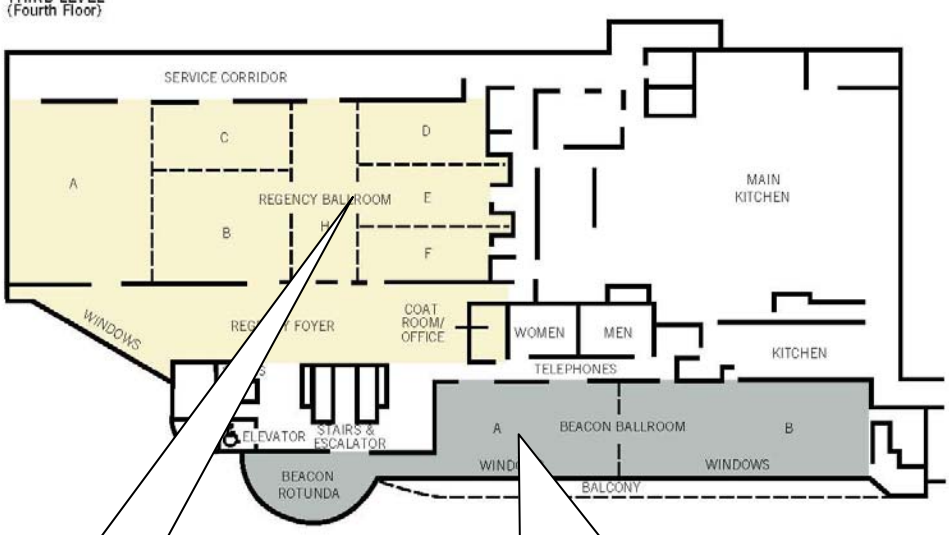
12:35 – 12:55 pm	Ibrahim Badawi. *External auditing in Egypt: a profession at risk*
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Ibrahim Badawi. *Egypt's tax environment: problems and recommendation*
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Hamoud Salhi. *Securing the Gulf in the post 9/11 environment*
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Ashraf Singer. *The two-gap theory of war: application of power parity and military buildup in the Middle East (1960-2006)*
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Magdy Farag. *"The impact of earnings reliability on auditor independence: evidence from the post-SOX Era"*
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Prakash L Dheeriya. *"Forecastability of oil prices: a comparison of exponential smoothing models"*

Banquet:
7:00 – 10:00 pm …

Afternoon Panel & Resolutions
2:55 – 4:25 pm
EAO Business Meeting:
5:30 – 7:00 pm



Pre-registration Reception:
December 14th
7:30 – 9:30



Morning Scientific Program:
8:30 – 10:30 am

Afternoon Scientific Program:
12:35 – 2:35 am

Breakfast:
Open Ceremony:
7:00 – 8:30 am
Lunch & Keynote Speech: Morning Panel:
10:35 – 12:35 pm

Morning Scientific Sessions

8:30-10:30 am

Medical & Health – Regency D

Co-Chairs: Tawfik Ayoub, MD Tamer Mahmoud, MD, PhD

8:30 – 8:50 am	*Fouad Kandeel, MD, PhD* *"Diabetes in Egypt"*
8:50 – 9:10 am	*Tamer Mahmoud, MD, PhD* *"Building a world-class health care delivery system in Egypt"*
9:10 – 9:30 am	*Tawfik Ayoub, MD* *"Blood conservation strategies in transfusion free liver transplant anesthesia"*
9:30 – 9:50 am	*Diana Messadi, DDS, MMSc, DMSc* *"Oral cancer chemoprevention: from bench-top to bedside"*
9:50 – 10:10 am	*Eba Hathout, MD, FAAP* *"Stem Cells and Diabetes"*
10:10 – 10:30 am	*Dr. Amer El-Ahraf, Dr. Shokry El-Kantiry* *"Description and Analysis of Environmental and Public Health in Ancient Egypt: Implications for the Future of Egypt and a Call for Indigenous Egyptian Scientific and Social Bases for Action"*

Diabetes in Egypt

Fouad Kandeel, MD, PhD
City of Hope, California

Diabetes mellitus, a metabolic disorder that deranges blood glucose and is characterized by excessive urination and thirst, is not a new problem; the Ancient Egyptian physician Hesy-ra described it in approximately 3000 B.C. In fact, Ancient Egypt was the first civilization known to have studied medicine extensively, and the earliest written reference to diabetes is attributed to the Upper Egyptian Ebers Papyrus circa 1550 B.C.

Identified as one of the most serious health threats of the modern era, type 1 (insulin-dependent, or juvenile) and type 2 (insulin-independent, or adult-onset) diabetes currently affects 246 million people worldwide1— projected to include 366 million in 20302. This considerable rate of increase will be substantially exceeded in the Middle East, where many of the largest and fastest-growing adult diabetic populations reside. In Egypt alone, 2,623,000 people are already affected, with the expectation of 6,726,000 in 20303. Because as many as half of all diabetic patients remain undiagnosed, these already sizable figures are likely gross underestimations.

Since the discovery of insulin in 1922, there have been many major advances in diabetes management, including the development of novel pharmaceutical agents, glucose monitoring and insulin infusion systems, and cell and gene therapies. Further, recent studies have shown that with proper intervention, insulin resistance underlying the development of type 2 diabetes can be reduced; consequently, the onset and complications of disease can be delayed or prevented. Additional evidence suggests that in the future, even the autoimmunity responsible for type 1 diabetes can likely be circumvented.

Currently updated and projected diabetic health statistics for Egypt are strongly needed, including the rates of diabetic complications and co-morbid diseases, the impact on the health of the adult workforce and national productivity, the costs of care, and measures of treatment success. The future of diabetic care in Egypt rests on the acquisition and importation of new knowledge (public education), expertise (the design and implementation of superior diagnostic, prevention, and treatment strategies), and resources (research funding, medications, and modern technologies). With these assets, we can progress strategically towards overcoming this epidemic problem by means such as:

- Establishing an organization dedicated to the promotion of diabetic care and research in Egypt, capable of competing for highly needed national and international resources
- Developing educational programs focused on the prevention and delay of diabetes and its complications via behavior modification, exercise, diet, and weight management in both school-age and urban adult populations
- Embracing state-of-the-art interventions, including home glucose monitoring, insulin infusion pumps, artificial pancreatic systems, islet transplantation, embryonic and adult stem cell research for production of insulin secreting cells, and gene modification for augmenting cellular insulin secretion and/or action.

1. International Diabetes Federation, 2007.
2. World Health Organization.
3. World Health Organization.

Building a world-class health care delivery system in Egypt

Tamer H. Mahmoud, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Vitreo-Retinal Surgery,
Kresge Eye Institute, Wayne State University,
4717 St. Antoine, Detroit, MI 48201
http://www.kresgeeye.org/physicians/vitreoretinal.html

Introduction:
Economic, scientific, and technological advances are becoming a global objective rather than local growth in developed countries. The health care system is part of that economical enterprise and is not restricted to countries. American institutions with reputable names have invested in developing "satellite" branches in Asia, and the Middle East; those are not only health care systems but are also teaching hospitals and medical schools.

Objective:
To entertain the resources and chronological plans to build a world-class health care system, training programs, and affiliated medical school in Egypt, to be a leading institution for health care delivery and teaching in the Middle East.

Methods:
Review of a variety of health care systems in the US and other affiliated branches abroad. From primary care to hospitals, from medical schools to teaching institutions, from training programs to board requirements, historical aspects of developments will be discussed. Application of such systems will need to be adjusted and refined according to local economical and social aspects of Egyptian life. Integration of such systems and collaboration with international institutions and local Egyptian medical schools and hospitals need to be addressed. Relation of such a system to health insurance need to be determined to provide adequate level of care to all social standards of the population, and maintain the highest level of care, as a world-renowned center in the Middle East. Role of Egyptian medical personnel, from professors in academic institutions to practicing physicians and surgeons in the US, need to be determined and coordinated with local Egyptian authorities to help achieve such a goal. Health resources, funding, research and development, training, information technology, engineering, equipment, technical support, cost effectiveness, and administrative roles need to be coordinated. A staged plan need to be developed to integrate all those aspects for the realistic development of such a system.

Results:
All aspects mentioned in the methods will be discussed and entertained.

Blood conservation strategies in transfusion free liver transplant anesthesia

Tawfik Ayoub, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology, Cardiac & Liver Transplant Anesthesia
Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California

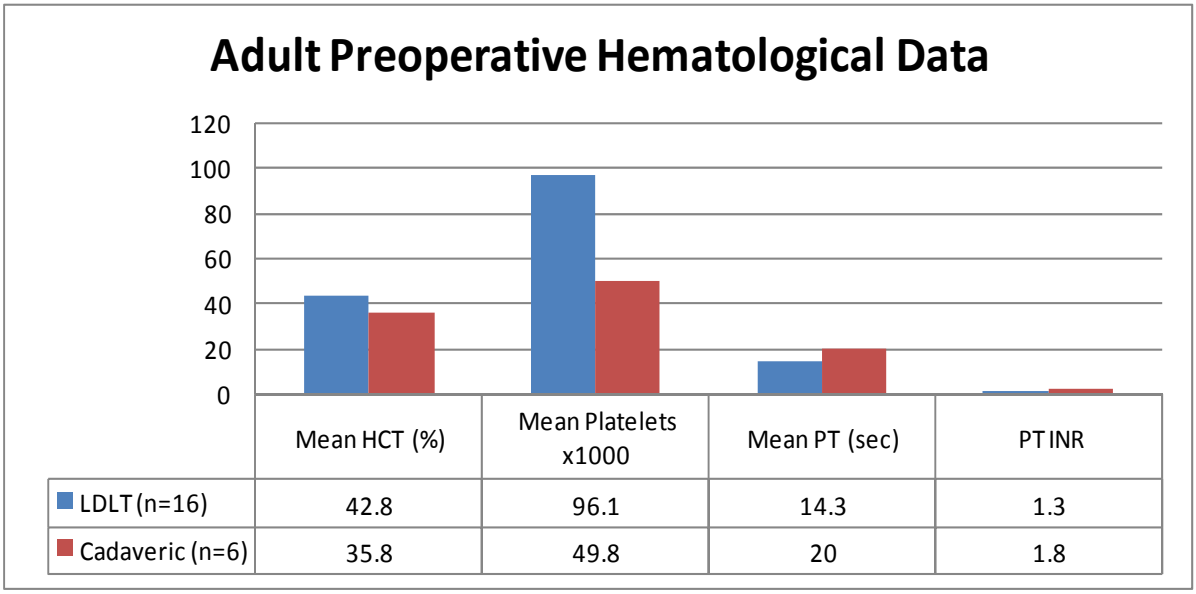
For years major surgeries were performed with deliberate blood transfusion. Since the outbreak of HIV in the 1980's, attention was drawn to the deadly risk of pathogen transmission acquired during blood transfusion. Other equally fatal risks were identified and considered in a more serious manner.

