



Annual Report, 2009-2010

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I. Introductory Statement from Co-Director Charles Kurzman

July 22, 2010

The 2009-2010 academic year has ended on a bright note: Our megasyllabic Center, along with our partners at Duke, has won Title VI funding from the U.S. Department of Education for 2010-2014. This award will support new faculty positions, additional graduate fellowships, extensive outreach activities, and even more lectures, workshops, and conferences than the 200+ events that we listed for 2009-2010.

Over the course of the past year, our Center has been privileged to work with Professors Banu Gokariksel and Sarah Shields on their impressive Sawyer Seminar on Diversity on Conformity in Muslim Societies, including three interdisciplinary conferences that cleverly juxtaposed research projects from around the world (<http://cgi.unc.edu/research/mellon-sawyer/09-10/>).

The Center also co-sponsored the 7th Annual Duke-UNC Graduate Student Islamic Studies Conference (<http://www.jhfc.duke.edu/disc/graduate/conference2010/>) and the revival of the "Islam Reading 2.0" graduate student working group, both of which are indications of the intellectual energy and leadership skills of our graduate students.

The Center also benefits from two new graduate programs that were approved this year: a master's concentration in Franco-Arab studies (http://roml.unc.edu/graduate-programs/french/frenchma_francoarabstudies/ma-requirements) and a joint Duke-UNC graduate certificate in Middle East studies (<http://www.unc.edu/mideast/gradcertificate.shtml>).

Our Center has a new Associate Director, Ilyse Morgenstein Fuerst <ilyse@email.unc.edu>. Ilyse is a graduate student in religious studies, specializing in Islamic studies of Mughal South Asia (<http://ilyse.web.unc.edu>). She is serving on an interim basis this summer while we search for a permanent Associate Director.

Let me take this opportunity to thank our now-retired Associate Director, the wonderful Cangüzel Zülfikar, who moves as of today to the Department of Asian Studies to take up Carolina's new lectureship in Turkish. Cangüzel helped our Center establish its offices in the new Global Education Center, nurtured a large number of student organizations, managed an extensive series of visiting lectures and conferences, gathered a massive amount of data for our Title VI application, and remained throughout it all a warm and enthusiastic colleague and a pleasure to work with and be with. Thank you, Cangüzel!

We are also saying goodbye this summer to two esteemed colleagues in the History Department, Yasmin Saikia and Ahmed El Shamsy, who are moving farther away than the New West Building. Yasmin, who was instrumental in the discussions that led to the founding of our Center in 2002-2003, is taking an endowed chair at the University of Arizona. Ahmed, who impressed us all in his short stay at Carolina, was made an offer he couldn't refuse by the University of Chicago. We are sorry to see you both go!

At the same time, we are fortunate to be joined by five new colleagues. Shahla Adel, our first full-time lecturer in Persian, is joining the Department of Asian Studies from the University of Texas, where she is completing her Ph.D. in Foreign Language Education. Erica Johnson, a political scientist specializing in Central Asian studies, has been hired as a lecturer in Global Studies. In the Department of Religious Studies, David Lambert is the new assistant professor of Hebrew Bible, and Jacob Stromberg will serve as lecturer in Biblical Hebrew. I hope that you will join me in welcoming them as they get settled. The Library has hired its first-ever librarian for Middle East and African Studies, Mohamed Abou El Seoud, who will arrive on October 1.

It is a pleasure to serve as the Center's co-director this year, while Carl Ernst takes a well-deserved research leave. I look forward to seeing you all as the school year starts up again next month.

- Charlie Kurzman

II. Teaching on the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations

Student enrollment in Middle East-related courses, as recorded by the Registrar, indicate broad engagements with the field across multiple departments.

	Courses	Enrollment
Fall 2009	35	1531
Spring 2010	37	1143
Summer 2010	4	50
Total	76	2724

III. Faculty Publications on the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations

Sahar Amer

“Medieval Arab Lesbians and Lesbian-Like Women,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 18:2 (2009), 215-236.

Editor with Roger Célestin, Eliane DalMolin, and Martine Antle, special issue on “Franco-Arabic Cultures,” *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies*, 13:3 (2009).

