CONFERENCE IN HONOR OF WINFRED LEHMANN

Scholars from the U.S.S.R., Germany, and the U.S. participated November 4–6 and November 11–12 in a conference at the University on comparative linguistics and the reconstruction of Indo-European languages and cultures. Winfred P. Lehmann, the Louann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor in the Humanities, was honored on the occasion of his retiring from active teaching. Lehmann is one of the founders of the Center and a long-time participant in its activities.

The symposium was co-sponsored by the Center with the College of Liberal Arts, the Departments of Germanic Languages, Linguistics, and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, and the Center for Asian Studies. It was sponsored by the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) established by the American Council of Learned Societies.

Professor Lehmann has been a member of the Department of Germanic Languages at the University since 1949. His publications include Historical Linguistics: an Introduction; Descriptive Linguistics: an Introduction; Proto-Indo European Syntax; and Syntactic Typology. Lehmann has served as chairman of the Departments of Germanic Languages and Linguistics, and as first Director of the Centers for Middle Eastern Studies and Asian Studies. Since 1961, he has been Director of the Linguistics Research Center at the University.

EMILE HABIBY IS VISITOR

Considered by many critics to be the most important writer in the Arab World today, Emile Habiby came to the University to lecture and meet students and faculty during the first week of November. He spoke on November 6 to a full auditorium in Welch Hall on the subject, “The Arab Writer in Israel.”

Born in Haifa in 1922, Habiby is a Palestinian and an Israeli citizen. He served for many years in the Israeli Knesset. His first novel, The Secret Life of Saeed, the Ill-fated Pessoptimist, was a critical and popular success in the Middle East. It has been translated into, among other languages, English and Hebrew. Other more recent works are the play Luka Ibn Luka (Vile Son of Infamous) and the novel Ikhtiyya.

While on campus, Habiby discussed with faculty and students the issues involved in writing from both within and outside one’s own community.
TUBINGEN ATLAS

The Perry-Castaneda Library has purchased the Tubingen Atlas des Vorderen Orients (Tubingen Atlas of the Middle East). Produced by various faculties at the University of Tubingen, the Atlas is a prodigious undertaking, which is not expected to be completed before 1990, thus involving approximately 15 years of work. It will consist of about 350 maps, each of which the PCL receives as completed. The maps are on loose leaf sheets of 72 x 50 cm (28.4 x 19.68 inches), which can be housed in slip cases.

The Atlas covers an area extending from Turkey in the North to Yemen in the South, from Afghanistan in the east to Egypt and Sudan in the west; and for certain topics coverage is extended to Ethiopia and individual Maghreb states.

The Atlas is divided into two parts: Geography and History. The base map is on a scale of 1:8,000,000, and larger scales are used for regional and local studies. German and English are used in all legends.

RANKING OF UT LIBRARY

The University of Texas at Austin has the seventh largest library among academic institutions in the U.S. and Canada, according to figures released for 1984-85 by the Association of Research Libraries. Library holdings number around five and a half million.

Thirty percent of the UT Austin total library budget goes for special collections, among which is the Middle East Collection, housed in the University’s Main Building. The vernacular Middle East Collection, now holding more than 48,000 volumes and more than 500 serial titles, has gained distinction in areas such as Persian and Arabic literatures, and Islamic philosophy and jurisprudence.

The University’s extensive Hebrew and Judaic collections are housed in the main library, the Perry-Castaneda Library. Books and periodicals on the Middle East in English and European languages are also in the Perry-Castaneda Library.

STUDENT NEWS

Geography graduate student Joseph Hobbs’ dissertation was designated by the Graduate School for Honorable Mention among dissertations submitted by University departments as outstanding. Entitled “Bedouin Reconciliation with the Egyptian Desert,” the manuscript reflects Hobbs’ field experience of travelling with Khushman bedouin guides, staying in the nomads’ encampments, and participating in the day-to-day activities of the clan. The Graduate School has nominated the dissertation for the 1986 International Distinguished Dissertation Award in the field of Social Sciences.