Since then measures were taken to reduce blood transfusion during routine surgeries, but it remained difficult to achieve during major surgeries. This paper presents the concept and technique of blood conservation strategies in major surgeries through the challenges encountered in a sample of Transfusion Free Liver Transplant procedures performed at USC.

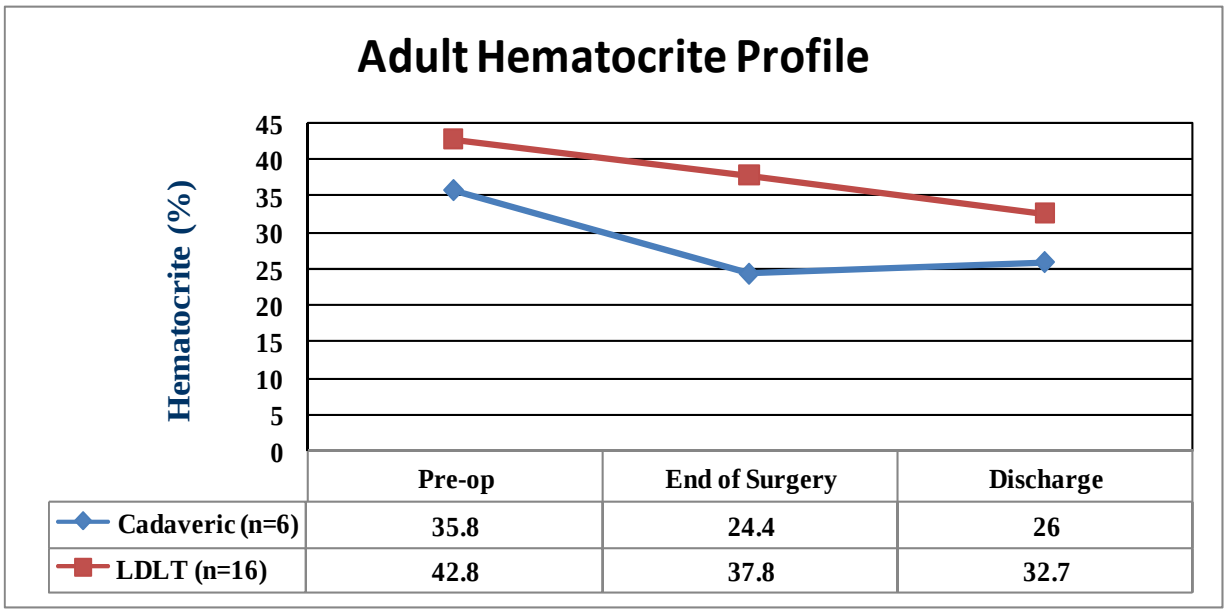
Twenty five cases were performed: three children and twenty two adults. All pediatric patients received living donor liver transplants (LDLT) and all survived. The 22 adult patients consisted of 18 men and 4 women with a mean age of 46.6 years (17 – 66 y) and were divided into two groups: Cadaveric (6 patients) and LDLT (16 patients).

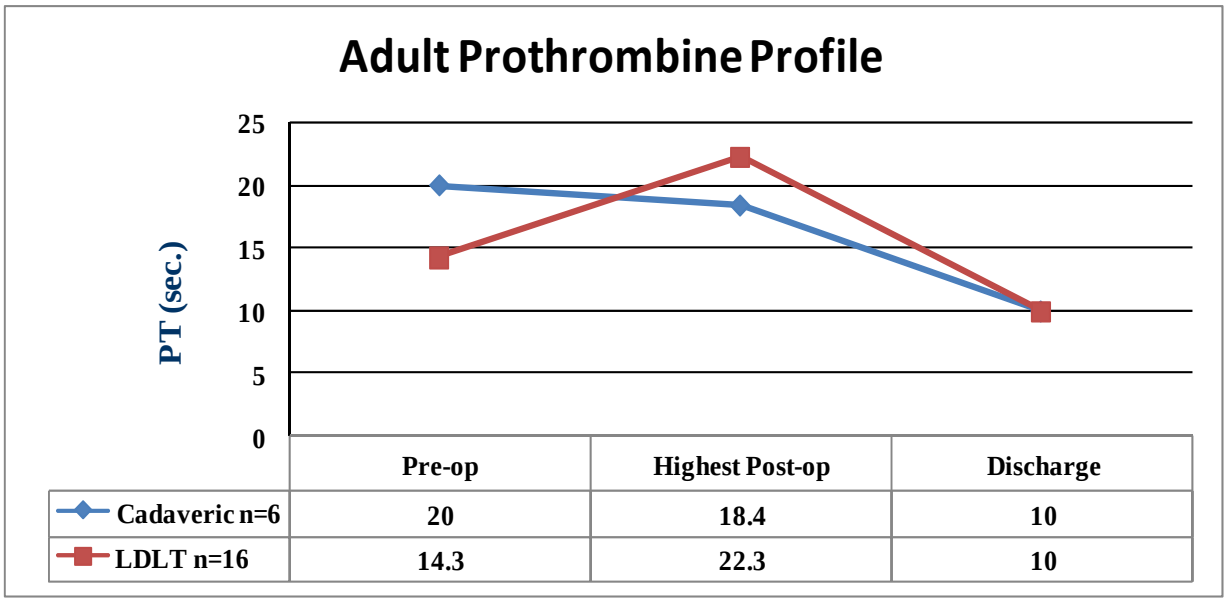
- Hepatitis C: 14 patients
- Primary Schlerosing Cholangitis: 4 patients
- Cryptogenic: 3 patients
- A1 antitrypsine: 1 patient

Adult hematological data are illustrated in the following graphs:



	Mean HCT (%)	Mean Platelets x1000	Mean PT (sec)	PT INR
LDLT (n=16)	42.8	96.1	14.3	1.3
Cadaveric (n=6)	35.8	49.8	20	1.8


Adult Hematocrite Profile
Hematocrite (%)
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
Pre-op
End of Surgery
Discharge
Cadaveric (n=6)
35.8
24.4
26
LDLT (n=16)
42.8
37.8
32.7


Adult Prothrombine Profile
PT (sec.)
25
20
15
10
5
0
Pre-op
Highest Post-op
Discharge
Cadaveric n=6
20
18.4
10
LDLT n=16
14.3
22.3
10

Outcome Data for adult ADLT (n=16)

- 100% patient and graft survival with a mean follow-up of 760 days (58-1792)
- Post-operative surgical complications
  - 2 biliary strictures
  - 3 biliary leak requiring re-operation
  - 1 portal vein thrombosis (PV reconstruction)
  - 1 bleeding from Roux-en-Y
- Mean hospital stay of 15.7 days (7 – 27)

Outcome Data for adult cadaveric transplant (n=6)

- 4 patients are alive and well
- 2 patients were re-explored for peritonitis
- Mean hospital stay of 40.2 days (8-86)
- 2 patients died peri-operatively, both had associated kidney failure and were on dialysis

Perioperative techniques include:

I. Preoperative:

- Early identification of patients
- Early enrollment in the transfusion free program
- Medical Optimization
- Early transplantation
  - Living related liver transplant
- Blood Augmentation (Erythropoeitin, Iron, Folic acid)

II. Intraoperative:

- Euvolemia
- Normothermia
- Acute normolovelemic hemodilution
- Cell salvage
- Pro-coagulants
- Antifibrinolytics
- Surgical technique

III. Postoperative:

- Blood conservation
- Blood augmentation
- Decrease Oxygen consumption

Conclusion:

- Blood system should be an integral part of every surgical evaluation
- Bloodless surgery should be considered for all patients
- The use and understanding of currently available techniques make bloodless surgery safe and cost-efficient
- Innovation in the field of synthetic clotting factors and artificial blood may one day make blood transfusion an obsolete therapy

Oral cancer chemoprevention: from bench-top to bedside

Diana. V. Messadi, DDS, MMSc, DrMSc
Professor of Dentistry, Chair – Section of Oral Medicine,
University of California, Los Angeles, School of Dentistry

Introduction:
Chemoprevention has recently emerged as a cancer control modality to prevent cancer from occurring. The most promising agents in case of oral cancers are retinoids, COX-2 inhibitors, vitamin E, and green tea components.

