

The Near East Reports...

NELC

from the Department of
Near Eastern Languages and Civilization
at the University of Washington

Volume 14

Autumn, 2001

ZIADEH LECTURESHIP SERIES ANNOUNCED

In spring 2001 the Farhat J. Ziadeh Fund for Arabic and Islamic Studies was formally endowed. This fund has grown over the past many years through the generosity of Professor Emeritus Farhat Ziadeh, members of his family, and many, many friends, students and colleagues in the U.S. and abroad. NELC is proud to announce that as this endowment builds it will be targeted to support an annual Farhat J. Ziadeh Distinguished Lecture Series, to commence in spring 2002. The inaugural lecture will be presented by Irfan Shahid, Sultanate of Oman Professor of Arabic, Department of Arabic Language, Literature and Linguistics, Georgetown University. The lectures are to be published in an occasional papers format, and also published and archived electronically on our departmental web site.



*Jere Bacharach, with Suad and Farhat Ziadeh,
at NELC/MEC anniversary reception in Orlando*

General plans for the series were first announced by NELC chair Michael Williams at the special NELC/Middle East Center anniversary reception held at the Orlando MESA meetings in November 2000, where Professor Ziadeh as well as Professor Jere Bacharach (2000 President of MESA) were recognized for their decades of leadership in Near East studies at UW. The topic of Professor Shahid's presentation, as well as other details about the first annual Ziadeh lecture, will appear on our web site soon.

NELC TO ADD FULLTIME ARABIC LECTURER

NELC announces a search for a fulltime lecturer in Arabic language, for a position to begin autumn 2002. The addition of this important position will be vital to the structuring of our expanding Arabic program. In a year in which resources for any new faculty positions in the College of Arts and Sciences are exceptionally constrained, the permission to open this search is a notable and welcome expression of support from the College for NELC's long-term mission and strategic goals. Details about the position and application procedures will be found in the ad in the MESA Bulletin and other appropriate venues, as well as on the NELC web site.

FROM THE CHAIR

As it happened, this edition was in final stages at the time of the atrocity of September 11. Therefore as I write this we are hardly beyond what President Bush has called the "middle hours of our sorrow." It is possible that among the readers of this newsletter are persons who themselves or whose loved ones suffered directly in the attacks, and if so our wish is for your comfort and healing.

Now, we will all face tests of our resolve, our wisdom and our humanity. NELC and departments like ours have

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and will be turned to for some leadership in fostering better understanding of the cultural framework of what is now so much in the news. Expanding and deepening our humanity by promoting richer understanding of the cultures of the Middle East and Central Asia is at the heart of NELC's mission statement, and precisely what this department has always been about. The horrific recent events tragically bring into relief the vital relevance of such labor.

It is natural that at this moment some of what I had intended to write in this column feels a bit out of scale. Yet for precisely the reason mentioned above, it also seems somehow all the more pertinent. NELC's work is in the process of significant expansion on several fronts. The official launch this term of two new options in our major, reflecting our growing strengths and student demand in the areas of Comparative Islamic Studies and Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies; crucial support from the College administration to add a fulltime lecturer in Arabic (a decision made well before Sept. 11, by the way); our receiving a significant College challenge grant for graduate fellowships to recruit outstanding applicants; the inauguration of a second, endowed distinguished lecture series (the Ziadeh Lectures), to join the wonderfully successful Afrassiabi Lecture series, now in its fourth year; the move this autumn of Dr. Deborah Wheeler to a fulltime position in NELC; the beginning of a five-year term for eminent Ottomanist and long-time colleague Walter Andrews to NELC's first Research Professor appointment--these are just some examples of ways in which we are progressing toward the ambitious goals we have set forth in our strategic planning. We are experiencing record enrollments in our large lecture courses as well as in our language programs. The demand this year for Elementary Modern Hebrew was double what we were able to accommodate, both Persian and Arabic again set records and are at capacity, and Elementary Turkish is at a near record level.

We continue to be immensely grateful for the generosity and crucial support from so many of you, and more than ever your continuing partnership is vital to NELC's mission. I call your special attention to the announcement on the back page of this newsletter of the exciting opportunity that now lies before us in the College challenge grant. These awards were made to only a few departments on campus, and we are depending upon your help to seize this wonderful opportunity.

Your support in helping us match this challenge grant will make possible two-year fellowship grants to recruit four outstanding students. If you are interested in making a gift that would help earmark one of these four fellowship awards for an outstanding applicant in a specific language program, please let me know. I hope you will read more about this challenge grant and our ambitious plans on our web site, or please feel free to give me a call to discuss your ideas.

Many are realizing that this time of challenge is also bringing with it new opportunities for reaching out. We see our departmental mission in precisely those terms, and we continue to count on your help as we renew our commitment to excellence in teaching and research on cultures and languages of the Middle East and Central Asia.

Michael Williams

Professors

- Andrews, Walter G.** (Research), Ph.D., 1970, Michigan; Turkish language and literature, Ottoman Turkish.
Bacharach, Jere L. (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1967, Michigan; History of the Middle East, Islamic history
Cirtautas, Ilse D., Ph.D., 1958, Hamburg; Turkic languages and literatures.
Heer, Nicholas, L. (Emeritus), Ph.D., 1955, Princeton; Arabic language and literature, Islamic theology and philosophy.
Jaffee, Martin S. (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1980 Brown; History of Judaism and late antiquity, methods in study of religion.
Karimi-Hakkak, Ahmad, Ph.D., 1979, Rutgers; Persian language and literature, Iranian culture and civilization.
MacKay, Pierre A. (Emeritus), Ph.D., 1964, California (Berkeley); Topography of the Near East, Ottoman Turkish and Classical Arabic literatures.
Sokoloff, Naomi B., Ph.D., 1980, Princeton; Hebrew language and literature.
Williams, Michael A. (Chair), Ph.D., 1977, Harvard; Early Christianity and religions of antiquity; Coptic language.
Ziadeh, Farhat J. (Emeritus), LL.B., 1940, London; Arabic language and literature, Islamic law and institutions.

Associate Professors

- DeYoung, Terri L.**, Ph.D., 1988, California (Berkeley); Arabic language and literature.
Wheeler, Brannon, Ph.D., 1993, Chicago; Arabic; Islamic studies, comparative religion, late antiquity, Jewish studies, legal studies.

Assistant Professors

- Kuru, Selim**, Ph.D., 2000, Harvard; Turkish language and literature; Ottoman Turkish.
Noegel, Scott, Ph.D., 1995, Cornell; Hebrew Bible, ancient Near Eastern languages and cultures
Walker, Joel (Adjunct) Ph.D., 1997, Princeton, History and Archaeology of the Near East in late antiquity.

Lecturers

- Wheeler, Deborah**, Ph.D., 1993, Chicago; Political science and Middle Eastern studies
Souaiaia, Ahmed, Ph.D. candidate, UW; Arabic language and Islamic law.

