JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

The LBJ School of Public Affairs and the Center now offer a program wherein a graduate student can work toward the simultaneous award of the Master of Public Affairs and the Master of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies. The joint program is designed to provide students with the skills and perspective necessary to work effectively in the complex public-sector policy and problem areas arising in the contemporary Middle East.

The program is structured for three academic years, although some students may find it necessary to enroll for an additional semester. In addition to the course work in the Public Affairs and Middle Eastern Studies areas, students in the joint program will be expected to show proficiency in a Middle Eastern language (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian or Turkish). During the third year of the program, students will write a professional report. An internship (ideally in the appropriate Middle Eastern country) will normally be taken during the second summer of the program.

Students must meet the separate admission criteria of both the School of Public Affairs and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies in order to be considered for admission to the joint degrees program. Only a limited number of highly qualified students will be accepted for the joint degrees program.

CONFERENCE ON IRANIAN NATIONALISM

As part of its 25th Anniversary celebration, the Center held in September an international conference entitled "Iranian Nationalism and the International Oil Crisis, 1951–1954." The conference brought together scholars, government officials, close observers, and actual participants in the political events in Iran that precipitated the international oil crisis of the early 1950's. Key government officials such as George McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State in the Truman Administration, and Sir Denis Wright, former British Ambassador to Iran, joined other scholars in an assessment of the significance of the political and economic developments of the period.

Cosponsors of the conference were the Departments of History and Government, the College of Liberal Arts, and the School of Graduate Studies. Conference faculty organizers were Roger Louis, History professor and holder of the Kerr Centennial Professorship in English History and Culture; and James Bill, Government professor and Middle East specialist.

Other participants were Richard W. Cottam (University of Pittsburgh), Ervand Abrahamian (Baruch College, City
Albert Hourani (Oxford University) delivered the concluding comments: "Iranian Nationalism and the International Oil Crisis in Historical Perspective."

PROMOTIONS AMONG MIDDLE EASTERN FACULTY

Michael Hillmann was promoted to full professor; Fedwa Malti-Douglas became a tenured professor; and Elizabeth Fernea achieved the rank of Senior Lecturer in The University of Texas System. These changes become effective September of 1986.

Professor Hillmann teaches courses in the Persian language, Persian literature, and contemporary Iranian culture. He is the author of numerous articles and several books, including Persian Carpets (1984), the first scholarly introduction in any language to contemporary Persian carpet designs. Hillmann is also the editor of the comparative literature journal Literature East and West, which will publish two special issues in 1986: False Dawn: Persian Poems by Nader Naderpour and Nationalism and Asian Literatures. Professor Hillmann serves as an associate editor of the journal Iranian Studies. He has two books scheduled for publication in 1986: A Lonely Woman: Forugh ForohrAz (1935–1967) and Her Poetry and Iranian Culture: A Persianist View.

Professor Fedwa Malti-Douglas is a native of Lebanon and received her higher education in the U.S. She earned an A.B. in Semitics from Cornell University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages from UCLA. Professor Malti-Douglas also studied at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris. A former Chercheur Associe at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Paris, Malti-Douglas is now a member of the Equipe de Recherche 060202, Documents, Histoire, et Pensée en Islam Medieval of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and the University of Paris-Sorbonne. Professor Malti-Douglas has also served on the faculty of the Salzburg Seminar in Salzburg as well as on many editorial boards and national grant boards. She has traveled extensively in the Middle East and has published numerous studies in Arabic, French, and English. She taught at San Diego State University and the University of Virginia before coming to the University.

Elizabeth Fernea is a writer and filmmaker, specializing in Middle Eastern women and the family. She teaches in Middle Eastern Studies, Women's Studies, and English. Her films include Some Women of Marrakech (Granada Television, London and PBS Odyssey Series) and A Veiled Revolution and Women
Under Siege (finalists in the American Film Festival). Books include Women and the Family in the Middle East: New Voices of Change; The Arab World: Personal Encounters (with Robert Fernea); A Street in Marrakech; Guests of the Sheik; Middle Eastern Muslim Women Speak (with Basima Bezirgan); and Texas Women in Politics (with Marilyn Duncan). She is a frequent lecturer to universities, women's groups, and policy groups on Middle Eastern women, the family, Third World development, roles for women, and family planning.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Peter Abboud (Arabic) spent two weeks during December in the Middle East visiting Egypt, Jordan, and Syria on behalf of Middlebury College in Vermont in order to recruit faculty and acquire video materials for teaching purposes. In Egypt, he met with the Minister of Culture and the Director of the Radio and TV Union. In Damascus, he met with the Ministers of Culture and Education and the Director General of Syrian Radio and TV. Of special interest to Professor Abboud was obtaining video programs using modern standard Arabic.