Materials & Methods:
We have previously demonstrated that a protease inhibitor, Bowman Birk inhibitor (BBIC) found in soybeans can suppress carcinogenesis in an animal model. Our group is currently conducting a placebo-controlled, double-blind, randomized 6 month phase IIb trial of BBIC in patients with Oral Leukoplakia (an oral precancerous condition).

Results:
The current status of the clinical trial will be discussed as it is still ongoing, including patient recruitment; monitoring, intermediate biomarkers and surrogate endpoints used.

Conclusions:
Several challenges face clinicians in conducting oral chemopreventive trials but oral leukoplakia is still an ideal model for the study of cancer chemoprevention because of its accessibility to visual examination, diagnostic sampling, and evaluation of response to treatment.

Stem Cells and Diabetes

Eba Hassan Hathout, MD, FAAP
Professor and Chief – Division of Pediatric Endocrinology
Director, Pediatric Diabetes Center and Islet Transplant Laboratory
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
11175 Campus St, CP A1120R
Loma Linda, California 92354

Diabetes results from destruction or dysfunction of the insulin producing cells of the pancreas, the islet beta cells. Embryonic stem cells can differentiate into insulin producing cells through special gene expression or culture conditions. These cells have suboptimal insulin secretion and regulation. Another major limitation is their tumorigenic potential. In vitro evidence of pancreatic stem cells came from the observation of insulin producing cells originating from ducts outside the islets. When transplanted into mice, these cells cured diabetes. The maximum potential for stem cells in diabetes is now thought to reside in the adult extra-pancreatic stem cell such as bone marrow. Mesenchymal bone marrow stem cells have the double advantage of high proliferation and plasticity and have been shown to cure diabetes in animals. Hematopoietic cells of the bone marrow can be used to tackle the other arm of type 1 diabetes, that of a faulty immune system that destroys islets. When the bone marrow of a diabetic individual is partially suppressed by irradiation, a donor pool of healthy bone marrow can be transplanted to "take over". Islets from the same donor can then be transplanted and not subjected to autoimmune destruction, a phenomenon known as co-transplantation. Islet transplantation with short term immune suppression and immunomodulation, coupled with strategies to prolong islet graft survival and function as is done in our laboratory, are pivotal in the development of a cure for type 1 diabetes.

Description and Analysis of Environmental and Public Health in Ancient Egypt: Implications for the future of Egypt and a Call for Indigenous Egyptian Scientific and Social Bases for Action

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf,
Professor, Vice president Emeritus, Cal State University, USA
Dr. Shokry El-Kantiry
South Valley University, Egypt

The paper represents an interdisciplinary study examining, within historical and scientific contexts, the interrelation between enviromental factors and their impact on the lives of Ancient Egyptians particularly in the areas of environmental and public health. In doing so, the study begins with an exploration of modern definitions of these two fields as offered by El-Ahraf and Hanson in their definition of "Environmental Health" and by C.E.A. Winslow in his definition of "Public Health". The implication here is two fold: 1) the study recognizes the enlightened approach Egypt has utilized in ancient times that is in line with contemporary concepts of environmental quality and health; and 2) the need for today's Egypt to learn from the past and to re-build her environmental and public health systems using indigenous Egyptian scientific and social parameters.

The unique Egyptian environment, including geography, the Nile and climate, has played a significant part in Egyptian history which is discussed here. Additionally, the Ancient Egyptians showed sensitivity and understanding of their ecology in building sophisticated irrigation and liquid waste disposal systems, in achieving a stable agricultural system, in constructing houses that took in consideration environmentally friendly material and sound climatic orientation and in the design of urban planning. Moreover in dealing with their environment, and particularly the Nile, they behaved in an ethical manner based on religious concepts that can form an ancient yet solid basis for today's new movement of environmental ethics.

Also provided through this paper is a description and analysis of medicine and health care in Ancient Egypt where it was said that "if you had to be ill in ancient times, the best place to do so would probably have been Egypt". This is evident from the examination of the Ebers Papyrus, other historical documents and the work of Imhotep the Father of Ancient Egyptian medicine and Peseshet the first Egyptian lady physician among other notables.

Another lesson for present day Egypt is that Ancient Egyptian medicine had gone beyond curative measures and surgical skills into a holistic approach to public health as this research indicates. Disease prevention and health promotion measures, described today as advanced concepts, were an integral part of the public health and wellbeing system in Ancient Egypt where personal hygiene, proper nutrition and even fashion and cosmetics were components of these measures for both men and women. In addition to lessons learned from a glorious past, the final portion of this paper includes recommendations for further research in an area of importance to Egypt's scientific, social and economic development.

Morning Scientific Sessions

8:30-10:30 am

Technology & Education – Regency E

Co-Chairs: Dr. Marc Massoud Dr. Lotfi Geriesh

8:30 – 8:50 am	Dr. Marc Massoud "Business education: the need for change"
8:50 – 9:10 am	Mahmoud Elsayess*, Arnold Silverman, Amer El-Ahraf "Advanced education delivery tools via the internet for worldwide learning of arabic as a second language with broader implications for scientific development and investment"
9:10 – 9:30 am	Dr. Mostafa Maksy "Factors associated with student performance in the capstone course: contemporary issues in financial accounting"
9:30 – 9:50 am	Dr. Nagui Elyas Vocational education in Egypt: from vision to implementation"
9:50 – 10:10 am	Dr. Tarek Rashid, Dr. Mahmoud Ahmed "Developing technology infrastructure for repository spectral libraries and quantitative remote sensing applications in Egypt: an Egyptian-American Partnership in Remote Sensing (EARS)"
10:10 – 10:30 am	Dr. Ossama Hassanein "Application of technology creates sustained opportunities for education and economic development"
	Ahmad Elghamrawy "Effective verbal communication: a strong tool in teaching AFL"

Business education: the need for change

Dr. Marc Massoud
Claremont Mckenna College, Claremont, California

There is little doubt that business education in all Egyptian Universities is in a state of flux: there seems to be a big gap between what students learn at the universities and what today business organizations need!

Lately, Egypt has witnessed great changes. Foreign direct investment has increased and many domestic companies are striving and growing. These changes have created a need for a new type of employees. Our Egyptian Universities currently are not able to supply the market with the people who have the skills to start their careers and be active participants in their organizations.

The Egyptian Universities still emphasize the traditional approach where students study different business subjects and many of them are irrelevant and don't address the current issues.

This paper will argue that the faculties of commerce and business schools must change their approach and develop a new paradigm. This new paradigm must emphasize basic 5 skills.

1. Communication skills
2. Interpersonal skills
3. Perception skills
4. Technology skills
5. Personal self skills

In order to enhance these skills, our instructional methods have to change. It is understandable that we don't have the resources which Western Universities have, but we have to learn to do more with less resources in order to achieve our national goals.

Advanced education delivery tools via the internet for worldwide learning of Arabic as a second language with broader implications for scientific development and investment

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Professor, Vice president Emeritus, Cal State University, USA

This paper examines an advanced information technology delivery system that can contribute to significant expansion of educational access to the learning of Arabic, other languages and various academic subjects in the U.S., Egypt and elsewhere in the world. The benefit of teaching Arabic as a second language in the U.S. is related to the contemporary interest in the language of one of the most influential world civilizations. Teaching Arabic is demonstrated through the utility of such an advanced information technology system in a linguistic setting. But, the impact of such delivery tools via the internet for developing countries goes beyond the linguistic value. This is particularly true in the case of Egypt. Technological modernization and improved efficiencies in management and distribution of classroom material can result in improving the rate of literacy in the Arabic language as well as enhancing the quality of science and technology education of university students leading to a wider basis of educated population. An educated population is likely to provide Egypt with skillful, employable human resources. In turn, that will accelerate technological and scientific advancement leading to a broader economic growth, higher degree of societal stability and improved quality of life. Enhancing literacy in the Arabic language will provide the proper and necessary cultural context for scientific development, technological advancement and investment opportunities in human recourses. A technologically advanced, scientifically developed and literacy competent population is a magnet for foreign investment.

Read~Verse, a California-based software development company is committed to designing and building innovative, Internet-based software systems that enable instructors to optimize the effectiveness of their teaching materials. Instructors can use the Read~Verse suite of software systems to create, deliver and monitor the effectiveness and worldwide distribution of their teaching materials. Particularly useful for instructors and students alike is a leading-edge software known as Lesson~Designer.

A fully featured, web-based system, Lesson~Designer requires no further investment in additional software. The universal standards of Lesson~Designer and the consistency of training result in reducting the cost of infrastructure software requirements. Additionally, Lesson~Designer includes advanced instructional aides such as "flash movies", videos, audio, chat room and webcam tools. These tools are designed to enhance learning while making it an enjoyable experience as well.

The features and benefits of Read—Verse's Lesson—Designer on demand distance education and training software system is illustrated in this paper via the teaching of Arabic as a second language; with wider implications for the ability to teach other fields critical to Egyptian development such as science, technology, public health and environmental quality. Such an approach is complemented by a growing trend towards availability of affordable computers for educational purposes. One such an international program is reported to offer computers at one hundred dollars per unit for governments in developing countries such as Egypt in support of educational endeavors such as those described in this paper.

Factors associated with student performance in the capstone course: contemporary issues in financial accounting.

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No prior study that we are aware of has considered the associations between motivation, actual ability, self-perceived ability, and distraction factors and student performance in advanced level undergraduate accounting courses. This study considers the associations between these four factors and student performance in the last (capstone) course in the accounting major: Contemporary Issues in Financial Accounting. Students enrolled in a highly diversified, commuter, public university located in one of the largest cities in the United States provided responses to 12 questions we used as independent variables.