Visiting Instructional Faculty 2000-2001

- Akhmedov, Muhammad Ali** (Lecturer), Kandidate Nauk, 1992, Academy of Sciences, Uzbekistan; Intermediate Uzbek, Summer 2001.
Berrada, Fakhereddine (Professor), Ph.D. 1995, University of Wales; Professor, University Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco; Spoken Arabic, Summer 2001.
Devens, Monica (Lecturer) Ph.D., 1978, UCLA; Elementary Modern Hebrew, Summer 2001

Affiliate Faculty

- Arik, Kagan** (Instructor), Ph.D. 1999, UW, Turkish/Turkic languages, literature & culture; anthropology of Central Eurasia; Turkic religion
Pyne, Nannette (Assistant Professor), Ph.D., 1982, UW; Medieval Near Eastern history, geography and archaeology.
Sultan-Quarraie, Hadi (Instructor), Ph.D., 1997, UW; Persian language and literature

Teaching Assistants 2000-2001

- Arabic: **Mukhtar Ali**
George Berg
Marwa Maziad
Magid Shihade (summer 2001)
Hebrew: **Magid Shihade**
Gitai Ben-Ammi (summer 2001)
Persian: **Fevziye Barlas**
Turkish: **Didem Havlioglu**
Uzbek: **David Hunsicker** (summer 2001)
Introduction to Quran: **Mark Reese**

Graduate Staff Associate 2000-2001

Mamoun Sakkal

Research Assistants 2000-2001

George Berg
Joseph Duwors
Mark Reese
Hande Solakoglu

THIRD ANNUAL AFRASSIABI DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

On February 17, 2001 Professor Jerome W. Clinton of Princeton University delivered the Third Annual Afrassiabi Distinguished Lecture in Persian Studies, the lectureship series honoring the memory of the late Hooshang Afrassiabi, a prominent member of the local Iranian community and a long-time friend of the University and especially its program in Persian studies. Professor Clinton, a world authority on the Persian Book of Kings, presented a slide-illustrated lecture on the topic "From Word to Image: The Case of Shahnameh Illustrations," in which he discussed ways in which Iranian artists through the centuries have depicted this grand narrative of ancient Persia. Following the lecture, the audience enjoyed a lovely reception in the Walker-Ames Room hosted by the family of Mr. Afrassiabi. As always NELC is deeply grateful Dr. Ali Afrassiabi and other members of the family, and to the many friends of the Afrassiabi Endowment Fund, for their important outstanding support of Persian studies at UW.

AFRASSIABI STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE AWARDED

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the 2001 Afrassiabi Student Essay Award is Margarita Safariants. The award, which includes a citation and a prize of \$500, is designed to encourage the study of Iran and Iranate cultures at the University of Washington. It is made possible by donations to the Hooshang Afrassiabi Endowment Fund, and is given once a year to the best undergraduate essay written on any topic related to Persian language and literature and/or Iranian culture and civilization, most broadly defined. Ms. Safariants's essay, "Idealism to Revisionism: the Female Condition in Persian Literature," was written for Professor Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak in his honors course on classical and contemporary Persian literature. Margarita examined the depiction of women in the works of the two classical

TWO NEW OPTIONS ADDED TO NELC MAJOR

Beginning in autumn 2001, the NELC undergraduate major has a new name, Near Eastern Studies, and offers two new options to undergraduate majors in the department:

Near Eastern Studies--Comparative Islamic Studies
Near Eastern Studies--Biblical and Ancient.

These join the two previously existing options:

Near Eastern Studies--Language and Civilization
Near Eastern Studies--Culture and Civilization

The development of these new options has been in response to significant and increasing student demand for such curricula, and also reflects growing faculty strength and interest in these directions.

More details about the new options can be found on the NELC web site at <http://depts.washington.edu/nelc>.

poets, Nezami and Rumi, compared and contrasted with the depiction of the female in modern Persian literature, as exemplified in the works of Sadeq Hedayat and Forugh Farrokhzad, and she argued that the modernist writers have rearticulated the image of the female from an idealized icon to a more or less realistic depiction that has implications for male-female relations in present-day Iranian society. For further details about the Afrassiabi Essay Award, please contact Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (karimi@u.washington.edu).

"LADINO IN PRINT" SYMPOSIUM CONVENED

In May 2001, an unusual and stimulating international scholarly symposium entitled "Ladino In Print" was convened at the University of Washington. The symposium brought together an unusually interdisciplinary array of scholars from history, literature, linguistics, religious studies, Jewish Studies, and Spanish and Portuguese Studies. Representing five countries, all participants were working on some dimension of Sephardic print culture. Papers presented at the symposium ranged widely in chronological and geographic scope, covering

print culture produced in Medieval Spain, the nineteenth century Ottoman Empire, and modern day South America, among other contexts. Participating scholars explored a diverse number of genres of Ladino print culture, including religious and para-religious literature, fiction, and the secular press. A number of the papers presented at the conference will be published in a special issue of the academic journal *Jewish History*. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, Jewish Studies, Sephardic Studies, the Jackson School, Middle East Studies, Spanish and Portuguese Studies, and NELC.

LECTURES ON HISPANO-ARABIC LITERATURE

Professor James Monroe, an internationally recognized authority on Hispano-Arabic Literature, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley visited the University of Washington campus for two lectures February 22-23, 2001, as part of a series of faculty guest lectures associated with Professor Terri DeYoung's special course on Hispano-Arabic Literature. Prof. Monroe spoke in the class on his latest book, a translation of the maqamat of the

Hispano-Arab author al-Saraqusti, and gave a public lecture entitled "Did the Andalusi Muslims Have a Ballad Tradition (Romancero)?" The latter was co-sponsored by the Spanish Department, many of whose members attended the talk. Other lecturers in the series were Dr. Jonathan Decter, the Hazel Cole Visiting Fellow in the Jewish Studies Program, and Professor Philip Schuyler of the University of Washington Music Department.

VISITING SCHOLARS IN NELC

Nuket Esen, Associate Professor of Turkish Literature from Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey, spent four months in 2001 as a visiting scholar with NELC, while engaging in research on the topic of narratology. In May she presented a paper on her study of the Turkish novelist, Ahmet Mithat, ("Narrator and Narratee in the First Turkish Novels") for an appreciative Denny Hall audience. She is currently



Prof. Nuket Esen

working on a translation of Ahmet Mithat's survey of western literature, published in 1890, and also on publication of the writings of the 20th century author Sabahattin Ali.

The first volume, scheduled to appear in Summer 2001, contains Ali's unpublished works, while the second will include documents related to the many trials he had to go through due to his leftist affiliation. Finally, the third volume will contain Sabahattin Ali's correspondence with famous people of his time.

Joo-Young Sohn, Professor and Chair in the Department of Arabic at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS), Seoul, Korea, joined NELC as a visiting scholar from September 2000 through August 2001. He is also Director of the Institute of Middle East Studies that is affiliated with HUFS, and is President of the Korean Association of Islamic Studies (KAIS). Among his projects while on sabbatical in Seattle, Joo-Young Sohn completed the

manuscript (with co-author Kyung Kuen Song) of *100 Scenes from the History of Egypt* (in Korean; published in March 2001), surveying important historical and cultural topics pertaining to Egypt from ancient times to the



Prof. Joo-Young Sohn

present. Among his other current projects are three more book manuscripts, including a Korean translation of *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Islam* (ed. Francis Robinson, Cambridge University Press, 1966); editorial work on a Korean "Encyclopedia of the Middle East & Islam"; and a book entitled "Islam: Fundamentals, History and Islam in the World Today."

