The Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures (CCSMSC) was established at Simon Fraser University in 2006 to encourage the academic discussion and public understanding of cultures and societies within Muslim contexts, modernities, and traditions. The Centre works through a variety of programmes to broaden the discussion of this important subject and to introduce more complexity and comparison in the analysis.

In pursuit of this objective, the Centre has brought numerous academic specialists to campus for lectures and consultations; convened interdisciplinary conferences and workshops; established a highly-regarded summer school alternating between Vancouver and London (UK); organized film festivals, art exhibits, and concerts; created residencies, scholarships and visiting professorships; and solicited contributions of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish language material for the SFU research library.

Message from the Director: Page 3
International Summer Programme: Page 4
Annual Lecture Series 2013-2014: Page 5
Mirhady Endowed Lecture: Page 6
CCSMSC Colloquia Series: Page 7
Other Events
- Interfaith Dialogue in Plural Societies: Canada and Indonesia: Pages 8-9
- Occasional Lectures and Public Talks: Pages 10-11
- Seminars: Page 11
- Middle East and Islamic Consortium of British Columbia: Page 12
- Book Donations to SFU Library: Page 13
- Faculty and Student Profiles: Pages 14-15
- Affiliations and Positions: Pages 15-16
- Student Awards: Page 16
- Language Offerings: Page 17
- Upcoming Events: Page 17
- News of Members, Staff, Students, and Alumni: Page 18
- Associated Faculty: Page 19

Cover photo: Mesquite Mosque in Cordoba, by Mohammed Hashim
Page 2: Isfahan, Shaykh Lotfollah, by Maryam Mahvash
It has been an honour to serve as the Founding Director of the Centre for the last eight years. This is a period that has seen an upsurge in public interest in Muslim communities globally. Unfortunately, a distorted image of a single Islamic worldview determined by primordial political passions and inimical to modernity has emerged. Muslims, it has frequently been assumed, will always produce a religious response to political and social events, unless they have abandoned Islam. There has been little concern with understanding the manifold interpretive capacities that Muslims have brought and continue to bring to the expression of Islam through a broad range of cultures and societies. The Centre was established to shift the analysis of Muslims from the notion of a single social, religious, and cultural context, defined by an inflexible Islam, to a more complex yet nuanced view of Muslims as agents in the construction of their own histories and identities.

The Centre has made rapid progress in realizing this goal since 2006 and already has merited a sterling local and international reputation. It has sponsored or co-sponsored seven summer programs with 115 faculty members and 140 participants, three international conferences, two student conferences, 18 workshops, two books emerging from conferences, 91 lectures, 36 colloquia, 11 film screenings, seven art exhibitions, and five concerts. It has adjudicated eight graduate scholarships, trained nine graduate research associates, and hosted 14 research scholars in residence. It has built up the University Library by establishing five continuing collections; collaborating in the production of a digitized library; and augmenting the Library’s Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Urdu holdings. It has co-sponsored Persian and Arabic language acquisition at the University and has continued to build ties with institutions at the provincial, national, and international levels.

I am very proud of this achievement and grateful for the generosity of individuals at the University and in the community who have made it possible. Now, as I complete my mandate, the Centre is in the process of expanding from this solid foundation to realize the full range of excellence in the study of Muslim societies and cultures. In particular, over the next decade, the Centre will focus its attention on further developing a community of scholars, with the expectation that public understanding and policy orientation will flow naturally from this process. This will be done at the University and in the community, but increasingly through bilateral relationships with other academics and institutions globally. As always, the Centre welcomes your support as we move toward the future.

Derryl MacLean, PhD
“Expressions of Diversity: An Introduction to Muslim Cultures,” the seventh annual International Summer Programme, was held June 16-27, 2014, at the Vancouver campus of Simon Fraser University. The Programme was established in 2008 with our partners at the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, Aga Khan University, UK, to provide a critical-historical understanding of Muslims within interdisciplinary and comparative approaches across time and regions.

