

PALESTINIAN AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER

A Message from PARC's New President

By Najwa al-Qattan



Six years ago I joined PARC's board as an institutional member representing Loyola Marymount University, where I am associate professor of Ottoman history and the modern Middle East. I now find myself gingerly stepping into the role of board president, due to the sad passing of our beloved past president, Peter Gubser.

I came to PARC in 2005 with the hope of contributing something to Palestine, as a scholar, a Palestinian, and a Palestinian-American. Although the area of my foremost intellectual passion and expertise is located somewhat to the north of Palestine and in earlier times, my teaching duties (I offer courses on the modern Middle East and the Palestine/Israel conflict on a regular basis), my interest in historiography, and personal attachments have kept scholarship on Palestine at the forefront of my intellectual engagements.

I believe enough has been written about the frustrations that attach to being a hyphenated American, particularly of the Palestinian kind. For many of us here in the United States, no matter what our affiliation, watching from afar as history (and often tragedy) unfolds is frustrating to say the least. In addition, as educators, academics, and Americans we are, on a daily basis, made acutely aware of the extensive ignorance and lack of attention to scholarship on Palestine. Yet being in the United States also offers opportunities to address this issue. This is to say that PARC has allowed me to con-

tribute to the augmentation of scholarship on Palestinian history, society, and culture. At the same time, PARC has connected me to a network of engaged Palestinian and American scholars and organizations that promote the same goals on an international scale.

Nothing better illustrates PARC's energetic and creative approach towards our mission of promoting knowledge about Palestine and Palestinian society than the Faculty Development Seminar, inaugurated in 2010. Led by our talented Executive Director, Penelope Mitchell, and our accomplished Palestine Director, Hadeel Qazzaz, ten U.S. professors toured the West Bank in spring 2010. Indeed the publication of articles by three of the participating professors, as well as the pursuit of a number of Palestine-related projects by other participants, is a measure of this program's effectiveness.

PARC's Faculty Development Seminar, like many of our other programs, is in need of generous support. At a time when there is intense competition over scarce resources, it is crucial that PARC be able to count on membership dues and contributions to fulfill our goals. We must continue to pursue our own mandate to "strengthen the linkages among American, Palestinian, and foreign institutions and scholars," and can only do so with the support of our members and your help in bringing greater attention to our work and accomplishments.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of PARC's Executive Committee and Board for entrusting me with this responsibility. I promise to do my best to live up to it.

Carnegie Grant Supports PARC Lectures, Paper Presentation, and Symposium

In 2009, PARC announced a new three-year grant from the Islam Initiative at Carnegie Corporation of New York to the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). This grant aims to help increase public knowledge about the diversity of thought, cultures and history of Islam and to develop a more complex understanding among Americans about Muslim communities throughout the world. In addition, the grant intends to increase awareness about CAORC and the activities of the American Overseas Research Centers. The grant funds lectures, symposia and panel presentations at association meetings.

Thus far, PARC has received four Carnegie subgrants. The announcement of this initiative coincided with the completion of PARC's first Faculty Development Seminar (FDS) in 2010. Several of the FDS professors were enthusiastic about having an opportunity to enrich their campuses with lectures by PARC board members. In December of 2010, **Michael Daher of Henry Ford Community College** invited **Nathan Brown of George Washington University** for



Nathan Brown

continued on page 15

Please RENEW your PARC membership today and consider a donation to support scholarship on Palestine. (See back page for details)

Around the PARC



By Penelope Mitchell, Executive Director

Although certainly a financially challenging year, **2011 has rallied an outpouring of support** for PARC in terms of donations as well as membership. Donations this year have surpassed those of any other year in PARC's 14-year history. We now are at our highest membership level in PARC's history with almost 200 individual and 21 institutional members. These indicators signal both the generosity and the commitment of PARC's membership. The letters that we have received over the last several months, especially those from fellows, speak of the steadfastness of the community of scholars working on Palestine as well as the firm belief in the importance and value of our work. More than ever, we rely on your support and contributions in order to persevere and expand our work in 2012. PARC continues to face significant challenges as we seek to secure long-term, alternative sources of funding and weather these difficult economic times. In recognition of your support, this newsletter contains a listing of our donors. I extend PARC's deepest appreciation to each of you.

PARC warmly and enthusiastically welcomes Najwa al-Qattan as our new board president. As a board member since 2005, Najwa has amply demonstrated her deep commitment to PARC's mission. I am confident that Najwa is precisely the right person to provide leadership for PARC at this challenging time. PARC has received a **new, annual fellowship for Palestinian researchers** from Dina Rizk and Alfred Khoury in memory of **Abla Haddad and Najib Khoury**. An article on page 12 gives more details about this fellowship. We are grateful for the Khourys' continuing and generous support to PARC that has taken many forms over the years. PARC would also like to recognize a new contributor, **Leila Mikdadi al-Qattan**, who has made a thoughtful donation to support a fellowship for a Palestinian researcher. Steadfast, long-time donors **Omar and Nancy Kader** have also made a donation for a PARC fellowship. The growth of individuals and families committed to supporting Palestinian research is especially heartening and helps us move forward with confidence. PARC extends its sincerest thanks to the **Palestine Investment Fund** for its continuing donation to PARC in the form of two fellowships for Palestinians. We appreciate that PIF recognizes and supports the important contribution made by researchers in Palestine. PARC also received a new and generous donation from **the Office of Prime Minister Salam Fayyad** to support six Palestinian research fellowships. These donations have enabled PARC to fund a total of 11 research fellowships for Palestinians for 2011-2012. Special recognition also goes to **Ann Lesch** for her commitment to help support PARC's U.S. office. As a former PARC director, Ann's donations to PARC have helped to support numerous activities over the years. Finally, we offer our deepest appreciation to **Abdul Muhsin al-Qattan**, who responded with profound generosity to PARC's hour of deepest need when we faced the U.S. Department of Education's cancellation of the American Overseas Research Centers program.

