This is the first issue of this Newsletter. We hope to bring it out each semester and will try to provide news and information of interest to the several groups served by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) at the University of Texas at Austin—students and faculty of the Middle East and from the Middle East, both in Austin and throughout the region; users of our Outreach Program; members of the community at large; and Middle Eastern Studies programs elsewhere in the country. Particularly during these early days, suggestions and criticisms will be gladly accepted; news items and contributions are fervently solicited. The editor is Daniel Goodwin and the production editor is Diane Watts.

CMES PUBLICATIONS
This summer the University of Texas Press will issue two volumes sponsored by the CMES publications program. *Modern Islamic Political Thought* by Hamid Enayat of Oxford University is an attempt to interpret and illuminate major Islamic political ideas mainly from Iran and Egypt, but also from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, and India. Enayat explores the effect of the traditional philosophical heritage on the development of modern ideas and the evolving Muslim response to modern, Western ideologies. He pays detailed attention to the convergences and divergences between Sunni and Shi'i political thinking.

The second volume is Eric Hooglund's *Land and Revolution in Iran 1960–1980*, the first major study of the effects of the widely publicized land reform carried out by the Pahlavi government between 1962 and 1971. In this case study Hooglund shows that, beneath an apparent statistical success, the program ultimately failed to bring about effective structural reform of the conditions in the countryside.

Both these volumes will be available from the University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, Texas 78712. The Enayat volume is released in cloth ($20.00) and paper ($8.95) and the Hooglund volume is being released in cloth ($19.95).

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
Between 1960 and 1976 direct U.S. investment abroad increased by 123% and direct foreign investment in the U.S. increased by 77%, while imports and exports of goods and services increased by 246% and 202% respectively. The number of foreign students in U.S. colleges increased by 343% and that of American Students studying abroad by 460%. At the institutional level this growth of international concern and involvement has been matched by a 53% decline in the number of American college students enrolled in foreign language courses, a 95% decline in Ford Foundation support for International Education, a 25% drop in the number of NDEA centers, and a 65% drop in the number of NDEA fellowships.

For those involved in International Studies, these are worrisome statistics. And they have occasioned a small industry of studies, commissions, and reports trying to explain and interpret the situation.

Most of the reports express concern over the fact that in an increasingly interdependent world, it has become a national liability for this country to be so impoverished linguistically and so parochial in its understanding of the rest of the world. There is little disagreement about the scope or severity of the problem. However, as Richard Lambert points out, the production of these reports is often directly linked to the search for funding. This "grantotropic" tendency has been accompanied by a failure to address seriously a number of issues central to the future health and effectiveness of international education programs throughout the country. What is the best
balance between a concern for the production of specialists and efforts to foster international perspectives in general education programs? When are area studies centers necessary, and when are they superfluous or redundant? What are the appropriate relationships among international studies programs, corporations, and governments?

Future issues of the CMES Newsletter will summarize responses of different reports and surveys to these issues. For the present, we would like to offer a list of the more important of recent reports, and to urge that scholars and others seriously concerned with these issues familiarize themselves with their general findings, orientations, and recommendations. They will, no doubt, form the agenda for the discussion of these issues for some time to come. Essential to an understanding of the problem are the following documents (all are available for perusal in the CMES Resource Center):


COMPUTER-ASSISTED INSTRUCTION

Dr. Victorine Abboud (CMES) began work this year on a three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, with additional support from the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, to devise a Computer-Assisted Instruction (CAI) program to teach intermediate level Modern Standard Arabic. This project builds on the unique and successful program in Arabic language instruction of Dr. Abboud and her staff at the CAI laboratory, now housed in the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures.

Dr. Abboud first introduced a CAI program, for the Arabic writing and sound systems, in 1971. Since then this program has become an integral part of Arabic instruction at the University of Texas. In 1979-1980 the CAI lab introduced a program for the entire elementary sequence of Arabic. This part of the program is aimed to provide the student with a working vocabulary of around 1000 words and a command of basic syntactic structures. Preliminary results indicate that this CAI level, combined with ongoing classroom instruction, can increase vocabulary retention and reduce from three semesters to two the amount of time required for the completion of the elementary sequence.

The program is keyed to the presentation of grammar and vocabulary in the widely used text Elementary Modern Standard Arabic. Each of 44 units requires approximately one hour at the computer terminal and consists of a basic text, new words, vocabulary and grammar exercises, and a test. The program also contains an electronic dictionary and flexibility in recall so that the student can easily review any part of the course.

The CAI program for the intermediate level of instruction is being designed by Dr. Abboud and by programmer Stephen Flora and is expected to be completed by 1984. It should extend student’s vocabulary control to approximately 2500 words. An ever-expanding dictionary component, increased student-computer interaction, and a variety of exercises will recycle and review vocabulary and are expected to enable the student to achieve substantial progress in reading speed and comprehension.

