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LEAD IN: Since A-U-C started as an enlightening institution, there were a few number of students' publications that got published. By time, different forms of publications have been produced trying to raise the A-U-C community's awareness and create an ongoing intellectual dialogue between A-U-Cians. These publications are aiming to capture what happens in Egypt in a large scale and A-U-C in particular.

MUSIC FADE IN (pink Floyd)

YOUSSEF: "My name is Mennat Allah Fouad Youssef. I am a recent journalism and history graduate from A-U-C. I just graduated back in Febraurey. I have been studying History for four and half years. I got enrolled in 2007 in the fall semester and right before I graduated from High school, I decided that I wanted to be a journalist and my best option was to enroll at A-U-C." (0:5-0:34)

MUSIC FADE OUT

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

NAT SOUND (Students in AUC)

Paying a lot of money to obtain the American university in Cairo degree creates a belief in Egyptian society that A-U-C is a place for rich comfortable elite who are detached from society's problem. Trying to change this belief, A-U-C student publications work hard in reporting what is happening in Egypt and relate it to the university to create this kind of social dialogues between those who are in the university and those who are not. It also allows those students who are

studying journalism to practice before they go out in the real world. In 1919, Americans decided to build English-language University based on high standards, dedicated to education services in the Middle East so; they founded The American University in Cairo. Throughout its history, A-U-C has established a strong commitment to liberal education with a concern for the needs to have future leaders in Egypt and the region. Menna Youssef, an A-U-C graduate student have a lot to say about this issue.

YOUSSEF: "A lot of people accuse A-U-Cians of living in a bubble but I think that staying in downtown for year and then working here in campus when we came to new Cairo in several publications in campus that made me more well rounded as a person," (1:35-1:53)

Recently, some new student publications have been emerged adopting different styles and approaches. Dalia Eissa, the associate director for student organizations explained the types of student publications.

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EISSA: "Well. Usually there are two types of publications. There are publications under the press board which are independent publications that are not linked or they don't come up under clubs or any organizations such as The A-U-C Times, The Vatrina, The Independent, and we are going to have a few more this semester. Maybe we are going to have the Advocate, and we are also going to have Ethos. All the publications that I have mentioned are independent publications that they are not under a specific club or a specific organization and thereby, they serve the whole A-U-C community."(0:24-1:08)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

Any student publications should have a high board of 10 members including a president, a vice, a treasury, logistics and they have to be full time A-U-Cians registered and they have to have a faculty advisor. According to Eissa, in 1986, A-U-C only had a few organizations on campus, basically *El Quds Club, the Student Union, and ISIC*. But 5 years ago, we had something like 40 organizations and as we are speaking now, there are 58 organizations.

MUSIC FADE OUT

EISSA: "There are other publications that come up under or published under some organizations such as the theatre magazine which of course comes up under the theatre club. There is the El-Kods magazine or publication that comes under the El-Kods club. There was the Almeshkah which comes under the Arabic literature club. There is also the Ban Guard which is the publication of the Model Unites Nations, the Beacon; it comes under the community service and so on and so forth." (1:09-1:40)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

NAT SOUND: the sound of the Caravan newsroom

Trying to provide journalism students with the needed qualifications for the career market, A-U-C student publications maintain some academic and ethical standards. Nadine El-Sayd, the new media editor at *Egypt Today Magazine* says that working in the Caravan, one of the A-U-C student publications, was one major thing that prepared her to do well in her career.

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El-Sayd: "I have learned at the Caravan much much more than I have learned in classes, just because it hands on the experience; you still face the difficulties of catching a source or getting them to speak to you if they don't want to speak to you and also to write questions, transcribing and dealing with deadlines and all of that." (5:30-5:49)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

YOUSSEF: "It teaches them how to be responsible for what they are going to write, it makes them responsible for the deadlines that they have to meet; and makes them responsible for the sources they are going to use and being ethical and not fabricating information,"(4:07-4:22)

Integrity is the first principle students are being taught in these publications. Since the very first day in the university, every professor makes it very clear. Integrity, Integrity, Integrity. Eissa mentioned the integrity point telling her story when she violated the integrity law before unintentionally. Since she witnessed the start of the dimensions, Eissa and Mai Shabka, one of Dimensions' editors in chief were trying to add some life to their publication.

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Eissa: "Mai wanted to add some flavor to the newspaper. So, she started to borrowing or she started to put images from Google to get some images and copy paste them comics for Garfield and some of the Disney characters and to write comments under the comic that were already there and I remember that we had a big problem because obviously she did not have the permission of Garfield comics and someone raised the issue."(3:39-4:13)

Eissa and Shabka were so worried because they did not expect the matter to go so serious because in this time, the academic integrity and the copy rights law was just starting.

