Letter From the Chair

PARC extends its deepest sympathy to everyone affected by the calamity on September 11. Our thoughts are with the grieving families and friends of the dead and injured. Here in Washington, D.C., my wife, Evelyn, and I were deeply saddened by the events. We felt as if a close relative had passed away. Palestinians in the West Bank with whom I spoke were as horrified by these senseless crimes as all of us. These tragic events will only increase PARC’s resolve to pursue its mission—to promote understanding and cooperation between American and Palestinian scholars as they seek to increase the quality, range and depth of Palestinian studies.

The last six months have also seen escalations in the violence occurring in the Palestinian territories. While the disruptions in the daily lives of Palestinians there have been affected most dramatically, recent events have also affected scholarly activity in the region. One of this year’s PARC fellows from Palestine experienced a two-week delay in traveling to the U.S. to conduct his research. Other researchers in the territories have been stymied in their attempts to cross into closed off areas and to meet with scholars at local universities. Even as the traumatic events in Palestine continue to unfold, PARC has pressed forward. I am pleased to report the many accomplishments we have made.

PARC is pleased to welcome Dr. Don Peretz to its steering committee. A well-known scholar of Middle Eastern studies, Dr. Peretz’s insights will undoubtedly add to PARC’s ability to further promote international recognition of Palestine studies. The relocation of PARC’s U.S. office to Villanova has been completed, where it comes under the direction of Dr. Ann Lesch. As part of the transition, Ann has hired Manka Azevor, a graduate student at Villanova, to assist her in managing PARC’s affairs. Please make note of our new office contact information, which is highlighted both in this publication and on our Web site. Ann has also recently returned from a visit to the Middle East, which she shares with you in her director’s report.

In Palestine, the registration of the field office is being finalized and an advisory board of prominent academics and professionals is being formed. We are honored that Dr. Ibrahim Dakkak, former chair of the Arab Thought Forum, has agreed to chair that body, which will provide guidance and support to PARC’s efforts abroad.

Additionally, PARC has become an affiliated member of the Middle East Studies Association. This fall, at the 2001 MESA Conference in San Francisco, PARC will hold both its annual business meeting and a roundtable discussion on “Contemporary Social Science Research.” We invite anyone interested in learning more about PARC to join us at our business meeting, which is open to all. More detailed information on these and other MESA events can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

As we announce the recipients of the 2001–2002 fellowship awards in this issue, PARC is preparing for its third annual competition. Details on applying for the fellowship program can be found in this newsletter as well as on our Web site www.parc.wustl.edu.

When you visit our Web site, we hope you will notice that it has been redesigned with valuable sections added, including a chronology and bibliography, excerpts from Palestinian literature, maps, photos, and links to other sites of interest to scholars and others involved in Palestinian studies.

Special thanks and recognition are due to several people and organizations for their support and work on PARC’s behalf, including Villanova University, for providing release time and office resources to Ann Lesch so that she may conduct PARC’s business; to the Center for International Development and Conflict at the University of Maryland, for hosting PARC’s “new and improved” Web site; and to Dave Lipscombe and Darlene Reilly of LI Marketing and Design for the development and redesign of PARC’s Web site.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions, and we look forward to your continued membership support.

Philip Mattar
Chair, PARC Steering Committee

PARC’S Annual Meeting to be held at MESA 2001

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 17th at 12:30 pm

**WHERE:** Garden B Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Francisco

**WHY:** For an update on PARC’s activities, fellowship program, and opportunities for member involvement

Also look for PARC directors, Ann Lesch and Mouin Rabbani at the American Research Center in Egypt’s meeting on Saturday, November 17 at 11:00am in Garden B, where they will present information on conducting research in Palestine.
From the U.S. Director's Desk

I traveled to the Middle East for six weeks in May and June 2001, just as we began to move the PARC office from Randolph-Macon College to Villanova. I participated in a conference organized by Dr. Kamal Salibi at the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies in Amman, immersed myself in the political complexities of Egypt, and struggled to understand the still-partial psychological and physical rebuilding of Lebanon. I also lectured at Lebanese American University, Balamand University, and the American University of Beirut. Most importantly, I spent two weeks on the West Bank, working with PARC’s Palestine director, Mouin Rabbani.

I arrived there on June 3, less than two days after a devastating bomb killed twenty young people and wounded scores outside a Tel Aviv disco. Tension, anger, and fear dominated both sides of the barricades. Palestinians, besieged and isolated in their towns and villages, brace themselves for renewed air strikes or even the reoccupation of Palestinian-controlled areas. I sensed daily the structural violence caused by the ongoing occupation, the deep disappointment in the failure of Israeli, Palestinian, and U.S. political leaders to realize Oslo’s aspiration for a just peace, and the feeling of foreboding as those political leaders proved unable or unwilling to craft a new strategic formula to break out of the cycle of violence.

