

guests and assisted the First Lady and AUC alumna, Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak, in laying the cornerstone.

John achieved much during his tenure as AUC President. He personally led the planning for the new campus project and he participated enthusiastically in its development. He equitably resolved long-standing issues affecting the faculty. He initiated many new and innovative academic programs. His unflinching optimism and passionate belief in AUC's mission made him a superb fund-raiser and an eloquent emissary for AUC. He was admired for his high intelligence and his hands-on style of leadership, leavened always with his sense of humor and instinctive understanding of human relations. His humanity inspired all who knew him. He loved and understood Egypt and Egyptians, who reciprocated in kind. He leaves AUC a confident institution, more intellectually and culturally vibrant, and enriched immeasurably by his legacy.

We have all lost a great leader and a good friend.

Paul B. Hannon
American University of Cairo

Walter Oller (1954 – 2003)

Walter Oller, the Middle Eastern Studies Librarian at Brown University, died peacefully this morning after a long struggle with cancer. Walter came to Brown in May of 2001 from New York University, where he had been assistant to the Middle Eastern Studies Librarian. He was also working on a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Studies at NYU, and he completed and defended his dissertation in the Spring of 2003, while working at Brown. Walter made great progress in building the Library's collections in Middle Eastern Studies, as well as taking on responsibility for Egyptology and Modern Greek Studies. He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues at Brown.

Georges Sabagh (1920 – 2002)

Georges Sabagh passed away on November 24, 2002 due to pneumonia of the lungs. Colleagues, students, and friends were truly saddened upon hearing the news at MESA 2002 in Washington, DC. Sabagh was Professor Emeritus of Sociology and former Director of the Center for Near Eastern Studies, at UCLA. He was born in Baghdad during King Faisal's reign, grew up in Paris and, after studying briefly in England, came to the US to pursue his higher education. He was a true cosmopolitan, and very much at ease in America, Europe and the Middle East/North Africa, where he spent most of his time. He received AB and MA degrees in Economics in the 1940s, and a Ph.D. in Sociology in 1952, all from the University of California, Berkeley. Before being recruited to UCLA as a