The CAI lab has just released a descriptive brochure explaining the programs already developed and those now planned. Further information is available from:

Dr. Victorine Abboud
CAI Lab
Center for Middle Eastern Studies
2601 University Avenue
Austin, Texas 78756
MIDDLE EAST
FILM FESTIVAL

First showings of a number of new films about the Middle East were featured in the Fifth Annual Middle East Film Festival at the University of Texas, sponsored in April by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies. The festival's theme and title was "New Views/New Voices". The centerpiece of the festival was the premier of a documentary film trilogy produced by Elizabeth Fernea titled *Arab Women: Reformers and Revolutionaries*. These films deal with aspects of social, political, and religious upheaval in the Middle East, from a women's perspective. The films were shot on location in Egypt and Lebanon during May and June of 1981 and were edited in London and Austin. "A Veiled Revolution" treats the resurgence of Islamic belief and practice among women in Egypt; "Women Under Siege" depicts the lives of women in Rashidiyah, a Palestinian refugee camp (since destroyed) six miles north of the Israel-Lebanon border; "The Price of Change" examines some of the difficult and contradictory choices for men and women alike brought on by the recent and significant increase in women's participation in the Egyptian work force.

An additional highlight of the festival was the showing of a number of experimental works of Syrian filmmaker Nabil Maleh, who was a Fulbright visiting lecturer at the University of Texas during the Spring semester. Maleh studied at the Prague film school and has been honored throughout Europe, where he now works, for his films' approaches to issues of conflict, class, and modernization in the Middle East.

The festival also presented a number of feature length films, including the Southwest premier of Tunisian director Ridha Behi's "Sun of the Hyenas". This film is a dramatization of the unfolding effects of the building of a European resort in a Maghrebian fishing village. Other films in the festival included an Israeli film, "The Dreamer" and an Egyptian-Syrian co-production, "The Cheated."

TEXAS NETWORK OF MIDDLE EAST SCHOLARS

Since the Spring of 1981 the Center for Middle Eastern Studies has tried to identify Middle East Scholars throughout Texas in the hopes that contacts can be established among them and that they would collaborate on various projects of mutual interest and benefit. During the Middle East Week, held in Austin in October, 1981, a number of these scholars held a preliminary meeting and decided to organize under the name of Texas Association of Middle East Studies (TAMES) and to hold annual meetings (to be held in Austin for the first year or two).

The Center, therefore, is now soliciting papers from interested scholars. The meeting will take place in Austin on Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10, as part of Middle East Week (October 4–10). Abstracts for papers should be submitted to Dr. M. A. Jazayery, Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, by August 15. In order that those attending the conference may sample the range of work being done by Middle East Scholars in the region, papers on recent or planned research would be most welcome.

The Center has limited funds to provide partial assistance for those who would like to attend the gathering. These funds are primarily intended to supplement personal or institutional funds. Since this is a new venture, the Center would be glad to write to the proper administrative authorities on any campus if it would be helpful in securing funds. Because of the small amount of money available, assistance can only be offered to those living more than two hundred miles from Austin, and having to spend the night here.

MIDDLE EAST WEEK

The second annual Middle East Week will be held from October 4 through October 9, 1982. Again this year seminars and lectures will be scheduled each day during the lunch hour, and in most cases, in the evenings. In addition, a photographic display, a rare book exhibit, and other cultural events will be held. Each day will have a particular extracurricular focus with invitations to teachers, media representatives, Middle Eastern student groups and scholars from throughout the state to participate.
MIDDLE EAST COLLECTION

In January the General Library’s Middle East Collection issued a guide to its vernacular holdings. The seventy-nine page handbook, The Middle East Collection: A Guide for Faculty and Students, describes the collection, its development and acquisitions policies, available bibliographic aids, transliteration schemes employed, classification and shelf arrangements, instructional activities, and relationship to other library collections. A selected annotated list of reference materials and a list of periodicals received by the collection are appended to the handbook.

The Collection also issues an occasional newsletter, “The Z Note,” which reports Collection news and provides an annotated list of significant acquisitions in Arabic and Persian as well as Western language reference materials (Hebrew language materials are contained in the General Library Collection).

Either of these publications may be picked up at the Middle East Collection, or may be obtained by writing: Middle East Librarian, Abazar Sepheri c/o: The Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

SLIDES FOR THE CLASSROOM

Over the past year the Center has prepared three slide packages for classroom use. Each of the packages contains 20-40 slides, with individual commentaries on each slide and extra reading and supplementary materials. The packages are available for purchase from the Center and cover the following topics:

- Architecture for Living—
  (high school level) ................ $35.00
- Islam: Faith and Practice—
  (all levels) ...................... $40.00
- Papyrus: Gift of the Nile—
  (middle school/ high school) ...... $25.00

MEDIA INFORMATION SERVICE

Over the past year the Center has offered a continuing information service to local and regional journalists, providing information and consultation on a variety of Middle East issues. Specialists from the Center faculty or staff who chose to participate in this program are listed on a master list containing their names, addresses and areas of expertise which is then provided to journalists who request it. Both the Center and the public at large are well-served by specialists who make themselves available. All those with particular expertise that we may not have contacted are invited to volunteer their skills to this service, and may do so by contacting Ann Grabhorn, CMES Resource Co-ordinator.