Of the three variables used as proxies for motivation, the grade the student would like to make in the course was found to be significantly associated with student performance, but intention to take the CPA exam or attend graduate school were not. Additionally, the grade in Intermediate Accounting II and GPA (used as proxies for actual ability) were found to be strong predictors of student performance. Self-perceived writing and reading abilities had moderate associations with student performance, but self-perceived math and listening abilities did not have any associations with student performance. Finally, holding non-accounting-related jobs, working high numbers of hours per week, and taking on higher course loads during the semester are factors which, surprisingly, did not have significant negative correlation with student performance.

Vocational Education in Egypt: From Vision to Implementation

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Introduction: Vocational and Technical Education, delivered at International standard levels, is critically needed for the Egyptian market. It would also provide increased employment to the young generation as well as help build a modern infra structure for the country.

Materials & Methods: Our Company has over 19 years experience in the vocational education field in the US. We have conducted a pilot program for vocational training in Alexandria, Egypt. The program was offered in collaboration with the YMCA and over a period of six months, 15 Dental Assistants and 15 Nurse Assistants were trained utilizing a US curriculum translated to Arabic. At present the company is exploring the possibility of expanding these programs on a wider scale.

Results: Data presented will demonstrate how this experience was a huge success in the areas of learning achievements as well as job placement outcome.

Conclusions: The Egyptian society is in dire need to provide alternate educational venues other than higher education. The vocational training programs will graduate better trained technicians in the fields of science and technology, increase the employment venues for the Egyptian youth, and help build a modern and progressive infra structure which are all essential for the advancement of our future generations.

Developing technology infrastructure for repository spectral libraries and quantitative remote sensing applications in Egypt: an Egyptian – American partnership in remote sensing (EARS)

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The presentation will shed light on a collaborative project that brings together a multidisciplinary team of scientists and researchers from the U.S (University of Oklahoma – OU) and Egypt (National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences – NARSS, and Arid-Land Research Center at the University of Aim Shams -- ALRC) in a joint effort that seeks to improve upon existing data, technologies, methods, practices, and theories surrounding the use of remotely sensed observations in environmental monitoring. The specific objects of the project include:

(1) Establish a national taxonomy for the systematic collection of Surfacial Materials Spectra (SMS) in Egypt;
(2) Use the proposed taxonomy as a foundation to develop a replicable and generalizable methodology for a systematic and standardized collection of SMS, and test the proposed methodology in several study sites along Egypt's North Coast with varying landscape characteristics;
(3) Test and improve upon existing algorithms for characterizing SMS for quantitative remote sensing analysis and characterization of land use and land cover change;
(4) Demonstrate the utility of the proposed SMS library in a selected set of science and engineering application areas relevant to the NARSS mission including sensor modeling to inform the next generation of Egyptian satellite sensors and environmental impact assessments;
(5) Develop a Web-based prototype to disseminate and distribute raw and convolved SMS to the user and research communities in Egypt and the U.S. The presentation will report on work progress to date, ongoing activities, and pending proposals and future expansion

Application of technology creates sustained opportunities for education and economic development

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Changes in demographics and new applications of technologies are creating wonderful educational and employment opportunities in emerging segments of the communications and IT (CIT) industry. We constantly see breakthrough ideas that aim to serve areas of unmet needs - areas where the application of technologies can fundamentally transform an existing industry or give birth to a completely new and exciting market. In this abstract, we will briefly describe the new opportunities in digital media and content delivery.

Digital Media and Content Delivery

Historical Perspective. In the last 30 years, the communication industry was mainly defined by companies that provide connectivity: equipment manufacturers, fiber optic transmission, service providers, mobile operators, chip designers, and cable companies. In the late nineties, the definition expanded to include ISPs, ASPs, Dot Com, CLEC, and other undifferentiated segments. This era is now gone. The trillion dollars communications industry is now undergoing fundamental changes that, in many ways, make it far more interesting than it has ever been before. Consider the trends.

Dominant Trends. The most obvious global trend is the convergence of Commerce ($28 trillion), Advertising ($600 billion), and Entertainment ($1.3 trillion) industries on the mobile and Internet. The sheer magnitude of this convergence and the resulting markets are mind boggling; they help create amazing investment and employment opportunities, particularly in rising tide markets such as: a) digital media (voice, video, broadband); and b) content delivery (targeted marketing, entertainment, personalization, and security).

Attractive Opportunities. In the symposium, we will explore the implications of these trends from many perspectives including education, employment, investment, and value creation. We will also delve deeper into other areas, namely those where businesses can enhance the quality of life of individuals through ever-improving productivity, connectivity, entertainment, security and health care.

Effective verbal communication: a strong tool in teaching AFL

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Arab-American Immigrants and professionals of Arabic as a Foreign Language (AFL) in the US have been concerned about the existing Arabic programs in different educational institutions and the real proficiency they can achieve. A recent controversy has sparked about new approaches to teach Arabic effectively and reach the desired proficiency expected from the Arabic programs. Based on research done on teaching foreign languages and the presenter's experience in teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language (AFL) communication is the strongest tool to make things work in the program, a tool that, if used appropriately, will promote proficiency to unanticipated levels.

In this workshop, the presenter will analyze challenges of the conventional Arabic and shed light on the necessity of teaching Arabic communicatively at all levels and to design programs that focus more on language acquisition at the early stages before introducing the academic skills of reading and writing.

Sample activities will be carried out to show the differences between the conventional and the innovative teaching approaches.

Morning Scientific Sessions

8:30-10:30 am

Business & Investment – Regency F

Co-Chairs: Dr. Samir Arafeh Dr. Ramses Toma

8:30 – 8:50 am	*Dr. Tayyeb Shabbir* *"America's sub-prime mortgage crisis: implications for investment opportunities for the emerging economics"*
8:50 – 9:10 am	*Dr. Samir Arafeh* *"Helping to employ the Egyptian disadvantaged by an online qualified matchmaker business"*
9:10 – 9:30 am	*Dr. Samir Arafeh* *"The American Egyptian business & investment – the best, the good, the bad, and the ugly"*
9:30 – 9:50 am	*Shereef Ellaboudy* *"Efficiency of Financial Institutions in Egypt and the Middle East"*
9:50 – 10:10 am	*Mohamed Abo Hebeish* *"White Collar Crimes: Are Accountants Ready?"* *Adib Ghobrial* *"Venture capital: promoting & investing in Egypt's small businesses"* *Hadeel El-Ahraf* *University of California, Irvine*

America's sub-prime mortgage crisis: Implications for investment opportunities for the emerging economies

Dr. Tayyeb Shabbir
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Sub-prime Mortgage Crisis of 2007 precipitated in the United States this summer as hundreds of thousands of such Adjustable Rate Mortgage loans which are often only 'interest only' loans became non-performing leading to a sharp increase in default and foreclosures. These sub-prime loans often carried relatively high interest rate in the first place in order to compensate for the low credit worthiness of the borrowers; in fact, such loans have been dubbed as NINJA loans i.e. loans to applicants who have No Income, No Job, and No Assets!

The sub-prime mortgage crisis has directly resulted in a worldwide 'credit crunch' and has accentuated the intrinsic level of risk in all kinds of investments. The reasoning behind this credit crunch is that, unlike in the past, the home mortgage loans that has fueled the historic housing boom in the U. S. since 2002 were financed by the wider investment community and not by the commercial banks or mortgage broker houses exclusively since majority of these mortgage loans were 'securitized' and were held by non-bank investors. The crisis in the sub-prime mortgage market has raised fears of vulnerability of the larger credit market as questions of validity of risk assessments of rating agencies, quality of securities and appropriate 'risk premium' have arisen.

The world-wide credit crunch could have implications for investment in Emerging Countries including Egypt. This paper will focus on this question. Prima facie, the credit crunch may not be felt by all the Emerging Countries equally – one would expect that oil-exporting countries will fare relatively much better; still, these countries may be affected adversely by the generalized deterioration of the global investment climate, and investor's appetite for risk. Generally speaking, the typical Emerging Country may be facing reduced financing and investment opportunities as a result of the present liquidity crisis. The implications of the sub-prime mortgage induced credit crunch is a phenomenon which is presently unfolding so hopefully this paper will be able to shed some useful light on an emerging issue of great significance.

Helping to employ the Egyptian disadvantaged by an online qualified matchmaker business

Dr. Samir A. Arafeh
SEAM International Corp

This presentation highlights the effective deployment of today's online internet technology to address the "Employment Quality Matching Process" in Egypt. The business model is based on social networking and has been developed and successfully executed in India. The Indian experience, which derives its quality and reliability from the community's internetwork relationship and credibility between its members, is analyzed and presented. Then an attempt is made to build a business model to meet the Egyptian dire need to fight the large unemployment rate of the disadvantaged majority. Practical business suggestions, structures and recommendations are given to motivate collective review and discussions hoping to mature and reach its final aim: "To Help the many Egyptians unemployed or misemployed."

The American Egyptian business & investment – "the Best, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

Dr. Samir A. Arafeh
SEAM International Corp

This presentation attempt to bring an old and new account of the American Egyptian Business and Investment as viewed from the Best; of Resources and Opportunities, the Good; of Emerging good Learning and Practices, the Bad; of Cultural Differences and Time Differentials, and the Ugly; bad tales of Misunderstandings and Inconsistencies. Practical suggestions and recommendations are given based on the lessons learned.