Glaire Anderson

“Islamic Spaces and Diplomacy in Constantinople (10th-13th c.),” *Medieval Encounters* 15:1 (2009), 86-113.

Martine Antle

Editor with Roger Célestin, Eliane DalMolin, and Sahar Amer, special issue on “Franco-Arabic Cultures,” *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies*, 13:3 (2009).

Lorraine Aragon

Book review of *Christian Moderns: Freedom and Fetish in the Mission Encounter*, by Webb Keane. In *History of Religions*, 49:3 (February 2010), 335-338.

Yaakov Ariel

“Les Racines Théologiques et la Portée Historique du Sionisme Chrétien,” *Revue d’Idées Controverses*, No. 11 (May 2009), 166-190.

“Paradigm Shift: New Religious Movements and Quests for Meaning and Community in Contemporary Israel,” *Nova Religio*, 13:4 (April-May 2010), 4-21.

“Suffering, Heroism, and the Healing Power of the Savior: The Holocaust in Evangelical Literature,” in *Re-Examining the Holocaust*, edited by Aukje Kluge and Benn E. Williams (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Pub., 2009), 131-153.

Navin Bapat

“A Game Theoretic Analysis of the Afghan Surge.” *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 6:3 (July 2010), 217-236.

Lidewijde De Jong

“Antioch,” in *Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*, edited by Michael Gagarin (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009).

Bart Ehrman

Jesus, Interrupted: Revealing the Hidden Contradictions in the Bible (And Why We Don't Know About Them)
(New York: HarperOne, 2009).

Carl Ernst

With Richard C. Martin, "Toward a Post-Orientalist Approach to Islamic Religious Studies," editors' introduction to *Rethinking Islamic Studies: From Orientalism to Cosmopolitanism* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2010).

"The West and Islam? Rethinking Orientalism and Occidentalism," *Isbraq: Islamic Philosophy Yearbook* (2010).

Pika Ghosh

"Embroidering Bengal: Kantha Imagery and Regional Identity" and "From Rags to Riches: Valuing Kanthas in Bengali Households," in *Kantha: The Embroidered Quilts of Bengal from the Jill and Sheldon Bonowitz Collection and the Stella Kramrisch Collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art*, edited by Darielle Mason (Philadelphia: Philadelphia Museum of Art, 2009), pp. 30-57 and 80-113, 80 plates.

Banu Gökariksel

Co-editor with Ellen McLarney, special issue on "Muslim Women, Consumer Capitalism, and the Islamic Culture Industry," *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 6:3 (Fall 2010).

"Beyond the Officially Sacred: Religion, Secularism, and the Body in the Production of Subjectivity," *Social and Cultural Geography*, 10:6 (2009), 657-674.

With Anna Secor, "New Transnational Geographies of Islamism, Capitalism, and Subjectivity: The Veiling Fashion Industry in Turkey," *Area*, 41:1 (2009), 6-18.

With Anna Secor, "Islamic-ness in the Life of a Commodity: Veiling-Fashion in Turkey," *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 35:3 (July 2010), 313-333.

Nasser Isleem

Colloquial Palestinian Arabic: An Introduction to the Spoken Dialect, with DVD (Norwell, MA: Alucen Learning, 2010).

Popular Proverbs: An Entrance to the Palestinian Culture (Norwell, MA: Alucen Learning, 2009).

With Zainab Alwani and Mbarek Sryfi, *Perspectives: Arabic Language and Culture in Film* (Norwell, MA: Alucen Learning, 2009).

Charles Kurzman

"Mashrutiyat, Meşrutiyet, and Beyond: Intellectuals and the Constitutional Revolutions of 1905-12" in Houchang Chehabi and Vanessa Martin, eds., *Iran's Constitutional Revolution: Popular Politics, Cultural Transformations and Transnational Connections* (London: I.B. Tauris Publishers 2010), pp. 277-290.

With Ijlal Naqvi, "Who Are the Islamists?" in *Rethinking Islamic Studies: From Orientalism to Cosmopolitanism*, edited by Carl W. Ernst and Richard C. Martin (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2010), pp. 133-158.

