



STRATEGIC EMPHASES

FUNDRAISING

- Held VIP fundraising happy hour during the March 3, 20th anniversary celebration
- Sent promotional emails in December & March to community members and potential donors, thanking them and inviting them to donate through give.unc.edu.
- Used promotional emails and Social Media posts on GiveUNC day resulting in \$11,200 raised from 12 donors
- Efforts resulted in a donation of \$1000 for Persian Studies
- In conversation with private donors and the Roshan Institute about potential avenues for fundraising for faculty research, graduate student grants and outreach



FACULTY ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Faculty Grants

- 2 course development
- 3 research travel
- 2 language pedagogy training

Strengthened partnerships and engaged with the arts

- Comedy & Hip-hop: partnered with the IAH and Music Dept for our 20th year anniversary celebration (250 attendees)
- Film: with DAMES and European Studies we co-sponsored multiple screenings and critical conversations (~140 attendees)
- Music & poetry: hosted a night of Armenian Dudak music and Arabic, Turkich, Persian poetry with support from the Music Dept and DAMES (120 attendees)
- Literature: Celebrated the launch of Dr. Mahnaz Afkhami's book "The Other Side of Silence" with Ackland Museum and UNC Press (60 attendees)
- Hosted 6 visiting speakers throughout the year-long CMEIS Academic lecture series "Legacies of Middle East's Global 20th Century" (~325 attendees)
- Organized the annual NC Consortium for Middle eastern Studies conference, with support from IAH, DAMES, Geography and History, (45 attendees)

STUDENT LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP

- Organized graduate research colloquium with the Islamicate Graduate Student Association, where faculty and students workshopped their ideas (25 attendees)
- Networking and socializing for students and faculty across campus through our social cafes (40 attendees) and other celebrations.
- Professionalization workshops for MA & PhD grad students, to prepare them for entering the job market and publication



"It was immensely helpful to have so many of the logistics of the job search systematically spelled out all in one setting. I have a lot of invaluable information that is now fresh in mind"
- John Miller, PhD Candidate



1,875 students, faculty, staff and community members

Attended social events, lectures, performances, and workshops the CMEIS supported (financially or technically)

COMMUNITY IMPACT

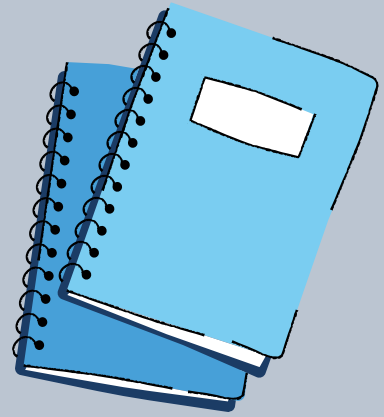
- Expanded reach via collaboration with the NC Consortium for Middle Eastern Studies, the North Carolina Arabic Teacher Council, Duke, Durham Tech, UNC-Charlotte & more
- One example: celebrating International Women's Day with UNC-Charlotte to host a virtual Conversation With The Translators of "The Purple Color Of Kurdish Politics" a collection of prison writings from 22 Kurdish women political prisoners.
- We provided advertising and promotional support for all events in the Triangle area relating to the Center's mission, including ~150 events so far this academic year.



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- Supported overload courses for Duke-UNC programs in Persian & Turkish and Urdu script course at Duke
- Ongoing development of a Middle East Studies Graduate Certificate/practicum with DAMES including working on aligning the off-cycle required course sequence, and possibly transitioning management from the NC Consortium to joint management by UNC DAMES/Duke AMES
- Maintaining and enhancing Arabic programs across NC with support for LAC in Arabic, Urdu at UNC, CLAC in Arabic at Duke



FOREIGN
LANGUAGE
AREA
STUDIES
FELLOWSHIP



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

- 3.5 UNC + 2 Duke students in Arabic, Urdu and Persian (AY 22-23)
- 6 UNC + 1 Duke student in Arabic and Persian (Summer 2023)
- 7 UNC + 2 Duke students in Arabic and Urdu (AY 23-24)

VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM

- Virtual Scholars:
- Duygu Dincer (Biruni University, Istanbul, Turkey)
 - Golnar Gishnizjani (University of Turku, Finland)
- In-person scholar: Emrah Yildiz (Ankara Haci Bayram Veli University, Turkey)



ADMINISTRATION

- Appointed a temporary staff member (Joanne Johnson)
- Hired a new Outreach Director (Alaa Hammouda)
- In the processes of hiring NC Consortium Admin Staff
- In the process of hiring center Associate Director

UNC LIBRARIES PARTNERSHIP

Ongoing work with Sean Swanick, Duke librarian for Middle East, North Africa, and Islamic Studies



FACULTY POSITIONS

Claudia has been working with the Roshan Institute and submitted a letter of interest for an endowed director position in Persian Studies (Media Studies)

Thank you for your continuing support!