NICHOLAS POPPE SYMPOSIUM ON INNER ASIAN/CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES

The Central Asian Studies Group, the Turkish Studies Group, the Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies Program, and the Jackson School of International Studies, sponsored the 13th Annual Poppe Symposium on May 26, 2001 in Denny Hall. Established in honor of famed Central Asian scholar, Nicholas Poppe, the symposium included an international slate of participants. Among the presentations: "International Programs and Their Effects on Kirghizstan's Educational System" (Anara Jamasheva, Head, IREX-Educational Information Center, Bishkek, Kirghizstan); "Recent Legislation on Land Reform in Kazakhstan" (Zhakshylyk Khuseinov, former Advisor to the President and Parliament of Kazakhstan); "Land Reforms in Kirghizstan" (Renee Giovarelli, J.D., LL.M, Staff Attorney, Rural Development Institute, Seattle); "The Deportation of the Karachai People from the Caucasus to Central Asia in 1943: Eyewitness Accounts" (Zulfiya Lafi, former Representative of the International Research and Exchange Board in

Kazakhstan and Central Asia); "Women in Uzbekistan Since Independence" (Adolat Najimova, RFE/RL Correspondent, Prague); "Abdulla Qodiriy's (1894-1938) Influence on the Uzbek Literary Language" (Ilse Cirtautas, NELC); "On Vowel Harmony in Turkmen"; (Tim Miller, Graduate Student, NELC).

NEW CD-ROM FOR MODERN HEBREW DEVELOPED

Working with SMiles Productions, Professor Naomi Sokoloff and Dr. Monica Devens have designed *Speak Hebrew!*, an interactive CD-ROM for learning Modern Hebrew. The CD provides a virtual trip to Jerusalem, where the player participates in conversations at the Western Wall, the Mahane Yehuda market, a cafe and other locales. Subtitles, which can be switched on or off, are available in Hebrew, in English translation, and in transliteration. The program also provides appendices covering the alphabet, additional vocabulary, basic grammar, cultural notes and more. *Speak Hebrew!* is for ages 10 through adults and is designed for PC/IMB compatible computers. (Available for purchase at UW Bookstore or Amazon.com.)

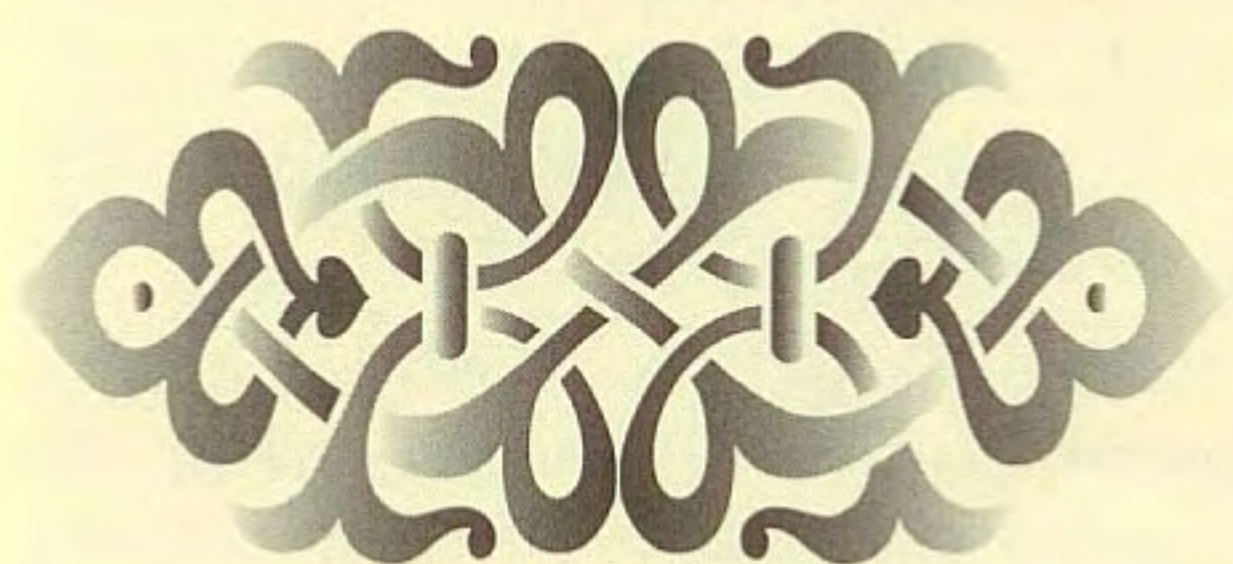
SILK ROAD EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2002

NELC will be one of several departments at the University of Washington contributing support for events in an exciting 2002 project on the theme of the Silk Road. Organizations involved in the array of Silk Road cultural and artistic exhibitions and performances in Seattle set for spring 2002 include UW's Simpson Center for the Humanities, The Seattle Symphony, The Seattle Art Museum, The Silk Road Foundation, and Cal Performances. Coordinated with these events, units at the UW will be engaged in such initiatives as: A virtual (on-line) "Art of the Silk Road" exhibit displaying items from the collections of the Seattle Art Museum and other major museums; a photography exhibit of work by Gary

Tepfer and Wu Jian (both have photographed extensively in Inner Asia); a six-part lecture series focusing on the art and history of the Silk Road, and involving several leading experts on Silk Road culture; development of a variety of web-based materials pertaining to the Silk Road for a general audience and for specific use by teachers and students at various levels; teacher workshops and non-credit adult education courses.

RENOWNED NEAR EAST ARCHAEOLOGIST TO GIVE WALKER-AMES LECTURE

David Stronach, Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of California at Berkeley and Curator of Near Eastern Archaeology for the Hearst Museum in Berkeley, will be a distinguished Walker-Ames Lecturer at UW in April 2002. In the 1960s and 70s Stronach was Director of the British Institute of Persian Studies in Tehran, having earlier worked on major archaeological excavations in Turkey, Syria, Pakistan, and Iraq. Stronach is well-known for his work in the fields of the history, art history, and archaeology of the ancient Near East, including important contributions on the architecture (especially palaces and tombs), sculpture, coins, metal ornaments, gardens, clothing, inscriptions, and religion of ancient Iran, Iraq, and Turkey. The breadth and distinction of his scholarship have earned him many honors and awards, including the invitation to deliver endowed lectures at Harvard, Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Sydney, Hebrew Union College and Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Details on time, location and lecture topics will appear later on the NELC "Events" page—<http://depts.washington.edu/nelc/events/events.html>.



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Central Asian Studies Group had a busy year of activities, with colloquia presentations by numerous guests, including: Philip Micklin, Professor of Geography, Western

Jabbarpour, Mark Reese, Jipar Duyssembiyeva, Gregory Tomasin. (See "Events" in NELC web site for more complete list.)