Efficiency of Financial Institutions in Egypt and the Middle East

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As Egypt and the Middle East countries look for ways to promote economic growth, further financial sector reform should be made a priority. A more developed financial system-with lower information and transaction costs-facilitates a more efficient allocation of resources. It also leads to a more efficient accumulation of physical and human capital and faster technological progress by allowing investors to trade, hedge, and diversify risk. This paper explains the link between financial institutions and the efficiencies of the banking sector, on economic performance in Egypt and the Middle East countries. Our main assumption is that when banks operate in competitive environments, with less direct government intervention, low market concentration, and where foreign banks are allowed entry, they are likely to be more efficient. The results of Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA), using data from thirty banks in Middle East countries, including Egypt, show that efficient banks are those in countries with efficient financial institutions.

White Collar Crimes: Are Accountants Ready?

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Dr. Mohamed H. El-Badawi, Professor and Chair,
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California State University, Dominguez-Hills

Fraud is a major problem facing any society today and in the future. Egypt is no exception. Fraud committed by employees against their employer, stakeholders, and the society as a whole. In addition, Fraud is committed against the public by organizations and individuals.

Fraud as a crime knows no boundaries and it is on the rise. The true cost of Fraud is unknown. In the US alone, the monetary losses is estimated to be 600 billion dollars in addition to the unknown other social damages.

The causes of Fraud as a crime are several. The most apparent reasons for not detecting these frauds on time, is the fact that most accounting students and professional accountant lacks the skills to recognize the signs as well as the training needed to recognize and detect these signs.

A survey of the curriculum of Universities in California reveals that the subject is covered by very limited number of programs. The differences between Auditing, Fraud detection and Examination, and Forensic Accounting are presented. There is a basic need to train the accounting students in these areas.

Venture Capital: Promoting & Investing in Egypt's Small Businesses

Adib Ghobrial
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The Egyptian economy is currently failing the newest members of its work force. Each year hundreds of thousands of college graduates cannot find jobs, and remain unemployed for two to three years and beyond. The number of unemployed increases with every graduating class. These educated graduates are left angry and wondering why exactly their government, their country has failed them. It is a problem that must be dealt with to prevent so many from turning to drugs, crime or even terrorism.

There is an obligation to help these eager and educated young men and women achieve their potential rather than allow it to go to waste. It is this new generation that will bring innovation and advancement to Egypt and they must be provided with the opportunity to do so. Rather than let them wait for years to become yet another underpaid employee, venture capital can help them establish small businesses. Small business is the backbone of any country's economy. Small business plays an important role in an economy by employing a substantial part of the private-sector work force, filling niche markets, increasing competition, encouraging innovation, and giving individuals of all walks of life a chance to succeed.

In this talk I will discuss the urgent need for venture capital in Egypt. Venture Capital will allow these individuals to take Egypt into the future by promoting and investing in small businesses. A venture capital company with an initial capital of roughly 75 to 100 million Egyptian pounds can begin to initiate this change in Egypt. It can also later go public, to raise additional capital. The venture capital company will partner with every small business it selects, providing it with the funding, training and consulting necessary to succeed.

The effects of globalization on multinational organizations

Hadeel El-Ahraf
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This paper will examine the ways in which various consequences of industrial globalization affect organizational and employee productivity. Specific issues that will be reviewed will include cultural diversity, increased virtual contact between co-workers, and globalization's impact on human resources management as a result of competitive productivity. These issues will then be applied to companies within Egypt and the Middle East.

Morning Panel Discussion

10:35-11:35 am

International Education Collaboration: Challenges & Opportunities

Chairmen:

Dr. Mohamed Atallah
Dr. Amer El-Ahraf

Members:

Mr. Kais Menoufi
Dr. Abdallh Bazaraa
Dr. Mostafa Kamal
Dr. Salwa Gharib

Lunch & Keynote Speech

11:35 – 12:35 pm

H.E. Ambassador Abderahman Salaheldine
Counsel General Egypt – San Francisco

- *"Role of Egyptian expatriates in the development of higher education in Egypt"*

- *Message & Discussion*
  Dr. Galal Said
  President, El Fayoum University
  Liaison of Supreme Council of Universities

- *Moderator:*
  Dr. Amer El-Ahraf

Afternoon Scientific Sessions

12:35-14:55 pm

Medical & Health – Regency D

Co-Chairs: Dr. Ayman El-Mohandes Dr. Anwar Abdel-Fattah

12:35 – 12:55 pm	Ayman El-Mohandes, MD, MPH "Health behavior modification sciences: is there a role to play in the improvement of health profile of the population in Egypt. A case study on exposure to tobacco smoke (ETS) and obesity"
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Moustafa Abdel-Nasser, PhD, TQM, JMHPE "Problems in scientific research"
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Omar Alfi, MD "HCV liver failure in Egypt: the stem cell promise"
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Michael Bishara, MD "Effects of abuse of drugs in Egypt"
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Dr. M. Mostafa Bayoumi, Dr. H. H. Hassanain "Transgenetic overexpression of Profilin 1 induces vascular hypertrophy and hypertension"
2:15 – 2:35 pm	Dr. M. Mostafa Bayoumi, Dr. Hamdy H. Hassanain "Cardiac overexpression of constitutive active form of ZEA MAZEC RAD-D in transgenetic mice deteriorates postischemic contractile recovery"
2:35 – 2:55 pm	Olfat Mohamed, PhD, PT*, Hatem Sharaf El-Din MD, Peter Hunt PhD, MPH "Recognizing post polio syndrome in Egypt"

Health behavior modification sciences: is there a role to play in the improvement of health profile of the population in Egypt. A case study on exposure to tobacco smoke (ETS) and obesity.

Ayman El-Mohandes, MBBCh, MD, MPH
Professor and Chair of Prevention and Community Health
Professor of Pediatrics and Global Health
George Washington University medical Center

Egypt is positioned within the epidemiologically transitioning middle income countries in the world today. Despite its successes in dealing with many of the health problems related to public health and sanitation infrastructure, it is currently overwhelmed with the rising needs to deal with newer disease challenges including diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. The health expenditures are rising and a greater emphasis is being placed on secondary and tertiary care provision as required. The contribution of individual and societal health related behaviors contribute significantly to these newly emerging health crises, and the need for solutions is a priority. The role of prevention by comparison is neglected.

The advent of behavioral modification sciences in Egypt are lagging behind. These include individual behavior modification, health communications and marketing as well as health policy modification. A prime example for the need of such behavioral modification strategies is evident in the case of obesity and ETS prevention. This presentation will focus on these two significant health issues, and will review comparatively the Egyptian current scenario with other countries in the region. The review will also show data on the effects of these two health hazards on pregnant women and discuss the potential strategies towards prevention.

Problems in Scientific Research

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Scientific research faces many problems and obstacles especially in developing countries. If we remember that research was originally designed to solve some problems or to investigate certain phenomenon, these will add more difficulties. So from the early beginning we start with a problem, then ways and methods will also be accompanied by obstacles which may lead to more complications. The aim of this study is to clarify some of the most important problems in the field of scientific research in our organization and to suggest solutions for them. Now what are the problems which may face the research in our organization, which I think it may be examples of many problems of scientific research organizations and institutes in the developing countries? Some of these research problems are addressed as:

1) Is there a difficulty in choosing the research topic?,
2) Is the topic common or rare?,
3) Which material and methods will be used?,
4) How can we interpret our results?,
5) Are references available?,
6) Where is the financial support come from?,
7) Where to publish this research?,
8) How to apply your research?, and
9) Was this work done in a team?.

To achieve the goal of certain research, we should spend more times in choosing the topic of our research and to allocate our resources particularly if they are limited. Again working in a team and surely, applying our results will help more and more in solving many research problems.

HCV liver failure in Egypt: the stem cell promise

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Liver failure in Egypt is a serious health problem affecting almost 20% of the population, the majority of whom are affected by the hepatitis C virus. Patients with end-stage liver cell failure have no treatment options other then supported measures or a very unrealistic option of a living partial liver transplantation. An alternative promising approach is stem cell therapy. Few clinical trials are in progress now but there is still a long way to go since research, technology, training, and education of young scientists is just starting. Clinical trials that are safe, effective, using minimal technology, applicable on a large scale, and ethically correct must be developed.

Effects of abuse of drugs in Egypt

Michael Bishara, M. D.
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Recent wide spread of the media and ease of communications in Egypt has led to wrong and mythical understanding of the drugs of abuse. I will discuss the classes of the drugs of abuse and their ill effects on the people of Egypt. Furthermore, we will also discuss the effort to counter the detrimental abuse of these drugs. Finally will point out how the usage of these drugs affects the Egyptian's economy

Transgenic overexpression of Profilin 1 induces vascular hypertrophy and hypertension

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The Ohio State University
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We have overexpressed either the cDNA of human profilin 1 or expressed the mutant (88R/L) in the blood vessels of transgenic FVB/N mice. RT-PCR indicated selective overexpression of profilin 1 and 88R/L in vascular smooth muscle cells (VSMC). Polyprolin binding showed increased profilin 1 and 88R/L proteins in transgenic mice compared to control (~30%, $P<0.05$). Rhodamine-phalloidin staining revealed increase stress fibers formation in VSMC of profilin 1 compared to 88R/L and control. Hematoxylin Eosin staining showed clear signs of vascular hypertrophy in the aorta of profilin 1 mice vs. 88R/L and control. However, there were no differences between 88R/L and control mice. Western blotting confirmed the activation of the hypertrophic signaling cascades in aortas of profilin 1 mice. Phospho-ERK1/2 was significantly higher in profilin 1 than 88R/L and control (512.3% and 361.7% respectively, $P<0.05$). Profilin 1 mice had significant increase in phospho-JNK as compared to 88R/L and control (371.4% and 346% respectively, $P<0.05$). However, there were no differences between 88R/L and control mice in both kinases. There was a significant increase in ROCK II kinase in aorta of profilin 1 mice compared to control (>400%, $P<0.05$). Tail cuff and circadian monitoring of blood pressure showed significant increase in systolic and mean arterial blood pressure of profilin 1 mice starting at age 6 month compared to control (~ 25 mmHg, $P<0.05$). These results suggest that increased actin polymerization in blood vessels triggers activation of the hypertrophic signaling cascades and results in elevation of blood pressure at advanced age.