The near-total closure of the West Bank compelled me to spend my first week in Ramallah, during which I made a brief visit to Bir Zeit University. I then stayed in Jerusalem, with short expeditions to Bethlehem and Gaza. I was disappointed that it was too risky to try to reach Nablus or Hebron. Even getting to Bir Zeit was a gamble, as the trigger-happy teenage soldiers at the Surda checkpoint frequently forced university personnel and residents of neighboring villages off the road, compelling them to scramble across the boulder-strewn hillside to reach their destination. Similarly, Bethlehem University personnel who lived in Jerusalem were routinely blocked from entering Bethlehem, requiring them to trudge across a field in order to reach that nearby town. Faculty and students trying to get to those universities from Jenin, Nablus, or Hebron had to spend hours on the road. It was a tribute to their dedication that these universities managed to hold classes at all. Of course, Palestinians could not enter or leave the Gaza Strip; the Erez crossing was eerily silent, and the sense of claustrophobia inside Gaza was intense.

Mouin and I met the PARC grantees who were conducting research at that time – Don Matthews and Daniel Monterescu from the first year’s awardees and Michelle Campos, Abdullahi Hussein, and Manal Jamal from the new group of fellows. Haleh Shaheen was sealed off in Nablus, with help from the U.S. consulate he managed to get his exit permit and left for Illinois on June 18, a tiring two weeks later than planned. (I also caught a glimpse of grantee Rabab Abdul Hadi at a café near the clock tower in Beirut’s rebuilt city center.) I was heartened by the PARC fellows’ enthusiasm for their research and their ability to overcome the day-to-day difficulties of functioning under siege.

I was deeply impressed by the determined efforts of the part of academics and professionals to conduct basic research, engage in training projects, build educational and community-based programs, and foster human rights. Although I only had time to visit a few such offices, they included the ARJ environmental research institute, BADIL resource center for Palestinian residency and refugee rights, Foreign Policy Council (Gaza), Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (Gaza), Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA), al-Qattan Foundation, Rawaq Centre for Architectural Conservation, and Tamer Institute for Community Education. Mouin and I welcomed the advice that

---continued on page 5---
PARC Welcomes Don Peretz to the Steering Committee

PARC extends a warm welcome to Dr. Don Peretz, who joined PARC’s steering committee earlier this summer. Philip Mattar, chair of the committee, has known Peretz for more than 20 years and is excited to have him on board PARC’s governing body. “Don is one of the finest and most non-partisan scholars of the Arab-Israeli conflict around,” he says, pointing to his many publications on Palestinian refugees, the West Bank, and the Intifada.

Peretz, who has devoted many years to studying the Arab-Israeli conflict and working on Palestinian refugee issues inside Israel, is looking forward to working with PARC in expanding its reach in the realm of Palestinian studies. “So much of my research has been involved with Palestine that it is only natural that I would be interested in PARC.”

Professor emeritus of political science at the State University of New York at Binghamton, Peretz also served as director of its South West Asia North Africa Program for many years. Earlier in his career, he was associate director of the New York State Education Department Center for International Programs and Services and taught Middle East history and politics at Vassar, Williams, and Hunter Colleges and Long Island University. This October he will be recognized by the Middle East Institute with an award for his many contributions to Middle East studies over the years.

During the late 1940s, Peretz was a Middle East correspondent for NBC and United Nations World magazine. In 1949, he became a representative of the American Friends Committee (Quakers) with U.N. Relief for Palestine Refugees. He has also served as the Middle East Evaluator for the Voice of America. He was a visiting fellow at the U.S. Institute for Peace, and has received grants to study Palestinian refugees from the Ford and Rockefeller foundations. His publications include over 300 articles in publications such as Middle East Journal, Foreign Affairs, Journal of Palestine Studies, Wilson Quarterly, Survival, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Middle East Insight, Current History, The Nation, New Republic, Christian Century, Commonweal, Jewish Social Studies, New Outlook, Freedom at Issue, and Progressive. He is author of Israel and the Palestine Refugee; The Middle East Today, Government and Politics of Israel, Palestinians, Refugees and the Middle East Peace Process; The West Bank, Intifada: The Palestinian Uprising; and The Arab-Israeli Dispute.

Peretz’s presence on the steering committee will “help PARC identify neglected areas of Palestinian studies that we should focus on and support,” says Mattar. Peretz is looking forward to his involvement with the organization. “I’m interested in furthering academic study of Palestinian issues,” he says simply, and he hopes to “encourage scholarship generally and the scholars themselves” in working toward that goal.

New and Improved: PARC Updates Its Web Presence

PARC has recently completed an overhaul of its Web presence, www.parcenter.org. The new site has a completely new look and contains useful information for researchers, such as an extensive bibliography, a chronology of Palestine history, and excerpts from the recently published Encyclopedia of the Palestinians. In addition, there are maps, excerpts from Palestinian literature, photographs, artwork, and a section on Palestinian Studies Today, where we will publish invited papers from members, PARC fellows, and other scholars. Links to various publishers, research centers, and other Web sites of interest are also available.

In addition to scholarly information, the PARC site also includes excerpts from our semi-annual Newsletter, profiles of our leaders, and information on parc/fellows, application information for annual fellowship research grants, and information on how to become a member of PARC.

The colorful new home page and site layout were designed by Darlene Reilly and Dave Lipscombe of Li Marketing and Design in Mechanicsville, Va.