With Ijlal Naqvi, "Do Muslims Vote Islamic?" *Journal of Democracy*, 21:2 (April 2010), 50-63.

With David Schanzer and Ebrahim Moosa, "Anti-Terror Lessons of Muslim-Americans," report prepared for the National Institute of Justice (January 2010).

James Peacock

With Louly Konz “Art History and Anthropology,” in *V viewpoints: Visual Anthropologists at Work*, ed. Mary Strong and Laena Wilder (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2009).

The Anthropological Lens, Chinese edition (Beijing: Peking University Press, 2009).

Member of the AAA Commission on the Engagement of Anthropology with the US Security and Intelligence Communities (CEAUSSIC), chaired by Robert Albro, “Final Report on The Army’s Human Terrain System Proof of Concept Program,” submitted to the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association, October 14, 2009.

John Pickles

With Sebastian Cobarrubias, “Spacing Movements: Mapping Practice, Global Justice and Social Activism,” in *The Spatial Turn*, ed. Barney Warf and Santa Arias (London: Routledge, 2009), 36-58.

“The Spirit of Post-Socialism: Common Spaces and the Production of Diversity,” *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 17:2 (2010), 127-140.

With Adrian Smith. “Clothing Workers after the Worker States: The Consequences for Work and Labour of Outsourcing, Nearshoring and Delocalization in Postsocialist Europe,” on *The Handbook of Employment and Society*, ed. Susan McGrath-Champ, Andrew Herod, and Al Rainnie (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2009), pp. 106-123.

Zlatko Plese

“Gnostic ‘Dualism,’” in *Light against Darkness: Dualism in Ancient Mediterranean Religion and the Contemporary World*, ed. A. Lange et al. (Leiden: Brill, 2009), pp. 230-251.

“Gnostic Literature,” in *Religiöse Philosophie und Philosophische Religion der früher Kaiserzeit*, ed. Michael von Albrecht et al. (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2009), pp. 163-198.

Andrew Reynolds

Designing Democracy in a Dangerous World (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2010).

“Elections, Electoral Systems, and Conflict in Africa,” *The Brown Journal of World Affairs* 16:1 (Fall/Winter 2009).

Omid Safi

Memories of Muhammad: Why the Prophet Matters (San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins, 2009).

“On the ‘Path of Love’ Towards the Divine: A Journey with Muslim Mystics,” *Sufi*, 78 (2009-10), 22-38.

Bereket Selassie

“Constitution Making in Eritrea: A Process-Driven Approach,” in *Framing the State in Transitional Situations: Case Studies in Constitution Making*, ed. Laurel E. Miller (Washington, DC: U.S. Institute of Peace, 2010), pp. 57-80.

Sarah Shields

“Mosul, the Ottoman Legacy, and the League of Nations,” *International Journal of Contemporary Iraqi Studies*, 3:2 (2009), 217-230.

Turkey (Washington, DC: National Geographic Children’s Books, 2009).

Sara H. Smith

“The Domestication of Geopolitics: Buddhist-Muslim Conflict and the Policing of Marriage and the Body in Ladakh, India,” *Geopolitics*, 14:2 (2009), 1-22.

Niklaus Steiner

International Migration and Citizenship Today (New York: Routledge, 2009).

Afroz Taj

Darvazab: A Door Into Urdu (Web-based multimedia textbook), <http://taj.chass.ncsu.edu/urdu>, U.S. Department of Education, 2010.

“Amrika vala,” *Hindi Chetna* (Toronto), 12: 45 (January 2010), 27-29

“Hindi, Urdu, aur Hindustani,” *Garbhanal*, 35 (October 2009).

Foreword to *Dhoop Se Roothi Chandni*, by Sudha Om Dhingra (Sehore, India: Shivana Prakashan, 2010).

Nadia Yaqub

“Gendering the Palestinian Political Cartoon,” *Middle East Journal of Culture and Communication*, 2:2 (2009), 187-213.

IV. Faculty Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

Sahar Amer

“What is in a Name? Lesbianism and the Politics of Naming,” UNC-CH Medieval and Early Modern Studies lecture series, October 2009.

