

# THE MIDDLE EAST CENTER

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle WA

Fall 2000

Vol. 26 No. 1

## JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY JOINS *Arabic Distance Learning Project*

THE Arabic Distance Learning Project supported by the University of Washington and Montana State University, Bozeman, welcomes a new subscribing partner institution this year—Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU), Charlotte, North Carolina. With the addition of this new partner, Arabic instruction originating at the University of Washington now reaches the East Coast as well as continuing to serve smaller institutions in the Northwest and Upper Midwest.

Johnson C. Smith University, which has a strong Russian language program, will now be able to offer Arabic instruction for the first time through the technology and distance-teaching techniques

developed at the UW.

Fayrouz Attia is JCSU's first Arabic TA. Ms. Attia, who is Egyptian, was born in Moscow and has traveled widely, including Iraq and Germany. She has lived in the United States for ten years and is now a

senior at the University of North Carolina with a major in computer engineering and a minor in Spanish. She loves sharing her knowledge of languages, and hopes in the future to combine



*Fayrouz M.F. Attia, Arabic TA at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina*

her interests in technology and language learning. The Arabic distance learning project will provide her with an exciting new arena in which to explore her interests and talents. ❧

## GLOBAL TEACH: A Seminar on the Middle East for K-12 Educators Scheduled for November 1, 2000

IN cooperation with the World Affairs Council of Seattle and the Foundation for International Understanding through Students, the Middle East Center is offering a seminar for K-12 educators on the Middle East, November 1, 4:15-7:00 p.m. on the UW campus. This seminar is part of an on-going series titled Global Teach, which features conversations with scholars and international students on issues of criti-

cal importance to their countries and cultures.

The title of the November 1 seminar will be "Explaining the Middle East: A Cultural Approach to Interpreting Media Events and Stories." Dr. Paula Holmes-Eber, an affiliate of the Middle East Center and a cultural anthropologist specializing in the Middle East will be the featured speaker. A panel of students from Egypt, Israel, Iran, and Lebanon

will share their perspectives on issues facing their countries today. Curriculum materials will also be distributed to registrants. ❧

### TO REGISTER

Please call Nancy Bacon or Brenna Langabeer at the World Affairs Council 206-441-5910 or email: [nbacon@world-affairs.org](mailto:nbacon@world-affairs.org). *Registration deadline is October 27, 2000.*

**INTERNATIONAL UPDATES 2001 REGISTRATION FORM INSIDE**

## JERE L. BACHARACH

### *Steps Down after Five Years as the Director of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies*

JERE L. Bacharach, director of the Jackson School of International Studies since 1995, completed his five-year term this past summer and has returned to the Dept. of History. He was honored at a surprise reception by the faculty and staff of the Jackson School for his years of dedicated service.

In addition to the varied contributions he has made to the Jackson School as a whole, Professor Bacharach has also been extremely generous in his support of Middle East studies. He recently established an endowment fund in the amount of \$10,000, the interest income of which is to be

used to underwrite activities of the Middle East Center.

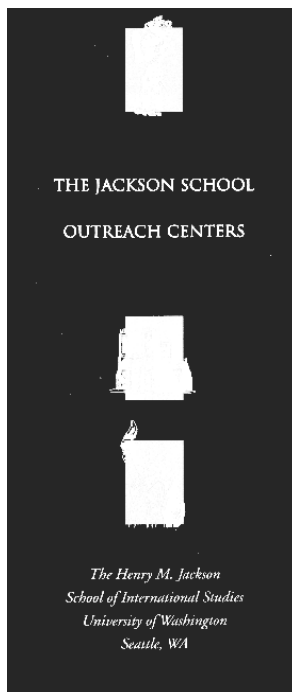
Bacharach, is currently taking a sabbatical year in Egypt where he is traveling widely and has made visits to the ancient sites of Pelusium in the Sinai and Tannis in the Delta. He reports that he was most taken with the excavations at Tannis, which have uncovered a massive court complex dating to the 4th century B.C.E. where ancient Egyptians constructed edifices from earlier Pharaonic building materials.

