



# NELC UPDATE

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

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## From the Chair



*Prof. Scott Noegel*

NELC's future could not be brighter. Our faculty continues to gather national and international accolades, the demand for our courses in all of our program areas is at an all-time high, and our students continue to impress and amaze us with their excellence. We have expanded the number of outreach activities to the many diverse communities we serve and, with the generous help of university, gov-

ernmental, and especially private partnerships, we have substantially increased the number of grants and awards we provide students. NELC truly is a department on a meteoric rise! Indeed, in this issue of the *NELC Update* you will read about our travel immersion awards for students studying abroad, digital initiatives in Arabic language learning, exciting co-taught courses, future speakers and events in Turkish and Ottoman Studies, an Iranian film series, developments in Bibli-

cal and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, and the recently reconstituted Central Asian Studies Program. Such momentum makes it an especially exciting time to be involved with NELC, and there is no better way to get involved than by becoming a partner. Having said this, I invite you to peruse our list of partnership opportunities elsewhere in this issue and to partner with us as we transform education on the Near East and Central Asia.



*Prof. Hussein Elkhafafi, Prof. Emeritus Farhat Ziadeh and Suad Ziadeh at the CASA Luncheon.*

## Professor Ziadeh Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

At the annual meeting of Middle East Studies Association (MESA) in February 2006, Prof. Emeritus Farhat Ziadeh was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA). The CASA Governing Council and CASA Consortium Schools credited Ziadeh with laying a strong academic administrative and financial foundation for CASA as director of the organization 1983-1988. His most notable achievements include the development of a new textbook for Egyptian Arabic, the creation of CASA Bylaws which continue to be the main legal and governing documents of the organization, and the creation of an endowment to ensure continuing funding for CASA.

# Staff News

## NELC Welcomes

We warmly welcome new Administrator **Ourania Abell** to the NELC family. Ourania comes to us from the Autism Center at UW, where she served as Program Operations Coordinator. She brings a great deal of experience, professionalism, and leadership skills to her role as NELC's new administrator. Ourania has a B.A. in Education from Western Washington University and an M.A. in French Literature from the University of British Columbia. NELC also welcomes back Program Assistant **Maria Yeager** who



*Ourania Abell*



*Maria Yeager*

will return to the department in June 2007. She spent the past academic year on a Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship participating in the Higher Education Administration Program at the University of Hamburg in Hamburg, Germany.

## A Special Thank You and Farewell

We would like to offer our gratitude and congratulations to our Administrator **Karen Hansen**. Karen recently accepted a position as Assistant Director of Finance & Administration in the Office of the President and the Office of External Affairs. In the five years that Karen worked in NELC she brought a great deal of laughter to the office and was the advocate of students and faculty alike. We applaud her success and hope all the best for her in her new position. Grant Coordinator **Roxanne Brame** also will leave NELC in June 2008 at the conclusion of the Uzbek Educational Partnership Grant. Roxanne plans to continue her Ph.D. in Anthropology where she studies North Africa and the Middle East. Additionally, Program Assistant **Laura Dean** will leave the department in August 2008. She was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for 2007-2008 to examine the cultural and political implications of sex trafficking and sex tourism in Latvia.

### Professors

**Andrews, Walter G.** (Research), Ph.D., 1970, Michigan; Turkish language and literature, Ottoman Turkish  
**Bacharach, Jere L.** (Emeritus), Ph.D., 1967, Michigan; History of the Middle East, Islamic history  
**Clauss, Jim**, (Adjunct) Ph.D. 1983, UC Berkeley; Hellenistic Literature  
**Cirtautas, Ilse D.**, Ph.D., 1958, Hamburg; Turkic languages and literatures  
**Goldberg, Ellis**, (Adjunct) Ph.D., 1983, UC Berkeley; Political economy of the Middle East  
**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  
**Kasaba, Resat** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1986 SUNY; Political economy of the world system and the Middle East  
**MacKay, Pierre A.** (Emeritus), Ph.D., 1964, UC Berkeley; Topography of the Near East, Ottoman Turkish and Classical Arabic literatures  
**Noegel, Scott** (Chair), Ph.D., 1995, Cornell; Hebrew Bible, ancient Near Eastern languages and cultures  
**Schuyler, Phillip** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1979, UW; Music/Ethnomusicology; Middle East, Africa, Arab world  
**Sokoloff, Naomi B.**, Ph.D., 1980, Princeton; Hebrew language and literature  
**Williams, Michael A.**, 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, UC Berkeley; Arabic language and literature  
**Kuru, Selim**, Ph.D., 2000, Harvard; Ottoman language and literature and modern Turkish