Jenny B. White, Anthropology graduate student, was awarded a Fulbright grant to conduct research in Turkey. She is studying women’s small commodity production in Istanbul. She is one of approximately 2,500 Americans being sent abroad for the 1986-87 academic year under the Fulbright exchange program. White was offered awards also from the National Science Foundation and the Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.

FLAS Fellowship Awards were won during the summer by students Garry Church (Arabic), Mary Jane Ferson (Arabic), Djaleh Hajibashi (Persian), and Marc Moebius (Hebrew). Winners for the 1986-87 academic year are Martha Diase (Arabic), Victoria Hammond (Arabic), Shelley Leavitt (Hebrew), Gwenn Okruhlik (Arabic), Joya Saad (Arabic/Persian), and Robert Sweet (Arabic).
Karl W. Butzer (Geography) published last year with J. F. Mateu, E. K. Butzer, and P. Kraus "Irrigation agrosystems in eastern Spain: Roman or Islamic origins?" in *Annals, Association of American Geographers*, 75. He has published this year with Mateu and Butzer "Medieval Muslim Communities of the Sierra de Espadán, Kingdom of Valencia" in *Viator: Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, 75.

In October Shifra Epstein (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures) lectured at the Albuquerque Museum on "Hasidic Folk Culture in the U.S.—Continuation and Change" in connection with an exhibition of American-Jewish Folk Art. In November, she was the guest speaker for the annual meeting of the Mizel Museum of Judaica in Denver. Her lecture was entitled "A Folk Drama in a Hasidic Community in New York: Continuation and Revitalization."

Elizabeth Fernea (English) was an invited lecturer at the Ethnographic Museum in Stockholm in connection with the Museum's exhibit on Moroccan culture during the summer. She also gave two lectures at the University of Oslo: "Family Feminism" and "New Heroines? Women in Modern Arabic Literature in Translation." During the fall, Fernea lectured at Southwestern University in the Global Issues Lecture Series on "The Problem of Palestine" and "Adapting Tradition to Modern Life: Middle Eastern Women." Fernea has recently been elected to the Board of Governors of the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C.

Robert Fernea (Anthropology) was the keynote speaker at the International Congress on Nubia and Nubian Studies, a weeklong meeting at the University of Upsala. Fernea has recently been named to the Ethics Committee of the American Anthropological Association for a three-year term that will begin next year.

During the summer, Guliz Kuruoglu (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures) attended The Third International Conference on Turkish Linguistics at the University of Tilburg, The Netherlands. Kuruoglu also received a grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies to prepare teaching materials for first year Turkish classes.

Harold Liebowitz (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures) conducted the 1986 season of excavation at Tel Yin'am in Israel. The professors, students, researchers, and volunteers at the dig excavated an Early Bronze Age house with two-meter-wide walls, the courtyard and storerooms of the ruler's dwelling from the 13th century B.C. and a 10th century Israelite oil press. They collected numerous samples for Carbon 14 dating and continued the work with archaeomagnetic dating.

Roger Louis (History) was elected in November a fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford. St. Antony's is the college devoted to modern history and area studies of the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. During the summer, Louis attended a conference at Oxford, "Suez 1956," which was sponsored by St. Antony's College and the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. He also attended a conference on "The Suez Crisis: A Retrospective, 1956–1986" at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in October.

Ian Manners (Geography) visited Turkey during the summer to participate in the International Conference on Environmental Management in Developing Countries held at Bogazici University and to work with the U.N. Environmental Programme on policies for the protection of marine and coastal environments in the Middle East.

Also during the summer, Denise Schmandt-Besserat (Art History) received a two-month grant from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst in West Germany to study archaeological collections stored in Berlin. She was invited to deliver lectures at La Sapienza University in Rome on "L'origine de l'écriture" in May; at the Free University in Berlin on "Before Numerals" in June; and at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich in July.