While on leave, Bacharach is editing a volume on medieval archaeological artifacts from his-



*Jere Bacharach displays his new PalmPilot V, a gift from the Jackson School faculty and*

### ***JSIS Joint Outreach Brochure Now Available***



The Jackson School of International Studies has just published a brochure listing all the programs and centers that offer outreach programming on- and off-campus. Information on how to contact all outreach coordinators at the School is included in the brochure.

If you would like a copy of the brochure, call

206-543-4227 or email [fhecker@u.washington.edu](mailto:fhecker@u.washington.edu).

### ***ARABIC TRAINING WORKSHOP Held for Instructors in the Distance Learning Program***

The Middle East Center hosted an intensive training workshop July 21-27, 2000 for all the TA's affiliated with the Arabic Distance Learning Program. Principal coordinators of the workshop were Professor Terri DeYoung, and Lecturer, Ahmed Souaiaia of the Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilization.

Participants were introduced to the fundamentals of oral and cultural proficiency

teaching. The TA's were videotaped by the Center for Instructional Development and Research to refine teaching techniques; and they viewed intensive Arabic language classes being taught at the University



## ***MIDDLE EAST TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM***

*Held with Cooperation of Global Trade, Transportation, & Logistics Studies*

A symposium on Middle East transportation was held in Kane Hall on July 27, 2000 as a joint venture of the Middle East Center and the Global Trade, Transportation, and Logistics Studies (GTTL) program. Jess Browning, recently retired director of GTTL, and Ellis Goldberg, director of the Middle East Center, gave opening remarks. The morning session was devoted to presentations by Yehuda Hayuth, President of the University of Haifa on the role the Middle East plays as a bridge between Eastern and Western trading blocs. Zvi Raanan of the World Bank gave an overview and historical background on surface transportation in the Middle East.



*Yehuda Hayuth, President of Haifa University, lectures at transportation symposium.*

The lunch speaker was Mark Knudsen, Director of the Cargo Terminals Group, Port of Seattle. Lunch was followed by a Q&A session moderated by Marc Hershman, Director of the School of Marine Affairs.

For a copy of the proceedings, a bibliography of literature on Middle East trade and transportation, and a packet of materials presented by the featured speakers, please contact:

GTTL  
Box 353585  
University of Washington  
Seattle, 98195-3585  
Email: gttl@u.washington.edu  
Tel: 206-616-5778

### ***Middle East Center Hosts NSEP Case Studies Initiative on New Technology and Language Acquisition***

THE Middle East Center hosted the first Case Studies Initiative Workshop on new technology and language learning sponsored by the National Security Education Program (NSEP) on September 27, 2000. The workshop brought together institutional recipients of NSEP grants directed at developing technology to assist in the acquisition of foreign languages, especially the less commonly taught languages. The goal of the workshop was to develop a series of case studies representing a diverse set of languages, which used different technological approaches on campuses reflecting the overall diversity of higher education. Since 1995, NSEP has funded a number of institutions that are developing technology with an aim toward increasing opportunities for student enrollment in foreign language and culture courses.

With this first workshop, grantees were able to exchange ideas, present their own projects, and plan strategies for further research.

Institutional participants in the workshop were, in addition to the University of Washington: Indiana University's Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, the American Council of Teachers of Russian, Satellite Communications for Learning, the National Foreign Language Center, Johnson C. Smith University, the University of Arizona, the National Association of Self-Instructional Language Programs, Montana State University-Bozeman, Northern Illinois University, Ohio State University, University of Hawaii-Manoa, and Five College Inc. (Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst).

Languages represented by grantees are: Thai, Indonesia, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog, Korean, Hindi, Arabic, Azeri, Kazakh, Turkish, Turkmen, Hungarian, Czech, Russian, Bulgarian, and Brazilian Portuguese.↵

## ***Film Workshop for Teachers of Grades 7-12***

THE Jackson School Outreach Team will coordinate a workshop for teachers on the use of film in the classroom, Saturday, February 3, 2001. This workshop is scheduled to coincide with a week-long film festival at the University Washington, which will highlight award-winning documentaries from the annual American Anthropological Association meeting. Carol Hermer, Department of Anthropology, and Mary Barber, a specialist on the use of film in the classroom, will be the principal speakers at the workshop.