On Sunday October 15, 2000, the Persian Circle hosted Dr. Homa Katouzian of Oxford and Exeter Universities, UK, with a lecture on "Western Liberalism and the Search for



Graduate Teaching Assistant David Hunsicker and class member Hilary Chan play roles in modern Uzbek play staged by members of the Summer 2001 Intermediate Uzbek course

Michigan University, "Water in Central Asia: Root of Conflict or Tool of Cooperation?"; Zhaksylyk Khuseinov, former Advisor to the President and Parliament of Kazakhstan, "Kazakhstan's Committee on Political Repression"; Adolat Najimova, RFL/RL Correspondent, Prague, "Covering the News From Uzbekistan for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (Prague)"; Nartach Jepbarova former ACCELS scholar at the University of Washington from Turkmenistan "Turkmen Traditions and Their Revival"; Dmitriy Pashkun, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social and Political Sciences, National State University of Uzbekistan (previous name: Tashkent State University), Tashkent, Uzbekistan, "China's Image of Central Asia and its Policy in the Region"; and student presentations by Talgat Imangaliev, Alireza

Freedom in Iran." A week later it helped organize a concert of classical Persian music by Maestro Mohammad-Reza Lotfi playing tar and setar. On December 3, the Circle organized a memorial meeting for the deceased Iranian poet Feraydun Moshiri (1924-2000). In regular weekly meetings of the Circle several students spoke on various cultural themes and three art films recently acquired from Iran were shown. On March 4, Daryoush Ashouri, sociolinguist, lexicographer, and translator gave a presentation on "The Persian Language on the Path to Modernity." On May 26 the Circle, in cooperation with the Arab Student Union at UW, organized a unique event at the Waterfront Activities Center designed to bring about greater understanding between Persian and Arab students. The celebration featured good

food and great ethnic dancing, enjoyed by over 100 enthusiastic participants. Finally, the Circle sponsored an appearance by Iranian dissident writer and journalist Faraj Sarkuhi who lives and writes in Germany since 1998. Mr. Sarkuhi's US tour and reading were sponsored by PEN American Center; his appearance in Seattle was made possible by generous contributions from the Iranian Community in the Greater Puget Sound Area.

NEW COURSE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ISLAM

In spring 2001 a new course was offered for students interested in the fields of international law, Islamic law, comparative religion, and area studies. "Human Rights & Islam" was designed and implemented by Predoctoral Lecturer Ahmed E. Souaiaia. The course provided students with various perspectives on the subject of human rights laws including background on international law in general and the process by which a declaration propels an issue from the moral background

into enforceable law; history and philosophy of Islamic law; and the politics of the implementation—or lack thereof—of the principles and covenants on human rights in the Middle East. Guest contributors included Professors Bruce Kochis (Director, UW Human Rights Education and Research Network), William J. Talbott (Philosophy), Jamie Mayerfeld (Political Theory), Brannon Wheeler (NELC and Comparative Religion), Joan Fitzpatrick (Immigration Law), Farhat Ziadeh (Islamic Law & Islamic Institutions), Ellis Goldberg (Comparative Politics), and Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (Iranian Studies). More information is available on the course's web site: <http://courses.washington.edu/laws>.

FIRST ANNUAL NMES PH.D. STUDENT CONFERENCE HELD

On May 19, 2001, the first annual Near and Middle Eastern Studies Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program Student Conference was held in the UW HUB, organized by Program Director

Ellis Goldberg around the theme of "The Role of Religious Elites in Contemporary Middle East Politics." Presentations included a paper on "The Shi'i Religious Elite and Politics in Iraq," by Yitzhak Nakash, Associate Professor, Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Brandeis University, and "Do Religious Institutions Matter? The Case of Al Azhar and Its Ulema in Contemporary Egypt?" by Malika Zeghal, Institut d'Etude Politiques, Paris. The scheduled paper on "Group Boundaries: Why the Secular State Matters to Religious Elites" by Dr. Patricia Woods, recent graduate of the Interdisciplinary Program (and now on the faculty of the University of Florida) had to be canceled due to Dr. Woods' illness on the day of the conference.

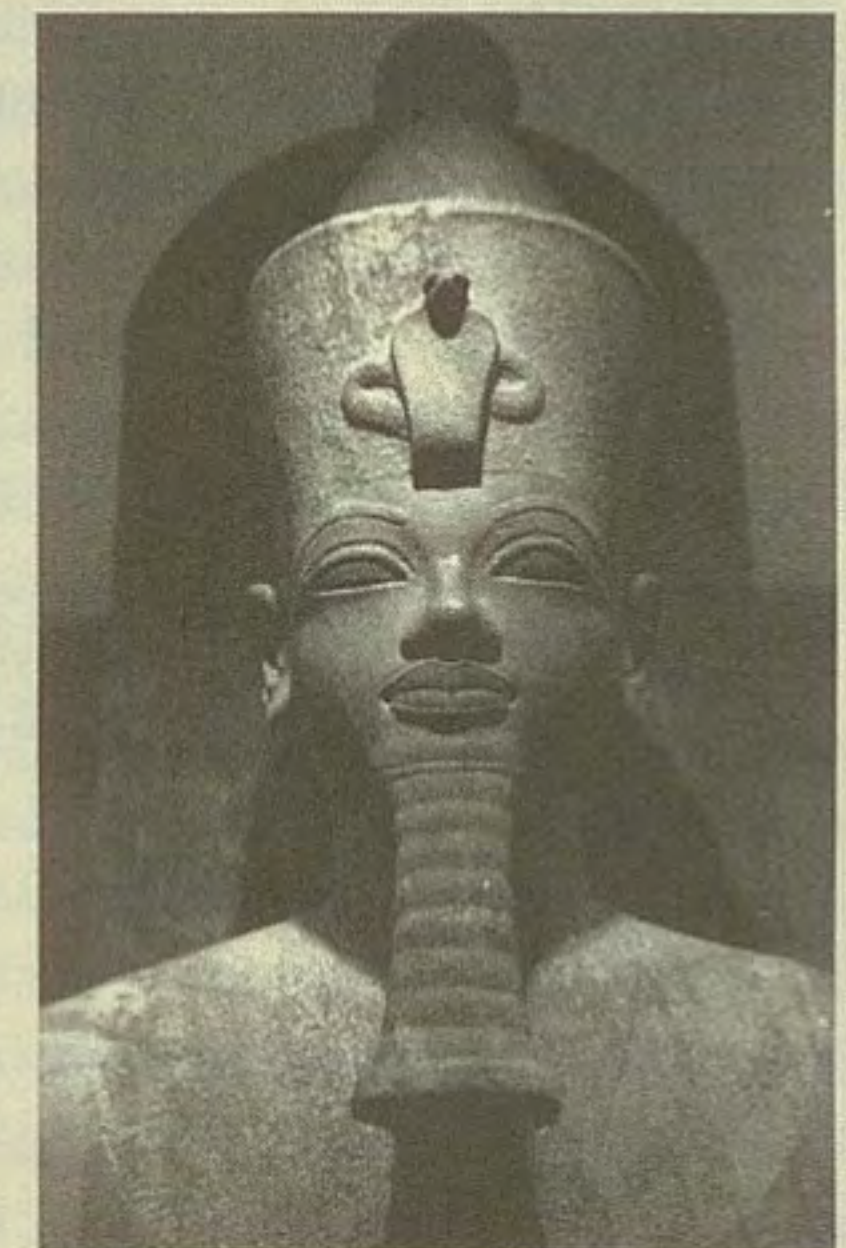
For more details on these articles in an expanded version of the newsletter, please visit our web site at: <http://depts.washington.edu/nelc>