Aman Attieh (Arabic) was invited to present a paper entitled “Human Rights and Education in Saudi Arabia” at a Conference on Human Rights and Education held at California State University in Long Beach on November 7–9. Dr. Attieh has coauthored a chapter on “Education Free from Discrimination: The Cases of India and Saudi Arabia” in a forthcoming book entitled Education and Human Rights to be published by Pergamon Press Limited.

James A. Bill (Government) visited the Middle East on a 15-day research trip to Jordan, Jerusalem, and the Palestinian West Bank in December. In the fall, he lectured at the University of Michigan, the University of Chicago, the U.S. Military Academy, Villanova University, and the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, D.C. In January, he lectured at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and at Davidson College. In February, Professor Bill delivered a keynote lecture in the Sidore Distinguished Lecture Series at the University of New Hampshire. The title of his presentation was “Liberation Theology and Populist Islam: Catholics and Shi'ites in the Third World.”

Paul English (Geography) won the Presidential Associates Teaching Excellence Award in October of 1985. The cash award, given for excellence in undergraduate teaching, is provided for eight faculty members each year through private gifts from the President's Associates, a group of donors who give money to the University President to be used at his discretion.

Elizabeth Fernea (CMES) has been appointed to the Advisory Council of Georgetown University’s Center for Contemporary Arab Studies. She is also cotranslator, with Trevor Le Gasick of the University of Michigan, of the novel Wild Thorns by Sahar Khalifeh. The story of life on the West Bank has just been published in London by Al-Saqi Books.

Robert Fernea (Anthropology) went to Egypt as President of the American Research Center of Egypt during January in order to perform various activities on behalf of that organization. He also visited New Nubia near Komombo in order to gather information for a paper on the subject of Nubian resettlement.

M. A. Jazayery (Persian and CMES) met with a delegation of scholars from the Institute of Contemporary International Relations of the People’s Republic of China on December 10, 1985. The group was visiting the U.S. as a part of an exchange program. Professor Jazayery spoke to the group about the Center’s programs. His presentation was followed by a dialogue about the current conditions in the Middle East.

Guliz Kuruoglu (Turkish) has been elected to the Board of Directors of the newly established Association of Teachers of Turkish, which was founded at the 1985 MESA meeting. The goals of the Association are to standardize Turkish texts and to facilitate communication among teachers of Turkish.

Denise Schmandt-Besserat (Art History) has received a research grant from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service). She plans to conduct research on archaeological tokens from ancient Mesopotamia and Syria in West Berlin during the summer 1986. She has recently published the articles, "Tonmarken und Bilderschrift," in *Das Antiquarium*, Vol. 31, No. 2, 1985; and "Avant la Naissance des Chiffres" in *International de l'Imaginaire*, Vol. 2, 1985.

Eisig Silberschlag (Research Associate, CMES) attended the International Congress of PEN in New York the week of January 12-18. The theme was "The Writer's Imagination and the Imagination of the State." He participated in the discussions and met with some of the 600 writers present from many countries, including Amos Oz (a recent lecturer for the Center).

Caroline Williams (Architecture) has had her revision of Richard B. Parker's *Islamic Monuments in Cairo: A Practical Guide* come out recently. The book was published by American University in Cairo Press and is being distributed in this country by Columbia University Press. She also will be giving a paper, "Women and the Arts: An Historical Review," at the 11th Symposium at Georgetown University in April. The Symposium is dedicated to "Women and Arab Society."

LEcTURES

The Center sponsors in cooperation with other centers and departments a number of guest lecturers.