### Assistant Professors

**Brown, Jonathan**, Ph.D., 2006, Chicago; Islamic thought; Early Islamic literature and history  
**Elkhafaifi, Hussein**, Ph.D., 1985, Utah; Arabic language and literature  
**Lopez, Shaun** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 2004, University of Michigan; Modern Middle East and Africa  
**Osanloo, Arzoo** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 2002, Stanford; Anthropology of law, transnational law  
**Papan-Matin, Firoozeh**, Ph.D., 2003, UCLA; Persian language and literature; Iranian culture and Islamic texts  
**Schwarz, Florian** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1998, Univ. of Tübingen; Pre-modern Middle East History, Islamic mysticism, Muslim culture in Central Asia  
**Walker, Joel** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1997, Princeton; History and archaeology of the Near East in late antiquity

### Affiliate Lecturers

**Gamoran, Hillel**, D.H.L., 1966, Spertus College of Judaica; Talmud  
**Nickelsburg, George**, Th.D. 1968, Harvard Divinity School; early Judaism and Origins of Christianity  
**Ried, Donald**, Ph.D., 1969, Princeton; Middle East History  
**Waters, Stacy**, Ph.D., University of Edinburgh; Textual Studies

### Visiting Instructional Faculty in Academic Year 2007-2008

**Benson, Susan** (Lecturer), M.A., 1983, University of Utah; Persian studies  
**Jahshan, Maha** (Lecturer), M.A., 2005, University of Washington; Arabic studies  
**Martin, Gary** (Lecturer), Ph.D., 2007, University of Washington; Hebrew Bible and Biblical Studies  
**Sandalon, Aliza** (Lecturer), B.A., 1990, Tel Aviv University; Modern Hebrew  
**Sobir, Bozor** (Lecturer), M.A., University of Tajikistan; Tajik  
**Zakir, Hamit** (Lecturer), Ph.D., 1999, University of Washington; Turkic languages

### Teaching Assistants Academic Year 2007-2008

**Arabic:** Miller Sherling, Amal Equeiq  
**Modern Hebrew:** Tovi Avnon  
**Turkish:** Murat Inan  
**Persian:** James Gustafson  
**Introduction to Islamic Civilization:** Laura Korey  
**Introduction to Hebrew Bible:** William Reed, Jacob Rennaker

### NELC Staff

**Administrator:** Ourania Abell  
**Program Assistant:** Maria Yeager  
**Undergraduate Advisor:** Tamara Sollinger

### NELC Advisory Board

<b>Waqih Abu-Rish</b>	<b>Jere Bacharach</b>	<b>Robert Miller</b>
<b>Ali Afrassiabi</b>	<b>John Gokcen</b>	<b>Susie Naficy</b>
<b>Amir Afrassiabi</b>	<b>Pamela Miller</b>	<b>Kata Naficy</b>
		<b>Rita Zawaideh</b>

## Faculty News

**Professor Ilse Cirtautas** awaits the publication of "Building Bridges to Uzbekistan" (in both Russian and Uzbek) in the Uzbek journal *Bella Terra*. In addition, she is preparing a volume entitled *Uzbek Short Stories*. The book will offer Uzbek short stories in English translation, along with an Introduction and biographies on the various authors. Prof. Cirtautas also is preparing for publication *A Concise Uzbek Grammar*. In addition, she is currently undertaking research on Central Asian Turkic autobiographies and memoirs of the soviet period.

**Professor Scott Noegel** saw the publication of his monograph *Nocturnal Ciphers: The Language of Dreams in the Ancient Near East* (American Oriental Society). His other publications in journals and edited works include: "On Puns and Divination: Egyptian Dream Exegesis from a Comparative Perspective," "Dismemberment, Creation, and Ritual: Images of Divine Violence in the Ancient Near East," "Egyptian Love Poetry," "Greek Religion and the Ancient Near East," "Job iii 5 in the Light of Mesopotamian Demons of Time," "'Word Play' in the Ramesside Dream Manual," "Bodily Features as Literary Devices in the Hebrew Bible," "'Word Play' in Qoheleth," and "He of Two Horns and a Tail." He currently serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* and is Ancient Near Eastern section editor for *Compass: Religion* (London).

**Professor Naomi Sokoloff** published two articles this year in the *Association for Jewish Studies Review*. The first is entitled "Reading for the Plot? Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America*," and the second, "Introduction: American Jewish Writing Today." The latter piece emerged from a symposium Prof. Sokoloff organized at UW in May of 2005. In addition, Prof. Sokoloff has two articles now in press. The first, "Life/Writing: Aharon Appelfeld and the Modern Jewish Canon," will appear in Justin Cammy, et al., eds., *Arguing the Modern Jewish Canon: Essays on Modern Jewish Literature in Honor of Ruth Wisse* (Harvard University Press). The second is "Gila Almagor's *Aviya: Remembering the Holocaust in Children's Literature*," in Elizabeth Goodenough and Andrea Immel, eds., *Under Fire: Childhood in the Shadow of War* (Wayne State University Press).