Profiles of the remaining **2010-2011 fellows**, five Americans and three Palestinians, include a wide range of topics that further demonstrate the value of opening PARC's research competition to scholars from all fields of study. U.S. fellows are funded through a grant from the Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State. Palestinian fellowships are funded through grants to PARC mentioned above as well as your donations. These fellows' research includes diverse subjects such as the dilemma of human capital usage in Palestine; vegetables and intestinal parasites in Gaza; the use of folktales in framing national identity and collective memory; an ethnographic study of interaction between Palestinians inside Israel and those in the West Bank; a history of the Ramallah/Al Bireh Friends Schools; a children's geography of Balata refugee camp; the use of music in constructing and negotiating cultural, ethnic, and national identities; and Russian influence, via the Russian Orthodox

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This newsletter is published twice yearly, spring and fall, by the Palestinian American Research Center. Material for publication in the newsletter may be submitted to the U.S. office. PARC does not guarantee that any materials submitted will be published in its newsletter or in any other publication under its control. Publication by PARC will be determined solely by its officers and directors on a space-available basis.

Around the PARC

schools in Palestine, on Arabic literature in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. We hope that you will enjoy learning more about these researchers' studies.

From our **alumni fellows**, we have information on their latest news and three synopses of final reports. We are pleased to report that responses to our requests for alumni news have been growing as we all work to strengthen connections among the exemplary and dedicated community of scholars working on Palestine. We look forward to hearing from more of you for the Spring 2012 newsletter. We would also like to thank seven alumni fellows for donations of their books to the PARC/IPS library in Ramallah. We now have a special shelf in the library that showcases our fellows' publications. We encourage fellows to continue their donations to our library in Ramallah. With a generous grant from the Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State, we are now able to ship these publications to Palestine. The next shipment will include books graciously donated by many of the publishers who exhibited at MESA.

PARC is developing a **new page on our website for alumni fellow publications** related to Palestine. If all alumni fellows might send us full citations for their publications, including books, chapters, edited volumes, and articles, this would considerably speed the process of developing this new resource. We believe this will be an excellent opportunity to showcase your work and provide a valuable source of information for scholars doing research on Palestine.

Of particular note are our accomplishments under **Carnegie Corporation of New York's three-year grant to the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)**. The "Islam Initiative" aims to increase public knowledge about the diversity of thought, cultures, and history of Islam and to develop a more complex understanding among Americans about Muslim communities throughout the world. The program will also help to disseminate information about CAORC and the work of the American Overseas Research Cen-



CAORC staff and center directors in Mongolia

ters. To date, PARC has received several Carnegie grants for U.S. professors on PARC's 2010 Faculty Development Seminar as well as others who have worked closely with PARC. An article beginning on page 1 gives details of the various projects conducted under this initiative.

A **recap of our MESA 2010 panel** in San Diego and their presentations in Washington, D.C., are also included in this issue on page 12. Special thanks are extended to board member Nathan Brown for arranging the talks at George Washington University for our MESA panelists.

We would also like to draw attention to PARC board member **Rochelle Davis' book *Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced***, Stanford University Press, 2010, that won the 2011 Albert Hourani Book Award at MESA this year. The award was established in 1991 to recognize outstanding publications in Middle East studies. Davis' book addresses how Palestinian refugees today write histories of their villages that were destroyed in the 1948 war, and the stories and commemorations of village life that are circulated and enacted in the Diaspora. This work is based on over 120

village memorial books composed by refugees and displaced persons in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank, Gaza, and Israel, and Davis' ethnographic research in these communities.

From August 14-17, 2011, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, the American Center for Mongolian Studies hosted the **biennial meeting of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers**, in which PARC participated. The meetings brought together over 60 representatives of 21 American Overseas Research Centers located in countries around the world, including Algeria, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Mexico, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen. Discussions were held on expanding cooperative research programs, trainings, and fellowships; center administration; and joint technological applications. Meeting participants also discussed how to foster academic research and cultural heritage preservation. Particularly interesting were the presentations from the Tunisia, Yemen, and Egypt directors about how they managed operations during the "Arab Spring."

Alumni Updates and Final Report Synopses

All PARC fellows are invited to submit their news for the Spring 2012 newsletter. Please send information on promotions, new positions, publications, conferences, etc. We also invite you to submit a synopsis of your final report for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you! Please send all information to us.parc@gmail.com.

PROFILES



Yousef Adwan

Human Capital Accumulation and Economic Growth in Developing Countries: A Case study of the Palestinian Economy

Yousef Adwan's research is rooted in the extensive writings about the increasing gap between nations in terms of development achievements, economic prosperity, and production capacities. Specifically, economic theories assert the important role of human capital in increasing labor productivity, reducing production costs, and facilitating technology diffusion. These factors all help to ensure sustainable economic development. Adwan's research focuses on human capital resources in the Palestinian context and examines the severe economic and political constraints that have handicapped the Palestinian economy from optimally using its human capital resources. Taken together, labor supply-demand mismatching, the brain drain, a low level of technology installation, inefficient allocation of skilled labor in favor of the public sector, and the low wages paid in this sector, combine to exacerbate the existence of a human capital usage dilemma in Palestine. Recent statistics show a modest improvement in Palestinian

production capacity, which may point to the benefit of skills developed by academic agencies and training centers.

Adwan's research will probe the role of Palestinian human capital accumulation in improving labor productivity and facilitating technology diffusion. In addition, his work will explore the constraints that undermine the ability to use the stock of human capital effectively, and propose policies to overcome this dilemma. Adwan will conduct an intensive literature review, including theoretical papers addressing economic growth and human capital, case studies of how developed and developing countries manage this issue, and policy papers dealing with Palestinian education. A key element of his study will be to build on analyses of the secondary data published by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) regarding labor, industry and education. Adwan will collect data through structured and unstructured interviews at selected businesses and engineering unions, and with key economists and key personnel at universities and the ministry of higher education. He will also design a questionnaire to seek information from private firms in the industrial and service sectors.

Adwan's research will be important to Palestinian decision makers in their efforts to craft more effective policies to utilize human capital. His work will also fill a gap in current literature by providing a clearer and more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between Palestinian education and labor markets.

Yousef Adwan is a doctoral candidate in Political Economics at Siena University in Italy. He may be reached at yodwan1@gmail.com.



Betsy Brinson

Ramallah Friends School History 1869-Present

Betsy Brinson's research explores the 142-year history of Ramallah Friends School (RFS). Founded by American Quakers in 1869 as one of the first schools for girls in Palestine, the school has gone through many changes in its policies, the educational curriculum, and the demographics of the student body. War and occupation have affected many of these changes.