The workshop aims to help teachers make the most of the festival and to introduce registrants to the extensive video collections of the centers and programs at the Jackson School. Participants will learn how to judge a film for ethnographic quality, bias and hidden messages, and then how to use it to its best advantage.

The registration fee for the workshop is \$40, which includes box lunch and eight clock hours upon request. The workshop will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Participants will receive information about location upon registration. To register for the film workshop, call Nadine Fabbi-shushan at 206-543-6269 or



email  
ada@u.  
ington.

## ***SUMMER SEMINAR 2000 on the Family Draws Diverse Audience***

THE sixth annual Summer Seminar for Teachers sponsored by the Outreach Team of the Jackson School drew a diverse audience of teachers, social services providers, and health care professionals this year. The



*Summer Seminar 2001 registrants listen to Stevan Harrell's keynote lecture at the Family across Time and Culture Semi-*

theme of the seminar was "The Family across Time and Cultures." In an intensive two-day session, participants were introduced to contrasting and evolving aspects of family units in cultures from E. Asia, S. Asia,

SE Asia, Middle East, Central Asia, and Europe.

The annual JSIS summer seminars offer Washington State clock hours to participants. Watch this publication for an-

## ***Envisioning the Ottoman Empire Autumn Lecture Series***

OCTOBER 18, 2000

*Russian-Ottoman Warfare on the Danube in the 18th Century*,  
1:30-3:30, Thomson, 317, Virginia Aksan, McMaster University

NOVEMBER 1, 2000

*Millets and Minorities: Non-Muslims in the Ottoman Empire*,  
1:30-3:30, Parrington, Commons, Aron Rodrigue, Stanford

NOVEMBER 8, 2000

*Alternative Routes to State Transformation: A Relational Approach to Politics, Culture, and Society in the Ottoman Empire*, 1:30-3:30,  
Thomson 317, Karen Barkey, Columbia University

Sponsored by the Middle East Center, the International Studies Center, Jackson School of International Studies; and the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities. All lectures are free and open to the public.

## **GOOD KURDS, BAD KURDS: A Film by Kevin McKiernan** **Reviewed by Nicole Watts**

THE story of the Kurds is, even as histories go, complicated, and it is fair to say that Kurds have not one “story” but many. This is especially true for the Kurds of Turkey, whose recent struggles are the subject of filmmaker Kevin McKiernan’s new documentary, “Good Kurds, Bad Kurds.” Appropriately, then, McKiernan’s film contains at least four stories that effectively and often movingly highlight different aspects of Kurdish lives and events in the 1990s. Unfortunately, McKiernan’s ability to capture the complexity of Kurdish political affairs is not as adept, and his film ultimately succeeds less in telling the “real story” of what he calls the “other war against Kurds” in Turkey than in putting a human face on a specific political agenda.

On its most intimate level, “Good Kurds, Bad Kurds” chronicles the saga of a Kurdish family from eastern Turkey that has emigrated to Santa Barbara, California and today runs a washer/dryer repair service. Here McKiernan is on his home turf, and the film offers fascinating glimpses into the everyday lives of Kurdish immigrants as well as their experiences with the American legal system. At the national level, the film takes a sweeping yet punishing look at the cynical game generations of U.S. officials have played with hopeful Kurdish leaders. McKiernan persistently pursues a variety of high-level U.S. officials in Washington, forcing many into the awkward position of trying to justify how the United States could sell billions of dollars worth of military equipment to Turkey—equipment then used in Turkish attacks on Kurdish populations in the southeastern part of the country—at the same time as the Clinton administration has while simultaneously criticized Turkey’s human rights violations and protected Kurds in northern Iraq. (This latter group, as McKiernan rightly points out, are the administration’s “good Kurds;” Turkey’s Kurds, he argues, have been treated as “bad Kurds”).