Steering Committee Update

Dr. Philip Mattar, chair of PARC’s steering committee, has recently resigned his position as Director of the Institute of Palestine Studies and Associate Editor of the Journal of Palestine Studies to become a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Mattar’s fellowship supports his research and writing on the distortions in the historiography of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr. Mark Tessier has left the University of Arizona to take a position as professor of political science at the University of Michigan, where he is also affiliated with the Center for Political Studies of the Institute for Social Research. He continues to serve as president of the American Institute for Maghrib Studies.

PARC Office Relocated

The PARC office has completed its transition from Ashland, Va. to Villanova, Pa., where it comes under the direction of Dr. Ann Lesch. All correspondences, membership dues, and questions regarding the fellowship program should now be directed to:

Dr. Ann Lesch, U.S. Director
PARC
C/O Political Science Department
Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085-1699

Phone: 610-519-7712
Fax: 610-519-7487
E-mail: parc@villanova.edu
Web site: www.parcenter.org

Please update your address books and PDAs to reflect these changes.

Mouin Rabbani, Palestine Director
Phone: 972-2-2980601
Fax: 972-2-2980602
P.O. Box 36577
Jerusalem, via Israel
PARC Awards Eight Fellowships for the 2001-02 Academic Year

Please join us in congratulating the following recipients of PARC’s 2001-2002 round of fellowship awards:

Lori A. Allen, Ph.D. candidate, University of Chicago, is conducting research on “The Uncertain State of Palestine: Pain and Suffering” in Nationalism and State Building.” Her study investigates pain and suffering as it defines and transforms politics and cultural practices in Palestinian society. Her research into how the “naming and identifying what is pain and suffering are themselves political acts” includes anthropological fieldwork and extensive interviews.

Michelle U. Campos, Ph.D. candidate, Stanford University, intends her research on “A ‘Shared’ Homeland and Its Boundaries: Late Ottoman Palestine Between Imperial Commitment and Communal Identification,” to analyze the “process of redefining the citizen’s role in the new Ottoman polity, the community’s place in the new Ottoman hierarchy, and the nature of imperial rule in a changing empire” in light of the July 1908 Young Turk revolt.

Khaled Furani, Ph.D. candidate, The Graduate Center, City University of New York, is conducting research on “Modern Arab Poets Contesting Power” through analysis of contemporary Palestinian poetry. His interdisciplinary study “approach[es] the poets not simply as artists but also as political subjects and authors of texts with philosophical utterances.” His research includes fieldwork in Ramallah as well as archival research and a survey of poetic works that address issues of power.

Awad Eddie Halabi, Ph.D. candidate, University of Toronto, is researching “The Transformation of the Prophet Moses Festival and Shrine at Jeticho: From Local Worship to Nationalist Identity,” which examines the interaction of social groups at the Prophet Moses shrine and its festival as “a microcosm of the social and political dynamics of Palestine” under Ottoman and British rule.

Abdullatif S. Husseini, Ph.D. candidate, University of Oslo, Norway, centers his research on type 2 diabetes mellitus in his study, “Lipid Profile of Adult Palestinians in Rural and Urban Areas.” In addition, Husseini will deepen institutional ties between Birzeit University’s Institute of Community and Public Health and the Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh, through the continued development of the epidemiology Supercourse available internationally through the Internet.

Manal Jamal, Ph.D. candidate, McGill University, is researching the impact of international intervention in “After the ‘Peace Processes’: Foreign Aid and the Political Economy of Marginalization.” Her project examines foreign funding as it contributes to the deteriorating socio-economic conditions and political marginalization of groups following a “war-to-peace” transition.

Dr. Carol N. Malt, independent museum consultant, plans to compile a comprehensive history of Palestinian museums and the roles that women have played—and continue to play—in their planning, management, and administration through her research on “Museums and Women in Palestine.” Malt finds the “dichotomy between the image of inclusion...and the acceptability of museum work” an intriguing paradox in Palestinian society, to which her analysis may bring further understanding.

Dr. Hafez Q. Shaheen, Civil Engineering Department, an-Najah National University, is performing an “Analysis of the Surface and Subsurface Flow in the West Bank Mountainous Watersheds,” through a residency at the Hydrosystems Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As part of his U.S.-based research, Shaheen is adapting the Geomorphic Instantaneous Unit Hydrograph (GIUH) model to arid and semi-arid hydrological conditions such as those in the Soreq watershed in the Jerusalem district.

2002-2003 PARC Research Fellowship Opportunities

The Palestinian American Research Center announces its annual competition for post-doctoral and/or doctoral research fellowships in Palestinian studies for the academic year 2002-2003. Field of study and historical time period are open. Typical awards will range from $4,500 to $6,000 and may include up to $1,000 for travel expenses.

General Information
• Applicants must be senior (post-doctoral) scholars or full-time graduate students enrolled in a recognized degree program.
• Graduate students must have fulfilled all preliminary requirements for the doctorate degree except the dissertation by the time research commences.
• Applicants may seek additional funding from other sources, but in the case of multiple awards PARC must be notified and reserves the right to modify or cancel its fellowship offer.