Using oral history interviews with graduates, teachers and administrators, Brinson hopes to show how the Palestinian participants themselves view their school history and the role of the school in the larger community. Since few primary documents exist from 1920-1985, oral history documentation be-

comes especially important. Beautiful old photographs of students, buildings and activities exist in various American archives and at RFS. Brinson will collect these photos and enter them into an electronic database for future use. She will also use written memoirs, reports and other documents prepared largely by American Quakers who volunteered or were employed at the school. At least one doctoral dissertation has been written about the early days of the school, which will also provide a resource.

Questions Brinson will address include: How did colonization affect RFS student growth and development? How is Friends School unique in its educational programs? How are students encouraged to explore questions of values and ethics? Does religion play a role in the curriculum? How does English language instruction and literature prepare students for a world culture? How have war and occupation affected the students and school operations over the years?

Betsy Brinson has a Ph.D. in American History and Women's Studies from the Union Institute. She is a public historian who specializes in using oral history interviews to research social justice topics. She may be reached at brinson422@comcast.net.



Spencer Scoville

A Samovar in Ramallah: Graduates of the Russian Orthodox Schools in Palestine

Spencer Scoville's research explores the influence of Russian literature on the development of Arabic literature during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This influence flowed primarily through the educational institutions that the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society (IOPS) established in the Levant between the years of 1882 and 1917 that catered to the Orthodox Christian community. Several graduates of these Russian schools went on to important careers in literature and journalism, making significant contributions to the debates that shaped the intellectual and cultural landscapes of their time. Because of the unique way in which their relationship with Europe was mediated by Russia, they represent an alternative voice in the Arab *nahdah* (cultural blossoming or renaissance).

Scoville's project examines the texts produced by these individuals through the lenses of postcolonial and translation

studies, focusing on the literary translations published in the early 20th century. Close readings of selections from the literary output of prominent graduates from the IOPS schools gives insight into the unique nature of Russian-Arab relations in this period. Scoville's primary source is the journal *al-Nafa'is*, edited by Khalil Baydas. Since Baydas was a graduate of the Russian schools and tightly connected to Russian culture, his journal contains a large amount of literary and critical material dealing with Russian culture and society in the Levant.

Taken as a whole, the body of literature contained in *al-Nafa'is* will provide an important window to a neglected element of the Arab literary renaissance. Histories of *nahdah* literature always refer to the importance of Russian cultural influence, but do not treat it in detail. By examining this instance of cross-cultural exchange, Scoville's research is likely to provide a more thorough understanding of the impact of Russian culture during the *nahdah*, particularly within the Arab Orthodox Christian community. The relationship between the Russians and the Arab world upset the East/West dichotomy that defines so much of postcolonial theory because it differs substantially from the colonial relationships with the western European powers that typically lay the foundation for discussions of the genealogies of modern Arabic literature.

Spencer Scoville is a doctoral candidate in Arabic literature at the University of Michigan. He may be reached at spensco@umich.edu.



Nili Belkind

Music, Conflict and Peacemaking: Ethics, Aesthetics and Cultural Policy Across the Israeli- Palestinian Divide

Music is a powerful resource for the construction and negotiation of cultural, ethnic and national identities. Nili Belkind's project will focus on joint musical projects of Palestinians and Israelis against the backdrop of the conflict, in which conflict-based narratives of identity can be either challenged or asserted. In addition, she will focus on joint musical projects that assert distinct ethnic and national identities, often highlighting Palestinian unity and resistance to Israeli policies. The central questions that she asks are: In what ways might collaborative musical projects constitute individual and group identities that destabilize ideologies of difference rooted in the experience of violent conflict? In what situations is music used to highlight difference in the context of

the conflict? How are these projects and associated ethno-national imaginaries interpreted and received by the participants and the public in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)?

Belkind's research will be an ethnographic study of the different ethical and aesthetic considerations that motivate such projects, and their political significance, across various music genres and performance settings, both in Israel and in the oPt. At the center of this study are the ethno-national imaginaries mobilized through the musical activities of individual artists, NGOs, and government-directed cultural policy. In her analysis of the interpretation and reception for such projects in diverse public spheres, Belkind will examine how diverse public opinions intersect with regional power differentials.

During the 1990s peace process, joint music projects flourished not only within Israel, but also across the Israeli-Palestinian border, establishing an ideology of aesthetics as a site of conflict negotiation. However, the current political climate has affected public opinions such that two dialectic beliefs are in operation: the belief in music's redemptive power to ameliorate conflict situations, and the contradictory belief that music is used by

continued on page 6

PROFILES

Profile: Nili Belkind

(continued from page 5)

hegemonic powers as a tool that aims to project symbolic unity but is ultimately employed to undermine emancipatory projects. Belkind's study aims to highlight individual agency, group identities, and governmentality as key points of entry to understanding the machinations of cultural politics in conflict-torn regions. Ultimately, the study seeks to contribute to the understanding of the potential role of expressive culture as a mediator in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Belkind will conduct participant observation at performances and rehearsals, record interviews, create audio and video recordings of performances, and analyze media and audience reception. Her main areas of investigation will be: individuals

involved in diverse musical representations across the Israeli-Palestinian divide, including musicians, promoters and DJs; concerts, annual festivals, and events that showcase joint music projects or that highlight distinct ethno-national identities; organizations that implement cultural policy in the arts to foster peace; as well as organizations that advocate the boycotting of such projects. In this way, Belkind will locate how diverse personal imaginaries of self, ethnicity and community are constructed, expressed in music making, and publicly circulated in a region in which all such imaginaries either contradict or emphasize the boundaries of self and community constructed by the conflict.

Nili Belkind is a doctoral candidate in Ethnomusicology at Columbia University. She may be reached at nb2324@columbia.edu.



David "Sandy" Marshall

A Children's Geography of Occupation: The Everyday, Imagined, and Emotional Geographies of Palestinian Children

According to Sandy Marshall, in the context of the Israeli occupation of Palestine, Palestinian children not only bear the physical and psychological brunt of war, but also bear a heavy representational burden—the images of children are contested territory upon which moral and political legitimacy is staked. In different discourses, Palestinian children represent the promise of future liberation; a threat to Jewish demographic superiority; innocent victims of violence; and key targets of humanitarian aid and educational intervention. They are heroes, victims, angels and devils. This research on Palestinian children's geographies will examine these conflicting discourses of Palestinian children and youth, how such discourses are mobilized to suit geopolitical agendas, and how these discourses shape and are reshaped by children's everyday, embodied experiences and practices in Palestine.