Cardiac overexpression of constitutive active form of ZEA MAIZE RAC-D in transgenic mice deteriorates postischemic contractile recovery

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Myocardial damage caused by ischemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury remains a major concern and a leading cause of cardiovascular death. It has been found that reactive oxygen species (ROS) contribute significantly to myocardial injury. A potential source of myocardial ROS is NADPH oxidase, which is regulated by small GTP-binding protein Rac 1. Inhibition of Rac-dependent pathway has been shown to protect rat ventricular myocytes from reperfusion injury and cell death. Our hypothesis is that transgenic mice overexpressing Rac 1 in the heart will have increased ROS generation and poor contractile recovery during I/R. In order to study the effect of increased ROS in the heart, we have generated a transgenic mouse model that expresses the cDNA of a constitutively active mutant of Zea maize Rac-D gene in the heart of FVB/N mice using a mouse α-myosin heavy chain promoter. IHC analysis confirmed the expression of Rac-D protein in the heart of transgenic (TG) mice. Echocardiographic analysis showed significantly low ejection fraction in TG mice compared to control mice [20±4 (TG) vs. 62±5 (control), P<0.05]. I/R studies were performed in isolated hearts from age matched control and TG mice and results are in table 1. Rac-D TG mice demonstrated markedly poor post—ischemic contractile recovery compared to control [59±4% (TG) vs. 99±5% (control), P<0.05] with frequent abnormal ventricular rhythms compared to age matched control. These results suggest an important role of Rac 1 in NADPH-ROS mediated myocardial injury during I/R. In conclusion, the Rac-D transgenic animal model provides an advantage to investigate the signaling mechanisms regulating ischemic heart diseases. In addition, it is a unique model for in vivo studies utilizing novel therapeutic approaches targeting Rac 1 to reduce ischemic heart diseases.

Protocols/Mouse strains		Control (n=7)	Rac D (TG) N=7
Baseline, pre-ischemia (PI):	Coronary flow (ml/min/g)	9±1	16±1***
	Heart rate (bpm)	308±10	311±14
	LVDP (mmHg)	86±8	161±10***
Ischemia (20min):	LVEDP (mmHg)	49±4	46±3
Reperfusion (45 min):	Coronary flow (ml/min/g)	12±1	16±1
	Persistent abnormal ventricular rhythm	0 (5)	4 (7)
	LVEDP (mmHg)	8±1	10±3
	Final LVDP (%PI)	99±5	59±4***
	Pre-ischemia, PI		*** P<0.001 vs. Control

Recognizing post polio syndrome in Egypt

Olfat Mohamed, PhD, PT
California State University Long Beach
Hatem Sharf El Din, MD
National Institute of Neuromotor Disabilities (Egypt)
Peter Hunt, PhD, MPH
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Background: The existence of post polio syndrome (PPS) has been recognized as a clinical syndrome since the early 80s. Although the importance of recognizing PPS is increasingly acknowledged by the medical communities worldwide, the epidemiology of PPS in the polio survivors' population in Egypt is not documented.

Purpose: To investigate the prevalence and determinants of PPS in a population of polio survivors listed in the data base of the National Institute of Neuromotor Disabilities of Egypt.

Methods: For this preliminary study we have collected data on demographics, physical symptoms, personality and life satisfaction through a questionnaire from 144 participants with history of paralytic poliomyelitis.

Results: The mean age of respondents was 28 years (range 13-60 years), 52 were men and 92 were women. The year polio was contracted ranged from 1952 – 1997 with the age at onset ranging from less than a year in 28 patients to10 years in two patients. Twenty four years was the average time after the acute illness. Eighty-four participants (58%) reported having new symptoms and were therefore classified into the probable PPS group and the rest, 60 participants who had no new symptoms were classified into the not having PPS group. Difficulty walking and climbing up stairs were the most prevalent new symptoms (34% and 35% respectively) followed by joint pain (27%) and new muscle weakness (21%). Eighty eight percent of the entire group reported having a Type A personality with no difference between groups. Likewise, the overall quality of life did not differ significantly between groups with most people scoring around 5 on a 1-7 analog scale; 7 being completely satisfied and 1 being totally unsatisfied. Sixty-four percent in the PPS group were not working compared to 37% in the non-PPS group. The prevalence rate of PPS was significantly higher in women than men ($p = 0.008$) and 71% of the PPS group contracted polio at less than a year of age compared to 27% of the non-PPS group. The most common factor associated with the onset of new symptoms was having surgery (56%), followed by falling (18%).

Conclusion: This first attempt at documenting PPS in Egypt revealed that more than 50% of patients reported new symptoms. Lower age at onset and increased number of years with polio significantly correlated with PPS. Data on a more representative sample of the entire country is necessary to accurately document the impact of PPS on polio survivors in Egypt.

Afternoon Scientific Sessions

12:35-14:55 pm

Engineering & Science – Regency E

Co-Chairs: Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy Dr. Mohamed Attalla

12:35 – 12:55 pm	Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy "Incorporating R&D into Egyptian research institutes: an example plan for restructuring the electronics research institute"
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Yousry Madkour "VAC-VES sea-waves powered evaporation desalination system"
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Dr. Ramses Toma, Gail Frank, Kensaku Nakayama, Eman Tawfik "Lycopene content in raw tomato varieties and tomato products"
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Dr. Khaled Nassar, Mohamed Hegab, P.E., MRICS "Planning and using a work breakdown structure in construction projects"
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Baha Abulnaga, P.E. "Slurry pipelines for Egypt and Sudan"
2:15 – 2:35 pm	Dr. Nicolai Haydn "Shannon's entropy and the distribution of frequency of words"
2:35 – 2:55 pm	Dr. Essam M. El Saeed "The development of boats industry throughout the early rook inscriptions in South Upper Egypt"

Incorporating R&D into Egyptian research institutes: An example plan for restructuring the electronics research institute

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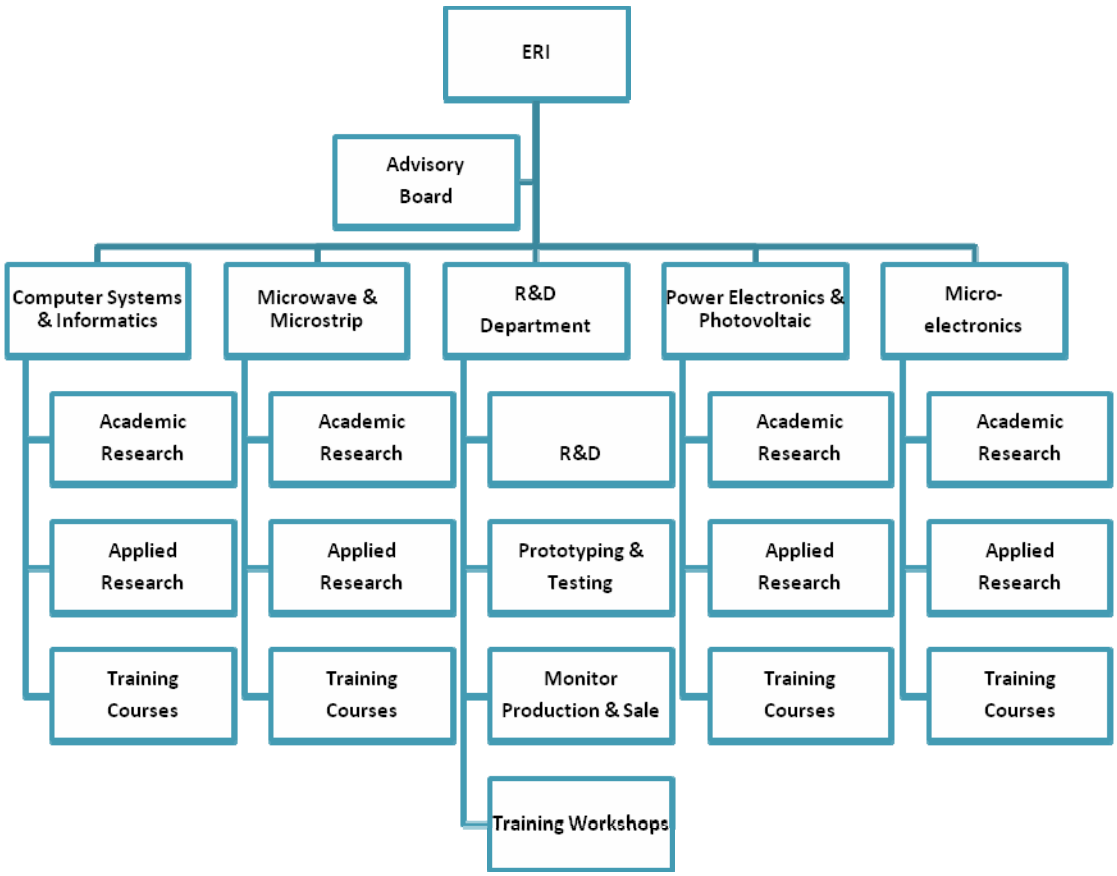
The present research budget in Egypt is about 0.2% of the country's budget, which is a very low percentage and needs to be improved. In order to advance technologically, Egypt should pay more attention not only to academic research performed at universities and academic research centers, but also to industrial R&D (research and development) leading to prototypes and finally manufactured products. There is a need to create spearheads for R&D leading to the production of goods suitable for the Egyptian market as well as exportation. This paper addresses a possible example implementation, namely electronic equipment, such as consumer electronics, based on Egyptian R&D.