VISITING SCHOLARS

During the spring semester, the Center sponsored or co-sponsored a number of outside lecturers and scholars. Among them were the following:

- Robert Biggs, Professor of Assyriology at the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago. “Writing and Literacy in Ancient Mesopotamia.”
- W. E. Lindenmuth, Retired General Manager of the Middle East Department for Mobil Oil Company. “The Interplay of Middle East Politics and the Supply of Oil.”
- Jordanian Judicial Delegation: visit to Center by Minister of Justice, the Honorable Ahmad Abdel Karim Tarawnah.
- Nazif Shahrani, Visiting Professor of Anthropology, UCLA. “The Crisis in Afghanistan: Russian Policies and the Afghan Resistance.”
- Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt.
- Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society.
- A. Jihad Racy, Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology at UCLA. “An Evening of Arabic Music.”
Peter Abboud (Arabic) has been selected to organize and direct the School of Arabic at Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., where he will be spending the next three summers. Though Middlebury has long been renowned for the excellence of its language programs, it has not offered Arabic before.

Aaron Bar-Adon has spent part of the 1981–82 academic year in Israel under Rockefeller grant for research on the revival of Hebrew.

James Bill (Government) is spending the summer teaching at the University of Alaska, in addition to giving seminars to business and academic groups in Japan.

Paul English, Center Director from 1973–79, has been appointed Chairman of the Department of Geography, effective September 1982. He is also preparing a second edition of his textbook in Cultural Geography, A Question of Place.

After spending the 1980–81 academic year in Cairo, Robert and Elizabeth Fernea are writing a book for Doubleday on their 25 years of Middle East experience and research. Its tentative title is Shapes of Change in the Arab World. One of Elizabeth Fernea’s recent films, “A Veiled Revolution” has been selected for presentation at the 1982 Margaret Mead Film Festival in New York in September.

Michael Hillmann (Persian) has spent the spring in England on a grant from the Social Science Research Council for research on Iranian poet Forough Farrokzhod. Hillmann has, as well, completed a book length manuscript on Persian Carpets.

For the last five years, the Center has co-sponsored an archeological excavation/field school conducted at Tel Yin’am, Israel, under the direction of Harold Liebowitz (Hebrew). Work on this first phase of the project was completed last year. Liebowitz is presently engaged in a detailed analysis of the artifacts and preparation of a monograph on Phase One of the project.

Irvng Mandelbaum (Hebrew) will have his first book published this summer. As part of the Brown Judaic Studies Series, Scholar’s Press will publish A History of the Mishnaic Law of Agriculture: Kilayim.

Former Acting Director, Ian Manners (Geography) has just had a book published through the University of Texas Press. North Sea Oil and Environmental Planning examines the United Kingdom’s recent experiences in handling the social and environmental consequences of deep water oil exploration and production.

This summer Westview Press will publish a book by CMES Research Associate Robert Stookey. The book is part of a larger series of country profiles being released by Westview and is entitled South Yemen: A Marxist Republic in Arabia.

Under the auspices of the United Nations Development Organization, Tagi Sagafi-nejad (International Business) is conducting a major study of technology transfer from Egypt to other countries in the Middle East.

John Williams (Art History), who has been at the American University in Cairo during the last academic year, will extend his visit for another year.

FUNDING
The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, as indicated elsewhere in this newsletter, hopes to encourage and support faculty colleagues from other Texas institutions in their research on the Middle East. As a step in this direction the Center will consider requests for small amounts of money to assist colleagues in visiting UT-Austin in order to use the library collections, meet with other scholars, or attend symposia, as for example, the meeting of TAMES being held next fall. In order that our limited funds can be put to their best advantage, we request that each interested colleague apply first to his/her own institution for travel or research funds, and then apply to the Center for additional support, if necessary. Requests should be addressed to the Director of the Center.
STUDENT AWARDS

The Center wishes to congratulate the three winners of undergraduate awards for scholastic excellence in Middle East Studies. For overall excellence in Middle Eastern Studies, Michael Friedman; for excellence in Arabic, Courtney Poland, and for excellence in Persian, Christine Gish.

Congratulations also to the following Graduate Student holders of National Resource Fellowships for the 1981–82 academic year, Clifford Gladstein (Middle Eastern Studies); Rebecca Gutman (Linguistics); Joseph Hobbs (Geography); Jacqueline Matejka (Government); David McMurray (Anthropology); Terence Odlin (Foreign Language Education); Ted Swedenburg, (Anthropology).

PUBLICATION GRANT

Hafez Farmayan (History), president of the Iran-America Foundation, has announced that the remaining assets of the foundation have been assigned to the University of Texas Press. The foundation, started in 1976 with funds from individuals and corporations in Iran, was organized for the purpose of furthering Iranian-American understanding. After the Iranian Revolution the foundation was dissolved, with its remaining funds designated to support publication, through the University Press, of scholarly works in the field of Iranian Studies.

The University of Texas at Austin
Center for Middle Eastern Studies
Austin, Texas 78712