**Professor Michael Williams'** recent articles include four invited contributions. The first, "Le corpus de Nag Hammadi: Une collection de collections (Section on Codicology and Palaeography)" was written for the Introduction to the volume *Écrits gnostiques*, edited by Paul-Hubert Poirier and Jean-Pierre Mahé, for the series *Bibliothèque de la Pléiade* (Paris). The other three articles include "Gnosticism," "Nag Hammadi Codices," and "Apocryphon of John," written for the *Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*. Prof. Williams is now revising his article "Living with Lesser Gods: Heterodox Cosmologies and Social Implications in Late Antiquity," for *Harvard Theological Review*, and conducting research for a book-length project on cosmological myth and society in Late Antiquity.

**Associate Professor Terri DeYoung** saw the appearance of five article-length entries for a volume entitled *Arabic Literary Culture* (Wiesbaden). Also appearing this year, was an English translation of *Al-'Iqd al-Farīd (The Unique Necklace)*, by Ibn 'Abd Rabbih (co-written with Issa Boullata of McGill University). Prof. DeYoung currently is undertaking research for six other entries that will appear in another volume of *Arabic Literary Culture*. Prof. de Young has received a Royalty Research Fund Grant to pursue research during the Autumn 2007.

**Associate Professor Selim Kuru** completed his monograph *Unruly Acts of Desire: Life and Works of the Sixteenth Century Poet Gazâlî* and translation of his *Book That Repels Sorrow and Removes Anxiety* for the Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs Series. Prof. Kuru has finished editing a special issue of the *Journal of Turkish Studies* entitled *In Memoriam: Şinasi Tekin*. He also co-edited (with H. Aynur, M. Cakir, and H. Koncu) a volume of essays entitled *Modernist Approaches to Old Turkish Literature*. His article "Naming the Beloved in Ottoman Turkish Gazel: The Case of Ishak Çelebi (d. 1537/8)," in *Ghazal as World Literature II. From a Literary Genre to a Great Tradition. The Ottoman Gazel in Context*, also appeared this year. Currently, Prof. Kuru is writing an article on "16th Century Ottoman Turkish Literature" for the *Cambridge History of Turkey* as well as an article entitled "Beauties of the City in Spring: Reading Mesîhi's Şehrengîz."

**Assistant Professor Jonathan Brown's** first monograph *The Canonization of al-Bukhari and Muslim: The Formation and Function of the Sunni Hadith Canon* has been accepted for publication by Brill, and should appear late in 2007. Prof. Brown is now working on a second monograph entitled *Introduction to Hadith Literature* for Oxford University Press. This book should appear in 2008. In addition, two of his scholarly articles are in press and should appear late in 2007. The first is "Critical Rigor vs. Juridical Pragmatism: How Legal Theorists and Hadīth Scholars Approached the Backgrowth of Isnāds in the Genre of *Ilal al-hadīth*" in *Islamic Law and Society*. The second, "New Data on the Delateralization of *Ḍad* and its Merger with *Zā* in Classical Arabic: Contributions from Old South Arabian and the Earliest Islamic Texts on *Ḍ / Z* Minimal Pairs" will appear in the *Journal of Semitic Studies*. In addition, Prof. Brown is undertaking research on a third monograph provisionally entitled *Lying about the Prophet of God: A History of Hadith Forgery, Exploitation, and Unmasking*.

**Assistant Professor Hussein Elkhafafi** published an article entitled "Effective Listening Strategy Use by Arabic Learners" for a forthcoming al-'Arabiyya Festschrift entitled *Teachers and Contexts: Studies in Honor of Roger Allen on the Occasion of his 65th Birthday*. His current research includes the entry "Libya" for the *Encyclopedia of The Modern World* (Oxford University Press); an article on "An Analysis of Swearing (Oath-Taking) Among Speakers of Libyan Arabic. The Pragmatic Function of Swearing or Oath-Taking (Libyans and other Arabs)"; and a third piece entitled "Linguistic and Cultural Needs of Arabic Heritage Learners."

**Assistant Professor Firoozeh Papan-Matin's** book *Kash al-Asrar Visionary Autobiography of Ruzbihan al-Baqli* was published by Brill in 2006. In addition, her article on "Reading and Misreading Lolita in Tehran," is now in press in *The Common Review*. She is now undertaking research for another monograph entitled *Beyond Death: Mystical Teachings of 'Ayn al-Qudat al-Hamadhani*. Prof. Papan-Matin was awarded a research fellowship from the American Institute of Indian Studies to conduct primary research in India on her forthcoming book focusing on the work of a medieval Iranian Sufi mystic and his influence on Islam in India.