David Francis of the UT Department of Classics presented a program in September entitled "Image, Word and Ceremony." He discussed with the aid of slides the influence of Persian art on preliterate Greece.

In October Moshe Lissak, a member of the Sociology Department of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, spoke on "Israeli Society and its Defense Establishment: the Social and Political Impact of a Protracted Violent Conflict." The lecture was cosponsored with the Departments of Government and Sociology and the University Public Lectures Committee.

Bahnam N. Abulsoof came to the University in November to speak on "Recent Excavations and Surveys in Iraq." Dr. Abulsoof is General Director of Archaeology in the Northern Sector of the Republic of Iraq. His lecture was cosponsored with the Department of Anthropology.

Also in November, the University was visited by Milad Hanna, Chairman of the Housing Committee in the People's Assembly, the lower house of Egypt's Parliament. Dr. Hanna, who is also an author, lectured on "Problems of Sectarian Relations in Egypt." His speech was cosponsored with the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures. Dr. Hanna was visiting the U.S. under the auspices of the U.S. Information Agency.

The Departments of Linguistics and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures sponsored Abdelkader Fassi Fehri, from Mohamed V University in Rabat, Morocco, to lecture at the University. He spoke in December on "Some Significant Questions in Arabic Clause Structure."

The Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures brought Baruch Link in February to speak on "Thematic and Poetic Aspects of the Modern Hebrew Novel." Dr. Link is a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Hebrew College in Boston.

Etel Adnan, Lebanese novelist, poet, and short story writer, spoke on "Literature and the Lebanese Civil War" in February. Her lecture was cosponsored with the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures and the Women's Studies Program.
OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Resource Center and Outreach Office had a very active fall semester and have plans for a busy spring and summer. During the fall the Resource Center put on a photographic exhibit of Turkish families in Texas for the annual meeting of the Texas Association of Middle East Scholars. The Resource Center also hosted a group of twenty student leaders from Arabic-speaking countries to a lunch of tamales and tacos. The lunch gave these students, who were here on a month-long visit arranged by the U.S. Information Agency, an opportunity to socialize with students and faculty.

In November the Outreach staff attended the Middle East Studies Association meeting in New Orleans. There they displayed a set of seven slide programs developed by the Center at the special workshop held for area teachers by the Middle East Outreach Council.

The Outreach staff began the spring semester by participating in a workshop in Houston on “Internationalizing the Humanities Curriculum.” This workshop for junior and community college language, literature, art, and music teachers was organized by the Consortium of Gulf Coast Teachers.

For the summer, two teacher workshops are planned. The first, organized in conjunction with Austin Independent School District, is a week-long workshop for sixth-grade teachers on the history, geography, society, religions, and arts of the Middle East. It will be held June 9-13. Another one- or two-day workshop on “Current Issues in the Middle East” will be held during the week of August 5. This workshop is being sponsored by Region 13 of the Texas Education Agency. For information, please contact Angela Thompson at the Center.

SUMMER PROGRAM OF WESTERN CONSORTIUM

The Western Consortium of University Centers of Middle East Studies will present an intensive summer program at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. The summer program allows students to complete one year of language study in first- and second-year Arabic or Hebrew, or first year in Persian or Turkish. In addition, area studies courses will be offered in geography, history, religion, literature, political science, and sociology.

The Western Consortium consists of a group of Centers from the University of Arizona; University of California, Berkeley; University of California, Los Angeles; Portland State University; University of Texas, Austin; University of Utah; and University of Washington. Each summer one institution hosts a summer program to enable students to have a period of intensive study before going back to their own institutions. Information is available at the Center on this summer’s program. Enquiries and requests for further information should be addressed to Middle East Center, Building 413, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112.

