

The Near East Reports...

NELC

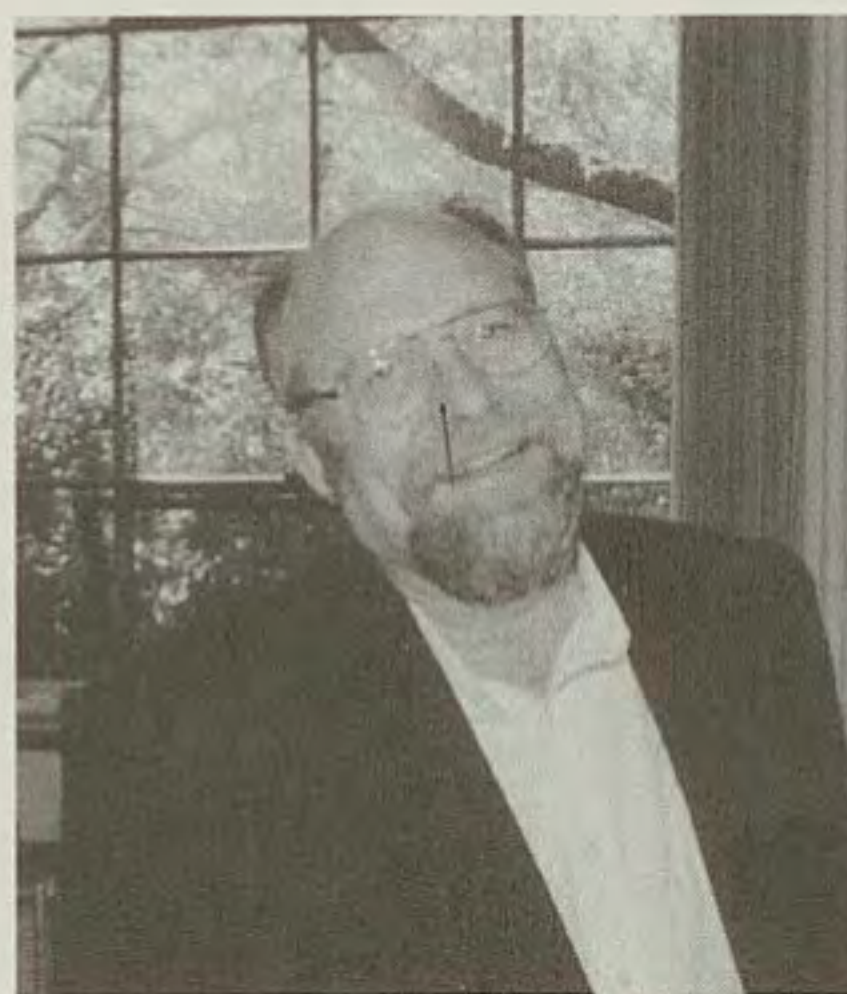
from the Department of
Near Eastern Languages and Civilization
at the University of Washington

Volume 15

Autumn, 2002

OUR ARABIC FACULTY EXPANDS

The Department is pleased to announce the enlargement of its Arabic language faculty with the hiring of Dr. Andrew Freeman as fulltime Lecturer in Arabic, to begin in Autumn Quarter 2002. Dr. Freeman received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in June 2002, in Linguistics and Near Eastern Studies, and he also has an M.A. in Arabic linguistics. Andrew's training in linguistics is combined with an exceptional interest in the application of technology in language instruction, and extensive background and professional experience in this field. Among his academic credentials is also a B.S. in Computer Science and graduate work in Computer Science Engineering, and his resumé includes several years of experience as firmware/software engineer. His technological skills and his enthusiasm for the application of these in the development of Arabic instructional media will be valuable assets as the Department continues its initiatives in this arena. Dr. Freeman's expertise in Arabic includes not only Modern Standard but also Yemeni, Moroccan, Egyptian and Palestinian Arabic dialects, as well as Classical Arabic. He has lived and studied in Yemen and Morocco and traveled extensively elsewhere in the Middle East. The Department welcomes the addition of this talented new faculty member to its Arabic program.



Dr. Andrew Freeman

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NELC ADVISORY BOARD FORMED

Former Seattle Mayor Wes Uhlman, retired Boeing Vice President Seddik Belyamani, and retired Microsoft Vice President Anthony Ravani have joined other prominent leaders representing Seattle's Turkish, Iranian, Arab, Jewish, and Central Asian communities to help NELC expand its partnerships and community service locally and nationally. A newly constituted NELC Advisory Board will provide the leadership to integrate the Department's scholarly activity into the wider community and organize events, lectures, classes, and community celebrations to broaden knowledge and foster cultural, social, and intellectual growth among a wide audience.

Other members so far of the new Board include: Tolga Ural, Senior Financial Analyst at Microsoft; Pamela Miller, art historian, curator, Seattle Art Museum Docent, and guest lecturer with special interest in Central Asian and Iranian art, and board member of the Seattle-Tashkent and the Seattle-Ber Sheva Sister City Associations, and the Washington Park Arboretum Foundation; Robert Miller, retired CEO of a national textile firm, investor, and past president and director of numerous non-profit agencies in the Seattle area; John U. Gokçen, Honorary Consul General of Turkey and VP of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) for the Pacific Northwest Region, past-president and current Advisory Board member of the local Turkish American Cultural Association (TACA), and a principal aeronautical engineer at Boeing Commercial Aviation Services; Mouna Belyamani, UW graduate in Biochemistry in 1994, on the staff until recently in UW's Department of Pharmacology--and currently a full-time mother of 22 month-old Rayan; Samir Belyamani, Regional Director of Product Marketing for Boeing Commercial Airplanes, specializing in Domestic and International Aircraft sales; anesthesiologist Dr. Ali Afrassiabi, a UW alumnus, and his wife Mandana Mahdieh; Amir Afrassiabi, Instructional Designer and Instructor at the Boeing Company, and, with his brother Ali and their family, founders of NELC's Afrassiabi Endowment in Persian Studies; retired psychiatrist Dr. Jack Faghin, who received his degrees in family medicine and psychiatry from the

UW, and since retirement has been enjoying the opportunity to be a returning student attending (through the Access program) classes offered by several departments at the UW; Conrad ("Connie") Jacobsen, UW alumnus and former graduate student in ancient Near Eastern Studies in NELC, and founder of "Teleios," a non-profit ministry devoted principally to facilitating small fellowship groups for businessmen and other professionals; Judi Jacobsen, UW graduate and founder of Madison Park Greetings, national and international distributor of cards, gifts, and stationery products, and 1995 Small Business Person of the Year for the State of Washington.

The Board has dedicated itself to providing the community leadership to guide and enhance the UW's resources in Near East and Central Asian Studies, with a vision to creating "positive, measurable impacts in promoting peace and understanding among the various cultures represented, increasing awareness, and fostering cultural, social and intellectual growth."