# Arabic & Islamic Studies

NELC is proud to announce that it has received funds from the Institute for National Security Education and Research (INSER) to develop online materials for the teaching of first-year Arabic. The development of the online materials will begin this summer and highlight texts and video materials. Prof. **Hussein Elkhafaifi** recently inaugurated a new Arabic Conversation Circle, which is open to all students of Arabic in the Arabic Program. He also plans to begin a lecture series in Arabic for students and faculty beginning in the Winter and Spring 2008. The lectures, entirely in Arabic, will be videotaped as part of an educational archive available to students and instructors of Arabic language and culture. In Winter 2008, with support from the Middle East Center, **Mahmoud al-Batal** and **Kristen Brustad** of the University of Texas (Austin) will come to UW to conduct workshops on teaching language skills in Arabic and other Near Eastern languages. Also of note, NELC Advisory Board member **Rita Zawaideh** was awarded the 2007 Farhat J. Ziadeh Leadership Award from the Arab American Board.



*Arabic student Amy Somermeyer and TA Miller Sherling*

## Annual Farhat J. Ziadeh Lecture Series

The Fifth Annual Farhat J. Ziadeh Distinguished Lecture Series in Arab and Islamic Studies "Making the City of Cairo through Motion" featured **Irene Bierman-McKinney** of UCLA. The talk examined the area of the Cairo from the mosque complex of Sultan al-Mu'ayyad Sheikh and Bab Zuwayla through Darb al Ahmar. Prof. Bierman-McKinney is Chair of the Art History Department and Islamic Studies Program at UCLA.

The 2008 Lecture Series will host Prof. **Frank Vogel**, founding Director of the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School. Prof. Vogel founded the Islamic Legal Studies Program in 1991, the largest program for the study of Islamic law outside of the Islamic world. The 2009 lecture will feature Prof. **Roy Mottahedeh**, Gurney Professor of Islamic History at Harvard University. Prof. Mottahedeh is a distinguished historian of the Islamic Middle East. He is the author of *The Mantle of the Prophet: Religion and Politics in Iran* and *Lessons in Islamic Jurisprudence*.



*Bab Zuywayla in Cairo*

## Arabic Studies Student News

**Hanady Kadar**, B.A. NELC and Political Science 2007, will attend Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism in Chicago this fall to complete their one-year M.A. program in New Media.

**Murat Inan**, Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, was awarded the Kathryn Wasserman Dacis Scholarship to participate in Middlebury Arabic Program during the Summer 2007.

NELC Cultural Immersion Travel Awards were awarded to **Roxanne Brame**, Ph.D. Anthropology, **Matthew Erickson**, M.A. NELC, **Matthew Goldman**, Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, **Nicholas Grossenbacher**, Ph.D. History, **Monica Meadows**, Ph.D. History, and **Jonathan Noble**, M.A. SISME. All students will travel to the Middle East or North Africa this summer to study Arabic and conduct independent research.

**Josh Berer**, B.A. NELC 2007, was awarded the Bateh Fellowship in Arabic and Islamic Studies for 2007.

**Elizabeth Campbell**, Ph.D. History, was awarded a Schwartz Fellowship to conduct dissertation research on the religious landscape of Syria during the early centuries of Islam.

# Biblical Hebrew & Ancient Near Eastern Studies

The Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East Program continues to grow and excite our students so much so that we have found it necessary to add a few new courses to meet the demand. These include NEAR E 452, "Biblical Song of Songs," NEAR E 230 "Themes in Near Eastern Literature," and for graduate students and those who have had at least a year of biblical Hebrew, the "Ugaritic Language" of the Canaanites. In the Spring of 2008, Seattle will host the **Annual American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE)** Conference. The conference will welcome hundreds of Egyptologists and scholars of medieval and contemporary Egypt and will be organized by ARCE's Northwest Chapter. Starting in 2007-2008, NELC also will institute an annual lecture series for those interested in the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East.

This summer we welcome Prof. **Alex Jassen**, who will teach "The Jewish Mystical Tradition." Prof. Jassen, Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Minnesota, received his B.A. from the University of Washington and did his Ph.D. at New York University. He is the author of *Mediating the Divine: Prophecy and Revelation in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Second Temple Judaism* (Brill, in press).

**George Nickelsburg** Prof. Emeritus of the University of Iowa and now an Affiliate Professor in NELC, will offer a lecture in the Fall of 2007 entitled "Books that Didn't Make it into the Bible." He has been at the forefront of scholarship on Second Temple Judaism and early Christianity for more than thirty years.