But McKiernan’s real objective in “Good Kurds, Bad Kurds” is to tackle two other stories he believes have been neglected: namely, the Kurdish quest for

cultural and political rights in Turkey, and the Turkish state’s human rights abuses. Ironically, it is here, in his attempt to re-paint the “bad Kurds” of Turkey in a more equitable light and to bring their often-tragic history to the attention of the American public, that McKiernan runs aground. Put bluntly, his discussion of Kurdish politics in Turkey lacks balance and context, relying overmuch on a romanticized portrayal of the militant Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has battled Turkish forces for more than 15 years. There is no mention

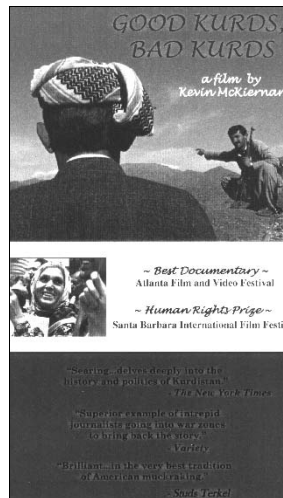
of PKK attacks on Turkish and Kurdish civilians until more than halfway through the film, and particularly egregiously, no recognition of the millions of Kurds in Turkey and abroad who do not support the PKK or its traditional vision of an independent Kurdish state. There was also apparently little effort made to find Turkish sources (and there are plenty of them) who could discuss Turkey’s treatment of Kurds more sensitively than the men McKiernan brings before his camera. Viewers unfamiliar with Kurdish politics would thus leave this film believing that the PKK is, as it has

indeed sought to be, the genuine and only “voice” of Turkey’s Kurds, and with little sense of the struggle for Kurdish cultural and political rights that has taken place within legal, non-violent circles in Turkey over the last decade.

All this said, McKiernan does have a remarkable gift for humanizing large-scale conflicts, and his portraits of Kurdish activists, immigrants and guerrilla fighters are revealing and often poignant. Especially valuable is his interview with Abdullah Öcalan, the PKK’s now-imprisoned leader. Although Öcalan was interviewed by a number of western and Turkish journalists before his capture by the Turks in 1999, he has rarely been depicted so vividly on film. Especially given the paucity of films on Turkey’s Kurds, then, McKiernan’s film would provide a useful starting point for classroom discussion.

✎

*This film is available in VHS format for \$89.95*



# *Greater Pacific Northwest* **REGIONAL MIDDLE EAST SEMINAR**

*April 21, 2001, Portland State University*

## ❧ FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS ❧

The Sixteenth Annual Regional Middle East Seminar sponsored by the Middle East Center, Jackson School of International Studies, and the Middle East Studies Center, Portland State University invites proposals for the 2001 seminar to be held in Portland.

The Seminar is convened primarily for faculty and instructors in the greater Pacific Northwest who teach about the Middle East or Central Asia at regional two- and four-year colleges and universities. Participants are provided an arena in which they can present new ideas and current research in a collegial atmosphere. The Seminar is not focused on any particular theme. Presentation topics vary widely and discussion of new teaching tools and techniques are encouraged. Submission of both individual and panel presentations are welcomed.

Send or email title of proposed presentation, along with a short abstract (approximately 50 words) by *February 15, 2001* to:

Jean Campbell  
Middle East Studies Center  
P.O. Box 751  
Portland OR 97201  
Email: [CampbeJ@mail.pdx.edu](mailto:CampbeJ@mail.pdx.edu)

For further details, contact Jean Campbell at the address above, or tel: 503-725-8566, fax: 503-725-5320.



# JACKSON SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL UPDATES SERIES

## *Time to Register for the 2001 Dinner-Lecture Series*

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It is time to register for the annual "International Updates: Trends and Transitions in Your World" dinner-lecture series organized through the cooperative efforts of the Jackson School's outreach personnel. All lectures will be held in the Walker-Ames Room at Kane Hall, UW, Seattle campus beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Each dinner-lecture is \$22 per person. Individual lecture registration must be received one week in advance of the event. Washington State clock hours are available for K-12 teachers and community college instructors for no additional charge for those who sign up for *two or more lectures*.

