MIDDLE EAST & NO. AFRICA STRATEGY GROUP REPORT

YEAR 4

Membership

Hassane Amlal  *Research Associate Professor of Medicine*
Mahyar Arefi  *Professor of Planning*
Dean Cranley  *Community Advisor*
Asad Dalia  *Assistant Professor of Clinical Rehabilitation Sciences*
Hazem Elzarka  *Professor of Construction Management*
Robert Haug  *Assistant Professor of History*
Thomas Herzog  *Professor of Clinical Medicine*
Holly Johnson  *Associate Dean for Innovation & Opportunity, College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services*
Ethan Katz  *Assistant Professor of History*
Charles Matthews  *Professor of Management*
Kristi Nelson  *Professor Emeritus*
Peter Obermark  *Assistant Professor, Paramedic Program, UC Blue Ash*
Todd Schwartz  *Community Advisor*
Brittney Smith  *Advisor, International Services*
Robert Stevie  *Treasurer, Cincinnati U.S.A. Sister City Association*

Related Local Organizations

Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati

Activities of Focus for the Next Few Years

- Continue to enhance and broaden partnership with Future University in Egypt
- Continue work to identify partner in the Gulf States & Northern Africa
- Revisit Jordan for potential partner relationship
2015-16 Middle East & No. Africa Strategy Group Summary

After much discussion, and weighing the issue of safety in the Middle East & No. Africa region, the strategy group focused their energies on the United Arab Emirates and Northern Africa this year.

Egypt

Future University in Egypt (FUE)
We are about to complete a very successful third year of our relationship with the Future University in Egypt which continues to provide an increasingly significant revenue stream to UC.

Between 15-20 UC faculty have traveled to FUE over the course of this relationship. During their stay they do some teaching, talk with undergraduate students about their program and the University Cincinnati and talk with graduate students about research opportunities.

And, we have welcomed their students to campus for a three-week Summer Program that combines courses in Entrepreneurship, Scientific Thinking and E-Commerce with extracurricular activities that provide a cultural introduction to America.

In a few weeks, UC International will host two Summer Interns from FUE to work on projects related to e-learning, and videos for international students. And in July, FUE will be sending a much larger cohort of FUE students to the Summer Program.

Morocco

We found ourselves fortunate this year to have strategy group members with connections and knowledge of Morocco and so have begun to pursue engaging with two universities in Morocco to determine if they have equal interest in developing a strategic partner relationship. If we are successful in developing a relationship with a Moroccan university there are numerous advantages.

• The country is the nexus of connection with the Continent as it serves as the pivot point between the U.S., Europe, and Sub-Saharan Africa

• Morocco is a member of the EU and therefore they have access to EU Erasmus funding

• It will help raise market of awareness of UC in several regions if we can make a successful connection

Cadi Ayyad University (CAU)
Very similar in size and programs to UC, CAU is located in Marrakech and is one of the major Moroccan universities. We have had two Skype conversations with them and believe that there is sincere interest in connecting on a number of fronts. These include:

• Water, energy, environment and sustainable development

• Health

• Languages

• Urban Mobility/Planning

Due to a change-over in CAU’s personnel, we have had a lapse in communication, but have now re-connected and hope to be primed to move forward early in the Fall semester.

Mohammed V University (MVU)
In the coming year we will also be exploring a potential relationship with MVU in Rabat – the first “modern” university in Morocco. Of interest to us in particular is that they are also a partner with the University of Bordeaux, arguably our strongest international partner in terms of the breadth and depth of our joint activities.

United Arab Emirates

It happened that representatives from our India Regional Strategy Group were travelling to two universities in India, both of which have campuses in the UAE. Therefore, in early December several group members stopped to visit Amity University, Dubai and Manipal University, Dubai. As a consequence, we are currently processing agreements between Manipal, Dubai and the Lindner College of Business.