FROM THE CHAIR

For most all of us there have been few days in the past year without at least some 9-11-related musing about where we have been and where we might be headed. Nevertheless, life in NELC has probably been not unlike the experience of most of you, who found it possible to carry on with your lives productively, and perhaps even with a renewed sense of purpose. Certainly this last year has been one of the most eventful in recent history for this department: Numerous major lecture events; the addition of Dr. Andrew Freeman, our new fulltime lecturer in Arabic; the hosting of a highly successful Summer Intensive Language Institute; very important grants awarded to faculty here that will mean an even busier next few years (!); the launching of a new departmental advisory board of distinguished, visionary, and dedicated members of the community—to mention only a few of the items elaborated elsewhere in this newsletter.

In the last year our number of undergraduate majors has almost doubled over what has been the average for the past ten years. Enrollments in almost all of the first-year language classes are at or above capacity. We are recruiting some outstanding graduate students.

We celebrate this progress, but we nevertheless do face real challenges as we forge ahead. We are in a time of general and very serious budgetary constraints in the State of Washington and at this University. In spite of these sobering circumstances, I have never seen the NELC community more convinced of the value of its mission. I am deeply grateful to the many people responsible for the recent significant advances and achievements: an extraordinarily talented and dedicated faculty and staff, a bright and energetic student body—and committed friends of NELC such as you who continue to participate with your involvement, encouragement, and gifts. I appeal for your continued generous support and partnership, so vital to the sustaining of our momentum.

Michael Williams

FACULTY



Professors

- Andrews, Walter G.** (Research), Ph.D., 1970, Michigan; Turkish language and literature, Ottoman Turkish.
- Bacharach, Jere L.** (Adjunct), Ph.D., 1967, Michigan; History of the Middle East, Islamic history
- 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.
- Karimi-Hakkak, Ahmad**, Ph.D., 1979, Rutgers; Persian language and literature, Iranian culture and civilization.
- MacKay, Pierre A.** (Emeritus), Ph.D., 1964, California (Berkeley); Topography of the Near East, Ottoman Turkish and Classical Arabic literatures.
- Sokoloff, Naomi B.**, Ph.D., 1980, Princeton; Hebrew language and literature.
- Williams, Michael A.** (Chair), 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, California (Berkeley); Arabic language and literature.
- Noegel, Scott**, Ph.D., 1995, Cornell; Hebrew Bible, ancient Near Eastern languages and cultures
- Wheeler, Brannon**, Ph.D., 1993, Chicago; Arabic; Islamic studies, comparative religion, late antiquity, Jewish studies, legal studies.

Assistant Professors

- Kuru, Selim**, Ph.D., 2000, Harvard; Turkish language and literature; Ottoman Turkish.
- Pyne, Nanette** (Affiliate), Ph.D., 1982, UW; Medieval Near Eastern history, geography and archaeology.
- Walker, Joel** (Adjunct) Ph.D., 1997, Princeton, History and Archaeology of the Near East in late antiquity.

Lecturers

- Freeman, Andrew**, Ph.D., 2002, Michigan, Linguistics and Near Eastern Studies; Arabic language.
- Souaiaia, Ahmed** (Part-time), Ph.D. 2002, UW; Arabic language and Islamic law.
- Wheeler, Deborah**, Ph.D., 1993, Chicago; Political science and Middle Eastern studies.

Visiting Instructional Faculty in Academic Year 2001-2002

- Akhmedov, Muhammad Ali** (Lecturer), Kandidate Nauk, 1992, Academy of Sciences, Uzbekistan; Intermediate Uzbek, Summer 2002.
- Shayesteh, Farkhondeh** (Lecturer), Ph.C., University of Chicago; Elementary Persian, Summer 2002
- Shemer, Yaron** (Lecturer), Ph.C., University of Texas; Elementary Modern Hebrew, Summer 2002

Teaching Assistants Academic Year 2001-2002 and Summer 2002

- Arabic: **Magid Shihade, Marwa Maziad, Karam Dana, Adam Larson**
- Modern Hebrew: **Ron Feder, Iris Zemach, R. David Walker**
- Persian: **Fevziye Barlas, Bryan Averbuch**
- Turkish: **Didem Havlioglu**
- Uzbek: **Olga Donahue, David Hunsicker, Dilbar Akhmedova**
- NEAR E 210--Introduction to Islamic Civilization: **Mamoun Sakkal**
- NEAR E 211--Introduction to Islam: **David Hunsicker**
- NEAR E 240--Introduction to Hebrew Bible: **Joseph DuWors**

Teaching Assistants Academic Year 2002-2003

- Arabic: **Magid Shihade, Marwa Maziad, Karam Dana**
- Modern Hebrew: **Assaf Oron**
- Biblical Hebrew: **Gary Martin**
- Persian: **Bryan Averbuch**
- Turkish: **Emine Hosoglu**
- Uzbek: **Dilbar Akhmedova**
- NEAR E 210--Introduction to Islamic Civilization: **Karam Dana**

IRFAN SHAHID DELIVERS INAUGURAL FARHAT J. ZIADEH LECTURE

On April 30, 2002, the department proudly held the inaugural Farhat J. Ziadeh Distinguished Lecture in Arab and Islamic Studies. The inaugural lecturer was Dr. Irfan Shahîd, Sultanate of Oman Professor of Arabic and Islamic Literature at Georgetown University, speaking on the topic: "Gibran between Two Millennia: Message and Relevance." One of the world's preeminent authorities on relationships between Arabs and ancient Rome and Byzantium, Professor Shahid is also the author (in Arabic) of a major 600-page book on Ahmad Shawqi, the foremost Neo-Classical Arab poet of modern times. Shahid's most recent research has also concerned the work of Arab American poet Khalil Gibran, whose *The Prophet* has become a world literature classic. Shahid spent his sabbatical in 2000-2001 in Oxford completing new research on Gibran, and he shared insights from this research in the inaugural lecture. Professor Shahid's lecture is to be published on the NELC web site in early 2003.

Professor Shahid's undergraduate work was done at Oxford, where he received his Bachelor's degree in Classics and Graeco-Roman history; his graduate work was done at Princeton, New Jersey, where he did Arabic and Islamic studies, and received his Doctorate on the theme "Early Islam and Poetry." Shahid's research interests have ranged over three major areas: Qur'anic Studies, Arabic Literature, and the area where the Graeco-Roman world meets the Arabic-Islamic one, on which he has written six volumes, all published by *Dumbarton Oaks*, the sixth of which recently appeared in print. In a separate colloquium for UW faculty and students, Professor Shahid discussed this seminal work on the fascinating history of relationships between Arabs and the late Roman and Byzantine empires. Among his publications are: *Rome and the Arabs* (1984); *Byzantium and the Arabs in the Fourth Century* (1984); *Byzantium and the Arabs in the Fifth Century* (1989); *Byzantium and the Arabs in the Sixth Century* (1995); *Byzantium and the Semitic Orient before the Rise of Islam* (1988).