Children's experiences in Palestine are shaped by differences in environment, age and social circumstances. Marshall's

study will not claim to be representative of the experiences of all Palestinian youth. Instead, his project will aim for deep ethnographic knowledge of a group of youth within a single research site, Balata refugee camp, the largest refugee camp in the occupied Palestinian territories, located near the city of Nablus in the northern West Bank. Marshall will use archival research, semi-structured interviews and critical discourse analysis to examine the discursive constructions of childhood subjectivity and childhood space. He will also employ focus group interviews and participatory visual methodologies, including mental mapping and photo-diaries, to understand how children and youth disrupt the discursive constructions of childhood.

Given the symbolic centrality of children in the Palestinian struggle, surprisingly little is written about their lives or political significance. Likewise, much of the scholarship in the burgeoning field of children's geography remains focused on the local scale of schools and the home, with little consideration given to the significance of these sites within wider national and global geopolitical imaginings. By bringing to the fore underrepresented voices from this conflict (children and youth), Marshall's research will address a large gap in the literature on Israel/Palestine, and will contribute to a growing body of research on children's geographies. His work will also guide a better understanding of the lives of Palestine's youth, thereby offering an insight into the future of the political situation in Palestine.

Sandy Marshall is a doctoral candidate in Geography at the University of Kentucky. He may be reached at djmars2@uky.edu.



Amahl Bishara

Two Kinds of Palestinians: A Relationship Framed by the State

Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank share an ethno-national identity and cultural norms. Though they live in close proximity, they enjoy little contact. Amahl Bishara will conduct an ethnographic study of the interaction between these two groups. Her research will illuminate how state policies—whether mundane or highly public—not only create legal categories of people, but also set conditions of possibility for cultural and political life. At the same time, her work will also urge examination of how people of all stripes—in this case, activists, media makers, and small farmers—nevertheless manage to cross boundaries. Her research suggests that sensed and everyday elements of the political can propel and stagnate political action, and enlighten and occlude political vision. Given the shifts in perspective that can happen as one crosses the Green Line, even the distinction between enlightenment and diminished vision can be unclear.

Bishara's research will analyze the barriers to interaction between Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinians in the West Bank. Elements of infrastructure, including checkpoints, roads, and even patterns of cell phone service and reception, divide them. In everyday talk, the "presence-absence" of other Palestinians, living different realities in different places, haunts Palestinian conversation. To complement analysis of these factors of division, Bishara will conduct participant observation at sites that bring these two groups into contact, including sites such as summer camps, vegetable markets, and conferences. She will consider not only whether these groups are able to collaborate, express solidarity, or trade, but also how it feels for different people to be on either side of the Green Line: safe, familiar, cosmopolitan, provincial, friendly, or none of these. Finally, she will examine media texts and practices in order to probe whether media have been an effective way of bridging divides across the Green Line.

The divisions between these two groups of Palestinians are stark given their underlying similarities, and their relationship to each other is relatively unexamined. Bishara hopes her research will contribute to a deeper understanding of the lived experiences of citizenship and statelessness, and democracy and military occupation, experiences that can be at once starkly different and unsettlingly similar. Coming to terms with the relationship between these two groups may indeed be critical to forming expectations for the future of all Israelis and Palestinians.

Amahl Bishara is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Tufts University. She may be reached at Amahl.Bishara@tufts.edu.



Dr. Adnan Al-Hindi

Intestinal Parasites and Other Pathogens and the Transport of Vegetables in the Gaza Strip

The focus of Adnan Al-Hindi's research is the intestinal parasites contaminating common vegetables used in the Gaza Strip. Parasites have been associated with vegetable-or-fruit-borne outbreaks of infection including the protozoan parasites *Giardia lamblia*, *Cryptosporidium parvum* and helminthes parasites like *Ascaris lumbricoides* and *Trichuris trichiura*. Vegetables and fruits have been implicated as the route for transmission of a range of different parasites, particularly vegetables transported from farms to markets using animals

instead of motorized transport, especially in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip.

Al-Hindi's research will seek to determine the degree of contamination caused by parasites and fecal indicators in the commonly used vegetables in Gaza Strip. Using 175 specimens, the study will investigate five types of vegetables for their contamination with parasites and intestinal pathogens. Bacteriological tests will be done for total plate count and total *E. coli* and fecal coliform. Intestinal parasites are widely endemic in the Gaza Strip, and previous studies have been carried out in the Gaza Strip examining schoolchildren, pre-school children and hospitals. Poor hygiene and the deterioration of sanitation and environmental factors in the Gaza Strip may increase the risk of contamination of vegetables by parasites and intestinal pathogens due to the frequent flooding of sewers and the use of sludge as fertilizers in agriculture.

Adnan al-Hindi is an Associate Professor of Biology at the Islamic University of Gaza. He may be reached by e-mail at ahindi@iugaza.edu.ps.



Farah Aboubakr Al-Khammash

The Folktale as a Site of Framing Palestinian National Identity and Collective Memory in *Speak Bird, Speak, Again; Qul Ya Tayer; and Arab Folktales from Palestine and Israel*

Farah Aboubakr Al-Khammash notes that the increasingly painful political situation in Palestine, especially after the creation of Israel in 1948, threatens the survival of oral traditions that are a major marker of Palestinian cultural and social identity. The overall aim of her research is to examine the way folktales, and the critical literary apparatus surrounding them, can serve to construct the collective memory and national identity of the Palestinian people. She will focus on three collections of folktales: Ibrahim Muhawi and Sharif Kanaana's *Speak Bird, Speak, Again*; their Arabic version of the same tales, *Qul Ya Tayer*; and Raphael Patai's *Arab Folktales from Palestine and Israel*. Muhawi and Kanaana see folktales as a repository of the values and traditions that shape people's social, communal and family life—and therefore their national project—while Patai sees the folktale as little more than a dead artifact, associated with Bedouin rather than Palestinian culture, in which Palestinian storytellers play no significant role, except as a minority group living in Israel.

Aboubakr's study will highlight the differences between these approaches by examining the 'paratextual' elements, such as introductions, footnotes, afterwords and the like, with which the various 'cultural interpreters' surround the folktale collections that they have introduced and annotated. In undertaking this inquiry, her main theoretical framework is known as 'framing,' a term drawn from social studies, literary criticism and translation studies. Aboubakr will also examine the nature of Palestinian collective memory, mainly its components, function, and role in developing a new voice for Palestinian identity today.