NEW MIDDLE EASTERN COURSE IN BUSINESS SCHOOL

A new graduate course has been offered to MBA and Middle East Studies students this spring. Professor Kate Gillespie teaches “International Marketing and Middle East Markets,” listed as MES 381 and IB 395. Besides learning the basics of international marketing, students research the potential of exporting or manufacturing a certain product in a target Middle East market. Although most students are U.S. citizens, a large French component is also present in the class this semester.
STUDENT NEWS

The Center would like to welcome a number of new students in Middle Eastern Studies. Working on Turkish Studies are new students Pinar and John Vanderlippe. Pinar is a graduate student in Sociology and John, a graduate student in History. Working on a Masters in Middle Eastern Studies is Keith Nichols. Keith comes here from Yemen, where he was with the U.S. Office of Military Cooperation. He is obtaining his degree under the Foreign Area Officer Program of the Army. A second-semester Ph.D. student in Government is Hamid Reza Razavi. Hamid is from Iran. And Patricia Pevoto is working on an M.A. in Hebrew studies.

New undergraduate students seeking interdisciplinary degrees in Middle Eastern Studies are Alexander Ross and Asma Hatem Abughazaleh. Mohammad Arami is pursuing a B.A. in Persian Studies.

The Center would like also to congratulate students who lately have completed degrees concentrating on the Middle East. Elhami Afifi received his Ph.D. in Linguistics. His dissertation was entitled “Linguistic Perspectives of Interlingual Translation.” Betsy Folkins wrote a Master’s thesis entitled “Social Transformation of Palestinian Society.” In the Geography Department, Barbara Parmenter received an M.A. upon completion of the thesis, “Toward a Geography of Home: Palestinian Literature and the Sense of Place.” “Afterlife in World Religion: An Overview of Major Concepts and a Baha’i Perspective” was the title of Farnaz Sheikhzadeh-Zavareh’s thesis. Gregg Ness wrote a thesis entitled “Corporate Political Risk Assessment Before and After the Iranian Revolution,” and Michael Nobel did a Master’s report on “Impressions of Violence: The Role of Terrorism in Libyan Foreign and Domestic Policy.”

EXCAVATION AT TEL YIN’AM

Tel Yin’am, in the eastern lower Galilee of Israel, has an extremely long history of human occupation. Its soils were trod by Stone Age man, Canaanites, Israelites, Assyrians, Christians, and Jews. The site was first occupied around 7000 B.C. and finally abandoned around 500 A.D.

Professor Harold Liebowitz has directed excavations at Tel Yin’am from 1976 to the present, under the sponsorship of the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures and the Center. The project is designed as an advanced research project and as a field school and laboratory for graduate and undergraduate students interested in Near Eastern archaeology. Students have helped uncover houses, pots, vessels, ovens, streets, and jewelry of the ancients who have lived at the site.

Because of the significance of finds at Tel Yin’am, Encyclopaedia Britannica singled out Tel Yin’am for publication in its 1986 Science Yearbook, and articles have been requested by the Israel Exploration Society for its new Encyclopaedia of Excavations and by Anchor Bible for its Anchor Bible Dictionary.

In the summer of 1986, Liebowitz and volunteer helpers plan to continue excavation of Tel Yin’am and to explore initially two neighboring sites. The University is offering credit for courses taught during the dig and some scholarship funding is available. Those wishing to participate in the excavation, scheduled for June 18 to July 29, 1986, may contact Professor Liebowitz at the Department of Oriental and African Languages, The University of Texas at Austin, 2601 University Ave., Austin, Texas 78712.

TURKISH ASSOCIATION FORMED

During the fall semester, a group of students formed the Turkish-American University Students Association (TAUSA). The purpose of the organization is to bring together the Turkish community in Austin and to help recent arrivals adapt more easily to their new homes. TAUSA will provide information about Turkish culture through exhibitions, lectures, films, and other activities, sometimes in conjunction with various departments of the University. At a recent slide show presented by the group, 35 students, faculty, and interested individuals attended.

Gonul Erhan is President and Guliz Kuruoglu is Faculty Advisor. Dr. Kuruoglu can be reached at the Department of Oriental and African Languages.
FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF TAMES

The Texas Association of Middle East Scholars held its 5th Annual Meeting on the University campus in October. The opening speech was delivered by Alan Fisher of the Department of History at Michigan State University. Professor Fisher spoke on "The Role of the Turks in Middle Eastern History." Four panels were conducted over the next two days, one each on the Arab World, Iran, Israel, and Turkey.