**Donald Malcom Reid** also will give a lecture in the Autumn of 2007 on the topic of "Whose Pharaohs? Egyptian Archaeology in the Colonial Age and After." Reid is Prof. Emeritus of History at Georgia State University and Affiliate Professor in NELC. He is the author of several books including *Cairo University and the Making of Modern Egypt* (Cambridge University Press, 1990).



Prof. Alex Jassen

## New Graduate Students in NELC

We are proud to announce the arrival of two graduate students into the M.A. Program in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. Both



William Reed

come to the department with a solid background. **William Reed** comes to us from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he obtained a degree in Religious Studies. William's specific area of research interest is Coptic Egypt and Gnosticism. William has studied the Coptic, Arabic, Greek, and German.

**Rebecca Spiller** did her undergraduate degree at Western Washington University where she was a double major in Archaeology and Ancient Studies of the Mediterranean. Her research interests focus on the trade routes and the economies of the ancient Near East. She has experience in the Greek, Latin, Arabic, and Hebrew languages.



Rebecca Spiller



Dr. Gary Martin

## Congratulations to Dr. Gary Martin

We offer our congratulations to **Gary Martin**, who has just completed his Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies. Gary's dissertation, which is entitled *Textual Histories of Early Jewish Writings: Multivalences vs. the Quest for the "Original,"* argues

that multiple readings of ancient texts are often intentionally embedded by an ancient author in the form of *double entendres* or "word plays," and that multiple readings may sometimes reflect a principle of "variation within limits" that ancient readers and audiences found quite acceptable. The notion that a particular passage must have only one given meaning is a later historical development. The dissertation further demonstrates that since diversity is inherent in the textual tradition and testifies to a rich textual heritage, we should preserve rather than eliminate it, as is often practiced by textual critics.

# Central Asian Studies

This year NELC partnered with the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies to constitute a new the **Central Asian Studies Program (CASP)**. The idea was to make visible the true, depth, and importance of Central Asian Studies at UW. The CASP now proudly boasts more than 30 members on its roster who represent a wide variety of disciplines at UW. The CASP and the Ellison Center will host *The Eighth Annual Conference of the Central Eurasian Studies Society* October 18-21, 2007. The subject matter of the conference will include all fields of social sciences and humanities. For the purposes of the Central Eurasian Studies Society, the geographical extent of Central Eurasia reaches from the Caucasus, Black Sea and Middle Volga in the west to Tibet, Western China and Mongolia in the east, and from Iran and Afghanistan in the south to regions of Siberia in the north.



*Uzbek Educational Partnership Conference Participants*

will make possible student and scholarly exchanges between Atyrau University and the UW as well as summer school programs.

This year NELC was happy to host Uzbek Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant **Sanobar Khotamova**. She has an M.A. in English and German Philology from Bukhara State University, Uzbekistan. Before coming to the United States, Sanobar worked as an Educational Training Assistant for Peace Corps Volunteers in Tashkent and was the Teaching English as a Foreign Language Program Manager.

NELC is currently working to maintain and expand the functions of its **Great Silk Road Research Center** in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Currently it provides a place for students and scholars interested in Central Asia to meet and exchange ideas. In the future, however, we intend to integrate summer Uzbek language and culture classes for UW students as well as a series of workshops on a diverse array of topics, from Uzbek literature to medicine in Central Asia. NELC also is in the process of working out an agreement of collaboration with **Atyrau University** in Atyrau, Kazakhstan. Once concluded, the partnership

## Central Asian Studies Student News

**Stefan Kamola**, M.A. NELC 2007, has received a course development award from the Institute for National Security Education and Research to develop a course on the history and literature of Central Asia. Stefan will enter the Ph.D. program in History where he will study Central Asian historiography. Stefan was also awarded a Foreign Language Area Scholarship in Persian for 2007-2008.

**Jared Basedow**, M.A. REECAS, was awarded a **NELC Cultural Immersion Travel Grant** to study in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. He will conduct independent research on culture and politics, study the Tajik language and volunteer with a local non-governmental organization.



*Prof. Ilse Cirtautas and Sanobar Khotamova at Turkfest in Seattle*



# Turkish & Ottoman Studies

Under the leadership of Prof. **Selim Kuru**, interest in our Turkish and Ottoman Studies Program continues to grow. The Program boasts the highest enrollment numbers in Turkish



*Prof. Scott Noegel in Mardin*

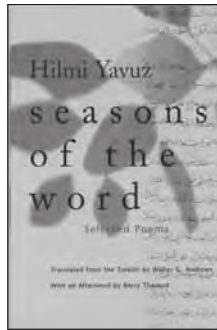
in the nation and throughout the year, it features visiting specialists working on all aspects of Turkish language, history, and culture. The Program also enjoys close ties with a variety of Summer Language Programs in Turkey and has received the attention of a number of international organizations. Recently, for example, the **Turkish Cultural Foundation** offered to support a conference on Turkish culture and literature at UW in the Autumn of 2007. In addition, the Foundation invited NELC's Chair Prof. **Scott Noegel** on a three-week tour of Northwest and Southeast Turkey.



