

THE MIDDLE EAST CENTER

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

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NATIONAL FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE IN ARABIC AWARDED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

THE University of Washington's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (NELC) is the first recipient of a National Flagship Initiative Pilot Program in Arabic, funded by the National Security Education Program, Department of Defense.

The program is designed to begin to meet the urgent need in the United States for people who can speak Arabic and who understand Arabic culture and society. This new initiative is spearheaded by Professor Terri DeYoung, Associate Professor, NELC and an Arabic specialist. DeYoung has been at the forefront of innovation in Arabic instruction and initiated the

award-winning Arabic Distance Learning Project, which has taught first-year Arabic to student in smaller colleges and universities across the upper Midwest and East Coast.

The new Arabic Flagship program aims to develop an innovated strategy for teaching advanced Arabic, which will quickly more students to superior proficiency levels. In collaboration with the Foreign Language Training Center at Fort Lewis, WA, staff at NELC will combine distance and on-site instruction techniques, which is expected to transform approaches to training upper-level language students in the US.✎

Summer Arabic Camp for K-4 Students Is a Success

BETTY LAU

*Coordinator, Bilingual Teacher Training
World Summer Camp, Seattle Public Schools*

AFTER a hiatus of two years, Arabic language summer camp for children in K-4th grades was held at John Muir Elementary School in Seattle's South end from July 1-15. The team of four teachers (Eman Ziada Brandt, Zaineb Atouani, Fatima Jedaa, Fatima Hussein) took a five-credit University of Washington foreign language in elementary school (FLES) methodology class spring quarter. During the quarter, the group frequently met to plan a curriculum and activities for the summer practicum in a language camp setting. Veteran team leader Adila Abdumassad guided the group in lesson planning, classroom management, and scheduling, as well as serving as community liaison.

The teacher training and practicum were underwritten by the Middle East Center and supplemented by funds raised by the Arab Center of Washington. As the word spread, individuals and families also contributed. Consequently, almost all youngsters who wanted to learn Arabic could do so on



Tea party for young students who participated in the Arabic Summer Camp held at John Muir Elementary School this summer

a scholarship. Volunteers came forward to assist the teachers.

Nearly forty children spent ten days immersed in Arabic language and culture. (continued on p. 2)

FELICIA HECKER: CENTER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, WINS UW'S HIGHEST STAFF AWARD

Photo by Mary Leitz



UW President Richard McCormick congratulates Felicia Hecker

FELICIA Hecker was awarded the University of Washington's Distinguished Staff Award for 2002. The award is presented annually to staff who have made outstanding contributions to the mission of their unit and the University by responding creatively to challenges and maintaining the highest standards in their work.

Hecker's work was brought to prominence in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center. She created and organized the University's most visible response to the community's need for information about the Middle East and Islam with a series of free, evening

lectures she called the Open Classroom. The series highlighted the expertise of the Jackson School of International Studies and was attended by the largest audiences for academic lectures every held at the UW. The *Seattle Times* called the series, "an important act of citizenship in a trouble time of our nation's history."

Hecker has always taken an innovative approach to her work. She has written the Jackson School's history (available on line at: <http://jsis.artsci.washington.edu/jackson/history.html> and, with Ellis Goldberg, Director of the Middle East Center, launched the Freedom of Expression Series in 1998. ❧

ARABIC SUMMER CAMP (*continued*)

Students learned greetings, farewells, shapes, numbers, parts of the body, colors, arts and crafts, games, songs and some basic principles of writing. The highlight of the camp was Open House, which featured a traditional tea party with desserts prepared and donated by area businesses. For the party, the young campers dressed in Arabic clothing provided by the community for this special occasion.

Parents and relatives marveled at how much Arabic the children learned in such a short period of time. One parent summed up the camp-experience this way: "My daughter really likes Arabic camp. At home she's always singing Arabic songs or telling us what things are called even though we don't understand."

An experience such as Arabic language camp is a model of language teaching that is fun and enjoyable for children. To teach a world language, Washington State requires that prospective teachers take an age-appropriate methods class. To qualify to teach a world language, the methods class, plus the clock-hours attached to the camp practicum, meet state requirements for conditional certification, a step which allows a person to teach without full certification or while working on full certification.

Plans are already underway for next year's camp. Those interested should contact Betty Lau, world language camp coordinator at email: laubet_59@netzero.net.