Prof. Irfan and Mary Shahid (left) with Prof. Emeritus Farhat and Suad Ziadeh

NOTED CORRESPONDENT AND AUTHOR GIVES AFRASSIABI LECTURE

Well-known *New York Times* correspondent and author Elaine Sciolino delivered the fourth annual Hooshang Afrassiabi Distinguished Lecture in Persian Studies on February 16, 2002 to a

standing room only audience in Kane Hall. Her lecture on "A New Iran: Iranian Culture and Politics in the New Century" offered reflections on recent developments and trends and what they might bode for Iran's future. Ms. Sciolino's remarks were informed by



Elaine Sciolino visiting with audience members at Afrassiabi reception

many years of first-hand experience as a western correspondent covering Iran and the Middle East. Some of her insights are to be found also in her recent book, *Persian Mirrors: The Elusive Face of Iran* (Free Press, 2000). A reception in the Walker-Ames Room followed, graciously hosted by the Afrassiabi family, to whom we express our deep and continuing gratitude for their outstanding leadership in enhancing NELC's capacity to expand the appreciation of Persian Studies within our community.

REZA PAHLAVI SPEAKS TO OVERFLOW KANE HALL AUDIENCE

To a warmly appreciative audience filling two large lecture halls in Kane Hall, Mr. Reza Pahlavi, the eldest son of the late Shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, delivered an impassioned message on May 6 about his vision for the future of Iran. Many of his reflections are articulated in his

recent *Winds of Change: The Future of Democracy in Iran* (Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing, Inc., 2002). Mr. Pahlavi characterized himself as "a passionate citizen with a deep sense of duty," seeking, along with concerned compatriots, solutions to Iran's national predicament. He presented a prescription for a democratic future in Iran that stresses popular sovereignty and self-



Reza Pahlavi addresses luncheon audience at the Faculty Club

determination. Following Mr. Pahlavi's lecture, there were comments on the issues he had addressed from a panel of UW faculty, including Professors Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (NELC), Jere Bacharach (History), and Barbara Warnick (Speech Communications), and then questions from the audience.

NELC HOSTS SUMMER LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

June 24 - August 23, the department was host for a very successful 2002 Western Consortium Summer Intensive Middle Eastern Languages Institute, sponsored by the Western Consortium of University Centers of Middle East Studies (U. Arizona; UC-Berkeley; UCLA, UC-Santa Barbara; U. Texas; U. Utah; and UW). With an instructional staff including a combination of NELC faculty and teaching assistants, as well as three visiting lecturers and a visiting graduate student TA from another Consortium school, the program featured three levels of intensive Arabic, two levels of Persian and one level each of Modern Hebrew and Turkish, as well as intensive Advanced Uzbek. Total enrollment in these language classes was approximately 100 students. UW faculty participating in the language instruction for the Summer Institute included Professor Terri DeYoung (Arabic), Dr. Ahmed Souaiaia (Arabic), and Professors Selim Kuru and Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak.

Our visiting lecturer in summer intensive Modern Hebrew was Yaron Shemer, from University of Texas. Mr. Shemer is also a filmmaker, and a doctoral student in Radio-Television-Film at UT, specializing in Israeli cinema. In addition to his teaching of the Hebrew course, Yaron also gave a special public presentation and discussion of the documentary "The Road to Peace: Israelis and Palestinians," which he and Elizabeth Fernea filmed after the first stage of Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. The documentary focuses on the process of turning peace into everyday reality and demonstrates how peace was perceived and lived, not by politicians or statesmen, but by ordinary people. Yaron has also produced numerous video instructional materials, and has organized many film



Yaron Shemer

festivals. Currently he teaches Hebrew in the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures at UT. During

have the opportunity "to be a bit adventurous" and travel to see a new area. She spent her free time in Wash-



Visiting Lecturer Yaron Shemer introduces students in the Western Consortium Summer Language Institute to the elements of Modern Hebrew

the summer Mr. Shemer combined teaching and learning, taking the intensive advanced Arabic class with Professor Terri DeYoung. He quipped that he also came to Washington for the summer to escape the Texas heat, and enjoyed taking trips during his free time to Victoria and Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Shemer invites people interested in more information about his work to call 1-800-Y (why)-Shemer.

The visiting lecturer for the Consortium's Intensive Elementary Persian course was Farkhondeh Shayesteh. Ms. Shayesteh is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago concentrating on the history and the culture of Iran. In addition she also teaches Persian at the same university. Farkhondeh also translates English and Japanese to Persian and vice versa. In her spare time she enjoys painting and pottery-making. Though she had other choices for summer teaching in 2002, one of her colleagues at Chicago recommended that she take the visiting position at UW, so she chose Seattle to



Farkhondeh Shayesteh

ington hiking and sightseeing the beautiful mountains and forests in the area. In fact, Farkhondeh says if she were not so concerned about the weather here in the winter she would consider moving here!

Since 1992, Muhammad Ali Akhmedov has been a visiting lecturer for the UW summer Uzbek program. A chance meeting several years ago with Professor Ilse Cirtautas at a conference in Tajikistan led to what now is a yearly ritual for Akhmedov. Every summer he teaches UW students the Uzbek language, as he did again this year, offering Intensive Advanced Uzbek. In addition he provides them insight into the culture, history and culture of Uzbekistan. He previously worked in Uzbek Television and the Gafur Gulom Publisher House as the chief supervising editor. Akhmedov, who has a Kandidat Nauk (considered equal to Ph.D.) in Literary History from the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, is an established poet, writer and publicist. He currently is the chairman of



Muhammad Ali Akhmedov

Golden Heritage, an international charitable foundation. Muhammad Ali is also working on two books. One is about Uzbeks who were driven out of the former Soviet Union, and the book explores their lives upon their return to Uzbekistan. The other work is about Amir Temur—a 14th century conqueror. Dr. Akhmedov's daughter, Dilbar, is now an M.A. student in NELC and a teaching assistant in Uzbek language.