Similar to other works of art and music, folktales are open to various interpretations and representations. This raises the question of the role of the folklorist and the compiler, who can either safeguard the living voice of a folktale, or silence it. Aboubakr's aim here is to analyze the role of the 'cultural translator' as a mediator of oral literature in general, and particularly of folktales, taking the Palestinian context as her focus. That the compilers of these collections chose the Palestinian folktale, rather than the novel or short story, is significant in understanding their agenda. Her study will also seek to shed light on the different roles a translator can embody, as ethnographer, compiler or folklorist, together with his choice of extensive materials about folktales, which shape ambivalent versions of Palestinian cultural reality and identity. She seeks as well to establish whether the collections of Muhawi and Kanaana and of Patai are regarded in the West and in the Arab world as 'subversive,' 'scholarly' or 'artistic' compared to other compilations of Palestinian folktales.

Farah Aboubakr Al-Khammash is a Graduate Teaching Fellow at Manchester University (UK). She may be reached at farah_ma@hotmail.com.

Thanks to these PARC fellows for their book donations to our library in Ramallah

Michelle Campos: *Ottoman Brothers: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Early Twentieth-Century Palestine*, Stanford University Press, 2010.

Maia Carter Hallward: *Struggling for a Just Peace: Israeli and Palestinian Activism in the Second Intifada*, University Press of Florida, 2011.

Frances Hasso: *Consuming Desires: Family Crisis and the State in the Middle East*, Stanford University Press, 2011.

Kimberly Katz: *A Young Palestinian's Diary, 1941-1945: The Life of Sami 'Amr*, University of Texas Press, 2009.

Julie Norman: *The Second Palestinian Intifada: Civil Resistance*, Routledge, 2010.

Wendy Pearlman: *Violence, Nonviolence, and the Palestinian National Movement*, Cambridge University Press, 2011

Basem Lutfi Ra'ad: *Hidden Histories: Palestine and the Eastern Mediterranean*, Pluto Press, 2010.

PARC Board of Directors

PARC is delighted to announce several new positions on our **board of directors**. At our 2010 board meeting we expanded the board to add a vice president to our officers, an additional institutional members representative, and an additional member appointed by the board. The new office holders and other members are as follows:

President: Najwa al-Qattan is associate professor of history at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. She holds a B.A. in Philosophy from the American University of Beirut, an M.A. in Philosophy from Georgetown, and a Ph.D. in History and Middle East Studies from Harvard University. She is the recipient of awards and grants from SSRC, MESA, TSA, and the NEH. She has published articles on the Ottoman Muslim court, the Jews and Christians of the empire, and the Ottoman Great War in journals and books including *The International Journal of Middle East Studies* and *Comparative Studies in Society and History*. She has also served on award committees for the Middle East Studies Association and the Turkish Studies Association.

Vice President: Rochelle A. Davis is an associate professor at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University. Her Ph.D. is from the University of Michigan in cultural anthropology and modern Arabic literature. Her B.A. is from the University of California, Davis in art history. For more than 10 years, she has studied and conducted research in the Arab world, including Palestine/Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. Her research focuses on refugees and conflict. Among her publications is her book, *Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced*, and a book chapter "Mapping the Past, Recreating the Homeland" in *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory*. In addition, she is working on scholarly articles based on oral histories she collected from Palestinians who lived in Jerusalem before 1948, and she has also published an article on British Mandate education and the Arab College in Jerusalem.



PARC Board of Directors meets at MESA

Treasurer: Kimberly Katz is associate professor of Middle East History at Towson University in Maryland. She earned her Ph.D., a joint degree in History and Middle Eastern Studies, from New York University. Katz is the author of two books, *Jordanian Jerusalem: Holy Places and National Spaces* and *A Young Palestinian's Diary: The Life of Sami 'Amr*, and has published articles in *The Muslim World*; *Comparative Studies in South Africa, Asia and the Middle East*; *The Journal of Social Affairs*; and in the Arabic-language journal *Hawliyyat al-Quds*. Katz has reviewed manuscripts for *The Levant*; *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*; *Radical History Review*; *Arab Studies Journal*; Prentice-Hall (textbooks); University Press of Florida; Routledge; and *Journal Archives de sciences sociales des religions* and grant applications for ACOR-NEH and PARC.

Institutional representative: Susan Slyomovics is professor of Anthropology, Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, and director of the G. E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her research interests are gender, visual anthropology and human rights in the Middle East and North Africa. Selected publications include *Clifford Geertz in Morocco*, editor; *Waging War and Making Peace: Reparations and Human*

Rights, co-editor; *The Performance of Human Rights in Morocco*; *Women and Power in the Middle East*, co-editor; and *The Object of Memory: Arab and Jew Narrate the Palestinian Village*.

Institutional representative: Zachary Lockman is professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (MEIS) and History at New York University, where he has taught modern Middle Eastern history since 1995. He was chair of MEIS and has also served as director of NYU's Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies. He served as president of the Middle East Studies Association, is a member of MESA's Committee on Academic Freedom, and is a contributing editor of *Middle East Report*. His main research and teaching field is the social, cultural and political history of the modern Middle East, especially Palestine and Egypt. His books include *Contending Visions of the Middle East: the History and Politics of Orientalism*; *Comrades and Enemies: Arab and Jewish Workers in Palestine, 1906-1948*; *Intifada: the Palestinian Uprising against Israeli Occupation* (co-edited with Joel Beinin); and *Workers on the Nile: Nationalism, Communism, Islam, and the Egyptian Working Class, 1882-1954* (co-authored with Joel Beinin). He received his B.A. in Near Eastern Studies from

continued on page 12

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Usamah Salim Shahwan (2004, 2011) Public-Private Partnership as a Strategy for Economic Development in Palestine (coresearcher Romell Soudah) and The Compatibility of Business Curriculum at Palestinian Universities with the Actual Demands of the Local Market as Perceived by Business Graduates and Private Sector Managers. Associate Professor, Faculty of Business Administration, Bethlehem University - ushahwan@yahoo.com

In August 2010, Usamah Shahwan published an article entitled "Reassessment of the Role of Culture in Managerial Behavior: The Case of Palestine" in *Advances in Management*.