EISSA: "Mai Shabka was a very brave young girl so, she decided to write to the administration of Garfield or the people responsible for Garfield and admit her fault and say that she has taken some of the comics and put some of her interesting comments under it and she said that this is a student publication and she did not do it intentionally to harm and she even sent them some of the stuff she had done and amazingly the Garfield, the people responsible for Garfield were very understanding and were very welcoming and they said that " if you want more, we can send you more and you have our approval." (4:41-5:21)

After this Emial, Eissa and Shabka got relived because just two days ago, they thought they will go to gial for what they did.

EISSA: "you have really to be careful and attribute anything to its original owner."(5:55-6:01)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

NAT SOUND: chants from AUC Strike

Recently, students' chants and strikes filled the university wither to support the workers or to express their anger regarding with what is happening in Egypt. Egypt has witnessed a lot of political and social changes and because A-U-C is located in Egypt, it got affected with these changes; the thing which is reflected upon the university and its publications.

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The A-U-C workers' strike, the death of the A-U-Cian student Omar El Mogrem during Portsaid events, and all these incidents raised the students' needs to read more about politics and to know about what is happening in Egypt. Consequently, this affects student publications' choices for the subjects which they are writing about.

EISSA: "so, it is like a trend that students are becoming increasingly interested in joining activities and some of these activities are writing and students are becoming more and more aware of what is going around them, the changing environment wither political or social and they want to be more involved wither by writing or by joining activities." (2:38-3:01)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

YOUSSEF: "Let us face it. IF there is a revolution happening and you are a journalism student and you don't take use of what is going on, then you never gonna be this kind of person when you graduate because news happens every day and if you don't follow it, you are done. I mean news is fast, it changes all the time. (8:54-9:13)

MUSIC FADE OUT

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

Journalism is the mirror that reflects what is happening in the community we live in. A-U-C student publications are trying hard to bring everything happening out campus inside throughout writing and reporting. Some of the A-U-C community members are satisfied with what student publications managed to do, but other members do not.

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Eissa: "I think that the AUC publications were very vigilant about reporting everything that is going on. If you reviewed the issues of the independent for example or of the AUC Times, you will find that they are very closely monitoring what was going on in Tahrir, even her in campus when we had the AUC strike. They were very close and they tried as much as possible to be neutral to report the opinion and the counter opinion. they were not taking sides and they tried as much as possible to acquaint the AUC community and whoever the readers are in a very simple way and in a very comprehensive way of the changes and what is going on so, I think they did a good job and also I would like to hale the MCA, The Mass Com Association because at the time, they did an excellent coverage for wither the strike on campus or anything outside or the revolution in general." (6:12-7:15)

Music FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

MUSTAFA: "As an Egyptian, I don't think students publications on campus keep people fully aware of what is going outside the A-U-C because at the end of the day, it is an on campus publication which focuses in what is happening and it is taking the point of view of students," (13:25-13:40)

NAT SOUND: chants in Tahrir Campus

Acquiring the ultimate freedom, students in A-U-C can now write or talk about anything they want. In the old days, there were some taboos which students cannot ignore. For example, student organizations were not allowed to adopt a political theme for their campaigns. They could talk about politics but still, there were limits. Now, the situation is different.

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Students became aware enough to express their opinions about whatever they want and if they feel some restrictions from the administrations, they go to strike. Now, there are nothing may be labeled as “off records”.

El Sayd: “I have never faced an issue when it comes to censorship. I don’t know if nothing ever happened. But No, we talked about politics and religion. My advisor never told me no you can’t write about this or that. I mean as long as you adopt a professional tone and you interview all the people involved in the story, and you are unbiased, and you covered all angles, and give the people the chance to respond, then they can’t really tell you that you can’t publish that”. (4:9-4:39)

MUSIC FADE IN (Pink Floyd)

During the last 5 years, Egypt has passed by critical changes that may affect the country’s future and so as A-U-C. The majority of these changes are documented in A-U-C students’ publication by students who are predicted to form the Egyptian Journalism’s future.

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Credits:

Nadine El Sayd: the News Media Editor at Egypt Today Magazine

Dalia Eissa: The Associate Director for Student Organizations

Menna Youssef: recent journalism and history graduate from A-U-C

**Music: I Love you my country by Ramy Gamal -Flowers' Time by Khaled Hammad) -
Music_Pink_Floyd_- _The_Great_Gig_In_The_Sky**

Nat Sounds are used from:

- The Sound of Students Struggle Documentary by Sara Abdel Rahman

- The Revolution of the Spring Semester 2011 in the American University in Cairo Documentary by Sara El Kady