"DIGITAL EGYPT" PROJECT FUNDED

Associate Professor Scott Noegel was awarded a Curriculum Development Award from the University's Tools for Transformation grant program, to develop a new "Digital Egypt" course on the subject of Egypt (ca. 3000 BCE-1200 CE) that he will co-teach with colleagues Brannon Wheeler and Michael Williams for the first time in 2003-2004. The large co-taught undergraduate course will incorporate digital technology in the form of PowerPoint lectures, slide archives accessible through the UW library (Content Project), and supplemental web-streamed video lectures. The digital materials will be prepared with the help of three graduate students, Joseph DuWors, Lance Jenott, and Glynnis McPhee, selected for their demonstrated knowledge in the areas of ancient Near East, early Christianity (Coptic Egypt), and Islam. Online video-streamed lectures will also be created to supplement in-class lectures and to capitalize on newly emerging technologies developed at the University's Program for Educational Transformation Through Technology—technologies that have hitherto not been employed for coursework in the Humanities. Once the course has ended, the archive of lectures will be made accessible to the public. Some 9000 slides and photographs will be scanned for the project, and these will be integrated into the UW Library Content project.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, the Middle East had received increased media attention. Some of this attention has focused on Egypt, but that coverage has paid little attention to Egypt's long and unique cultural

history and its role in shaping present-day Egypt. The Digital Egypt project aims to place Egypt in a broader historical context, and provide a



Ramesseum in Thebes

springboard for discussing issues of ethnic and religious violence, religious pluralism, ethnic and cultural diversity, economic dependency, and cultural tourism. Egypt has proven to be a popular subject among students. NELC's courses on the hieroglyphic Egyptian language and early Egyptian history regularly bring in large numbers, and regional public interest has resulted in the formation of a Seattle Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt.

ARABIC DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM RECEIVES HEISKELL AWARD

The Arabic Language and Middle East/North Africa Cultural Studies Program, now in its fourth year as a federally-funded pilot project involving Montana State University-Bozeman, University of Washington, Al-Akhawayn University in Morocco, and a network of other participating institutions from the Pacific Northwest to the Northern Rockies/Great Plains, to the East Coast, is a winner of the inaugural Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in Education. The Institute of International Education (IIE) in New York presented the award in Washington, D.C. in April 2002. This distance learning initiative has been a multi-campus cooperative venture involving the efforts of many, but UW has been the interactive-video, instructional core of the program, and Professor Terri DeYoung's oversight and guidance and Dr. Ahmed Souaiaia's outstanding anchor role as instructor for the multi-

campus program since 1999, have been crucial to the program's success. IIE established the Heiskell Awards to promote and honor the most outstanding initiatives being conducted in international higher education by IIE Network member universities and colleges. Winning programs and honorable mentions were deemed noteworthy for their success in removing institutional barriers to international study and broadening the base of participation in the international elements of teaching and learning on campus.

NELC AWARDED MAJOR GRANT TO DEVELOP ARABIC LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The department has been awarded a major National Flagship Language Initiative Pilot Program grant from the National Foreign Language Center at University of Maryland and the National Security Education Program to develop a new and innovative program for teaching advanced Arabic students that will quickly move them to superior levels of proficiency. Under the supervision of Associate Professor Terri DeYoung, the UW project team will establish a national steering committee composed of leaders in the field of Arabic language, and an Arabic For Interactive Communication (AFIC) Network that will include representatives of several other institutions of higher education offering Arabic. The AFIC Network will develop curricula that allow students to reach the exceptionally difficult 3-level proficiency in speaking, listening and reading, and a model implementation of this program will be established at UW.

ANDREWS RECEIVES GRANT FOR OTTOMAN TEXTS PROJECT

NELC Research Professor Walter Andrews has been awarded a UW Royalty Research Fund grant for 2002-2003, to support continuing work on the Ottoman Texts Archive Project, a major international initiative co-directed by

14th ANNUAL NICHOLAS POPPE SYMPOSIUM ON INNER ASIAN/CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES

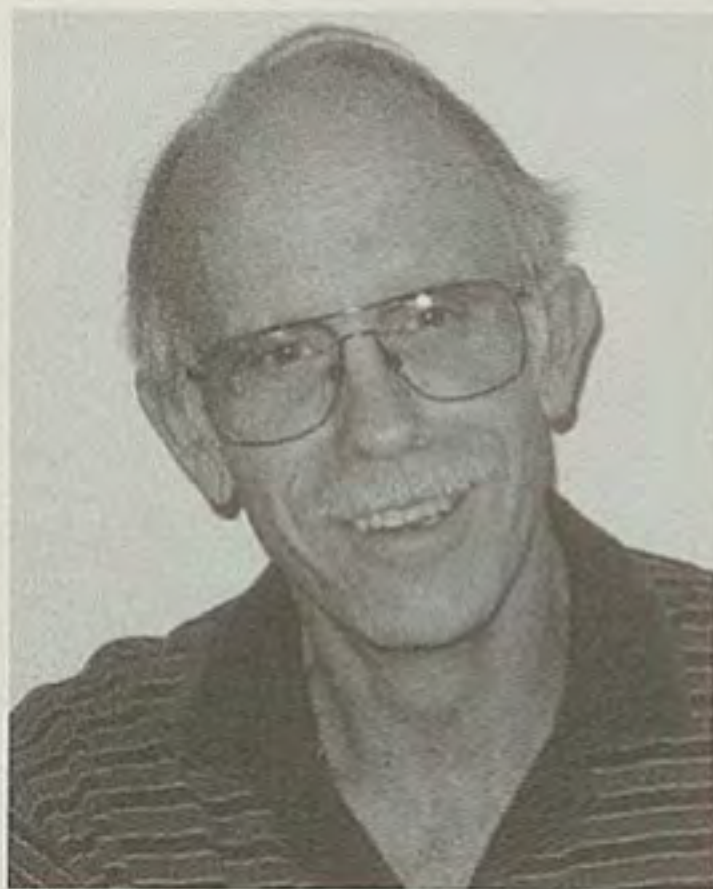
The 14th Annual Nicholas Poppe Symposium was held on June 1, 2002 in Denny Hall, featuring a daylong program of papers and panels involving several guest scholars as well as UW faculty and students. The program for 2002 included a special focus on the topic of "Human Rights" in Central Asia. Among the guest participants were: Rafis Abazov, Visiting Scholar, Harriman Institute, Columbia University, and Zhakshylyk Khuseinov, Former Advisor to the President and Parliament of Kazakhstan, and Visiting Scholar in the Russian, East European & Central Asian Program at UW.



Graduate student Jipar Duyshembieva (right) listens to the paper presented by fellow student Justin Odum, on the Meshketian Turks

Andrews and Prof. Mehmet Kalpaklı at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, and enlisting the cooperation of scores of Ottoman scholars world-wide.

Andrews has already been laboring on the project for several years, and is currently applying for more substantial multi-year funding. NELC graduate student Didem Havlioglu is research assistant for the UW



Research Professor
Walter Andrews

portion of the project. The vision is to correct the serious obstacle posed by the inaccessibility of the most basic texts and documents for the study of the history and culture of the Ottoman Empire, which controlled and influenced vast areas from Eastern Europe to the Arab Peninsula, from Central Asia to North Africa, from the 14th to the early 20th centuries. What is being created is an on-line archive of transliterated Ottoman Turkish texts, as well as related resources including a historical dictionary, a bio-bibliographical encyclopedia, and a dynamic list of critical textual needs for the field of Ottoman studies. This ambitious effort will establish the single most compre-

hensive and accessible public resource for the study of Ottoman texts and the Ottoman language in the world, and an unmatched teaching and research tool for those involved in Ottoman studies of any kind.