Anand A. Yang Named New Director of the Jackson School of International Studies

ANAND A. Yang has been named the new director of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies after a three-year search. Yang comes to the Jackson School from the University of Utah, where, among other administrative positions, he was chair of the department of history, director of Asian Studies, and a member of the university senate. Professionally, he has served as the editor of *the Journal of Asian Studies* and editor of *Peasant Studies*.

Yang is a specialist in South Asian history. His most recent book, published by the University of California Press in 1998, is *Bazaar India: Markets, Society, and the Colonial State in Gangetic Bihar*. He has two edited volumes forthcoming, titled: *Rebellion in India, 1757-1857* and *Power, Agrarian Structure, and Peasant Mobilization in Modern India*. In addition to his extensive research, publication, and service record, Yang brings to the School twenty-years of collaboration with the US Department of Education where he has served as a consultant on undergraduate international studies programs, as well as a consultant on the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research and Faculty Research Abroad programs.

Although he has only been at the helm of the



Jackson School's new director, Anand A. Yang

School since mid July, Yang has already expressed new goals for the School, which include developing more resources for student financial aid and reinvigorating the School's commitment to increasing minority enrollment in international studies.✎

JSIS SUMMER SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS, 2002 *Storytelling and Oral Traditions around the World*



(l-r) Outreach coordinators, Sara VanFleet, Southeast Asia Center; Maxine Loo (local teacher); Keith Snodgrass, South Asia Center; and Dean LaRue, West European Center performing "Three Little Kittens Who Lost Their Mittens."

THE 2002 Jackson School Summer Seminar for Teachers, held June 25-26, was devoted to the topic of storytelling and oral traditions from around the world. Practitioners and scholars of Japanese, Chinese, Afghan, Central Asian, Liberian, Indian, Indonesian, Canadian, and European traditions presented sessions to sixty local teachers, who each earned sixteen credits for the two-day workshop.

The Jackson School has been offering the Summer Seminar for Teacher for the past ten years with such topics as migration, trade and globalization, the family unit across cultures, and spiritual spaces around the world. Watch for details on next year's summer seminar in upcoming newsletters.✎

NEW VIDEOS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE CENTER'S RESOURCE LIBRARY

Resources may be borrowed from the Middle East Center free of charge by contacting the Middle East Center by telephone (206)543-4227 or by email to: <fhecker@u.washington.edu>. The Center also publishes a video guide of its holdings, available free upon request, or view our webpage at <http://jsis.artsci.washington.edu/programs/mideast/index.htm>

Derrida's Elsewhere. 52 min., 1999. Highly personal exploration of Jacques Derrida's life and work; examines his childhood in Algeria, his work in Paris, his spiritual roots in post-colonial Algeria and the Spain of Lorca and El Greco.

A Female Cabby in Sidi Bel-Abbes. 52 min., 2000. Soumicha, mother of three, the first woman taxi driver in Sidi Bel-Abbes, Algeria, acquaints the viewers with her city and the many contradictory aspects of life in that city.

Hajj: The Pilgrimage. 52 min., 2000. Details of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, includes footage of the city of Medina, battlefield of Uhud and changing of the embroidered Kaaba cover. Part of the "Islam Rising Series."

Honorable Murder. 52 min., 1999? Examines the cultural tradition that makes women the talisman of family honor and the practice of atoning for dishonor with their blood.

Islam. 56 min., 2001. Hans Küng, noted theologian, maps out the history of Islam and probes how Muslims and non-Muslims can live together harmoniously.

Islam and Christianity. 30 min., 1994. Examines the historical relations between Islam and Christianity. Iran's ambassador to the Vatican, Mohammad Masjed Jame'i, explains the basic differences. Part of the "Islamic Conversations Series."

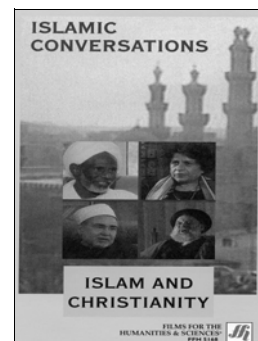
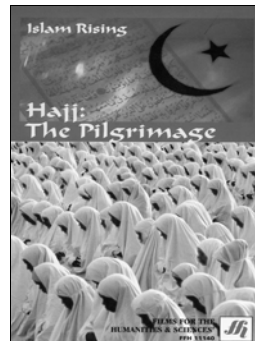
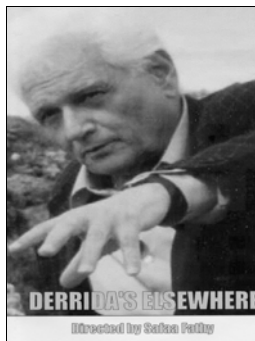
The Jews of Djerba. 26 min., 1977. Explores the history and culture of a small Jewish community at Djerba, an

island off the southeast coast of Tunisia.