The 2014 Programme focused on mysticism within diverse Muslim societies and cultures. There has been very little public understanding of the importance of mystical realizations and practices of Islam or the continued relevance of the mystical tradition within an engagement of modernity. The 2014 Programme brought nuance, diversity, and understanding to the broad range of mysticisms in Muslim contexts of the past and present. Our faculty included Derryl MacLean, Thomas Kuehn, Amin Sajoo, Maya Yazigi, and Amir Koushkani from Simon Fraser University; David Taylor and Hadi Enayat from the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations; Rumee Ahmed, Ayesha Chaudhry, Seemi Ghazi, and Hussein Keshani from the University of British Columbia; Marcus Milwright and Andrew Rippin from the University of Victoria; Ali Lakhani (editor of Sacred Web), Yadolah Kaboli, Ramin Bahrami, and Hussein Behruzi-niya from the Nava Art Institute; and Frederick Colby from the University of Oregon.

The 2015 International Summer Programme will be held July 6-17, 2015 at the London campus of the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations. The 2015 Programme will focus on “Education in Muslim Contexts: Past, Present, and Future.”
Dr. John Bowen, “Shari’a Without Law: The Dilemma Facing Britain’s Shari’a Councils,” September 26, 2013, SFU Vancouver Campus.

John R. Bowen is the Dunbar-Van Cleve Professor in Arts and Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, and has been studying Islam and society in Indonesia since the late 1970s. He has written several books, including Blaming Islam (MIT Press, 2012) and European States and their Muslim Citizens (Cambridge, 2013). He is currently writing Shaping British Islam, slated to be published by Princeton University Press.

Dr. Carl Ernst, “How to Read the Qur’an,” October 24, 2013, SFU Vancouver Campus.

(Hosted by the Vancouver Muslim Community Centre on the occasion of Islamic History Month)

Dr. Carl W. Ernst is the William R. Kenan, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he also co-directs the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations. An internationally renowned scholar of Islamic studies and the history of religions, his recent books include Islamophobia in America: The Anatomy of Intolerance (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), How to Read the Qur’an: A New Guide with Select Translations (UNC Press, 2011), and Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World (UNC Press, 2003).

Dr. Eugene Rogan, “The Ottoman Front: The Great War in the Middle East,” March 13, 2014, SFU Vancouver Campus.

Dr. Eugene Rogan is a Lecturer in the Modern History of the Middle East at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of St Anthony’s College. His research interests include the Arab world from the 18th to the 20th century and Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire. Some of his recent publications include The Arabs: A History (Basic Books, 2011) and Outside In: On the Margins of the Modern Middle East (I.B. Tauris, 2001). His earlier book, Frontiers of the State in the Late Ottoman Empire: Transjordan 1850-1921 (Cambridge, 1999), was awarded the Albert Hourani Prize.

Dr. Angelika Neuwirth, “Reading the Qur’an as a Text of Late Antiquity,” March 27, 2014, SFU Surrey Campus.

(Hosted by the World Literature Program at SFU as the Annual Lecture on Literature in the Muslim World)

Dr. Angelika Neuwirth is Professor of Arabic Studies at Freie Universitat in Berlin and the head of the Corpus Coranicum research project of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. She is one of the world’s leading scholars of the Qur’an and has an honorary doctorate from Yale University’s Department of Religious Studies. Dr. Neuwirth’s research focuses on classical and modern Arabic literature and the Qur’an during late antiquity. Her publications include The Quran in Context (Brill Academic Publishers, 2011) and Arabic Literature: Postmodern Perspectives (Saqi Books, 2010).
The Mirhady Endowed Lecture celebrated its eleventh year with a wide-ranging lecture by Dr. Sheila Canby, followed by a reception. The Mihardy Endowed Lectureship was established at Simon Fraser University in 2002 through the generosity of Dr. Fereidoun Mirhady and Dr. Katharine Mirhady, with the goal of widening the public understanding of the culture, history, and literature of Iran. Dr. Sheila Canby is the Patti Cadby Birch Curator in charge of Islamic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. A distinguished expert on the art and antiquities of pre-modern Iran, she previously served as Curator of Islamic Art at the British Museum from 1991 to 2009. She is the author or editor of numerous publications, including *The Shahnama of Shah Tahmasp* (2011), *Shah ‘Abbas and the Imperial Treasures of Iran* (2009), and *Hunt for Paradise: Court Arts of Safavid Iran, 1501-1722* (with Jon Thompson, 2003). Dr. Canby is currently working on an exhibition on Seljuq art, scheduled to open at the Met in 2015.