SPRING 2002 WALKER-AMES LECTURER DAVID STRONACH

NELC was proud to host in Spring 2002, in conjunction with the Walker-Ames Professorships, one of this world's premier scholars in the field of Near Eastern archaeology. On April 10, Professor David Stronach



2002 Walker-Ames Professor
David Stronach

of the University of California, Berkeley spoke to a full house in Kane Hall. His lecture, "New Perspectives on Ancient Persian Kingship: The Art and Architecture of Achaemenid Iran," elucidated the importance of Achaemenid palace complexes for understanding the reigns of two of the most famous rulers of early Iran, Cyrus (559-530 BC) and Darius the Great

(522-486 BC). Stronach illustrated his lecture with a stunning collection of archaeological slides, many of them from the excavations at Pasargadae which he directed during the early 1960's. Prior to his appointment at Berkeley in 1981, Stronach served nineteen years as the director of the British Institute of Persian Studies in Tehran where, in addition to his own research, Stronach encouraged and supported scholarship on all aspects of Iranian history and culture. During his visit to the University of Washington, Stronach also spoke at an afternoon seminar about the development of British archaeology in the Middle East, including reminiscences of his own training during the mid-late 1950's on major excavations in Turkey, Syria, Pakistan, and Iraq. An interview with Professor Stronach, now archived on the NELC website, provides rich insights into the history and archaeology of early Iran.

2002 AFRASSIABI STUDENT PRIZE

The 2002-2003 Afrassiabi Student Prize was awarded to Connie Bobroff for adopting a Persian short-story for a web-based system of learning the Persian language at the advanced level. The story, titled "Yek Ruz dar Rostamabad-e Shemiran" (One Day in Rostamabad of Shemiran), is by the famous twentieth-century Iranian fiction writer M. A. Jamalzadeh. Working throughout the academic year with Professor Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, Connie envisioned, devised, and developed a version of this short story on a series of templates custom-made by her for use by students of Advanced Persian. The story's Persian original is offered with English translation and transliteration, and is accompanied by a myriad of explanations of a linguistic, literary and cultural nature; the story is read (in parts, sung) by Professor Karimi-Hakkak. It is available on the Internet and has already brought Connie much praise from all over the world. To view this marvelous site, go to: www.depts.washington.edu/yekruz.

For more details on these articles in an expanded version of the newsletter, please visit our web site at: <http://depts.washington.edu/nelc>

NEWS FROM THE FACULTY



Terri DeYoung has had a very rewarding and busy year. In July, she received news that her grant proposal to enhance the course materials and support for students beyond the Advanced Arabic level was funded. This "National Flagship Initiative Pilot Project" may bring as much as \$500,000 into NELC over the next three years. Terri also delivered a paper, "The Search for Peace and East-

Margins: Deli Birader and Ottoman Literary Canon." His critical edition and translation of the 16th-century Ottoman text by Deli Birader is to appear in 2003. Selim has also created and (with graduate students) recorded eighteen dialogues for elementary level Turkish classes, which are being used in programs at UW and Harvard and Duke. He is also preparing for publication the Intermediate Ottoman Reader, used for the last five years at the Harvard - Koc Universities Ottoman Turkish Summer School in Cunda, Turkey.

stories of the prophets from Adam to Muhammad. *Moses in the Quran and Islamic Exegesis* (Curzon/Routledge, 2002) examines the image of Moses in



Terri DeYoung at Rihani Symposium

West Reconciliation in Ameen Rihani's Prose Poetry," at the Ameen Rihani International Symposium: Bridging East and West in Washington DC on April 20, 2002.

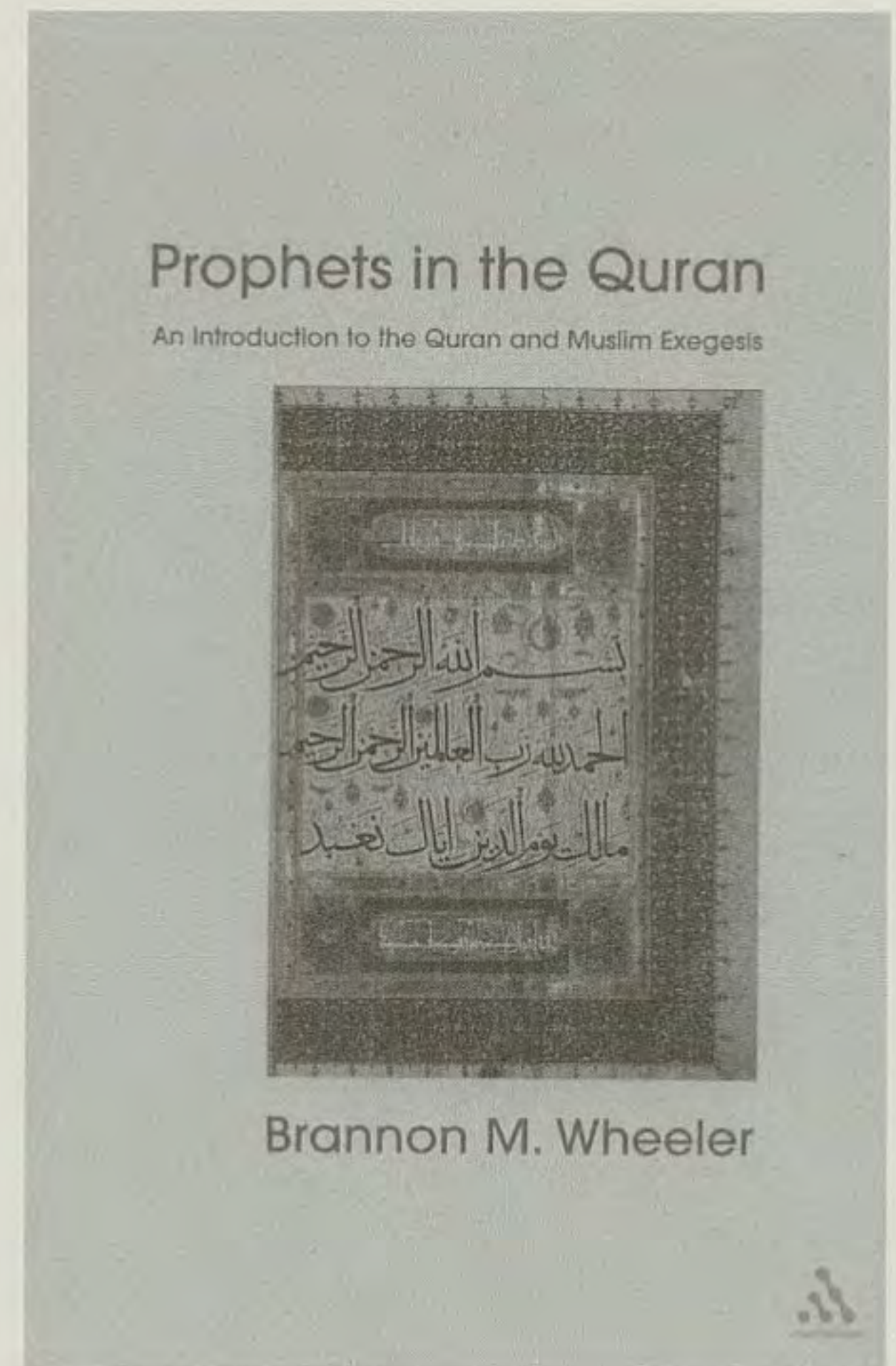
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak organized or helped organize several major events for the Persian Studies program in 2001-02, including presentations on campus by scholars like Ehsan Yarshater and David Stronach, political personalities such as Reza Pahlavi, and noted journalist and author Elaine Sciolino. Among his several off-campus activities was his delivery of the Honors Program's Distinguished Annual Lecture at Texas Christian University in January 2002. Ahmad has been invited to oversee the Persian language division of a newly established National Middle East Language Resource Center, involving a nationwide team of scholar-teachers led by Professor Kirk Belnap of Brigham Young University.