EGYPT REVEALED:

A SYMPOSIUM ON RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS FROM EGYPT

A two-day symposium on the latest archaeological finds from Egypt will be held October 13-14, 2001 in UW's Kane Hall. The symposium will bring to campus four prominent Egyptologists: Mark Lehner, Director of the Giza Plateau Mapping Project; Kent Weeks, Director of the Theban Mapping Project; David Silverman, Curator, Egyptian Section, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology; and Salima Ikram, Assistant Professor of Egyptology, American University in Cairo, who will present their latest field season reports and analysis of their most important work. There will be reports on the Millennium Project, a two-year intensive survey and excavation revealing a vast royal complex very modern in its urban design; the geology and landscape of Giza, which contains clues about how the Egyptians built the pyramids; the history of Thebes, its major monuments, and the work of the Theban Mapping Project in protecting and preserving this World Heritage site from imminent destruction; the expedition at Saqqara where the tombs of priests who served the pharaohs are located; ancient caravan routes; and recent mummification discoveries. For information contact Janice Brannon, tel: 773-549-2852; email SWTEgypt@aol.com.



NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

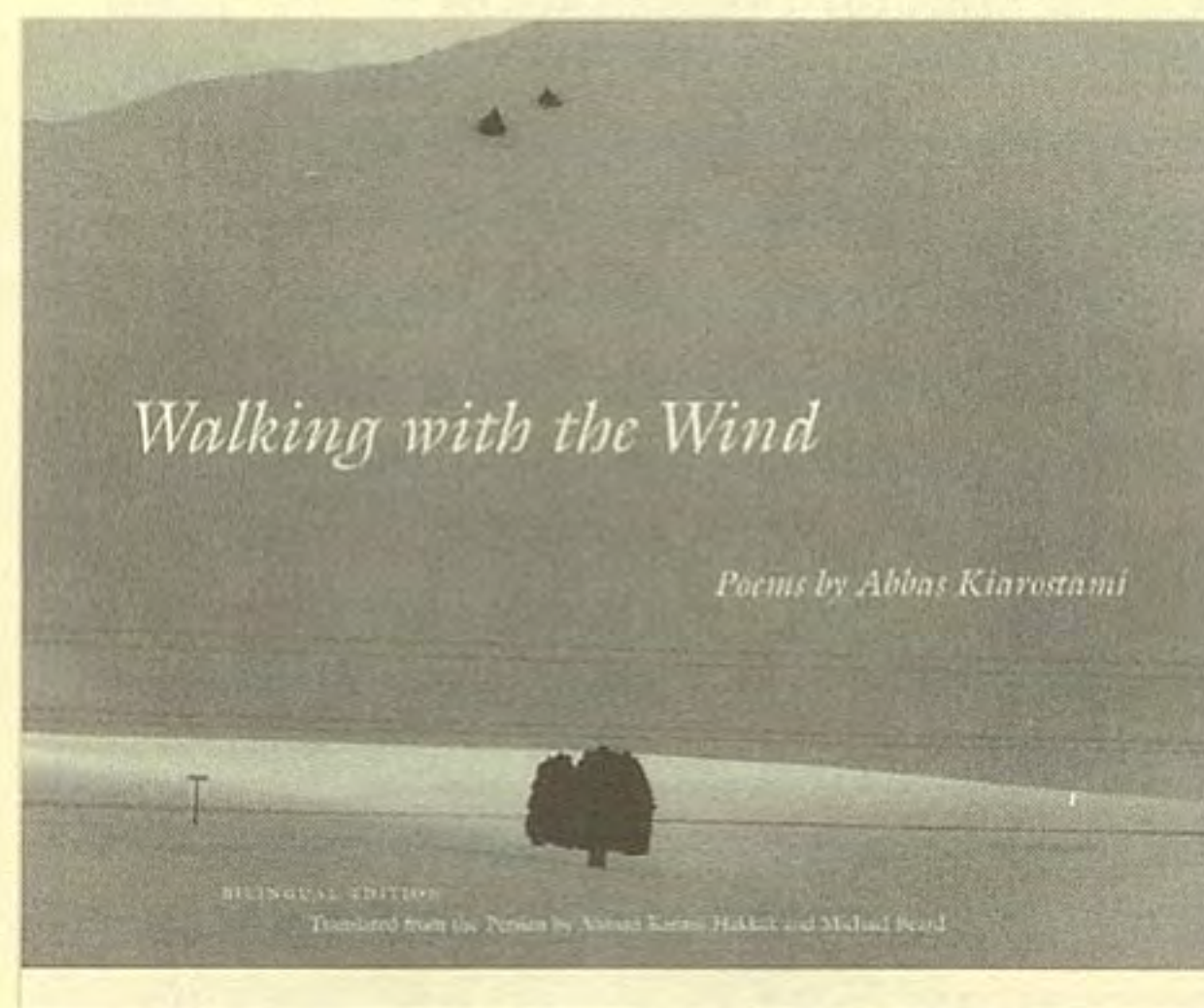


Ise Cirtautas presented a paper on "Abdulla Qodiriy's (1894-1938) Influence on the Current Uzbek Literary Language" for the 13th Annual Nicholas Poppe Symposium in May. She also gave a paper on "The Student Demonstration in Almaty, December 1986, and their Reverberations in Kazakh Life and Culture" for the REECAS Annual Regional Conference in Olympia, WA, in April. She also organized the cultural program for the Social Science Research Council's first Dissertation Workshop on Central Asia and the Caucasus held at UW in March 2001. Professor Cirtautas continues work on her "Historical Dictionary of Kirghizstan," Uzbek grammar and "Uzbek-English Dictionary," eventually to be placed on the web for instructional use.

Terri DeYoung will be consulting editor for Arabic in the volume of *World Literature and Its Times* devoted to the literary traditions of the Middle East. Among her scholarly presentations this past year was a paper delivered at MESA, and a paper entitled "Self, Identity and Other in Modern Arabic Intellectual Discourse" for the American Comparative Literature Association conference in April 2001. She continues to serve on the executive board of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic, the Amin Rihani Institute, and on the editorial boards of the journals *Al-Arabiyya* and *Palma* and the Arabic portion of the Langnet project. She also serves on the UW Faculty Senate Committees for Educational Outreach and Educational Technology, related to her supervisory work for the Arabic Distance Learning Project.

Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak helped organize a conference on Iranian poet M. T. Bahar in April at the Sorbonne in Paris, and presented a paper on "From Sign to System: Poetic Modernity between Bahar and Nima." In May he gave a paper, "Toward a Dialogical History of Modern Persian Poetry," at the University of London for a conference on poetry in the Persian-speaking world. Among numerous other presentations was a contribution titled "Backward Glances and Reflections: the Interplay of Memory and Imagination in the Persian Exilic Fiction," at the SOAS meetings, and a Rumi poetry reading in the Henry Art Gallery Auditorium, accompanied by renowned concert pianist Ariana Barkeshli of

New York. Among his several publications this year, *Walking with the Wind*,



a bilingual edition of poems by the internationally acclaimed Iranian director and filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami, is scheduled to appear in October.

Selim Kuru presented a paper on Modern Turkish Literature in English translation in a workshop on Middle Eastern Literatures in St. Louis, and gave a paper at MESA 2000 on Turkish intellectuals during 90's. He was an invited speaker at Harvard University as the first of a series of lectures entitled "Sexuality and Gender in the Middle East." He collaborated in a yearlong project entitled "Envisioning the Ottoman Empire" with UW colleagues Sarah Stein (History) and Resat Kasaba (International Studies). As a part of this project, he offered a class on the 15th and 16th century artistic production in the Empire. He is currently preparing his dissertation for publication, and working on an annotated bibliographical survey of translations from Modern Turkish Literature into English.

Scott Noegel has completed his monograph *Nocturnal Ciphers: The Allusive Language of Dreams in the Ancient Near East*, which he intends to publish in the next year. His edited collection of essays on *Puns and Pundits: Wordplay in the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East Literature* also appeared this year. He continues his interest in new technologies by serving as Associate Editor for the online *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*, and by working with students on a digital archive of images and archaeological sites from the ancient Near East (projected date 2002). He also has overseen the creation of web-based software for the study of biblical Hebrew, and is engaged in the creation of a *Teach Yourself Hieroglyphic*

Egyptian CD-ROM with a Seattle-based company.

Naomi Sokoloff gave several talks at Carleton College in April 2001, including the annual Forkosh Lecture. Her topic was "The Holocaust in Israeli Literature and Film: Responses of the Second Generation." She also gave several presentations at the University of British Columbia this year, including one in the Green College Lecture Series, "Multiple Lenses, Multiple Images: Perspectives on the Child Across Time, Space and Disciplines." Her work on "Voices of Children in Literature: Fiction by David Grossman and Gila Almagor" will be published in a volume edited by Hillel Goelman, Sheila Marshall, and Sally Ross. An essay she has written on Agnon's "The Sense of Smell" will appear in *Reading Hebrew Literature*, edited Alan Mintz. Also in 2001 was the release of a new interactive CDROM she has designed with colleague Monica Devens and SMiles Productions: *Speak Hebrew!* For details, see the SMiles website at <http://www.smilesprod.com>.

Brannon Wheeler has earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor effective Autumn 2001, and he has also taken over as Chair of the Comparative Religion Program. After returning from his term as Islamicist-in-Residence at the American Research Center in Cairo, he completed his two book manuscripts, now in press: *Moses in the Quran and Islamic Exegesis*, and *Introduction to the Quran: Stories of the Prophets*. Also now in press is his edited volume *Teaching Islam as a Religion*, including his essay "What Can't be Left Out: The Fundamentals of Teaching the Introduction to Islam Course." Scott Noegel and Brannon have also just completed their work on their Historical Dictionary of Prophets in Islam and Judaism (Scarecrow, 2001). Brannon, Scott Noegel and Joel Walker are also in the process of editing a volume on "Prayer, Magic and the Stars," essays from the international conference held at the UW in the Spring of 2000.

Michael Williams was appointed as a senior scholar to participate in the 2000-2001 seminar of the Society of Scholars program in UW's Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, for which he gave a presentation on "Cosmological Myth and Society in Late Antiquity," representing some of the initial work for a larger



research project on this topic. He also continues work on a chapter on the codicology and paleography of the Nag Hammadi Coptic codices, for the volume *Écrits gnostiques*, ed. Paul-Hubert Poirier and Jean-Pierre Mahé, to be published in the series *Bibliothèque de la Pléiade* (Paris: Gallimard). His publications appearing in 2001 include "Nag Hammadi Codices and Related Texts," in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt*, edited by Donald B. Redford.

A book to which **Walter Andrews** edited and contributed an article, entitled "Intersections in Turkish Literature: Essays in Honor of James Stewart-Robinson," was recently published by the University of Michigan Press. Walter also received a seed-money grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies in support of the Ottoman Texts Archive and Historical Dictionary project. This project is also supported by CARTAH, which has provided him with an assistant who has helped prepare a text of the poet-biographies from Mustafa Ali's "Kunhu'l-Ahbar." This project will be presented at a special workshop sponsored by the Turkish Studies Association at the MESA meeting in November 2001.

Pierre MacKay will hold an appointment as Elizabeth A. Whitehead Visiting Professor at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens July 2001-June 2002. Pierre will be involved in several research projects during, and may offer a seminar while in residence. However, he notes that the wording after "Duties" in the description of the appointment is elegantly and wonderfully succinct: "None"!

Farhat J. Ziadeh continued his scholarly activities during the year, including the submission of a short article for the *Encyclopedia of Islam*. He spoke at Western Washington University and Seattle Central College. He participated in a workshop organized by the UW Middle East Center on Palestinian land policies during the British Administration, presented a guest lecture for the new UW course "Human Rights & Islam" (see feature in this newsletter), addressed students from Exploration High School of Bellingham, and spoke at several local groups and clubs. In November 2000, his many years of leadership and

contributions to NELC and the Middle East Center at UW were recognized with a special presentation at the joint NELC 30th and MEC 25th anniversary reception at the MESA meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Jere Bacharach has spent most of this academic year in Cairo on sabbatical leave, with a grant from the American Research Center in Egypt. While in Cairo he edited one book scheduled to appear in autumn 2001 with the American University of Cairo Press and has had a number of other articles accepted for publication after having been away from research and writing for most of the last five years while serving as Director of the Jackson School. Jere delivered the presidential address at the Middle East Studies Association annual meeting in Orlando in November 2000, and his leadership in Middle East Studies at UW was also recognized with a special presentation at the NELC/MEC anniversary reception. His other travels took him to Cuba for an international conference on the modern Middle East, and to Iran and Malta.

During the academic year 2001-02 **Martin Jaffee** served as Acting Director of the Jackson School of International Studies. His most recent book, *Torah in the Mouth: Writing and Oral Tradition in Palestinian Judaism, ca. 200BCE-400CE*, was published in 2001 by Oxford University Press. An article, "One God, One Revelation, One People: On the Symbolic Structure of Elective Monotheism," was accepted for publication in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. He also developed and offered a new course: RELIG 491, Gender and Early Judaism.