Dr. Sheila Canby, Endowed Lecture on Iranian Studies, “The Material World of Safavid Iran, 1524-40,” November 14, 2013, Dijavad Mowafaghian Cinema at the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, SFU Vancouver.

CCSMSC COLLOQUIA SERIES


Dr. Rumee Ahmed is Assistant Professor of Islamic Law at the Department of Classics, Near Eastern, and Islamic Studies (UBC). He is a member of the editorial board of the “Encountering Traditions” manuscript series from Stanford University Press and Co-chair of the Scriptural Reasoning Group of the American Academy of Religion. His research encompasses Islamic studies, Islamic law and legal theory, hermeneutics, Islamic theology, and scriptural reasoning. His publications include Narratives of Islamic Legal Theory (2012), “The Lash is Mightier than the Sword: Torture and Citizenship in Medieval Islamic Thought,” (2011), and “Sacred Bodies: Considering Resistance to Oncofertility in Muslim Thought,” (2010).


Dr. Hossein Houshmand has studied Islamic theology and philosophy of religion at the University of Tehran and Concordia University, where he completed his PhD in comparative religion and ethics with a thesis on “Islamic Political Morality and Human Rights: The Search for an Overlapping Consensus.” His research interests include Islamic thought, contemporary political philosophy, and Iranian studies. He is a post-doctoral research fellow at the CCSMSC. His current research is focused on the idea of the priority of democracy to secularism in the context of Muslim societies.


Dr. Reza Tabandeh received his PhD in Islamic Studies from the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Exeter, with a thesis on the revival of Ni’matullahi Sufis and their confrontation with Shi’ite fundamentalists. His research interest lies in Islamic mystical philosophies in contemporary Iran. He has been a guest lecturer at the University of Bradford, the University of Toronto, York University, Brock University, and the University of Waterloo. His papers include “Approaches to the Qur’an in Contemporary Iran” and “Defending the Qur’an in Qajar Iran: Husayn Ali Shah and his Refutation of Henry Martyn.”


Dr. Maryam Mahvash is a Research Associate at the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures. Her interests span the broader context of Persian studies as well as the history and theory of architecture and urbanism. Her specialty is the study of the qualitative dimensions of day-lighting in Persian historical architecture. Prior to her relocation to Vancouver, she taught at several universities, including the University of Tehran's College of Fine Arts. Her research at the Centre focuses on the comparative study of day-lighting in the Safavid and Saljuq mosques of greater Persia.


Dr. Nahid Ghani has a PhD in Ancient Iranian Culture and Languages from the University of (2013). Her thesis is entitled, “Marriage Laws in Ancient Iran according to Zoroastrian Jurisprudential Texts.” The paper she presented at the Cyrus and Dhul-Qarnayn Conference (Tehran, 2010), “Cyrus: King or Envoy,” examined Cyrus in Jewish-Persian texts and the Bible. Her knowledge of Ancient Near Eastern languages, including Old Persian, Avestan, Middle Persian, Manichaean, Middle Persian, Sogdian, Jewish-Persian, and Sanskrit, has helped her gain a firm understanding of ancient Iranian culture, religions, and mythology.
Workshop


This two-day workshop was the first to bring together a comparative analysis of the religious dynamics of Canada and Indonesia, two very different multicultural societies of the Pacific Rim. The first panel focussed on the larger framing of issues of dialogue arising from the plurality of religions and cultures in Canada, with papers by Philip Ryan (Carleton), David Seljak (Waterloo), Itrath Syed (SFU), and Munir Jiwa (Graduate Theological Union). The second panel focused on the interfaith configuration of Indonesia and how it affects development, with papers by Musa Asy’arie (Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University, Yogyakarta), Joas Adiprasetya (Jakarta School of Theology), and Eddy Kristiyanto (Driyakara School of Philosophy, Jakarta). The keynote address by Dr. Jamhari Makruf (Vice Rector of the Syarif Hidayatullah Islamic State University, Jakarta) addressed the question of justice within larger interfaith contexts.