Among **Selim Kuru's** research projects is a recently submitted article on "Reading the Canon from the

Scott Noegel's recent and forthcoming publications include a monograph *Nocturnal Ciphers: The Allusive Language of Dreams in the Ancient Near East*; a co-authored study (with Brannon Wheeler) *A Historical Dictionary of Prophets in Islam and Judaism*, and a co-edited work (with Brannon Wheeler and Joel Walker) entitled *Prayer, Magic, and the Stars in the Ancient and Late Antique World* (Magic in History Series; Penn State University Press). In addition, Scott is now co-editing (along with Alan Kaye) *The Linguistic Cycle: Selected Writings of Carleton T. Hodge* (CDL Press), and working on a monograph for Routledge Press on the subject of "Magic" and the Bible.

Naomi Sokoloff's co-edited volume, *Traditions and Transitions in Israel Studies*, is being published by SUNY Press in the *Books on Israel* series. Naomi has also contributed an essay on Gila Almagor to a new encyclopedia, *Holocaust Literature* (Routledge, 2002), and she is the author of a piece on Aharon Appelfeld for *The Dictionary of Literary Biography: The Holocaust Novel*. In 2001-2002 she taught a new course called "Literature and the Holocaust." She thanks the Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center for their support in providing videos and other teaching material. Special thanks go to Magda Schaloum for speaking to the class about her personal experiences as a survivor.

In 2001-2002, **Brannon Wheeler** served as Chair of Comparative Religion. Among his several publications were two new books. *Prophets in the Quran: An Introduction to the Quran and Muslim Exegesis* (Continuum, 2002) includes translations of a selection of Quran passages and classical Muslim interpretation on the



early Islam and its relationship to Jewish and Christian interpretations. In November 2001 Brannon presented a paper at the conference on "Arab Stereotyping" at the American Lebanese University in Beirut, Lebanon.

This year **Deborah L. Wheeler** published four articles on Muslim responses to the information revolution. She gave several community lectures in response to the 9-11 tragedies, and delivered papers at two academic conferences. In September she gave a lecture in Istanbul sponsored by the Fulbright program, and has recently been invited by the MESA Board of Directors to serve on the Committee on Electronic Communication. In summer 2002 she taught a week-long seminar called "Understanding the Middle East" for UW's Gear Up program, and for the Roosevelt Institute, she spoke on "Representing Islam and the Middle East Before, During and Beyond 9-11."

Returning from a sabbatical in Egypt in late June, 2001 **Jere Bacharach** served as Director, Jackson School of International Studies and Stanley Golub Professor of International Studies through the end of 2001. After September 11, he helped (with Felicia Hecker) organize a seven-part



public lecture series drawing an estimated attendance of over 10,000. In February, 2002 he was again in Cairo for a reception in honor of the publication (American University of Cairo Press) of his edited work "Fustat Finds: Beads, Coins, Medical Instruments, Textiles and Other Artifacts from the Awad Collection." In February 2003, he will be giving the Comparative Religion's Annual Founders Lecture.

Joel Walker's latest article, "The Limits of Late Antiquity: Philosophy between Rome and Iran," appeared in the most recent issue of the journal *Ancient World*. Progress also continues on Joel's archaeological work in Turkey where a joint team from the UW and Princeton University resumed

its fieldwork during September 2001. (See the extensive website at <http://courses.washington.edu/tahirler/>.) Joel has also been appointed as a Fulbright Scholar for Macedonia where he will teach courses on Roman and Byzantine archaeology January-June, 2003. Former students, colleagues, or others with interest who "happen to be passing through Skopje" are invited to help photograph the Byzantine churches of Macedonia!

The American Cultural Exchange, a Seattle-based institution engaged in international education, granted Professor Emeritus Farhat Ziadeh a Community Service Award at the Seattle Sister-city annual dinner in November 2001, in recognition of his

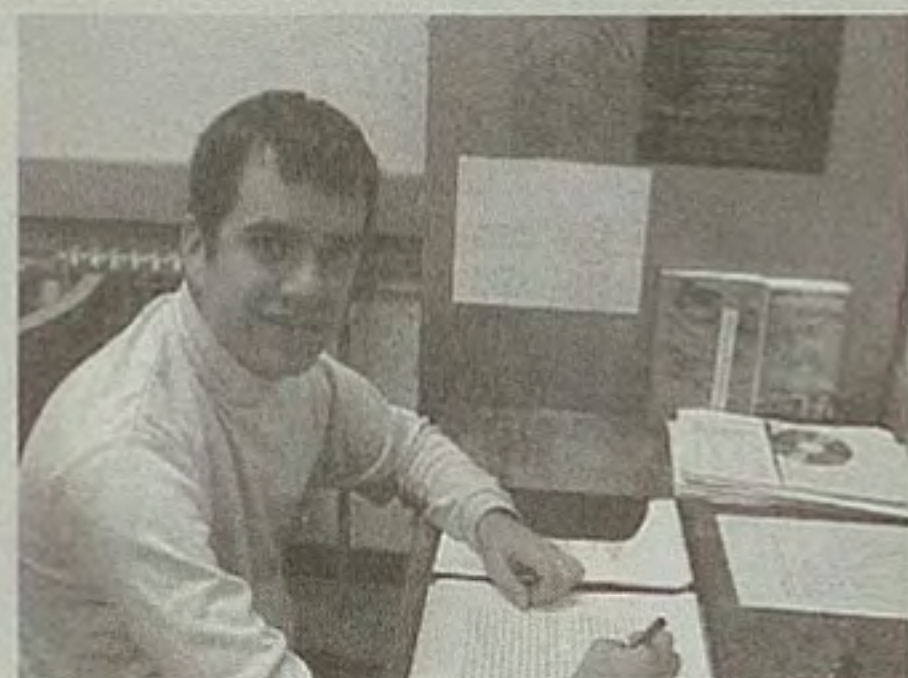
role in establishing the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, and the Middle East Center in the Jackson School of International Studies. Farhat continued his outreach activities this past year with numerous lectures for civic and educational organizations, area churches and special events. He guest-lectured for colleagues in UW courses, served as reader on a Ph.D. committee and as pre-publication evaluator for two books, and advised colleagues at other universities about their research.