Kurdistan: The Last Colony? 52 min. After a quick overview of 3,000 years of Kurdish history, the video focuses on Kurdish national movements in Turkey, Syria, Soviet Armenia, Iran, and Iraq.

Kurdistan: The Promised Country. 30 min. Seen from the point of view of an Iraqi Kurd who explores the fragile democracy being created in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Living with the Past. 56 min., 2001. The film is a portrait of Darb al-Ahmar, a neighborhood in the old city of Cairo now facing a process of radical change. Produced by Elizabeth Fernea.



NEW VIDEOS—*continued*

The Media and Democracy in the Arab World. 45 min., 2000. A behind-the-scenes look at al-Jazeera, the CNN of the Arab world.

Morocco: The Past and Present of Djemma el Fna. 18 min., 1995. A look at Marrakech, Morocco's famous square, a historic crossroad of Arab and Berber culture.

Naguib Mahfouz: The Passage of the Century. 50 min., 1999. At age 88, Naguib Mahfouz, the only Arab Nobel Laureate, is interviewed in this video. He weaves the threads of his life together with his view of society.

Naji Al-Ali: An Artist with a Vision. 52 min., 2000. Examines the life of this Palestinian political cartoonist who was murdered in 1987 in London.

Palestine. 52 min., 2002. This documentary examines how the history of Palestine has been shaped by

governments of other countries.

The Perfumed Garden. 52 min., 2000. Explores the myths and realities of sensuality and sexuality in Arab society through interviews with men and women of all strata of society.

Routes of Exile: A Moroccan Jewish Odyssey. 90 min., 1982. Shot on location, this video examines the 2,000-year-old Jewish community in Morocco.

Search for Destiny Series. 5 parts, each 52 min. Part 1: The Middle East in 1900; Part 2: World War II; Part 3: Post World War II to 1956; Part 4: The Late 1950s and 1960s; Part 5: Israel and Palestine, Iran, Iraq, and Gulf War.

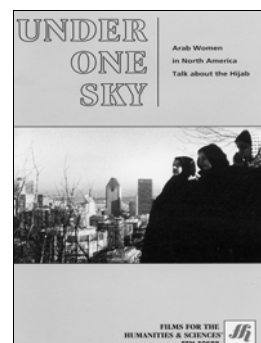
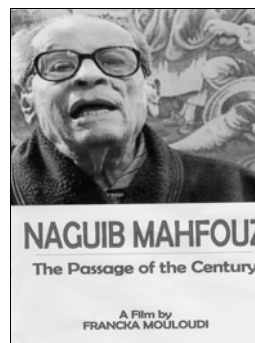
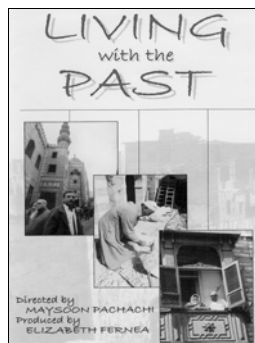
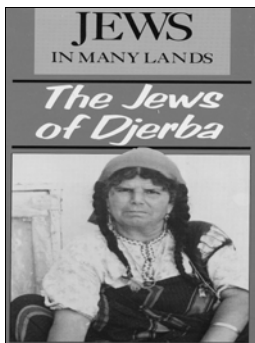
Shiites: Followers of Ali. 27 min. The first dissidence within Islam, Shiism had been opposed to the authority of the Sunni caliphs and more generally to power of any kind. Part of the "In the

Footsteps of Abraham" series."

Thirsting for War. 50 min., 1998?. A comprehensive look at the struggle for control of water in the Middle East, specifically in Turkey, Syria, and Iraq.

Under One Sky. 44 min., 2000. Arab women in North Africa talk about the hijab (veil).

When the World Spoke Arabic: The Golden Age of Arab Civilization. 26 min each, 2001 (1) The Arabs Make Their Entrance: Islam and the Empire (2) Once Upon a Time: Baghdad during the Abbasid Dynasty (3) They Surveyed the World: Exploring the Arab Empire and Beyond (4) The Muslim Town: Urban Life under the Caliphate (5) The Thousand and One Nights: A Historical Perspective (6) Ulema and Philosophers: Faith vs. Reason in Islamic Arabia (7) From Arabic to Latin: The Assimilation of Arab Knowledge.





The Middle East Center Newsletter

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