

NEW PRESIDENT APPOINTED TO THE BRITISH UNIVERSITY IN EGYPT

The British University in Egypt is delighted to announce that Professor Mohamed Loutfi will be taking up the post of its fifth President as of September 2021.

Professor Loutfi has more than 30 years of experience in international Higher Education. He is currently the Vice-Chancellor's Special Envoy at Coventry University and served as the inaugural President of the Knowledge Hub, Coventry University's branch campus in Egypt. Prior to this he held the Pro-Vice-Chancellor post at Cardiff Metropolitan University and a number of leadership roles at the University of Sunderland, UK.

Ms Farida Khamis, Chairman of the Board of Trustees said: *"Professor Mohamed Loutfi was the Board of Trustees' unanimous choice as our next President and Vice-Chancellor, and I am extremely pleased to welcome him on board. Professor Loutfi's appointment coincides with a period of rapid expansion and a transformation programme to enhance BUE's position as a leading university in the region. His proven track record of influencing transformative change and progressive impact will be a real asset to our faculty and students as we meet the challenges of the future. The breadth and depth of Professor Loutfi's experience in academia will enable him to contribute to the next stage of the development of BUE and strengthen its position as a pioneer in the region."*

Professor Leslie Croxford, Senior Vice President (Teaching and Learning) said: *"I am delighted to welcome Professor Mohamed Loutfi to lead the British University in Egypt on the next step of its journey to become what H.R.H. Prince Charles called 'The Best University Ever'. While having retained close associations with Higher Education in Egypt, he brings us profound experience of British universities with their emphasis on quality, academic excellence, research, enterprise and the student experience. We also greatly look forward to benefiting from Professor Loutfi's previous successes in institutional profile raising and internationalisation."*

Professor Yehia Bahei-El-Din, Vice President (Research and Enterprise) said: *"Professor Loutfi's inauguration as BUE President and Vice Chancellor brings unparalleled experience in higher education from both the UK and Egypt to advance BUE regionally and internationally. It comes at a time when BUE is enjoying significant achievements in education, research, and enterprise, and aspires to become the top university in the MENA region. Professor Loutfi, with his wealth of leading international roles and responsibilities, brings to BUE a highly impressive track record in promoting change, growth and innovation and I look forward to working with him to achieve the university's goals."*

Professor Loutfi was born in Alexandria and holds a BSc in Economics and Political Science and an MSc in Information Technology from Alexandria University. He also spent time studying System Dynamics at the University of Bergen, Norway before attaining his PhD in Systems Thinking from the University of Sunderland, UK. His passion for blending innovation and systems led to his research in Modelling and Simulation of Social Systems, and Non-linear, Dynamic Feedback Systems.

Professor Loutfi is also a leader in international partnerships and cooperation, initiating and coordinating high level partnerships in over 25 different countries, some at governmental level, with projects including enhancing institutional cooperation in learning, teaching and enterprise, as well as internationalisation strategies.

Professor Loutfi, a renowned Professor of Internationalisation from Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK, is also a visiting Professor of Innovation and Globalisation at Eurasia University, China, and has extensive experience in universities' leadership and management. His expertise has led him to initiate many "firsts" in the field of higher education. He was the first British/Egyptian academician to be a council member at the Observatory of Magna Charta Universitatum of Fundamental University Values and Rights in Bologna and also the first professional in Europe to take part in a global education think tank, set up by the Ministry of Education in China to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and start up education.

He is also the Founder and Vice President of the Board of the Arab European Leadership Network in Higher Education (ARELEN) and was heavily involved with the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education as an International Associate and member of the reference group for the Global Leadership Programme for Higher Education.

Professor Loutfi said: *"University is where you are encouraged to doubt, to imagine, to assimilate and to explore the unknown, the culture of dissent. The British University in Egypt has, at its core, a unique blend of one of history's most revered ancient civilizations, and the United Kingdom's world renowned revolutionary teaching methods – two forces that, when combined, can create the perfect ecosystem for creativity, innovation, visionary growth and leadership."*

"I feel privileged to have been appointed as the incoming President and Vice-Chancellor. The higher education sector is living a challenging time worldwide, trying to meet the ever changing societal needs combined with the continuing pandemic, but I am optimistic. Working with esteemed colleagues at the British University in Egypt, I am certain that we will be able to overcome them and deliver the societal expectations."

Date: June 20th, 2021