Caroline Williams (Architecture) and John Williams (Art History) were the main speakers at a symposium held at Ohio State University entitled "Egypt: the Future of the Past." Mrs. Williams spoke on "Islamic Cairo's Endangered Legacy." She also has published "The Cult of Alid Saints in the Fatimid Monuments of Cairo: The Mausolea" in *Muqarnas: An Annual of Islamic Art and Architecture*, vol. III. Part One, devoted
to Shi'i significance of the decoration of the Mosque of al-Aqmar, 1125, appeared in 

John Williams spoke at the Ohio State University conference on "The Victorian Discovery of Egypt," "Islam in Modern Egypt," and "Modest Dress, Religion and Culture in Historical Perspective." During the summer, Williams received a University Research Institute grant to work on Persian manuscripts in the British Library, and to consult the papers of the Scottish painter David Roberts concerning his travels in Egypt and Syria in the early 19th century, at the Scottish National Library in Edinburgh. This fall, Williams is on leave in order to complete his two-volume translation of al-Tabari on the Early Abbasi Empire for the Cambridge University Press and to work on a history of Islamic political thought.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Center regularly sponsors guest lectures in cooperation with other centers and departments. This semester's visitors have included:

Marcel Sigrist, Professor at l'Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem, who spoke at the University in September on "Organization of the Accounting System in the City of Ur (Drehem), 2000 B.C." His lecture was cosponsored with the Department of Classics.

For two days in September, Yaakov Eden presented performances and dance workshops at Hillel, Anna Hiss Gym, and the Hancock Recreation Center. Eden is a folklore specialist at Ball State University in Indiana. The visit was cosponsored with the Hebrew Studies Program (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures), the Middle Eastern Folk Dancers, the Jewish Community Council of Austin, and the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation.

"In Search of Biblical Ziklag: a City of David" was the title of a lecture delivered in November by Joseph Seger, Associate Professor at Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University. It was cosponsored with the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures and the American Society of Oriental Research.

Abdul Karim Rafiq, one of this year's Fulbright Distinguished Fellows, spoke in November on "Work Organization and Ethics and the Strains of Change in Ottoman Syria." Professor Rafiq is in the History Department at the University of Damascus. His lecture was cosponsored with the Departments of History and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, the United States Information Agency, and the Board of Foreign Scholarships as part of the Fulbright Program's 40th Anniversary.

Chaim Weizmann Professor of History at Hebrew University, Norman Rose, lectured in November on "Chaim Weizmann, the British, and the Creation of the State of Israel." The visit was cosponsored with the Faculty Seminar in British Studies.

CARL LEIDEN RETIRES

Government Professor Carl Leiden will retire from the University in January of 1987. Leiden was the first University faculty member to teach courses in Middle Eastern Studies in the social sciences. He also started the two freshmen survey courses on the Middle East, which form the core of the undergraduate interdisciplinary curriculum. Leiden helped establish the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and has served over the years a term as Associate Director and a summer term as Acting Director. He also served for many years on the Center's Executive Committee.

Leiden came to the University in 1961. Prior to that, he had taught at the American University at Cairo; the University of California, Berkeley; Marshall University; and State University of Iowa. He was a Fulbright lecturer in international law and jurisprudence at Peshawar University in Pakistan during 1952-1953.

Leiden has been a popular teacher in the areas of political theory, comparative government, and international relations, with an area interest in the Middle East and North Africa. Among the courses he has taught regularly at the University are "The Arab-Israeli Conflict," and "Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa." His books include *Politics in the Middle East; Assassination and Terrorism: The Political Dimensions; The Middle East: Politics and Power; The Politics of Assassination; and The Transition from Traditionalism to Modernism in the Muslim Middle East*. 
MEETING OF TEXAS SCHOLARS

The Texas Association of Middle East Scholars held its 6th Annual Meeting on the University campus in October. Abazar Sepehri, Head Librarian for the Middle East Collection of the University, was elected to be the next president. Newly elected council members are Tom Thompson, Barbara Walker, Fred R. von der Mehden, and Henry Speck.