### DATES AND SUBJECTS

**Jan. 31: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**  
Topic to be announced, but will relate to some aspect of international business and trade.

**Feb. 14: WESTERN EUROPE**  
"Love, European Style," speaker to be announced.

**Feb. 28: MIDDLE EAST**  
"Challenges of Democracy in an Undemocratic Culture: The Case of Iran," Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

**Mar 14: INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**  
"From Genocide to Reconciliation: Varieties of Ethnic Conflict in Today's World," Dan Chirot, Professor, Jackson School of International Studies

**March 28: RUSSIA, EAST EUROPE, & CENTRAL ASIA**  
"The Coming Collapse of Russian Education?:"

Demographics and the Fate of Schooling in the Former Soviet Union," Stephen T. Kerr, Professor, Education

**April 11: SOUTHEAST ASIA**  
"Beyond Rangoon: Political Instability in Burma," Mary Callahan, Assistant Professor, Jackson School of International Studies

**April 25: EAST ASIA**  
"North-South Interactions on the Korean Peninsula: Implications for the U.S.," Clark Sorensen, Associate Professor, Jackson School of International Studies

**May 9: CANADA**  
"Canadian Film and Filmmakers," Darryl Macdonald, Director, Seattle International Film Festival

**May 23: SOUTH ASIA**  
"Environment and Wildlife in India," Kalayanakrishnan Sivaramakishnan, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

*To register, please indicate which of the dinner-lectures you wish to attend.*

- Jan 31: International Business
- Feb 14: Western Europe
- Feb 28: Middle East
- Mar 14: International Studies
- Mar 28: Russia, E. Europe, C. Asia
- April 11: Southeast Asia
- April 25: East Asia
- May 9: Canada
- May 23: South Asia
- ALL LECTURES

*Please also check if*

- vegetarian meal is desired
- clock hours are desired (at no additional charge)

Mail this registration form and check (payable to the University of

Jackson School Outreach Centers  
Attn: International Updates  
Box 353650  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98195-3650  
or call 206-543-1675; email  
<cwes@u.washington.edu> for  
more information.

Washington), \$22 per lecture to:

*REMEMBER: Deadline for registration is one week before each lecture.*

*Last Name* \_\_\_\_\_

*First Name* \_\_\_\_\_

*Street Address* \_\_\_\_\_

*City* \_\_\_\_\_

*State/Zip* \_\_\_\_\_

*Daytime telephone* \_\_\_\_\_

*Fax* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email* \_\_\_\_\_

*School/School District* \_\_\_\_\_

*Grade level currently teaching* \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## CALENDAR OF SELECTED UP-COMING EVENTS

*October 17*

"European Liberalisms and the Modern Concepts of Liberty in Iran." 3:30-5:00 p.m.,  
Denny Hall, Rm. 216. M.A. Homayoun Katouzian, Professor, Oxford University.

*October 18*

"Russian-Ottoman Warfare on the Danube in the Eighteenth Century." 1:30-3:20 p.m.,  
Thomson Hall, Rm. 317. Virginia Aksan, Professor of History, McMaster University.

*November 1*

"Millets and Minorities: Non-Muslims in the Ottoman Empire." 1:30-3:20 p.m.,  
Parrington Hall, Commons. Aron Rodrigue, Lokey Professor of History, Stanford.

*November 1*

Global Teach, "Explaining the Middle East: A Cultural Approach to Interpreting Media  
Events and Stories." 4:15-7:00 p.m. (see front page of this newsletter for details).

*November 3*

"Spatial and Temporal Reconfigurations of Israel in the Wake of the 1967 War:  
A Comparison of Jerusalem, Hebron, and the Sinai." 1:30-3:30, Thomson Hall, Rm 317.  
Gershon Shafir, Professor of Sociology, UC—San Diego.

*November 8*

and "Alternative Routes to State Transformation: A Relational Approach to Politics, Culture,  
and Society in the Ottoman Empire." 1:30-3:20, Thomson Hall, Rm 317. Karen Barkey,  
Associate Professor of Sociology, Columbia University.

## The Middle East Center Newsletter

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