*Prof. Selim Kuru at Turkfest*

## Turkish Studies News

The **University of Washington Libraries** has accepted a gift collection of approximately 25,000 slides taken by Anthony N. Landreau. The slides comprise a survey of rug weaving in Turkey, village by village. Landreau is a former curator of the Textile Museum in Washington D.C., and also worked at the Carnegie Museum. The slides themselves will be stored in Special Collections. Dr. **Mary St. Germain**, Near East Librarian, will create a finding aid, arrange for gradual scanning of the slides, and create a content image database so that the slides can be viewed online. Prof. **Walter Andrews'** translation of the poetry of Hilmi Yavuz appeared this winter from Syracuse University Press.



## Turkish Studies Student News

**Helena Dunskey**, senior in Linguistics, received the James W. Redhouse Prize for Best Progress in Turkish Language, 2006. **Didem Havlioglu**, Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, 2007, M.A. NELC 2001, has been offered a tenure track position in NELC and Comparative Literature at the University of Utah. **Trevor Layman**, junior in Classics and History, was awarded a NELC Cultural Immersion Travel Grant to study Turkish at Bogazici University in Istanbul and plans to write his research paper on the Byzantine – Ottoman Transition. **Ali Tuna Kuyucu**, Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, was awarded a Schwartz Fellowship for dissertation research in Turkey. His dissertation focuses on political and economic factors behind and the consequences of Istanbul's recent urban renewal programs.



*Muge Salmaner in Bodrum, Turkey*

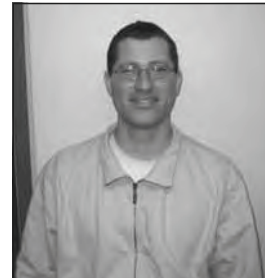
## Turkish and Ottoman Literature Endowed Fellowship

The Turkish and Ottoman Literature Fellowship was awarded to **Muge Salmaner**, Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, M.A. NELC 2006. Salmaner's dissertation will focus on modern Turkish literature and film after 1990s concerning minorities and nationalism in Turkey. She will examine Greek, Armenian, and Kurdish minorities and how they are represented in popular culture through the mediation of literature and film. Salmaner has worked as the Turkish Language Teaching Assistant in NELC for the last three years. She plans to take her qualifying exams in Spring 2008.

## Modern Hebrew & Israel Studies

Profs. **Naomi Sokolff**, NELC, **Gad Barzilai**, Political Science, **Joel Migdal**, JSIS, and **Noam Pianko**, JSIS were awarded a course development grant from the International Studies Center for their jointly proposed course "Israel: Dynamic Society and Global Flashpoint." The course will be offered Winter 2008 and cross listed with the Jackson School of International Studies (JSIS).

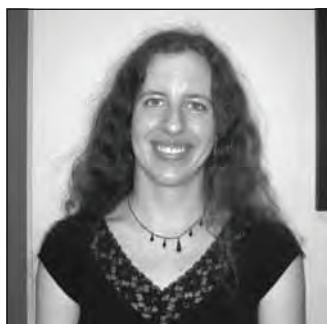
Former Hebrew Teaching Assistant **Or Rogovin**, Ph.D. Comparative Literature, will participate in a one-year M.A. program in Jewish Studies at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. His focus will be Yiddish and Modern Hebrew literature and culture. He will return to UW in 2008-2009 to take his general examinations in Comparative Literature and write his dissertation in comparative Jewish literature.



*Or Rogovin*

### Cultural Immersion Travel Award

**Katherine Nutsch** is a double major in Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East and Cellular, Molecular and



*Katherine Nutsch*

Developmental Biology. This summer she will travel to Jerusalem on a Cultural Immersion Travel Award and Israel Travel Grant for a five-week intensive Modern Hebrew program at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

After the program ends she will travel throughout Egypt for two and a half weeks, and visit Istanbul, before returning to the United States. Her paper will compare the way news outlets in the United States and Middle East analyze various events that occur while she is abroad. According to Katherine, she looks forward to experiencing cultures different from the United States and comparing the portrayal of such cultures in our media to her experience of the society as a traveler in the country. Katherine plans to enroll in either second year Hebrew next year. She will graduate in Spring 2008.