(More complete summaries of NELC faculty news from 2001-2002 can be found in our web site edition of this *Near East Reports*.)

FIRST NELC GRADUATE HUMANITIES STIPENDS AWARDED

The Department is pleased to announce the awarding for 2002-2003 of its first two Graduate Supplemental Stipends in the Humanities (GSSH). Readers of last year's newsletter might recall that these awards, in the amount of \$4000 each, supplement other support awarded these students and have been made possible by a multi-year challenge grant of from the College of Arts and Sciences. The purpose is to enhance our ability to attract graduate students of the highest quality.

This year's awardees are Bryan Averbuch and Summer Loomis. Bryan received his B.A. from the UW with a double major in NELC and Communications. He entered the UW having already been trained in Persian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA, where he graduated that program with the highest honors. At the UW, he further honed these skills while also pursuing the study of Arabic and Modern Hebrew. His intellectual interests during his undergraduate program included a special focus on Near Eastern history. This is illustrated by his project in 2000-2001 as a Mary Gates Fellow, on the "Archaeology of the Persian Empire 224-651 A.D." (supervised by Professor Joel Walker), in which Bryan created an online resource detailing the fledgling archaeological exploration of the Persian Empire of the Sasanian dynasty, including an archaeological map of various sites. Bryan graduated in 2001 Phi Beta Kappa. During the 2002-2003 academic year, he is serving as the TA for Persian language, a position he also held during the 2002 Summer Language Institute.



Bryan Averbuch prepares to teach his Persian class

Summer Loomis received her B.A. in Politics and International Relations from Oberlin College in 1999. She studied intensive Arabic for two summers in the well-known program at Middlebury College, and then moved to the Northwest to continue her study of Arabic as a 5th year student at the UW while applying for admission to NELC's M.A. program. With support from a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship as well as a Maurice and Lois Schwartz Fellowship from NELC, she traveled in summer quarter 2002 to Irbid, Jordan for an eight week intensive Arabic program at Yarmouk University. This was Summer's first trip to the Middle East, and in addition to her fulltime study, she took good advantage of the opportunity to travel to Amman, Petra and other sites in Jordan as well as spending a few days in Damascus, Syria. Returning to initiate her M.A. program this year, Summer is also beginning the study of Modern Hebrew, and is of course continuing her advanced work in Arabic, with support from a FLAS fellowship as well as the GSSH award.

This first year the entire GSSH award is funded by the College. Each following year, however, the College's funding will decrease by \$1,000 per award in a challenge to the NELC community to make up the difference until it assumes full responsibility by 2005. The enhancement of graduate student support is one of NELC's top priorities and **we ask you to help us meet the College's challenge, with your tax-deductible donation**, so that we can continue to attract outstanding students to this program.



Summer Loomis (left) discusses plans for Arabic study with Professor DeYoung

FROM OUR STUDENTS



Graduates of NELC 2002:

Congratulations to this past year's B.A. graduates: **Rachel Divine, Gabrielle Hammer, Michael Jacobs, Shosana Ingold, Reesham Khan, and Jake Parslow**; and to our M.A. graduates: **Mukhtar Ali and Jipar Duyshembiyeva**.

News From Undergraduates:

Arabic language major **Will Fowler** is also an Honors double major in Political Science. During the summer he took Intensive Intermediate Arabic in the Western Consortium Language Institute held at UW, and in September he was off for a trip to China. Will currently drives an ice cream truck to pay the bills. August 2002 graduate **Shosana L. Ingold** has been in the Air Force for almost ten years now, and upon graduation headed for Officer Training School "to exchange her stripes for bars" (commissioning). **Amy Paulsen** traveled to Israel in September 2002 to visit friends and family. While pursuing her undergraduate program Amy is working at the Seattle Art Museum in the finance department, and as she looks toward completion of her B.A. she is considering pursuing a master's degree in some aspect of linguistics. Senior **John Shin** is a double major in International Studies—Middle East emphasis. John will be finishing his studies for his majors by studying in Egypt during the 2002-2003 academic year. Upon return he plans to apply to graduate degree programs in foreign policy and to focus mainly on the Palestinian-Israeli issue. Senior **Robert Vanhoff** was honored to receive the Shurman/Sandler Jewish Studies Scholarship for 2002-03.

M.A. Degree Program

Didem Havlioglu, who will complete her M.A. degree in December 2002, has been accepted into UW's Near and Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program. She has also been awarded a research assistantship for 2002-03 to continue her work in assisting Research Professor Walter Andrews on the Ottoman texts project (see article). **Timothy Miller** and **Olga Donahue** have both received FLAS fellowships to continue their study of Uzbek in 2002-03. Tim is also planning to study at Xinjiang University during a portion of the academic

year in connection with his research on the historical phonology of the languages of ancient Chinese Turkestan. 2002 graduate **Jipar Duyshembiyeva** returned to her native Kyrgyzstan where she will be pursuing a teaching career, with aspirations for future Ph.D. study. **Gary Martin**, whose M.A. work concentrates on Biblical Hebrew and other ancient Near East languages, won first prize in the Pacific Northwest Society of Biblical Literature graduate student paper competition, with his paper on "The Soft and Hard Combinations of I-Guttural Verbs: A Quantitative Summary with Phonological, Lexical, and Linguistic Observations". Incoming M.A. student **Monica Meadows** will continue her study of Arabic at Damascus University during 2002-03. **Mark Reese** will travel to Uzbekistan for this academic year for study of Uzbek, Uyghur and Russian languages and for fieldwork involving the cultural history of Kokand.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program

Nicole Watts defended her dissertation ("Virtual Kurdistan West: Kurdish Rights Politics in Turkey") on October 25, 2001 (committee chair: Resat Kasaba). **Ahmed Souaiaia** defended his dissertation ("The Sociol-

ogy of Inheritance: Privileged Parlance and Unearned Rights") on June 10, 2002 (committee chair: Brannon Wheeler). While on the academic job market in 2002-03, Ahmed will continue as Lecturer for the Arabic distance learning program, as well as teaching an evening Arabic course for NELC and daytime courses in Arabic dialects. *The Committee*, a short novel by Sonallah Ibrahim, translated by **Mary St. Germain** and Charlene Constable, was published by Syracuse University Press in November 2001, and reviewed in the December 16, 2001 *New York Times* book review section. In June 2002 **Magid Shihade** gave a paper on "Explaining 'Violence': Ethnic Conflicts in the Middle East and Beyond" at a conference on "Exclusion, and Identity: The Politics of Rights, Race, and Religion," held at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and organized by the Conflict, Development and Peace Network. **Maha el-Taji** has passed her general exams and is now a Ph.D. candidate. She has accepted a Fulbright-Hayes Dissertation Research Grant for this academic year which will fund 12 months of research in Israel, and she will leave for Haifa sometime during Autumn 2002.