The two-day meeting was opened by President M. A. Jazayery (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin). Six panels were presented. Moderator of the panel "Geography and Archaeology of the Middle East" was James Neely (Anthropology, UT-Austin). Panelists were Robert Holz (Geography, UT-Austin); Paul Blank (Geography, Middlebury College); and Harold Liebowitz (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin).

Moderator of the panel "Travelers in the Middle East" was Henry Speck (History, Abilene Christian University). Panelists were Shifra Epstein (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin); John Pomeroy (English, Austin Community College); Jason Thompson (History, University of Chicago), and Caroline Williams (Architecture, UT-Austin).

Moderator of the panel "Cultural and Social Changes as Viewed in Middle Eastern Literatures" was Guliz Kuruoglu (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin). Panelists were Avraham Zilkha (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin); Caroline G. Sawyer (French and Italian, UT-Austin); Taghreed M. al-Qudsi (Library and Information Science, UT-Austin); and Elisabeth Timmons (Foreign Language Education, UT-Austin).

Moderator of the panel "Religion and Politics in the Contemporary Middle East" was Michael Fischer (Anthropology, Rice University). Panelists were Shafieeq al-Ghabra (Government, UT-Austin); Gwenn Okruhlik (Government, UT-Austin); Behnaz Smalley (George Washington University); and Poopak Taati (Sociology, UT-Austin).

Moderator of the panel "Patterns of Social and Economic Changes in Middle Eastern Population Groups" was Tom Thompson (Social Science Research Associates, San Antonio). Panelists were Samia el-Badry (Population Research Center, UT-Austin); Gonul Erhan (Anthropology, UT-Austin); John Vanderlippe (History, UT-Austin); Ann Gardner (Anthropology, UT-Austin); and Ali al-Tai (League of Arab States, Dallas).

Moderator of the panel "Social Status and Legal Rights of Middle Eastern Women" was Elizabeth Fernea (English, UT-Austin). Panelists were Victoria Hammond (Communications, UT-Austin); Aman Attieh (Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, UT-Austin); Pinar Batur-Vanderlippe (Sociology, UT-Austin); and Barbara Gates (Government, UT-Austin).

The Center hosted a reception for all participants in the Middle East Collection Reading Room, and a business meeting was presided over by Jazayery. Individuals with ideas for next year's panels should contact Angela Thompson, Outreach Coordinator for the Center.

VICENTE CANTARINO LEAVES

Professor Vicente Cantarino of the Departments of Spanish and Portuguese and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures has left the University to teach at Ohio State University, after having been on leave for a year. An expert on Muslim Spain, Cantarino taught
FAREWELL TO TWO COLLEAGUES

As indicated elsewhere in this Newsletter, the Center has lost one faculty member and is losing another in January. Carl Leiden was the first scholar to be appointed at the University in Middle Eastern politics, and for almost 30 years has educated generations of young men and women who might well have received a university degree as ignorant of that important and volatile part of the world as they had been at the beginning of their university careers, and as millions of others are even today.

If Leiden's major academic interest was the modern Middle East, Vicente Cantarino concentrated on the medieval period. He brought to our program a dimension quite often missing from Middle East Studies programs: insight into the chasm that separates and the bridge that connects modern Christian Spain and the medieval Moslem Middle East and North Africa.

We wish Carl the best of luck for a well-deserved rest, and Vicente success in his new position.

M. A. Jazayery
CMES Director

SHAHIN BAKHTARI

The Center mourns the death of Shahin Bakhtari, a student of Persian in the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures. During his time at the University, Bakhtari was a central force behind cultural activities on campus for Iranian students and community members interested in Iran.

He is remembered for his acting in performances of Short 'A', Long 'A', The Club wielders of Varazil, and Four Trunks. He also directed and staged Varazil and Four Trunks.