### Herbert I. Rosen Lecturer in Modern Hebrew

**Aliza Sandalon** joined NELC in 2003 as a part-time Hebrew Lecturer. She was recently appointed for three years as a full-time lecturer in elementary and intermediate



*Aliza Sandalon*

Hebrew. Aliza has a B.A. in Educational Counseling from Tel Aviv University and studied child psychology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. In addition to her teaching responsibilities in NELC, she also teaches second and fifth grade Hebrew at the Jewish Day School of Metropolitan Seattle.

Her interests lie in the connection between Classical Hebrew and Modern Hebrew. This spring she attended an Intensive Workshop in "Classical Hebrew for Instructors of Modern Hebrew" at University of Texas-Austin. She sees the Hebrew language as a portal to Modern Israeli culture and tries to connect the language to the wider context of Judaism through her Hebrew classes. Before she came to NELC, Aliza taught Hebrew at State University of New York at Stony Brook.



# Persian & Iranian Studies

The Persian Studies program continues to expand by offering courses in Persian and Tajik, ranging from heritage and non-heritage language classes to advanced and graduate level courses on the literature and culture of Iran and the Middle East. This year we will invite renowned artists, scholars, and writers to deliver lectures for the UW community and the Seattle community at large. Thanks to the generosity of **Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute**, we were able to invite speakers and host the 2007 **UW Iranian Film Series** in Seattle. The overwhelming reception of the Film Series has

convinced us to host the event again in February 2008. Next year we will invite other distinguished speakers to a conference organized on Persio-Indian studies. This symposium will examine the exchanges between the medieval Indian and Persian mystic scholars with a focus on literature and linguistics. We enthusiastically look forward to another rich and dynamic year.



*Prof. Firoozeh Papan-Matin, Shahnush Parsipur, Rich Simonson (Elliot Bay Book Company) and Sarah Loudan (SAM)*

## NELC Persian Lecturer

Susan Benson joined NELC as a part-time Arabic lecturer in Fall 2005, taught Arabic and Persian in 2006, and was hired as a full-time lecturer for Persian in 2007. Susan completed her B.A.



*Susan Benson*

and M.A. in Middle East Studies – Persian and Arabic, at the University of Utah, where she also taught Arabic and Persian. In winter quarter, Susan organized the Persian Program's participation in World Languages Day, hosting 35 local high school students in a Farsi mini-lesson, and welcoming visiting students and their teachers at the Culture Fair. This well-attended occasion will be an annual event for the Persian Program. Susan also coordinates the weekly Persian Conversation Circle, which is open to all students of Persian at UW. Susan's academic interests include second language acquisition and assessment, and she is a member of the NELC/REECAS Language Proficiency Committee, studying evaluation methods for the languages she teaches.

## Persian Student News

NELC Cultural Immersion Travel Awards were awarded to **Abel Kerevel**, M.A. SISME and **Heather Rastovac**, senior Anthropology and NELC, to study Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Abel plans to research the civil war in Tajikistan. Heather will conduct ethnographic fieldwork with the Afsaneh Art and Culture Society's Tajik Dance Initiative in the autonomous region of Badakhshan in southern Tajikistan. Her research paper will provide contemporary and historical perspectives on dance in Tajik society. In June **Anna Crowley**, M.A. REECAS 2007, will begin work for International Research and Exchanges Board in Dushanbe, Tajikistan as Program Manager for their Civil Society Division. She plans to stay in Tajikistan for two years.

**Behrooz Soleimani**, senior Biochemistry, is the 2007-2008 recipient of the **Naficy Scholarship in Persian and Iranian Studies**. Behrooz joined the intermediate Persian language courses in 2005 and continued his studies in advanced language and literature courses. Behrooz plans to attend medical school. Behrooz sees his commitment to mastering Persian as an extension of his determination to appreciate his Iranian heritage and to understand better the Persian speaking persons whom he will consult as a physician.

**James Gustafson**, Ph.D. History and **Abel Kerevel**, M.A. SISME have been offering Persian courses at the Washington Academy of Languages.



*Abel Kerevel*



*Behrooz Soleimani*

# NELC Partnerships

Please consider becoming a partner with NELC and contributing to the funds of your choice. The partnerships below allow us to support our excellent students, foster new programs, and create new opportunities in our research, teaching, and service to the community.

## General Partnerships

*Friends of NELC:* This partnership represents the broadest possible support for NELC. The Friends of the NELC Fund allows us to enhance any of NELC's programs by way of speakers, special events, colloquia, and faculty and student projects.