Application Requirements:
• Application form (5 copies) downloadable from PARC’s Web site
• Project description not exceeding 2,500 words, including importance of research topic, methodology, literature review, applicant’s qualifications, applicant’s nationality, time frame, budget and curriculum vitae (5 copies)
• Three letters of recommendation
• Notice of other applications and grant history (5 copies)
• Pre-doctoral applicants must provide graduate transcripts

Applications must be received by February 15, 2002
Palestinian American Research Center
c/o Political Science Department, Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085-1699

For further information, contact: Dr. Ann Lesch, U.S. Director
Tel: 610-519-7712 Fax: 610-519-7487 E-mail: parc@villanova.edu
Web site: www.parccenter.org

This fellowship program is made possible by grants from The Rockefeller Foundation and The Ford Foundation.
Michelle Campos Examines Tensions of Late Ottoman Palestine

In her doctoral research on the impact in Palestine of the Young Turk Revolt of 1908, Michelle Campos is examining the ways in which various groups redefined their role as citizens of the Ottoman Empire. The period following the revolt, she points out, was marked by uprisings and demonstrations around the Empire. While it brought the promise of democratic, modern, and pluralistic changes for its citizens, it also led to conflicts and shifting identities on a local level. Campos’ research focuses on the tensions emerging between “imperial commitment and [the] increasingly exclusionary communal identification” that developed in Palestine.

According to Campos, “[t]he Young Turk ideals of centralization and liberal universalism were intended as efforts to consolidate and modernize the imperial system.” However, she adds, different regions of the empire, such as Palestine, experienced the transition differently, in part based on local concerns and contexts. “The proposed universalism of the Young Turk Revolt had the effect of threatening the local socio-political balance. As such, it offers a site for exploring the nexus between state structure and ethnic communal power as well as the impact of reconfigured nationality on civil society.”

Campos, a doctoral candidate at Stanford University, argues that prior historical analyses do not go far enough in explaining the “leap from imperial province to proto-nationalist mandate.” She feels that historians have limited their investigations to the various elite segments of the population and have ignored those groups who did not fall under their lens. She believes that the adaptation of under-represented populations, including the Sephardim, Mizrahim, Christians and peasant communities at the political, socio-economic, and communal level, created conflicts between groups and reshaped their own framework of identification.

The duties of citizenship to the Empire, which contrasted with ethnic commitments in the public and private spheres, provide a rich field of information from which Campos hopes to frame an historical perspective that explores the boundaries between empire and community and ideology and experience. Campos focuses her research on the Sephardi and Maghrebi (Spanish and North African) Jews of Palestine, Palestinian Christians, and Muslims to examine the reformulation of communal identity through elements ranging from religion and ethnicity, to class, language, education, and political status, among others. The promises of reform birthed during the revolt, she suggests, sparked a “fractured reorientation” that manifested itself eventually in nationalistic terms.

Campos received her M.A. in history from Stanford University in 1997 and has been recognized with numerous academic grants and awards including a Fulbright IIE Scholarship to Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2000), a Social Science Research Center Near and Middle East Research and Training Grant (2000), and an O’Bie Shulz Dissertation Research Grant in 2000.

Her current research effort is a continuation of preliminary fieldwork performed during several months in Israel in 1998. It includes a thorough review of published press materials from Arab, Hebrew, and Judeo-Spanish sources, along with the collection of personal memoirs and other archival sources such as historical pamphlets and announcements. Campos’s PARC-sponsored fieldwork takes her back to Israel and Palestine for several months to conduct additional archival research. She hopes to unearth additional private family papers and other primary source materials. As wars and migration dispersed much of the source material available on Ottoman-era Palestinian social history, Campos also plans to travel to Istanbul, Amman, and Beirut to locate and look through whatever imperial and provincial records may remain.

**DIRECTOR’S DESK — continued from page 2**

they and colleagues at Bir Zeit and Bethlehem universities offered for the future operations of PARC. And I especially appreciated the warm hospitality provided by Isah Jad and Saleh Abdul Jawad, who made me a part of their family for several days in Ramallah/El-Bineh.

Mouin and I had fascinating discussions with prospective members of PARC’s nascent advisory board in Palestine. As Philip Mattar mentions, we are honored that Dr. Ibrahim Dakkak has agreed to chair this advisory board. We expect to announce the complete list of its distinguished members at the MESA conference in November. They will be very helpful to Mouin as he deepens awareness in the region of PARC’s mission, assists PARC applicants and scholars, and crafts new programs in close cooperation with the Palestinian academic and research community.

Now that we are announcing the third round of awards, PARC is beginning to build up a reputation and a solid track record. We trust that Mouin’s efforts in Palestine, our widening contacts throughout the Middle East and North America, and the useful research materials in the newly improved Web site will expand our reach and help toward achieving our goal of enhancing the range and quality of scholarship on Palestinian issues.

— Ann M. Lech
Topics of Interest at the Upcoming MESA 2001 Conference

The following is a list of sessions and papers relating to Palestinian studies that are being given at the Middle East Studies Association conference this fall.