Joel Walker spoke on "The Politics of Conversion in Late Antique Iraq" at the MESA conference in Orlando, and delivered papers at international conferences in Chicago and Seattle. His forthcoming publications from this year include an article entitled "The Limits of Late Antiquity: Philosophy Between Rome and Iran" for the journal *Ancient History*. He received a Royalty Research Fund grant to prepare for the 2001 season of archaeological fieldwork in central Turkey. (See that project's new website at <http://courses.washington.edu>.) Together with Professors Dan Waugh of History and Cynthia Bogel of Art History, Joel is also one of the agents behind next

year's Silk Road project (see article in this newsletter).

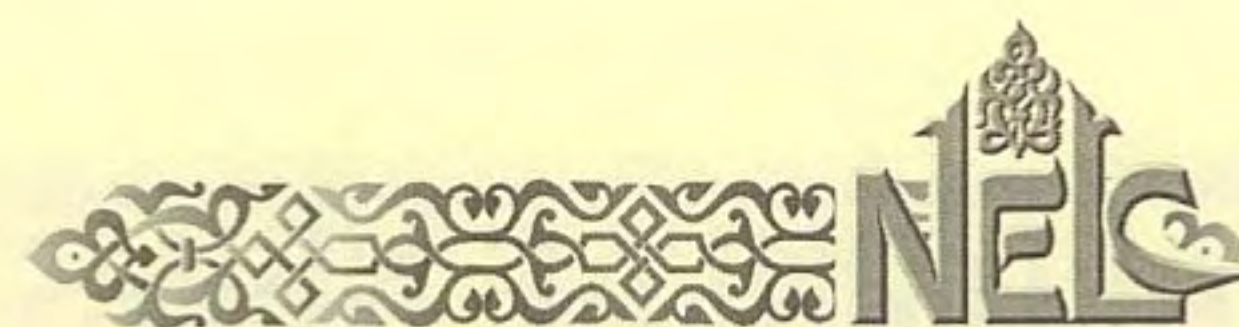
In autumn 2000, **Deborah L. Wheeler** returned from six months' residence as a Visiting Scholar at American University in Cairo, where she conducted research on the development and impact of the Internet in Egypt, with a specific focus on international development issues. She gave invited lectures at the American Embassy Cairo, Adham Center for Television Journalism, and a National Endowment for the Humanities sponsored ARCE Summer Institute. Among several other invited presentations this past year were lectures at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, Tel Aviv; the BIT WORLD 2001 Conference, Cairo; the Economic Research Forum E. Commerce Workshop, Cairo; and the UC Santa Barbara Middle East Studies Center. During 2000-2001 she served as the Center for Internet Studies, University of Washington inaugural faculty research fellow.

Mamoun Sakkal's calligraphic artwork was featured in two recently published books: *Islamic Art and Architecture*, and *Arabic Typography* by Huda Smitshuijzen AbiFares. One of his calligraphic artwork pieces will be among 18 pieces included with the textbook *Art: A Personal Journey*, a middle school art program authored by Marilyn Stewart and Eldon Katter. His calligraphic artwork was exhibited in one-man shows at the University of Kentucky in Lexington where he also gave a lecture and a workshop, and at the Islamic Society of North America convention in Chicago, IL. One of his calligraphic paintings was also included in the First Painting Biennial of the Islamic World in Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art. His calligraphy and graphics included work for the Discovery Channel, Seattle Times Newspaper, Radius of Arab American Writers (RAWI), Cune Press, and Iqra Magazine.

Hadi Sultan-Quarraie will present a paper at the 2001 MESA meetings entitled: "Two Pictures of the Same Woman in Two Persian Classics," involving a comparative approach to an episode which appears both in Firdowsi and Nizami.

(More complete summaries of NELC faculty news from 2000-2001 can be found in our web site edition of this *Near East Reports*.)

FROM OUR STUDENTS



Graduates of NELC 2001:

We extend our congratulations to this year's graduates from NELC's BA program: **Binyam Abraham; Alireza Jabbarpour; Alex Jassen; Sophia Kadmiri; Clinton Moyer; Michelle Noyes; Patti Skidmore; Ruby Soleimani, and Colin Tominey;** and to NELC MA graduates **David Hunsicker and Talgat Imangaliev.**

News from our Undergraduates:

Undergraduate **Anel Imangaliev** has been awarded a Elizabeth Kerr MacFarlane Scholarship in the Humanities for 2001-2002. Graduate **Alex Jassen** was awarded the Sandler-Shurman scholarship for Jewish Studies for 2000-2001, as well as a Mary Gates Fellowship in order to pursue research on the history of Jewish magic, under the supervision of faculty mentor Scott Noegel. He presented his research in a poster and paper entitled, "Arcana Mundi—Pathways in the History and Study of Magic," at the fourth annual UW Undergraduate Research Symposium. In autumn 2001 he enters a PhD program in the Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University, where he will concentrate on early Judaism and rabbinic literature and continue to investigate the field of Jewish magic. Graduate **Patti Skidmore** has been accepted into the graduate program in Linguistics at UW, but she will spend her first year abroad (with help from a Schwartz Fellowship) at the Humanities University of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to enhance fluency in Kyrgyz and improve her Russian. **Sophia Kadmiri** graduated with a double major in NELC and International Studies, and her plans include an upcoming marriage in Morocco and then a move to Saudi Arabia. December 2000 NELC graduate **Clinton Moyer** returned last year from a summer of study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and travel in Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, to conclude his undergraduate degree with the completion of a senior thesis, "An Examination of the Ugaritic Evidence for Cultural Exchange with Egypt, with an Emphasis on the Linguistic Evidence," which subsequently won second place in a regional Society of Biblical Literature undergraduate writing competition. Clinton was the recipient of a Dorot Fellowship and two Mary Gates Fellowships. He plans to pursue

graduate work in biblical and ancient Near Eastern studies in the near future.

M.A. Degree Program

During 2000-2001 **David Hunsicker** participated, with support from a Title VIII grant from the U.S. State Department, in a language training and research program in Tashkent sponsored by the American Council for Collaboration in Education and Language Study. A short article by David was published on the *EurasiaNet* website (<http://www.eurasianet.org/departments/insight/articles/eav043001.shtml>). **Timothy Miller** has been awarded one of the highly competitive FLAS Fellowships for 2001-2002, to support his study of Turkic languages.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program

Erdag Goknar has accepted a tenure-track position in Turkish Studies at Duke University to commence autumn 2001, and expects to complete his Ph.D. soon thereafter. **Ozlem**

Sensoy was hired to translate into English two of the plays of Turkish playwright and novelist Bilgesu Erenus, for a new Turkish Playwrights in English Translation series. Ozlem translated a short story "The Cellular Engineer" by novelist and short story writer Nazli Eray, which was published in *TwoLines: A Journal of Literary Translation*. She also translated "Cycle on Love" by poet Metin Altiok to be published by *Beacons: Journal of the American Translator's Association*, and she has a paper under review for publication in *The Translation Review*. **Karen Strand Winslow** has been appointed beginning autumn 2001 to the Shapiro Chair in Jewish-Christian Studies at Greenville College, Greenville, IL. **Patricia Woods** completed her Ph.D. in summer 2001 and accepted a tenure-track position in Political Science and Jewish Studies at the University of Florida starting in August.