*Michael A. Williams Endowment for Excellence:* To honor Michael Williams' incredible service and commitment as Chair of NELC (1997-2005), NELC Board Members Pamela and Robert Miller generously established this endowment to provide tuition support for NELC graduate and undergraduate students. The College has kindly agreed to match all contributions from faculty and staff made to this endowment.

*NELC Graduate Fellowships:* This general graduate fellowship fund allows NELC to support its graduate students in any of its major areas of study. The Dean of the College also has supported this fellowship with matching contributions.

## Partnerships in Arabic and Islamic Studies

*The Bateh Fellowship Fund:* This partnership allows us to award fellowships to students studying Arabic who not only have demonstrated academic merit, but also have experience, understanding of, and a deep commitment to the Arab world. This fund significantly enhances our efforts to encourage students with outstanding potential to pursue the study of Arabic.

*The Farhat J. Ziadeh Endowment:* The partners who have created this endowment make it possible for NELC to host the annual Farhat J. Ziadeh lecture and publication.

## Partnerships in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

*The Biblical and Ancient Near East Studies Fund:* This fund continues to enrich our overall program in these fields by co-sponsoring speakers or events of interest to faculty, students, and the community.

*The Paul Leroy Scholarship for Ancient Egyptian Studies:* This partnership allows for an annual student competition for excellence in Ancient Egyptian Studies.

## Partnership in Central Asian Studies

*Nicholas Poppe Memorial Fellowship in Central Asian Studies:* This fund is used to support outstanding students in Central Asian Studies.

## Partnerships in Persian Studies

*Friends of Persian Studies:* This new general support fund will allow us to sponsor special events that enhance Persian Studies at the University of Washington.

*The Afrassiabi Endowment in Persian Studies:* This partnership with the Afrassiabi family makes possible our Hooshang Afrassiabi Distinguished Lecture, now in its ninth year.

*Cole and Firoozeh Papan-Matin Endowed Student Support:* This partnership, made possible by the generosity of our own Prof. Papan-Matin, offers support to graduate students engaged in Persian and/or Iranian studies.

*The Naficy Family Scholarship in Persian Studies:* Our partnership with the Naficy family allows us to offer an annual award that honors the excellence of our students pursuing work in Persian Studies.

*The Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Persian Studies:* Through a wonderful endowment from the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute, NELC now offers a competitive annual award that provides a generous stipend and tuition waiver to UW students engaged in Persian and Iranian Studies.

## Partnerships in Turkish Studies

*The Turkish Endowed Fund:* Thanks to the enthusiastic support of so many of NELC's partners we are now able to sponsor speakers, special colloquium, or other initiatives that focus on Turkish culture and language.

*The Turkish and Ottoman Literature Endowed Fellowship:* The exceptional generosity of an anonymous donor, coupled with a significant match from the College, has made available a fully-endowed graduate fellowship plus tuition in Turkish and Ottoman Studies.

## NELC PARTNERS

Private support creates educational opportunities for students, enhances faculty teaching and research, and allows us to expand our program offerings. We could not accomplish all we do in NELC without our many partnerships and we are pleased to recognize the following contributors for their generous support over the past year:

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Liya Zou

If you would like to discuss the many ways in which you might partner with NELC, please contact Mr. Christopher Landman, Director of Development for the Humanities at (206) 616-0632.



# NELC Graduates 2006-2007

## Bachelor of Arts

### Language & Civilization

Mohammed Al-Ansi	Arabic
Hassan Abdi	Arabic
Mariam Abrahimi	Persian
Erin Bell	Arabic
Mia Benson	Arabic
Josh Berer	Arabic
Alexander Cockrum	Persian
Nima Fazilat	Persian
Michael Javid	Persian
Lindsay Jones	Hebrew
Hanady Kadar	Arabic
Christian Lucier	Arabic
Talal Mased	Arabic
Rosita Pour	Persian
Brittany Schmidt	Arabic
Nahzinine Shakeri	Persian
Joesph Skaff	Arabic
Madeleine Willemain	Arabic

### Comparative Islamic Studies

Sharla Halvorson	Arabic
Hajerah Mumtaz	Urdu
Ryan Shauers	Arabic
John Shriver	Arabic

### Culture & Civilization

Nahzanin Imani	Arabic
Catherine Ladan	Arabic
Ramona Miller	Arabic



NELC Graduates at 2006-2007 Graduation party

## Master of Arts

Matthew Erickson	Modern Arabic Literature
Alireza Jabbarpour	Arabic and Persian Literature
Stefan Kamola	Central Asian Literature and History

## Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Studies

Gary Martin	<i>Textual Histories of Early Jewish Writings: Multivalences vs. the Quest for the "Original"</i>
Elliott Ohannes	<i>William Mitchell Ramsay: An Intellectual Biography</i>

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