Nili Belkind (2010) Music, Conflict and Peacemaking: Ethics, Aesthetics and Cultural Policy across the Israeli-Palestinian Divide. PhD Candidate in Ethnomusicology at Columbia University - nb2324@columbia.edu

Nili Belkind's article entitled "A Message for Peace or a Tool of Oppression? Israeli Jewish-Arab Duo Achinoam Nini and Mira Awad's Representation of Israel at Eurovision 2009" was published in the summer 2010 edition of *Current Musicology*.

Gary Fields (2010) Enclosure: Landscape in Palestine in a Not-Too-Distant Mirror. Associate Professor of Communication at University of California, San Diego - gfields@ucsd.edu

Gary Fields published an article in the *Radical History Review* (Is. 108, Fall 2010) entitled "Ex-Communicated: Historical Reflections on Enclosure Landscapes in Palestine."

Heidi Morrison (2010) Faculty Development Seminar. Assistant Professor in History at University of Wisconsin, La Crosse - morrison.heid@uwlax.edu

Heidi Morrison was granted a Faculty Research Grant from her university to conduct research in the West Bank in the summer of 2011 on memories of childhood violence during the second Intifada. She is also hosting a speaker from the Middle East Children's Alliance who will speak on Palestinian Children's Water Issues at her campus as part of a Midwest tour. Additionally, Morrison published an article on the state of children's history in Palestine in the Fall 2010 *Society for the History of Children and Youth Bulletin*.

Gail Sahar (2010) Faculty Development Seminar. Associate Professor of Psychology at Wheaton College - gsahar@wheatoncollege.edu

Gail Sahar, a Palestinian-American participant in PARC's Faculty Development Seminar, published a personal reflection entitled "Gaining Perspective: Psychology Professor takes a Closer Look at Palestine" in the Wheaton College Quarterly magazine. In the article, Sahar describes visiting her father's home for the first time, as well as her experiences meeting

Palestinians in schools and NGOs throughout the West Bank and Jerusalem.

Julie Norman (2007) Beyond the Battikh: Youth Participation in Nonviolent Activism in Palestine. Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Concordia University - jnorman@alcor.concordia.ca

Julie Norman's co-edited volume with PARC fellow Maia Carter Hallward, entitled *Nonviolent Resistance in the Second Intifada: Activism and Advocacy*, was published in 2011 by Palgrave Macmillan.

Falestin Naili (2005) Memory and Oblivion in Artas: An Element of the Rural History of Palestine. Associated Researcher, Laboratoire de Recherche Historique Rhone-Alpes, Lyons, France - ifnaili@yahoo.fr

Falestin Naili published two articles in the first half of 2011, one of which is in English: "The Millenarist Settlement in Artas and its Support Network in Europe and North America, 1845-1878" in the *Jerusalem Quarterly*. Naili's dissertation is also now available online in French at the following link: <http://tel.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-00443901/fr/>.

Anthony Wanis-St. John (2005) Back-Channel Negotiations in the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Process. Assistant Professor in the School of International Service, American University - wanis@american.edu

Anthony Wanis-St. John's book *Back Channel Negotiation: Secrecy in the Middle East Peace Process*, which elaborates on research that he pursued with a PARC fellowship, was published by Syracuse University Press in 2011.

Ghassan Haddad (2004) The Zionist Co-Option of Sport in Palestine: Constructing the Palestinian Sport Narrative. Consultant for Qatar Olympic Committee - gcth1975@hotmail.com

Ghassan Charles Haddad has continued his archival research on Zionism and the International Olympic Committee, which he had worked on as a PARC fellow. After serving ten years as President of the Palestinian Rowing Federation, Haddad moved to Doha where he is currently working with the Qatar Olympic Committee (QOC). His responsibilities include the alignment of elite athlete management strategies in 26 national federations with the QOC's strategic objectives, professional development activities for clubs and federations associated with the Qatar Olympic Academy and Olympic Solidarity's Advanced Sport Management Coursework, and workforce training and publications for the 12th Pan-Arab Games, which took place in Doha in November 2011.

Maia Carter Hallward (2004) Building Space for Peace: Identity and Discourse in Israel/Palestine. Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Affairs at Kennesaw State University - mhallwar@kennesaw.edu

The Women's Caucus for International Studies (WCIS) and sponsor Lynne Rienner (Lynne Rienner Publishers) awarded the 2010 Deborah ("Misty") Gerner Grant for Professional Development to Maia Hallward Carter. The WCIS is devoted to upgrading the status of women in the profession of international studies. Hallward's new book, based partially on the research she conducted with her PARC fellowship, is entitled *Struggling for a Just Peace: Israeli and Palestinian Activism in the Second Intifada*, University Press of Florida. Hallward, along with former PARC fellow Julie Norman, has a forthcoming edited volume with Palgrave Macmillan entitled *Nonviolent Resistance in the Second Intifada: Activism and Advocacy*.

Wendy Pearlman (2004) Public Opinion, Political Fragmentation, and Capabilities in the Second Intifada: Analysis of Palestinian Use of Force. Crown Junior Chair in Middle East Studies and Assistant Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University - pearlman@northwestern.edu

Wendy Pearlman's book entitled *Violence, Nonviolence, and the Palestinian National Movement* was recently published by Cambridge University Press.

Rhoda Kanaaneh (2003) Palestinian Soldiers in the Israeli Military. Adjunct Associate Professor in Anthropology at Columbia University - rhodakanaaneh@yahoo.com

Rhoda Kanaaneh and another PARC fellow, Isis Nusair, published their co-edited volume *Displaced at Home: Ethnicity and Gender among Palestinians in Israel*, with SUNY Press in October 2010. The idea for this anthology grew out of a PARC-sponsored panel at MESA. Kanaaneh also participated in the workshop at Columbia University (also PARC-supported) that brought together 12 contributors to the volume who are all Palestinian women citizens of Israel.

Morag Kersel (2003) Selling the Past: Global Strategies for Cultural Property Protection. Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at DePaul University - mkersel@depaul.edu

In January 2011, Morag Kersel conducted a Wenner Gren-supported field project in the Dead Sea Plain of Jordan (at the site of Fifa), building upon her PARC research on archaeological site destruction and trade in antiquities. In 2010, Kersel's chapter entitled "The Changing Legal Landscape for Middle Eastern Archaeology in the Colonial Era, 1800-1930," was published in *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919-1920* (Oriental Institute Museum Publications 30).