Student Fellowships and Assistantships:

The following M.A. and Ph.D. students were awarded Maurice D. and Lois Schwartz Fellowships for 2001-2002: **Joseph Duwors, Jipar Duyshembiyeva, David Hunsicker, Lisa Johnson, Patti Skidmore.**

The following students have been appointed as teaching assistants for 2001-2002:

Arabic:	Magid Shihade
Hebrew:	Ran Feder, Iris Zemach
Persian:	Fevziye Barlas
Turkish:	Didem Havlioglu
Uzbek	David Hunsicker (Spring 2002)
NEAR E 210	Mamoun Sakkal
NEAR E 211	David Hunsicker
NEAR E 240	Joseph Duwors

See our web site for some less abbreviated versions of alum news. If you didn't send in news this year, please do so for next year's edition! Send by email to neareast@u.washington.edu, or by FAX to 206-685-7936.

Julie Coons (BA 2000) will be working on master's degrees in the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies and the School of Information at the University of Michigan. While she is looking forward to living closer to her family, she has some concerns about moving to a four-season climate and becoming a Tigers' fan. She hopes she will have the opportunity to return to Seattle frequently. Former NELC Arabic TA **Mostafa Elostaz** (MA 2000 in Middle East Studies, JSIS) who has been admitted to the Law School at Ohio State University to begin Autumn 2001. **Judith Heide Gilliland** (MA 1973) now lives with her husband Kim and their two children in Amherst, New Hampshire. Judith is author and co-author (with Florence Parry Heide) of award-winning children's literature, including three books with Middle East themes: *The Day of Ahmed's Secret* (1995); *Sami and the Time of the Troubles* (1995); and *The House of Wisdom* (1999). **Josie Hendrickson** (BA 1999) completed a Center for Arabic Studies Abroad fellowship in 1999-2000 and has been working in Seattle this year. She has been accepted to Emory University's PhD program in Religion with full funding and to Emory's Law School, and may be pursuing both degrees through a joint Law and Religion program. But Josie has deferred admission until Autumn 2002 because of the award of a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship for 2001-2002 to study at the American University in Beirut. **Dustin Langan** (BA 1998) will earn an M.A. in African history from Northwestern University in February 2002, and is on the job market. During his program of

study he examined original Arabic documents from Timbuktu, Senegal, and Nigeria as sources of African history. **Alexander Milkie** (BA 2000) is just finishing up his first year in the PhD program in History at the University of Chicago, working on modern Middle East history. After a two-year Mellon Post-doc at Williams College, **Keith D. Watenpaugh** (BA NELC/ BA History with Honors 1989) was appointed an assistant professor in the History Department of Le Moyne College, a Jesuit Liberal Arts school in

Syracuse, New York. Between fly-fishing expeditions to the Adirondacks ("pale shadows of the Cascades") and the Finger Lakes, he is finishing a book manuscript on class and modernity in the late-Ottoman and inter-war Middle East (watenpkd@lemoyne.edu). **Hurriyet Gokdayi** (PhD 2000) married on June 29. His wife Hulya is an educational inspector in the elementary schools in Mersin, Turkey, and in August Hurriyet was appointed assistant professor of Turkish language and literature at Mersin University.

GIFTS TO DEPARTMENT

We take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to the following donors for their most generous support of NELC throughout the past year, by their contributions to one or more of its funds:

Ms. Shireen Abed
 Dr. Ali Afrassiabi
 Mr. Amir Afrassiabi (& The Boeing Company--matching gift)
 Dr. Faraj Afrasiabi and Ms. Pauline Afrasiabi
 Dr. Rahmat Afrasiabi and Ms. Sima Afrasiabi
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 Mr. George Salem and
 Ms. Rhonda M. Ziadeh-Salem
 Prof. and Mrs. Farhat J. Ziadeh
 Ms. Emily Wilson

We also gratefully acknowledge two very significant gifts of valuable books pertaining to Near Eastern studies to the departmental library by Professor Emeritus Pierre MacKay and by Dr. Nanette Pyne.

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UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATION

In order to maintain the teaching and research excellence of our Department, your charitable support is vital. As many of you know, state and national funding for student support and higher education comes nowhere near matching our needs. We need your help to continue the important research and academic activities you read about in this Newsletter.

You may make your gift in the form of cash, stock, or a credit card charge. If you send a check, please make it out to the University of Washington and designate one of the funds below on the memo line of your check. Send your donation (with this form) to: Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, Box 353120, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. If your employer will match your gift, please include the matching gift form. You may also benefit the Department through a planned gift of stock or real property in the form of a charitable remainder trust, pooled income gift, bequest, etc. If you have further questions, please call Donald Summers, Arts and Humanities major gifts officer at 206-616-3506.

If you choose to respond to a UW direct mail appeal, please note that you may designate your gift to any of the funds below. Your help is needed to continue their activities (please indicate the fund(s) to which you wish you gift directed):

- DEPARTMENTAL FELLOWSHIP FUND - - to enable the Department to recruit and support outstanding graduate students.
- DEPARTMENTAL DISCRETIONARY FUND - - to be used wherever the need is greatest (ongoing lecture series, cultural programs, research, etc.).
- AFRASSIABI MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND - - to support enhancements in the study of Persian culture (student essay awards, Afrassiabi Annual Distinguished Lecture, programs in Persian studies, etc.)
- ZIADEH ENDOWMENT FUND - - for the Ziadeh Annual Distinguished Lecture in Arabic and Islamic Studies.
- NICHOLAS POPPE MEMORIAL FUND - - to support graduate students in Central Asia (Altaic) Studies.
- KENNETH R. BOYLE FUND - - to support particular enhancement of Arabic and Islamic Studies (instructional technologies, special lectures or programs, etc.).
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Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

229 Denny Hall,
University of Washington
Box 353120
Seattle, WA 98195-3120



NEW CHALLENGE GRANT TO HELP DRAW TOP GRADUATE STUDENTS

UW's College of Arts & Sciences has awarded NELC a \$20,000 "challenge grant" to support graduate students and spur fundraising activity. Each year, two NELC M.A. students will receive a supplemental stipend of \$4000 in addition to any other support they may receive. The first year, the College will fund the entire award. Each following year, however, the College's funding will decrease by \$1,000 in a challenge to the NELC community to make up the difference until it assumes full responsibility by 2005. The enhancement of graduate student support is one of NELC's top priorities in its five-year development plan. Only with additional resources like the College's challenge grant can we provide the support necessary to attract the most outstanding applicants. We have been very successful with limited funding in attracting some top graduate students, so we are confident that financial support approaching that of our peer institutions will enable us to be the very best.

The NELC Department asks you to help us meet the College's challenge, with a tax-deductible donation. This challenge grant is one small part of an extraordinarily ambitious effort to increase the levels of private support for NELC and the entire University of Washington. Our fundraising goals include raising an additional \$600,000 by Spring 2005 to endow ten graduate supplemental fellowships of \$6,000 each. We invite you to join the group of committed leaders and volunteers who are now working to make this vision a reality. Together we can ensure that the valuable intellectual and cultural resources NELC represents will be properly stewarded for future generations.