There is an urgent need to add an R&D Department at the ERI (Electronics Research Institute), currently located in Dokki, Cairo, since the ERI is the leading research institution in electronics in Egypt. The author is proposing a major restructure of the ERI, namely the addition of an R&D Department to the already existing departments after consolidation. The new structure will provide an exemplary comprehensive Egyptian model, as in other developed countries.

The new R&D Department will collaborate with manufacturing electronics factories, and will be employing highly-qualified and highly-talented personnel some of them are permanent full-time employees at the ERI while the others are temporary part-time employees, foreign experts, local consultants, and expatriate Egyptians. The R&D Department will perform the following activities: (1) design and development, (2) prototyping, (3) testing, (4) monitoring manufacturing and sale at the collaborating factories, and (5) disseminating knowledge to the society via offering relevant courses and workshops.

In addition to the above activities, the proposal provides organizational charts, staffing requirements, and indicators for measuring success. Throughout this paper, critical issues that need to be discussed and studied in details by pertinent committees are highlighted, namely: (1) physical space and premises of the new ERI building, (2) needed equipment, facilities, components, and accessories, (3) protocols of collaboration between the ERI and manufacturing factories regarding possible prototyping, well-defined production lines, and sales-relevant issues, (4) promotion criteria of full-time personnel at ERI who are involved in R&D, (5) plans to secure national and foreign experts and consultants, (6) feasibility study, budget sources/calculations, price margins, and (7) plans to adopt R&D copyrights and patents policies and procedures.



Proposed Organizational Chart of the Electronics Research Institute

VAC-VES sea-waves powered evaporation desalination system

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Water is the most precious and valuable natural resource in the world. The need for clean potable water is one of the major problems facing man on earth today. Middle East countries have massive dry arid areas facing gulfs, seas and oceans and are in dire need of desalinated water in order to sustain population life growth.

VAC-VES desalination system is a pollution free, naturally energized water supply solution. It provides an unlimited supply of fresh water with no need for electricity or other power source for coastal life populations. Seawater wave fluctuation renewable energy is the used unique power source. This VAC-VES system is a pontoon that benefits from this endless energy to obtain pure water from salty seas.

Egypt has the central geographical spot, management expertise, man power capabilities and infra structure is the exclusive site for VAC-VES industrial production. VAC-VES allow wide different scale range of local private sector fabrication, production, sales, transportation and services industrial activities that will enhance our economy in Egypt.

Lycopene content in raw tomato varieties and tomato products

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[2]Chemistry Department

This study evaluated the lycopene content in raw tomato varieties and processed tomato products. The separation of lycopene isomers was conducted by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC). Lycopene content was determined on a dry weight basis (DWB). The function of three different isomers (cis, all-trans, and 5-cis) of lycopene was examined. Data for raw tomato varieties were analyzed within and among groups. Cherry tomatoes ranked the highest in lycopene content. On DWB, Roma tomatoes contained the highest lycopene concentration, while the Vine tomatoes ranked the lowest in lycopene content. Among processed tomato products, Tomato paste ranked the highest in lycopene content and canned tomato juice the lowest. Furthermore, Tomato ketchup ranked the lowest in lycopene concentration after DWB. Different dilution ratios may contribute to significant variability in lycopene content.

Keywords: Tomato, Lycopene, Tomato Products, HPLC
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Planning and using a work breakdown structure in construction projects

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Mohamed Hegab, PE, MRICS
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California State University Northridge

One of the first steps in effective planning and scheduling of projects is identifying a suitable **work break down structure (WBS)**. The work break down structure is very important since it will govern how the project will look when it is summarized. This article introduces the concept of project scheduling and how it relates to project management in general. The article offers a discussion of work breakdown structures and their importance and use in scheduling. Schedule specifications and their use are also covered.

Slurry pipelines for Egypt and Sudan

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Slurry pipelines are used in a number of countries to convey processed ore mixed with water over very long distances from a remote mine site to a port or a plant for further processing.

In Egypt and Sudan numerous mineral resources are scattered in remote areas through the years the Egyptian geologists have identified 268 sites for metallic ores and 386 sites for industrial non-metallic minerals. A large portion of theses sites is in the Eastern Desert in an area called the Nubian Shield. Similar sites are found in the Sudan where mining contributes to less than 1% of the GDP.

There are three important components of infrastructure needed to develop these resources, namely power, water and transportation.

While Egypt is able to satisfy 70% of its needs in iron ore from the Gadideh mine in the Western Desert it needs to expand its other resources to reduce import and expand its steel industry. Output of iron ore and concentrate was 2.5 million tons in 2000. There are however certain potential sites in the Eastern Desert for further production such as Wadi El Dabah, Wadi Um Ghamis, Wadi Um Nasr, Jabal El Hadid, Wadi Kerim with estimates in excess of 60 million tons of ore containing 40 – 60% iron compounds. Theoretically water could be brought to them by pipeline from the Nile. The ore could be processed on site and the concentrate then shipped mixed with water in a dedicated slurry pipeline back to the Nile Valley or to ports such as Marsa Alam or Koseir on the Red Sea. There are also estimates of 53 million tons of phosphate ore in the areas near Safaga and Koseir that can be brought to exploitation. Slurry pipelines to transport the ore or concentrate would certainly be cheaper than new railways.

Another potential area for slurry technology is the de-silting of the Nasser-Nubia Lake where alluvium up to 134 million cubic meters a year end up in the lake, with 130 million sedimenting and 4 million passing through the Aswan High Dam to the valley north of Aswan. Since 1964, 4.95 billion cubic meters (bcm) of sediments have deposited in Lake Nasser with almost 85% in Sudan and 15% in Egypt. The Sudanese part of the Lake called Lake Nubia is heavily sedimented. Dredging of these sediments and transporting them by slurry pipelines would enhance an industry of bricks or agricultural development based on tailings technology often used in mining.

The presentation explores the potential for slurry technology for opening new mines in the desert or recuperating the sediments of the Nile. The technology by itself would be new to both countries and would benefit from collaboration particularly to desilt the Nasser-Nubia Lake.

Shannon's entropy and the distribution of the frequency of words

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In the 1940s and 1050s Shannon proposed to introduce the metric entropy which was designed to measure the complexity of a given file through counting the frequency of words of increasing lengths. Although the scientific community subsequently settled on an averaged measure of complexity which had been introduced by Kolmogorov, Shannon's approach persisted and proved to be of particular importance when evaluating the efficiency of compression algorithms. I will give a rundown of the history of results that refined the original approach of Shannon and examine the distribution of the frequency of words of a given lengths. We will touch on the famous result of Ibragimov from 1962 for finite alphabets and end with a distribution result that applies to infinite alphabets.

Research in this area is very lively because the distribution of words is of great interest to people working on data compression schemes and improving their efficiency.

The development of boats industry throughout the early rook inscriptions in south upper Egypt

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These boats stretched in several places in south upper Egypt, especially in neighbourhood of Edfou and Aswan and another places like Hierakanopolis, Wadi Abbad, and the eastern desert and some of these in tombs like tomb 100 in Nekhen, and dated from Prehistory till Archaic period, some of these boats have a similar in ancient Iraq, that means there is relationship between two sides, and some of these boats, it is origin from Egypt. And I will try to know the kinds of wood which these boats were made?

Because this open a new window about the source of these woods, And there are many kinds of these boats and their shapes and kinds, and also I try to know more details about the sailors and their life throughout the study of scenes and try to compare these scenes and the difference between boats and ships, and which were used in river Nile and which use were in sea which I will present in my paper.

Afternoon Scientific Sessions

12:35-14:55 pm

Economics & Humanities – Regency F

Co-Chairs: Dr. Ibrahim Badawi Dr. Hamoud Salhi

12:35 – 12:55 pm	Dr. Ibrahim Badawi "External auditing in Egypt: a profession at risk"
12:55 – 1:15 pm	Dr. Ibrahim Badawi "Egypt's tax environment: problems and recommendation"
1:15 – 1:35 pm	Dr. Hamoud Salhi "Securing the Gulf in the post 9/11 environment"
1:35 – 1:55 pm	Dr. Ashraf Singer "The Two- Gap Theory of War: Application of Power Parity and Military Buildup in the Middle East"(1960-2006)
1:55 – 2:15 pm	Dr. Magdy Farag, Hung Chan, Yun-Chia Yan "The impact of earnings reliability on auditor independence: evidence from the post-SOX Era"
2:15 – 2:55 pm	Prakash L Dheeriya, PhD Forecastability of oil prices: a comparison of exponential smoothing models

External auditing in Egypt: a profession at risk

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The public accounting profession, which provides auditing, tax, and management advisory services plays a unique role in the national and international economies, of which Egypt is no exception. Globally, by law, all companies whose securities are traded on national stock exchanges are required to have their financial statements audited by an independent public accounting firm prior to their disclosure. The profession follows the country's GAAS in their auditing process, and auditor's report, included in the annual report, provides confidence to information users who make risky investment and credit decisions. Candidates for the US CPA license should hold specific accounting and tax educational requirements, pass a nationwide exam, and should prove a one-year accounting experience. They comply with the AICPA profession's code of conduct, fulfill annual continuing professional educational requirements, and periodically renew their licenses with State Societies. The profession is regulated by and under the watchdog of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), which sets up the auditing standards, and it was established by the SEC, a government watchdog of publicly traded companies. The external auditing profession in Egypt is limited in number, size, quality, and services. World Bank considers the profession to be less sophisticated and strictly unregulated. There are reasons why Egypt's public accounting profession is at risk and why it lacks confidence of investors and creditors. Current status of the profession has probably encouraged fraudulent financial reporting. Egypt's professional accountants and auditors continue to comply with Law No. 133 of 1951. The Egyptian Society of Accountants and Auditors needs to play an effective role in enhancing the country's accounting profession. Its members should, at least, fulfill annual continuing professional education requirements, comply with a code of professional conduct penalizing and disclosing violators, and not permitting accounting firms to provide the three accounting services simultaneously to same corporate client. While the Central Auditing Organization, an independent public organization affiliated with the country's People's Assembly, is responsible for the external audit of the dominant state-owned enterprises, Companies' Law 159/1981 requires the 250 publicly traded companies on the country's two stock exchanges, regulated by Capital Market Authority, to prepare annual audited financial statements, and under the Capital Market Law 95/1992, to file their annual and semi-annual audited financial statements, and their quarterly financial statements with Cairo and Alexandria Stock Exchanges, and to publish their annual audited financial statements in two widely spread newspapers. The Banking Law 163/1957 requires all banks to follow the accounting and auditing requirements and guidelines set by the Central Bank of Egypt.