* indicates PARC fellowship recipients
* indicates PARC steering committee members

**Sunday, November 18**
8:00–10:00 A.M. **The Relationship Between Business People and the State in Contemporary Arab Middle East**

Charles Semans, The Mattis Group, Ramallah, Palestine.

*The Case of the Palestinian Economy: The Exception that Proves the Rule.*

**The Politics of Memory in Palestine**
Chair/Discussant: Garay Menicucci, University of California, Santa Barbara.


*Anneke Moores,* University of Amsterdam. *Representing Palestinian Refugees: UNRWA Films and the National Geographic.*

*Mayy Seikaly,* Wayne State University. *The “Nakba” Revisited in the Memories of Palestinian Refugees.*

10:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M. **Recent Political Science Research on Civil Society in Palestine**

*Chair:* Nathan J. Brown, George Washington University.

*Ellen Lurie-O’Car,* Yale University. "The Missing Link: The Failure of Palestinian Youth NGOs to Promote National Identity.*

*Amaney Jamal,* University of Michigan. "When Associations Matter: Explaining Variations in Democratic Attitudes among Civil Participants in the West Bank.*


**Recent Political Science Research on Civil Society in Palestine**

1:30–3:30 P.M. **Palestinian Nationalism and Identity**

*Chair:* Elise G. Young, Westfield State College

*Nancy L. Stockdale,* University of Central Florida. "A Dream" or "A Nightmare"? Palestinian Women’s Memories of English Missionary Education.


*Awad Eddie Halabi,* University of Toronto. *The Politicization of the Prophet Moses Festival in Palestine under the Supreme Muslim Council, 1925–1935.*

2:15–4:45 P.M. **Empowering Muslim Women: Legal Changes and Challenges**

*Ammar El-Agha,* School of the Middle East Studies, Palestinian Authority. *Muslim Women and Legal Reforms in Egypt, Jordan and Palestine.*

**Food, Collective Memory and Cultural Identity**

*Carol Badenstine,* University of Michigan. Transmissions Interrupted: Reconfigurations of Food, Memory and Gender in Palestinian and Egyptian "Emigre" Cookbook Memoirs and Narratives of Displacement.

4:00–6:00 P.M. **Levantines, Locales and Longue Durée**


**PARC Roundtables: Contemporary Social Science Research on Palestine**
Sunday, November 18th at 4:00 PM in Garden B.

The roundtable will focus on recent criticisms that Palestinian studies have tended toward "the fusion of ideology and scholarship" that has resulted in analysis that may be motivated by political stakes in the clash between Palestinianism and Zionism. It will address, critique, and debate past research and contemporary efforts from the perspectives of several disciplines including political science, history, and anthropology.

*Dr. Ann Lezick,* PARC’s U.S. director and chair of the discussion, hopes the roundtable will "encourage scholars to think creatively about new research agendas related to Palestine and about ways in which Palestinian studies can contribute to theory building and enhance interdisciplinary collaboration."

**Chair:** Ann Lezick, Villanova University

*Judith Tucker,* Georgetown University. *Writing the History of Palestine*

*Glenn Robinson,* Naval Postgraduate School. *Current Political Science Theory and Method in the Study of Palestine*

*Julie Peteret,* University of Louisville. Beyond and Within the Political: Gender and Scholarship on Palestine

*Mouna Rabbani,* PARC. Social Science Research in Palestine

Note that the room assignment is subject to change. Please check the conference schedule upon arrival to confirm time and place.

**Monday, November 19**
8:00–10:00 A.M. **International Relations of Palestine**

*Chair:* Samer Al-Atrash, Cornell University

*Lawrence Davidson,* West Chester University. Ideology Over Reality: Orientalist Perceptions at the State Department

*Leila Fares,* SOAS, University of London. Palestinian Labor Flows to Israel: Land and Labor Since Oslo and Beyond


**Can the Subaltern See?: The Order of Vision in the Colonial Middle East**


The Imagination of Communities in a Transnational Media Age

*Julienne Choper,"* Georgetown University. To Be Palestinian or Not to Be: Elie Wiesel’s Chronicles of a Disappearing, and the Re-Construction of "Palestinian" Identity.

10:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M. **The Impact of the Al-Aqsa Intifada on Israel’s Domestic Politics & Foreign Policy** (Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies)

*Chair:* Robert O. Freedman, Baltimore Hebrew University

Tuesday, November 20
8:30–11:30 AM

Arabs in Minority Situations
Chair: Emilie A. Nakleh, Potomac, MD
Tamer Sorek, University of Maryland. Arab Socio in Israel as an Evolvement of “Normal Citizenship.”
Sherry R. Lowrance, University of Texas at Austin. Ethnic Mobilization and Participation in Israel: The Case of Arab Palestinian Citizens.
Marken Boulby, University of Nebraska at Omaha. Islamists Inside the Green Line: Conflict or Coexistence?
Ali Al-Tai, Shaw University. The Arabs of Southwest Iraq: Ultimate Assimilation?