Thomas Ricks (2003) Voices from the Schoolyards: Memories of Palestine, 1955-1973. Independent Specialist/Consultant - tmricks@sas.upenn.edu

Thomas Ricks' book *Turbulent Times in Palestine: The Diaries of Khalil Totah, 1886-1955* was published by the Institute for Palestine Studies in 2009. This biography of one of Mandate Palestine's best-known educators draws on Totah's diaries, journals, letters, photos, testimonies, and published writings. Ricks' introduction provides a contextualized narrative to Totah's works that charts his journey from his childhood in Ottoman Ramallah and studies at Columbia University to his career as the principal of the Quaker Friends School in British-Mandate Ramallah.

Michelle Campos (2001) A Shared Homeland and Its Boundaries. Assistant Professor in Modern Middle East History at University of Florida - mcampos@ufl.edu

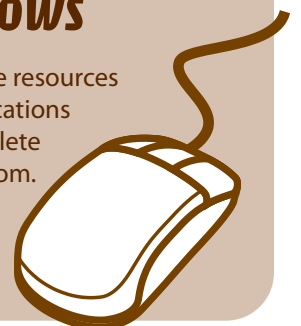
Michelle Campos's book *Ottoman Brothers: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Early Twentieth Century Palestine*, which was based on her PARC-funded research, was published by Stanford University Press in the fall of 2010. *Ottoman Brothers* explores the development of Ottoman collective identity, tracing how Muslims, Christians, and Jews became imperial citizens together. In Palestine, even against the backdrop of the emergence of the Zionist movement and Arab nationalism, Jews and Arabs cooperated in local development and local institutions as they embraced imperial citizenship.

Khaled Furani (2001) Modern Poets Contesting Power. Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Tel-Aviv University - khaled@post.tau.ac.il

Khaled Furani presented themes from his latest essay entitled "The Ethnographic Arriving of Palestine" at Georgetown University in October 2011.

Seeking Publication Information from PARC Fellows

Please help us build our Website resources with information on your publications related to Palestine. Send complete information to us.parc@gmail.com. (If you did not receive an earlier email on this, we may not have your current email address.)



Najib and Abla Khoury Fellowship

Thanks to the generosity of Dina and Alfred Khoury, PARC is honored to inaugurate the Najib and Abla Khoury Fellowship for Palestinian researchers. This fellowship, which will be awarded annually, honors two individuals whose lives were intricately woven into the history of Palestine. They, like all Palestinians, found their lives changed by forces outside their control. They settled in West Jerusalem as a young family, moved to Bethlehem as refugees after 1948, and then raised their children in East Jerusalem. They believed in the importance of education and its vital role in building and sustaining the strength of the Palestinians.

Najib Khoury was born in Nablus, graduated with a B.A. from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and did his graduate studies in theology at American University in Washington, D.C. He was a theologian, an amateur archeologist, and a scholar. He had an enduring love of books and reading and valued education above all else. Honest to a fault, he worked hard to educate his children.

Abla Haddad Khoury was born in Haifa. She was a bright, fun and funny woman with a sharp sense of humor. A trailblazer for her generation, she was one of the first women to attend college in the 1930's. She raised four children and helped them to find their paths in life. Both she and Najib died and were buried outside their beloved homeland of Palestine. The Najib and Abla Khoury Fellowship for Palestinian researchers pays tribute to Najib and Abla's memory and their many contributions.

PARC Panel at MESA in San Diego and George Washington University

PARC arranged a double panel at the 2010 Middle East Studies Association meeting in San Diego; both parts focused on Islam and politics in Palestine. The first part of the panel brought together four scholars from the region: Mouin Rabbani from Amman, and Helga Baumgarten, Ghada Al-Madbouh, and Moussa Abou Ramadan of Birzeit University; Nubar Hovsepian served as chair and Glenn Robinson as discussant. Participants in the first panel came through Washington on their way to San Diego and held a lively public discussion of Palestinian politics hosted by George Washington University. The second part of the panel at MESA consisted of three papers by Holger Albrecht, Nathan



PARC panel at 2010 MESA

Brown and Loren Lybarger that sought to put the Palestinian experience in comparative perspective. Brown served as chair and Laurie Brand as discussant. More than 70 people attended the session that included thoughtful questions from an interested audience.

PARC Board of Directors

(continued from page 9)

Princeton and his Ph.D. in History and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard.

Board appointed member: Dina Rizk Khoury is an associate professor of history and international relations at George Washington University. She is the author of *State and Provincial Society in the Ottoman Empire, Mosul 1540-1834*, and has published numerous articles in journals and edited volumes. Khoury is currently writing a book on war, citizenship and memory in Ba'thist Iraq. She has served as a manuscript reviewer for Cambridge University Press, SUNY Press, St. Martin's Press, Oxford University Press, and Westview Press. She reviewed articles for *Ethnohistory*,

International Journal of Middle East Studies, and *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, and worked as book review editor for the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*. She has also reviewed grant applications for the NEH, SSRC and ACLS, and is a Guggenheim fellow.

PARC is grateful to have these distinguished scholars join our board and assume positions of leadership. A complete list of board members is on page 2 of this newsletter, and more detailed biographies of all board members can be found on PARC's website at <http://parc-us-pal.org/who.htm>. A letter from PARC's new president, Najwa al-Qattan, is on page 1 of this newsletter. We welcome Najwa's thoughtful leadership.

Visit PARC at <http://parc-us-pal.org> for up-to-date information on fellowships, current activities, and resources on Palestine, including the new Jerusalem Archives.

ALUMNI SYNOPSES OF FINAL REPORTS

Sherene Seikaly (2008-2009) Nutrition, Colonial Development, and War-Making in 1940s Palestine (*sseikaly@aucegypt.edu*)

Food and nutrition were important conceptual and institutional sites through which British, Palestinian Arab, and European Jewish actors formulated new ideas of development and welfare. A look at the less-studied social welfare component of the broader development shift of the 1930s in British and French colonies reveals an intricate process of forging society and state in 1940s Palestine. Officials in London and Jerusalem created new categories of the “needy” and the “destitute” based on testing and surveying “basic needs.” Thus, the “destitute” in Palestine was a figure to be sought out and reformed under the ambit of governmental institutions: the school luncheon, the municipal kitchen, or a food stamp distribution center. As World War II intensified and Mediterranean trade came to a halt, officials in Palestine switched gears to focus on the immediate imperative of well-fed and productive soldiers and workers. A broad rationing scheme in the cities and towns of Palestine changed people’s relationship to food. For Palestinian nationalists, municipal leaders, and reformers, the science of nutrition was a key imperative in forging the healthy and modern home and nation. Nutrition and welfare were key arenas for distinguishing the state as a supervising, reforming and discrete entity separate from the social, albeit colonial and highly fragmented, body of the Palestinian nation.