Egypt's tax environment: problems and recommendations

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For decades, Egyptian tax experts and scholars, the media, government officials, participants of tax conferences and seminars, and most importantly corporate and individual taxpayers have all raised questions about Egypt's tax environment (tax administration and tax laws). Questions are usually raised about, firstly, efficiency and effectiveness of the country's tax apparatus (administration and tax personnel), and secondly, the fairness and deficiencies of the country's taxation system, the primary source of government revenues. The Egyptian media and tax authority are long flooded with tax experts' and taxpayers' complaints about patterns of tax reviews, tax collection, negotiations, reconciliation of tax problems, and most seriously the widespread corruption and bribe taking by the increasing number of tax reviewers and collectors. Historically, the government has relied heavily on tax revenues for its growing expenditures, and consequently certain tax rates are usually increased to maintain the country's revenue base. Critics of the tax system refer to the deficiencies (unfairness, inequality, and financial burdens) of the diverse tax laws and rules which have long encouraged taxpayers and tax planners to search for tax loopholes for outright tax evasion from filing tax returns and/or non-payment of tax obligations. Consequently, the Egyptian courts are burdened with tax cases not only against taxpayers, but also against tax authority (the government). The study highlights the diverse problems embodied in Egypt's tax environment and identifies avenues for improvement and elimination of tax bottlenecks, as recommended by the country's tax authority, tax experts, and even tax payers. For instances, Egypt's tax personnel should be subject to periodical tax training, full compliance with tax code of ethical conduct (be friendly and honest), and be awarded financial incentives. Furthermore, there should be an enhanced mutual trust and confidence between tax payers and government authority, and serious attempts should be undertaken to settle the accelerating tax cases outside the court system. Simply, the tax system should be based on fairness, equality, and serious consideration of the financial and country's socio-economic conditions in which corporate and individual ax payers are operating; an that the country's tax environment needs to be modernized and adapted to the changing socio-economic and global environment.

Securing the Gulf in the post 9/11 environment

Dr. Hamoud Salhi
California State University, Dominguez Hills, California

The standard in Middle East politics has been to approach the security of the Persian/Arabian Gulf from an American national interest perspective, focusing on the protection of oil and its availability at reasonable prices in Western markets. As such, it has been believed traditionally that the best way to maintain order and security in that region is by balancing power among states and in favor of the U.S. The results have been to prioritize stability over political change, authoritarianism over democracy, and balance of power over interstate cooperation. This has had serious policy implications as the security of the Gulf has become linked to that of the U.S. Threats to the U.S. -- and to the Gulf region by implication -- have included terrorism, the rogue states (Iraq and Libya previously, Syria and Iran now) and Islamist fundamentalist organizations.

If Iran and Iraq are indicators, then the traditional balance of power, designed to neutralize rogue states from threatening U.S. interests and those of its allies in the region, has proven defective. The U.S. has been unable to preempt Iran from pursuing nuclear power, nor has it succeeded in bringing order to Iraq. This suggests the need for an alternative approach. This paper will argue that regional security is best protected by regional interstate cooperation and policies aimed at strengthening the region's own governments through democratic, economic, and social reforms.

In this context this paper is timely; it deals with one of the most pressing issues in the Middle East. It also fills a gap in Middle East literature. Except for policy reports published by think tanks, most studies have been written from a Western/American perspective, focusing on individual countries in the Gulf, including Iran, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates. As such, there is a need for a regional perspective that brings together these studies, and examines how the Gulf States can together protect their security. Ultimately, this will serve U.S. interests as well.

The two- gap theory of war: Application of power parity and military buildup in the Middle East (1960-2006)

Dr. Ashraf Singer
Adjunct Professor of World Politics
University of California, Irvine

This paper examines the two-gap theory of war as an application of power parity and military buildup and examines their impact on both war likelihood and war severity for dyadic state behavior in the Middle East. In this study, I state two basic propositions that draw from the power parity and military buildup literature to form the two-gap theory of war. The structure of the two-gap theory of war identifies the preconditions for war and war severity, and the variables that accelerate war likelihood as well as the severity of war. The two-gap theory of war develops a more advanced approach to studying the effects of conditions that can increase the degree of conflict severity: (1) Narrowing the absolute gap of state power and (2) Widening the absolute gap of military buildup
The interaction between these two factors as measured by the absolute military buildup gap divided by the absolute state power gap

This study provides the empirical link between the theories and reality on the ground. The narrowing power parity gap increases the likelihood of war and its severity. In addition widening the military buildup gap increases the likelihood of war and its severity. The interactive term identifies periods of potential danger in dyadic interactions. When rival dyad power gap decreases simultaneously with an increase in the military buildup gap, at certain levels of interaction between these two variables, the likelihood of war and its severity increases.

The empirical results achieved from the pooled and panel regression analysis for two hundred and ten dyads during the period from 1960 to 2006 and also time series for single dyads is used to test the new theory of war. It predicts that the interaction between the two gaps of power and military build up have significant impact on the likelihood of war and its severity in the Middle East.

The results of the two-gap theory of war allow policy makers to predict the dangerous times for rival dyadic behavior. This project provides some answers to the strategic choices and challenges of the Middle East and also the new theory that opens a new way of investigating relationships within different regions in world politics.

The impact of earnings reliability on auditor independence: evidence from the post-SOX era

Magdy Farag, Hung Chan, Yun-Chia Yan
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

This paper examines the linkages between reliability of accruals, magnitudes of discretionary accruals, and audit fees. It draws on the Anchoring and Adjustment heuristic theorized by Tversky and Kahneman (1974) that auditors may anchor on discretionary accruals in assessing inherent risk of audit engagements and make upward revision in light of prior periods' accruals reliability. Empirical tests show that (1) there is no association between DAs and audit fees in the post-SOX period; (2) there is a negative association between accruals reliability, measured by earnings persistence, and audit fees; (3) the negative association is found to be stronger as DAs increases. We also find evidence that nonaudit fees are no longer associated with the magnitudes of discretionary accruals in the post-SOX periods.

Forecastability of oil prices: a comparison of exponential smoothing models

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This study deals with the relative performance of major exponential smoothing models (Simple exponential, Holt's double parameter exponential and Winter's three parameter exponential) used in forecasting oil prices (specifically, Egypt Suez Blend Spot Price FOB (Dollars per Barrel)). To evaluate the efficiency of forecasts, we use the following four yardsticks: root mean squared error, mean absolute error, and the Theil U Statistic. To understand and improve the source of forecast error, we decompose the mean square error into E^m (proportion of error attributable to bias), E^s (proportion of error due to differences in standard deviations of predicted and observed values) and E^c (proportion of error due to inability of the forecaster to estimate the correlation between observed and predicted series). Our results indicate that Holt's double parameter exponential smoothing models outperform Simple and Winter's models in long range forecasting (6 months ahead), whereas Simple exponential smoothing models outperform others in short range forecasting (1 month and 3 months ahead). We do find, however, a strong bias in almost all of our forecasts. Despite the general accuracy of our forecasts, as measured by the coefficient of variation, there is room for improvement in forecasting using exponential smoothing models.

Afternoon Panel Discussion

2:55-3:55 pm

Technology and Investment: Challenges & Opportunities

Panel Moderator:

Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy

Panel Members:

Dr. Ossama Hassanein
Dr. Hazem Ezzat
Dr. Tayyeb Shabbir
Dr. Hind Hanfi

Discussants:

Dr. Farouk Abd El Kader
Dr. Nihal Shaker

Resolutions & Recommendations

3:55-4:25 pm

Dr. Amer El-Ahraf *Dr. Tawfik Ayoub* *Dr. Mahmoud Wagdy*

Banquet & Entertainment

15:55-16:25 am

In Collaboration with the Egyptian American Organization

05:30 – 07:00 pm	*Business meeting of The "Egyptian American Organization"*
06:30 – 07:00 pm	*Registration & Reception*
07:15 – 8:15 pm	*Hyatt Delight Buffet Dinner & Desserts*
7:40 – 8:30 pm	*EAO Young Leadership Awards - AEAS Awards* *AEAS & EAO Highlights*
8:30 – 9:30 pm	*Entertainment - Brentwood Strings Quartet*
9:30 pm – …	*Mazzeeka, Farfasha, & Egyptian Salamat…*