Civic Society in Palestine
Chair: Alwyn R. Roulser, University of Idaho.
Manal A. Jamal, McGill University. The Constitution of Civil Society: Consent and Discord among Donars, NGOs and the Palestinian Authority.
Buhain Al-Biss, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Where's Agenda?: International Aid and Educational Reform in Palestine.

Policies, Rituals and Practices of Legitimacy in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Kimberly Katz, Emory University. Conforming Authority, Increasing Legitimacy: Jordan and the Patriarchs of Jerusalem.

The Politics of Law: Secular Ideologies & Religiously-Grounded Law

10:45 AM–12:45 PM

Migration and Refugees
Runa Etauto, University of Helsinki. Palestinian Return Migration and Transnationalism.

Oslo and After: Transformations in the Political Landscape of Israel and Palestine
Chair: Thomas Aberg, Columbia University
Lynne D. Lyber, University of Chicago. Islamicization and the Formation of Diverging Collective Identities in the West-Oslo Era.
Thomas Asad, Columbia University. Contesting Jerusalem in a Post-Oslo Era.
Mushtaq Qassam, University of Illinois at Chicago. The Palestinian Intelligence after Oslo: Professionalization or Desocialization?

Discussion: Mark Levoy, European Union Institute.

Identity Politics of Contemporary Arabic Literature
Markus Khouri-Machisk, SOAS, University of London. Inner Exile Literature in the Israeli Arabic Press.

1:00–3:00 PM

State, Colonial Land Tenure, and Sir Ernest Dowson
Chair: Kenneth M. Cw, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Discussion: Roger Owen, Harvard University.

Gendered Sites of Politics and Power: Images, Identities and Bodies
Chair: Jennifer Abboudi, New York University
*Frances S. Hasso, Oberlin College. Gender and the Political Consequences of Visibility/Invisibility in Two Uprisings.
Sahra Serkely, New York University. Malakal tamim: Palestinian Cultures of Consumption in Israel.
*Asif S. Sayyada. Once Upon a Time It Was Ours: Palestinian Women Remembering the Civil War in Beirut.
Discussion: Annelies Moore, University of Amsterdam.
According to Husseini, it has also been made available as lectures on a CD so that even those without Internet access can use it, with more than 3,000 copies already distributed. The Supercourse project being developed at the University of Pittsburgh and other institutions worldwide can, he believes, provide opportunities for public health practitioners in Palestine to enhance their training by making the most current research available to them. “The Supercourse currently holds more than 450 lectures... contributed from more than 110 countries,” Husseini has previously contributed a lecture about the epidemiology of diabetes in the Arab world to the Supercourse project.

Dr. Ron Laporte, director of disease monitoring and telecommunications at the WHO Center in Pittsburgh, found Husseini to be a valuable addition to his staff, which includes researchers from India, the Ukraine, Russia, China, Mexico, Korea and Japan. “He fits in wonderfully [...] I consider him a part of my team.” Husseini will, he adds, “always have a seat (and computer) in my unit.”

Husseini is excited by the promise of this technology-based effort to expand the knowledge of public health professionals internationally and believes that Palestine and other developing countries can benefit tremendously from this information-on-demand system. “It is urgent,” he says, “that the different institutions operating in the country would consolidate action in the area of science and technology serving the needs of the nascent [Palestinian] state.” Husseini is already planning to develop Supercourse materials and lectures in Arabic that describe the public health situation in Palestine. His research and contributions to the program have propelled Husseini to become one of the core members at the University of Pittsburgh WHO Collaborating Center who develop and maintain the Supercourse program.

Also in the works for Husseini are plans for a second paper, to be co-authored with his collaborators at the University of Pittsburgh, about diabetes and the Internet. His growing expertise in both diabetes epidemiology and the Internet will, he hopes, foster further collaboration not only with Pittsburgh, but others in these two fields in years to come. Using the Internet for research and teaching will connect him and other Palestinian public health experts with the world’s top diabetes epidemiologists, providing additional sources for joint research that will benefit public health around the globe.
Carol Malt Explores Women and Museums in Palestine

As an art historian, Dr. Carol Malt was naturally drawn to the antiquities of the Middle East. From there, her interests reached out to encompass the art, the people, and the professionals, like herself, who bring them together. “This project brings together the three things that are important in my life—women, the Middle East, and museums,” she reflected. One of eight scholars to receive a PARC research fellowship during the 2001-2002 cycle, Malt is conducting research on “Museums and Women in Palestine,” in which she hopes to document Palestinian museums and the women who have been major participants in the founding, development, and management of them.

Women today, she found, are involved to a great extent in museums as curators and administrators.

In a statistical sense,” Malt noted, “there are more women involved [in this field] in the Levant than in the U.S.” Malt recognizes that women’s involvement in museums “may seem inconsistent with Western perceptions of Middle Eastern society, especially with the difficulties encountered in a patriarchal society.” Malt finds the dichotomy between “the image of seclusion vs. the acceptability of museum work” particularly intriguing. Indeed, Malt’s preliminary research has found that “[o]f the museums currently operating in Palestinian territory, there are five women directly involved as curators and administrators.”