“Homosexuality/Lesbianism and the Politics of Naming,” Middle East Studies Association, Boston, MA, November 2009.

“How to Name Homosexuality in the Arab World?” Invited speaker at UNC-Wilmington, April 2010.

Glaire Anderson

Moderator: Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar, UNC-CH, “Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies,” Sacred Spaces, Sacred Sounds panel April 23-24, 2010.

“Recovering Aristocratic Villa Culture in Early Islamic Spain,” at “Narrating the Visual; Visualizing Narrative” symposium, Department of History, North Carolina State University, March 5-6, 2010.

Lorraine Aragon

“Owning Culture: Global Intellectual Property Law, Indigenous Knowledge, and Indonesian Arts,” Folklore Colloquium Series, UNC-CH, September 17, 2009.

Panel member, “Executive Conference on Intellectual and Cultural Property Protections for Traditional Music,” Future of Music Coalition Conference, George Washington University, October 3-4, 2009.

Carl Ernst

“Reconfiguring the Relation between Religion and World in South Asian Islam since the 18th Century,” Sawyer Seminar on Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies,” UNC-CH, October 15, 2009.

“Changing Approaches to Islamic Studies in American Universities,” Fatih University, Istanbul, Turkey, December 10, 2009; Center for Islamic Studies (ISAM), Istanbul, Turkey, December 18, 2009.

“Iran and Islamic Studies,” American Institute of Iranian Studies Workshop, New York, April 9-11, 2010.

Pika Ghosh

“Taste Testing: Visual Experiments with Rasa Theory on Bengali Vaishnava Temples,” College Art Association, Chicago, February 2010.

“Kantha Imagery: Localizing and Personalizing a Devotional Aesthetic,” Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia, March 2010.

Nasser Isleem

Co-presenter, “Pedagogical Uses of Proverbs in Arabic Language Classrooms,” Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar, Nashville, March 2010.

Charles Kurzman

“Crisis in Iran,” panel presentation, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Washington, DC, June 22, 2009.

“The Iranian Political Crisis,” Panel Discussion, Duke University, September 3, 2009.

“The Iranian Hostage Crisis: A 30 Year Retrospective,” with Hodding Carter, Center for Global Initiatives, UNC-CH, November 16, 2009.

“The Missing Martyrs,” Sawyer Seminar on Diversity and Conformity in the Middle East, UNC-CH, February 6, 2010.

“Cultural Jiu-Jitsu and the Iranian Greens,” conference on “Iran: Politics of Resistance,” New School, New York, February 12, 2010.

“National Security: American Muslims and US Government Relations,” Georgetown University, Washington, DC, February 24, 2010.

“Islamic Radicalization,” conference on “National Security Challenges and the Obama Administration,” Center for Law and National Security, Duke University, Durham, NC, April 15, 2010.

James Peacock

Keynote address, International Peace Conference, Maharashtra Academy of Engineering & Educational Research (MAEER), Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune, India, January 31, 2010.

Afroz Taj

Interactive exhibit of *Darvazah*, Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 23-24, 2009.

Nadia Yaqub

Post-screening discussion of the film *Ford Transit* (dir. Abu-Assad, 2002), Duke University, October 2009.

Cangüzel Zülfikar

- “Eurasia in a Shifting Global Context,” at “Building Interdisciplinary Bridges Conference,” Inter-Institutional Academic Collaborative among Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Universities and Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey, June 18-21, 2009.
- Working group facilitator, Women’s Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equity (WISE) Global Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 16-20, 2009.
- “Different Teaching Approaches of the Middle East and Islamic Studies in U.S. Universities,” presentation to delegation of Turkish university chancellors, UNC-CH, April 20, 2010.

V. Outreach

Carl Ernst

- “Perspectives on American-Iranian Cultural Relations,” NC Society for Ethical Culture, Chapel Hill, May 3, 2009.
- “Middle Eastern Sufi Groove,” with Joe Hendrix, “Global Music” radio program, WXYC 89.3 FM, UNC-CH, September 25, 2009.
- “The Contributions of the Shia Imams to Islamic Civilization and World Culture,” Imam Ali Cultural Center, Durham, October 31, 2009.
- “Omar Khayyam and Farid al-Din ‘Attar,” Persian Cultural Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, January 23, 2010.