The differences between European Jewish and Palestinian Arab experiences of service provisions, welfare, and food rationing were deep. Through institutions such as Hadassah and the Vaad Leumi, European Jews, consolidated their “machinery of distribution” of food and welfare services. Palestinian Arabs, for their part, had a long-standing tradition of charitable organizations beginning at the turn of the century. During the 1940s, municipal Arab leaders attempted to transition from charity provision to a more systematized form of

food and service distribution. As a reaction to the Palestine government’s parsimonious approach to food and welfare provision, Jewish and Arab municipal leaders joined forces in 1942 in an ephemeral, but nevertheless unprecedented, campaign for the “basic needs” of the “Palestinian citizen.”

Natalie K Jensen (2008-2009) Mobility within Constraints: Gender, Migration, and New Spaces for Palestinian Women (*nataliekajensen@gmail.com*)

Jensen’s research topic focuses on the geographic scale of the household and the everyday life of young, single and educated Palestinian women referred to as *binat Ramallah* or ‘Ramallah girls.’ This population skillfully navigates the dual spaces of home/household in their respective towns and villages throughout Palestine, as well as the demands of work and social and economic obligations in Ramallah. Jensen examines this population as internal economic migrants, demonstrating the distinctive gendered dimensions of the new and dynamic Palestinian economic geography in which they navigate. These women are located at a critical site and time, transgressing normative gendered economic roles, while still valuing and reproducing aspects of the patriarchal structure in which they live. Many of these women endure dramatic personal and social upheaval in the cosmopolitan space of Ramallah, while contending with structural and individualized forms of discrimination—including poor working conditions, little guarantee of permanent or long-term employment, a lack of adequate housing, public harassment, and their moral character being questioned. They are also tied to the family household financially and are expected to return periodically. Living and working in Ramallah subjects them to the hassles and harassment of a commute interrupted by the Israeli occupation. These courageous women are choosing a path that some view as radical, or even revolutionary, because it defies, out of necessity, the established social norms which informally proscribe their living “alone” in Ramallah.

Dana Hercbergs (2008-2009) Narratives on Growing Up in Jerusalem since 1948 (*hercbergs@yahoo.com*)

Palestinian and Israeli Jerusalemites who grew up during the late British Mandate and Jordanian eras articulate their memories of childhood and youth in a variety of verbal genres in both private and public domains. Their discourses about the past are shaped by their current social and political positions in the city, such that descriptions of their youth are punctuated by ideological statements about such themes as Arab-Jewish relations, communal life, religious identity, and the landscape. Overall, the recollections of Jewish Jerusalemites are articulated from the vantage point of a relatively stable present, implicitly granting speakers and audience permission to indulge in reflection on cultural themes, including nostalgia for the bygone days of the Jordanian period and earlier. Palestinian projects initiated by organizations based in East Jerusalem focus on the needs of the present, self-preservation and stability, juxtaposing a better pre-1967 and pre-1948 past with the current state of affairs. Research demonstrates that young people are becoming more localized in their movement, and thus increasingly limited to their respective Arab or Jewish areas in the city. This lack of familiarity with the urban terrain is a result of the limitations of living in a divided city.

Hercbergs’ research is a rich resource in terms of presenting the city’s history from the perspectives of its residents, particularly its young inhabitants. In the public sphere, alternative guided tours of Jerusalem’s neighborhoods based on residents’ memories could be formed around a variety of themes, including children’s spaces in the city. Academically, the research expands the field of youth studies in the Middle East. It demonstrates how assessments of the present are implicated in oral history, and the way that larger-than-local institutions are implicated in the representation of local culture and identity.

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We would like to recognize the following institutions and individuals who have contributed financial support over the past year.

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Carnegie Grant Supports PARC Lectures, Paper Presentation, and Symposium

(continued from page 1)

class lectures and a large public lecture on the intersection of Islam and politics in Palestine, and a brunch for faculty members on CAORC opportunities. **Heidi Morrison of the University of Wisconsin, Lacrosse**, welcomed PARC board member **Loren Lybarger of Ohio University** in April of 2011 for three class talks and discussions on Islam and politics in Palestine as well as an interview on the local public radio station based on the campus. The interview focused on the Somali Muslim immigrant community in the United States. Also in April, **Gail Sahar of Wheaton College in Massachusetts** organized a lunch with students and a campus lecture on



Loren Lybarger

prospects for the Palestinian-Israeli peace process by **Nathan Brown**. (A separate Carnegie grant funded this event.)

Louise Cainkar of Marquette University received funding to **present a paper** entitled "Muslim American Children of Immigrants: The Role of Transnational Identities and Experiences in American Being and Achieving" at the 2011 American Sociological Association annual meeting. The paper was based on preliminary

analysis of 93 face-to-face qualitative interviews with Arab American Muslim (and some Christian) teenagers living in Jordan, Palestine, and Yemen. Interviews were conducted in 2011. PARC was delighted with this opportunity to reach out to professional associations beyond MESA.

The initiative also provided funding to PARC board member **Jennifer Olmsted of Drew University** for a **symposium** on "Social Justice, Gender, and Islam." Three women, Muslim scholars/activists, all of whom are involved in (re)interpreting Islam through a gender lens, led a day-long symposium with lectures by the three guest speakers, as well as breakout sessions, in which members of the Drew community interacted with the speakers in smaller groups to discuss questions of social justice, gender, and interfaith dialog.

PARC

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Washington, DC 20007

PARC Membership Renewal

PARC appreciates the many institutional and individual members who have taken the time to renew their memberships. If your membership has lapsed, you are receiving this newsletter as a courtesy. Please fill out the membership coupon and send it in with your payment. Any donations above the basic membership cost help to fund much needed research fellowships. PARC is grateful for your continuing support.



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