Besides the museums themselves, Malt indicated that there are at least three supporting institutions affiliated with museums that have women as administrators and curators. There are also, she noted, many early examples of women who have been instrumental in the development and funding of museums in the region, such as Julia Daboub, who, along with the Arab Women’s Union, launched the Bethlehem Museum; Samia Khalil (Im Khalil), founder of In’ash al Uzra which contains the Palestinian Folkloric Museum; and Hind Hussaini, founder of Dar El Tifl.

Malt, an independent museum consultant and evaluator, exhibit curator, and writer, received her Ph.D. in interdepartmental museum studies from the University of Miami. She has focused her recent research attention on the Middle East and has authored multiple publications on historical and contemporary issues and artists of the region.

Her i’ARC-sponsored research project involves a comprehensive history of Palestinian museums “as far back as I can find information,” with an ultimate goal of completing a book on Middle Eastern museums. Palestine’s complex history of colonization by the Turks and the British and its contemporary domination by Israel, has made some information on early museums difficult to find. References to antiquity have been minimal. Malt’s research also targets information on some early museums that no longer exist in such cities as Hebron, Beit Sahour, and Nablus.

Despite the scarcity of data in some areas, Malt has found that “the Levant women have played an important role in the founding and development of museums in the past.” Her current interest in Palestine and the history of its museums is an outcropping of fieldwork conducted recently as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Jordan, where she researched women and museums there and elsewhere in the Middle East.

As part of her current investigation, Malt plans to spend three “fast-paced” weeks in the Middle East this fall interviewing Palestinian women who work as museum professionals. In addition, she has laid the groundwork with the ministries of culture and antiquities to perform additional archival research through their offices, as well as through the British and French consulates that may hold additional records from the Mandate and prior periods.

“I plan to get as comprehensive a history as I can about the buildings, the people, their collections, and their impact on the citizens.” She plans to visit museums in the West Bank and Jerusalem, including the Islamic museum in the old city of Jerusalem, the Rockefeller Museum, and Dar El Tifl, as well as libraries and other potential sources of information in the area.

While a large portion of her research is focused on the historical nexus between women and museums, Malt also plans to investigate contemporary issues relating to the topic. In addition to her interest in the women who support museums or are museum professionals, Malt also plans to look at the emergence of museums that represent women’s work, such as craft, folklore, and heritage museums. “Women fit in in so many different ways,” Malt believes, and it is her hope that, in addition to their crafts and the representations of Palestinian cultural heritage, contemporary works of fine art by women will also find their way into the museums.

Malt feels that her work, in addition to providing historical reference for other museologists, may provide inspiration to women universally and not just in Palestine. “I think museum work is so very satisfying personally,” particularly, she noted, “with the knowledge that you are doing something for the future.”
Hafez Shaheen Uses West Bank as Case Study for Modeling Storm Water Drainage

Dr. Hafez Shaheen, assistant professor of civil engineering at An-Najah National University in Nablus, West Bank, was delighted when Dr. Ben Yen, his former professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), contacted him about the possibility of joint water research projects between their respective universities. Sixteen years after he completed a master’s degree at UIUC, Shaheen, with the help of a 2001-2002 PARC research fellowship, returned there to work with the storm water drainage model Yen and his colleague, Dr. Kwan Lee, had developed in 1997.

As part of his research, Shaheen spent two and a half months this past summer working with Dr. Yen at the Hydrosystems Lab at the UIUC, applying the Geomorphic Instantaneous Unit Hydrograph (GIUH) model to data previously collected on the Soreq watershed in the Jerusalem district.

According to Shaheen, earlier unit hydrograph modeling assumed that the watershed and rain runoff process was linear. The (GIUH) developed by Yen and Lee, he says, changed the basic linear assumption of the earlier model by introducing to it the “kinematic wave”—a hydrodynamic equation used in modeling water flow.

Shaheen’s research uses the West Bank as a case study to determine how the model might be adapted for study of its storm water drainage. The GIUH model, he says, “has been used in the west and in the U.S. primarily in humid regions for flood control, but its applicability in arid and semi-arid regions like the West Bank is a new subject.” In these regions, he points out, “the [storm water drainage] process has different characteristics as being rarely heavy but significant in terms of pollution, or runoff, on an annual basis.” Understanding the relation between rainfall and runoff in modeling runoff will support the management of the water resources and may provide ideas for improving the sustainability of Palestinian water resources, he added.

Modeling rainfall and calculating flood risks are not the only benefits of the project, says Shaheen, who also works as a consultant and director of the Water and Environmental Department of the Universal Group for Engineering and Consulting. “Managing this rainfall as one water resource is critical for the Palestinians.” He believes that the model will help him and others develop plans for proper utilization of the water resources in terms of managing the watersheds and streams by calculating how much water can recharge the aquifers, and how much flows through the streams to the seas, evaporates, is used through plants, or is lost. Understanding this relation between rainfall and runoff, he adds, will support water management efforts and may lead to the development of systems and techniques for catching and retaining the rainwater that is vital to life in the arid Middle East.