Schwartz Fellows for 2002-2003:

The following M.A. and Ph.D. students were awarded Maurice D. and Lois Schwartz Fellowships to support travel for research or study abroad in 2002-2003:

Joseph DuWors (Study and photographing Ancient Near Eastern artifacts, the Louvre)

David Hunsicker (Dissertation research, Uzbekistan)

Elmira Kochumkulkizi (Dissertation field work, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan)

Summer Loomis (Arabic language study at Yarmouk University, Jordan)

Monica Meadows (Arabic language study at Damascus University, Syria)

Mark Reese (Uzbek language study and MA research, Uzbekistan)



Dr. Muhammad Ali Akhmedov leads the Summer 2002 Intensive Advanced Uzbek class through some of the finer points of Uzbek cuisine and culture.

ALUMNI/AE NEWS

See our web site for longer versions of alum news. If you didn't send in news this year, please do so for next year's edition! Send by email to maw@u.washington.edu, or by FAX to 206-685-7936. Pictures welcome!

In August 2002, **Michelle Noyes** (B.A. 2001) entered Touro University's College of Osteopathic Medicine, located in the beautiful setting of Mare Island in the San Francisco Bay area. **Joseph E. Lowery** (B.A. 1985) was awarded the Malcolm H. Kerr Award (Humanities) at the 2000 MESA meetings for his 1999 University of Pennsylvania dissertation, "The Legal-Theoretical Content of the Risala of Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i." He was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania for the spring semester of 2002, and is currently revising his dissertation for publication. **Josie Hendrickson** (B.A. 1999) sent greetings from Northern Ireland in 2001-2002, where she was enrolled in a Peace and Conflict Studies one-year M.A. program at the University of Ulster, with support from a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship. Though disappointed that her original plans for study at American University in Beirut were interrupted by the events of 9-11-02, the course in Derry offered valuable study on the role of religion in conflict (her M.A. thesis offers a post-9/11 reevaluation of the Clash of Civilizations theory). This fall Josie has begun a Ph.D. program in Religion at Emory University, focusing on Islam in America as well as religion and social conflict. **Randall Olson** has been working for the past three years in Dushanbe with a group called Counterpart International on a USAID democracy project. Randall and his wife Rochelle (and six Tajik colleagues) recently finished printing a "Standard Tajik-

English Dictionary" with about 23,500 entries, a project that he began under a fellowship at UW. **Ozlem Sensoy** (M.A. 1998) recently published "The power of translation: The effect of a fluency discourse," in *Translation Review* 62 (2001): 58-64, in which she discusses the translation by Talat Halman of Cemal Sureya's poem "Gül" ("The Rose"), as well as more general issues regarding the representation of cultures in foreign languages. **Clinton Moyer** (B.A. 2000) has accepted a Sage Fellowship from Cornell University, which provides full support for a five-year Masters-Ph.D. program. He begins classes this autumn focusing on Akkadian, readings in biblical Hebrew, and ancient Judaism. Clinton was the first NELC major to complete the recently established departmental option in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. **Alex Jassen** (B.A. 2001) is entering his second year of a Ph.D. program in Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University, focusing on Second Temple history, Dead Sea Scrolls, rabbinic literature and advanced study of Hebrew and Aramaic. He is also currently a research assistant for the Friedberg Genizah Project at NYU, cataloging the Geonic responsa from the Cairo Genizah. Alex was also chosen as an alternate for a Jacob K. Javitz Fellowship. More recently, he received a Floyd L. Moreland Scholarship to study Greek at the Latin/Greek Institute of the City University of New York Graduate Center, which he attended over the summer. **William Clark** (Ph.D. NMES 1999) lives with his family in Almaty, Kazakstan where he works for an NGO. He continues to do ethnography with the Uighur people. His first article, "Childbearing Strategies of Urumqi Uighur Families," was published in 2001 in *Asian Ethnicity*. He is currently working on a book project that will be published in 2003 by White Horse Press.

INTRODUCING NELC'S NEW SECRETARY

As of Autumn 2002 NELC has a new half-time secretary, Shannon Quinn. Shannon graduated from the UW in 2000 with a B.A. in East Asia Studies in the Jackson School of International Studies. As an undergraduate she was very involved with international activities on campus—working as an activity leader for visiting exchange students, volunteering in ESL classes as a facilitator, and helping with international student orientation. After graduating she accepted a teaching position on the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program and spent a year in rural Japan. She is excited to be back at UW and is eagerly learning all about NELC. (For more on our office staff, see <http://depts.washington.edu/nelc/welcome/staff.html>)



The Near East Reports...

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GIFTS TO DEPARTMENT

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the following donors (in alphabetical order) for their generous support of NELC throughout the past year, by their contributions to one or more of its funds (included are gifts since last autumn's newsletter went to press):

Ms. Shireen Ziadeh Abed
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 Prof. Farhat J. Ziadeh and Mrs. Suad Ziadeh
 Dr. Susan L. Ziadeh

We also gratefully acknowledge two further very significant gifts of valuable books pertaining to Near Eastern studies to the departmental library by Professor Emeritus Pierre MacKay and by Affiliate Professor Dr. Nanette Pyne. In addition, our sincerest thanks to the Naficy family (Dr. Keyvan and Parvin Naficy; Dr. Kamran and Arman Naficy, Dr. Homayoun and Diana Naficy; and Dr. Katayoun Naficy) for their gift to the departmental library of a beautiful new set of the *Encyclopedia Iranica*, in memory of Ms. Malek Sanjideh-Naficy (mother of Keyvan, Kamran, Homayoun and Katayoun).

Your charitable support is vital to maintain the Department's excellence in teaching, research, and community service. Please consider a tax-deductible gift using the enclosed envelope. To discuss the wide variety of other ways in which you can benefit the Department (trusts, estate planning, annuities, and other planned giving vehicles) and also realize significant tax advantages, please contact Mr. Donald Summers, Director of Development for the Humanities, at (206) 616-0632. Thank you for your generous consideration.

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Reza Pahlavi (left), son of the late Shah of Iran, is introduced to guests at a Faculty Club luncheon by NELC Professor Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (center) and David C. Hodge, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. (See story about Mr. Pahlavi's May 2002 visit and Kane Hall lecture inside.)