Moderator for the panel on Israel was Aaron Bar-Adon (Hebrew, UT Austin). Panelists were Harold Liebowitz (Hebrew, UT Austin), Virginia Timmons (Foreign Language Education, UT Austin), and Avraham Zilkha (Hebrew, UT Austin).

Moderator for the panel on Turkey was Tom Thompson (Anthropology, Incarnate Word College). Panelists were Donald Quataert (History, University of Houston), Jenny White (Anthropology, UT Austin), Guliz Kuruoglu (Turkish, UT Austin), and Professor Fisher.

Moderator for the panel on the Arab World was Kate Gillespie (Marketing, UT Austin). Panelists were Robert Holz (Geography, UT Austin), Hans Lofgren (Economics, UT Austin), and Ali Al-Tai (The League of Arab States, Dallas).

Moderator for the panel on Iran was Gregory Rose (Government, UT Austin). Panelists were Jane Hathaway (History, UT Austin), Poopak Taati (Sociology, UT Austin), Kurt Mendenhall (Government, UT Austin), Paul Blank (Geography, Oklahoma State University), and Professor Thompson.

President M. A. Jazayery (Persian, UT Austin) presided at the Luncheon and Business Meeting.

AWARD TO FERNEAS

The Arab World, Personal Encounters, by Elizabeth and Robert Fernea, has won The Texas Institute of Letters Carr P. Collins Award. The $5,000 cash award is given each year for the best book of nonfiction written by a Texas author or by an outsider on the subject of Texas. Judges for the nonfiction category this year were Nicholas Lemann, Contributing Editor of Texas Monthly; Professor James Early of the English Department at Southern Methodist University; and novelist James Kunetka.

In their book, the Ferneas write about places and people as they first knew them in the Arab Middle East, and then take the reader back to the same locations years later. The focus ranges from literary circles in Beirut to mountain villages in Yemen, a family dinner in Morocco, Bir Zeit University on the West Bank of Israel, Jordan's royal family, Iraqi exiles in Cairo, Nomadic Bedouins, and a Palestinian refugee camp. After describing the differences caused by changing conditions over the past 25 years for the peoples of these countries, the Ferneas comment in each case on possible causes for the changes.

CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EASTERN LITERATURE

The Middle Eastern Literatures Seminar, a scholarly group founded in 1985, will meet at the University April 18-20. Devoted to the study of literature in Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, and Turkic languages, the Middle Eastern Literatures Seminar (MLS) is associated with the scholarly journal Edebiyat. The current president and organizer of the conference is Fedwa Malti-Douglas, associate professor of Arabic at the University.

The sessions of the April meeting will take place in the Dobie Room of the Peter T. Flawn Academic Center. Speakers and commentators will include Jerome Clinton (Princeton); Raymond Scheindlin (Jewish Theological Seminary); David Jacobson (University of Pennsylvania); William Hanaway (University of Pennsylvania); Sasson Somekh (Tel Aviv University and Princeton); Cemal Kafadar (Princeton); William Hickman (University of California, Berkeley); Muhammad Siddiq (University of Washington, Seattle); Roger Allen (University of Pennsylvania); Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (University of Washington, Seattle); Sarah Moment Atis (University of Wisconsin, Madison); J. C. Burgel (Universitat Bern); Michael Beard (University of North Dakota); Walter Andrews (University of Washington, Seattle); and Professor Malti-Douglas.

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MIDDLE EAST COLLECTION

Located on the eighth floor of the Main Building, the Middle East Collection, headed by Abazar Sepehri, contains more than 55,000 volumes of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish books and bound serials; and subscribes to some 480 periodicals and newspapers in those languages. It shares a beautiful reading room with the Asian Collection, where current issues of periodicals and newspapers are available for visitors. The Reading Room also houses a selected number of reference materials in its three main languages, as well as some in Western languages. The bulk of the Western-language monographic and serial titles and the Hebrew-language publications are located in the Perry-Castenada Library.

The Collection supports teaching and research activities in the area of Middle Eastern Studies and is most used by faculty and students affiliated with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, and various other departments offering courses related to the Middle East. It is open also to the entire University community, as are all units of the General Libraries. The Collection publishes and distributes in April of each year a selected, annotated list of its new acquisitions. This publication, titled "the Z note," is available upon request from both the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Middle East Collection.