Charles Kurzman

- “Iran,” North Carolina Governor’s School East, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, July 7, 2009.
- “Islam and Democracy,” United Nations Association of Wake County, Raleigh, NC, September 10, 2009.
- “The Iranian Revolution at Age Thirty,” Carolina College for Lifelong Learning, General Alumni Association, Chapel Hill, NC, September 15, 2009.
- “What’s Going On in Iran?” Program in the Humanities and Human Values, Fearington, NC, September 23, 2009.

Yaron Shemer

- Guest speaker, Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, January 2010.
- “Ethnicities in Israeli Cinema and Society,” Revson Speaker Series, Temple Israel, Charlotte, NC, 2010.
- Roundtable discussion with Arab journalists on the media’s role in a democracy, International Affairs Council International Fellowship Program, UNC-CH, 2010.

Sarah Shields

- “Introduction to the Israel/Palestine Conflict,” Ecumenical Campus Ministries, Manhattan, Kansas, November 2009; First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, November 2009.

Afroz Taj

- “Ravi Shankar and Anoushka Shankar,” essay in the Carolina Performing Arts bulletin, Fall 2009.
- “From Saint to Screen: Qawwali in South Asia,” World Music series, WXYC-FM, UNC-CH, November 27, 2009.
- Host of Geet Bazaar Radio Program, weekly radio program, 88.1 FM WKNC, Raleigh, NC.
- Organizer of Urdu Majlis Literary Society, monthly meetings; made presentations, recited original poetry.

Nadia Yaqub

Post-screening discussion of the film *Laila's Birthday* (dir. Rashid Masharawi, 2008), Boston Palestine Film Festival, October 2009.

VI. Grants and Awards

Sahar Amer

Best Article of the Month Award, *Feminae Medieval Women and Gender Index*, September 2009.
Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Comparative Literary Studies, Modern Language Association of America (MLA), 2009, for book *Crossing Borders: Love Between Women in Medieval French and Arabic Literatures* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008).

Glaire Anderson

American Council of Learned Societies Fellow, 2009-2010.

Martine Antle

Grant for research in Turkey, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, 2009.
Curriculum Development Award, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, 2010.

Lorraine Aragon

National Humanities Center Fellowship, "Arts and Owners: Intellectual Property, Cultural Heritage, and Indonesian Arts," 2010-2011.

Navin Bapat

National Science Foundation research grant, "The Threat and Imposition of Economic Sanctions," with T. Clifton Morgan, 2009.

Lidewijde De Jong

Institute for the Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellow, Fall 2010.
King's College London and UNC-CH, Joint Projects Grant, 2010.

Carl Ernst

Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2009.
Guggenheim Foundation Research Fellowship, 2009-2010.

Pika Ghosh

Fellowship, Carolina Women's Center, 2010.

Banu Gökarıksel

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Sawyer Seminar, "Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies," with Sarah Shields, UNC-CH, 2009-2010.

Timothy Marr

Chapman Family Fellow, Institute of Arts and Humanities, 2009.

John Pickles

Carolina Transportation Program, “Logistics in Global Apparel Supply Chains,” 2010.

Omid Safi

J. Carlyle Sitterson Freshman Teaching Award, Professor of the Year, UNC-CH, 2010.
Chair, Islamic Mysticism Group, American Academy of Religion, 2009-2012.

Yaron Shemer

Junior Faculty Development Award, UNC-CH, 2009.
University Research Council Grant, UNC-CH, 2009.
Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, Course Development Grant, 2009.

Sarah Shields

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Sawyer Seminar, “Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies,”
with Banu Gökarişel, UNC-CH, 2009-2010.
Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 2010.

Nadia Yaqub

Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies/National Endowment for Humanities/Social
Science Research Council, 2009-2010.

Cangüzel Zülfikar

Grant for research in Turkey, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, 2009.
Curriculum Development Award, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, 2010.