Other organizations and agencies, such as the U.S. Agency on International Development (USAID), have encouraged joint research between American and Palestinian universities on water issues. For example, in addition to various brainstorming and idea-sharing sessions in which he participated at the Hydrosystems Lab, Shaheen was able to attend meetings at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, where research is being conducted jointly with Bethlehem University on aquifers in the Hebron area. Shaheen feels that the ability to meet and share ideas with other scholars and other U.S. institutions will continue to strengthen ties between researchers in both Palestine and the United States.

The GIUH model developed by Lee and Yen is a computerized process using hydraulics and fluid mechanics. The highly specialized and expensive software has not been available in Palestine, where the availability of recently developed software is limited. “Being here [in the U.S.] enables the use of such a model in addition to other geographic information system (GIS) software,” he commented. It also enabled him to make contacts with the companies that distribute the modeling software and to return to the West Bank with a tutorial version of it. His university will also have an opportunity now to purchase the software at a discount.

While his brief visit to the U.S. enabled him to work with the modeling techniques and apply them to the existing data, Shaheen feels there is much more work to do. He is currently finalizing two journal articles based on his research: “Storm Water Drainage in Arid and Semi-arid Regions, West Bank as a Case Study,” and “Unit Hydrograph and Drainage in Arid and Semi-arid Regions, West Bank as a Case Study.” Shaheen also plans to apply for a Fulbright fellowship to return to the U.S. in order to conduct additional joint research in the field of hydraulic and hydrological characteristics of intermittent streams including sediment transport.
Research Recap: Findings of Past PARC Fellows

As PARC looks forward to its third annual fellowship competition, recipients from its first round of awards have been finalizing their research projects. We are pleased to present some of the findings from those projects, which span a range of disciplines and reflect the depth and diversity of research ongoing in the field of Palestine studies.

Dr. Martin Bunton, "The Influence of Sir Robert Dowson on the Definition of Property Rights in Palestine."

Through an exhaustive review of British records in London, Cambridge, and Oxford, Bunton was able to "locate[e] the study of property rights in Palestine in historical and comparative context," where other studies have "ignore[d] the importance of structures and institutions which Palestine shared with other parts of the world that came under Western influence and colonial rule." He further suggests that Sir Ernest Dowson's works provide an opportunity for comparative analysis of British colonial land practices during the interwar period. Bunton's research in this area contributed to his paper given at the 2001 Middle East Studies Association conference at the PARC-sponsored panel on "British Rule by Records." He has also completed a commissioned entry on Sir Ernest Dowson for the New Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, forthcoming), and is in the process of revising his doctoral dissertation for publication next year.

Dr. Frances Hasso, "Paradoxes of Gender/Politics: Nationalism, Feminism, and Modernity in Contemporary Palestine."

Hasso builds on her dissertation work by exploring in greater depth the involvement of women in the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Palestinian Federation of Women's Action Committee (PFWAC). Her multi-faceted approach examines the divergence between party ideologies and practices and the differing interpretations of the relationship between the DFLP and its women members through exploring the seemingly incompatible perceptions of the DFLP's perceived pejorative label as a "women's front" versus the value of being viewed by others as "modern" because of the active participation of women in these groups. Hasso also addresses the impact of these women's involvement on their individual lives. From her research, she found "that these working-class women... had the highest sense of self-efficacy and thus were the most likely to have made choices that increased their individual negotiating power as women in the post-PFWAC period." Hasso is currently working on a journal article related to her findings.

Dr. Weldon C. Matthews, "The Istiqbal Party: A Study of Arab Nationalism in Mandatory Palestine."

Matthews' research uses the Istiqbal Party to investigate the conditions under which Palestinians expressed their political identity in nationalistic terms during the 1930s. Secondarily, he looks to the expression of this nationalism through its class structure, asking if the dominant ideas are the ideas of the dominant class or an extension of ideas from beyond the circle of the literary and political elite. From his on-going research, Matthews is preparing an article analyzing the relationship between Palestinian territorial nationalism and pan-Arabism in the Istiqbal party. His research has led him to a broader exploration of the "class and economic dimensions of the popular national movement," which, he believes "reflects the awareness on the part of some within the Istiqbal faction that urban workers were potential political resources."


Monterescu's dissertation research, centered around the construction of space and identity in mixed towns, has led him to "become more interested in the relationship between such state institutions as the municipality and governmental offices, private entrepreneurs and... the reaction and resistance of the local Palestinian population" in Jaffa. These relations, he says, "have proven to be far more complex and multidimensional than what I have expected." Monterescu expects to conclude his research in 2002.

Walid W. Sabbah, "Groundwater Flow Modeling of the Western Aquifer Basin in Palestine."

For his dissertation research, Sabbah studied the major Palestinian groundwater source, the Western Aquifer Basin. His research included establishing a "groundwater flow model... and calibrating it" in order to estimate the "sustainable yield of the aquifer basin, aquifer management and groundwater allocation between Palestine... and Israel while maintaining the aquifer's sustainability." Sabbah feels his research will be useful for future negotiations with Israel on water-related issues as it provides a deeper understanding of the hydrological situation in the West Bank and Israel.
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