Photos:
Top left: Munir Jiwa, David Seljak, Paul Crowe, Philip Ryan;
Top right, Participants being welcomed by Andrew Petter (President of SFU);
Bottom: Itrath Syed, Philip Ryan, David Seljak, Paul Crowe, Munir Jiwa;

Opposite Page:
Top: Jamhari Makruf poses a question;
Bottom: Itrath Syed.
Occasional Lectures and Public Talks

Dr. Elliot Colla (Georgetown University), “New Writing from Egypt,” October 17, 2013, University of British Columbia.
Co-sponsored with Centre for Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies (UBC) and the School for International Studies (SFU).

Co-sponsored with the Vancouver Muslim Community Centre.

Rawi Hage, “An Evening with the Novelist Rawi Hage,” November 1, 2013, Vancouver Public Library.
In conjunction with the World Lebanese Cultural Union-BC Council and the Lebanese Canadian Society of BC.

Dr. Jamhari Makruf (Vice Rector, Syarif Hidayatullah Islamic State University, Jakarta), “Justice in an Interfaith Context: The Significance of Indonesia,” November 27, 2013, SFU Vancouver Campus.

Dr. Ebrahim Moosa (Duke University), “Retrieving the Ethical in Islamic Law,” February 27, 2014, SFU Segal Graduate School of Business.
Co-sponsored with the Centre for Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies (UBC) and the School of International Studies.

First photo: Angelika Neuwirth and Ken Seigneurie;
Second photo: Ebrahim Moosa.

Co-sponsored with the Centre for Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies (UBC).

Photos:
Top: Carl Ernst at book-signing; Middle: Derryl MacLean, Carl Ernst, Seemi Ghazi, Ellen Vaillancourt at lecture; Bottom: Ardalan Rezamand, SFU Harbour Centre.

Seminars


Sixth Annual Student Conference, March 15, 2014, Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

The MEICON-BC Student Conference 2014 highlighted the graduate work of a cross-disciplinary group of graduate and senior undergraduate students on diverse issues related to the Middle East and the Islamic world. There were seven paper sessions, each of which dealt with specific social, political, economic, and/or cultural issues and consisted of three or four presenters. Featured subjects included “Media and Popular Culture in Historical and Contemporary Contexts,” “The Local and the Global in Islamic Movements,” “Literature, Art, and Representations in the Muslim World,” “Representation, Politics, and Conflicts in the Middle East,” and “Conceptualizing Architecture in Iranian and Persianate Contexts.” The conference featured a keynote address – “Whither the New Middle East? The Quest for Universalism from Below” – by Dr. Mojtaba Mahdavi, Associate Professor of Political Science and Middle East studies at the University of Alberta.

The Middle East and Islamic Consortium of British Columbia (MEICON-BC) was established in 2008 to provide an organizational basis for communication and cooperation among BC academics. MEICON-BC sponsors the annual Student Conference and a weekly e-digest of information on matters of interest to academics. The next MEICON-BC Student Conference will be held at Simon Fraser University on March 28, 2014.

For further information, see www.sfu.ca/ccsmsc/meicon-bc.
The SFU Library has six ongoing collections in Middle East and Muslim Studies.

**The Allamah Iqbal Memorial Urdu Collection** contains 250 volumes, primarily in Urdu with some Persian and English texts, on the work of Iqbal and the cultural history of Indo-Pakistan. This year it was enriched by a donation of 125 books from the Pakistan Consul General of Vancouver.

**The Collection of Ottoman and Turkish Studies** contains over 200 books on history, society, and culture, primarily in the Turkish language.

**The World Lebanese Cultural Union Arabic Collection** holds over 120 volumes of recently published Arabic works, primarily on the history, society, and culture of Lebanon. This year WLCU donated 35 books to the collection, including a personal gift of Libnan fi'l-bal by its author, Pierre Ahmaranian.

**Dr. Fritz Lehmann Collection of Bihar and Muslim South Asia** was gifted to the Library this year by Joanna (Jan) Lehmann. The collection currently holds around 220 volumes. It is particularly rich in Bihar records, gazetteers, books, and pamphlets in Urdu, Persian, and English, including the original Bihar Survey and Settlement Reports.

**The Lami Nasserpour Persian Collection** has over 800 volumes in Farsi on history, politics, memoirs, mysticism, art, and literature, including valuable editions and commentaries on Hafiz, Rumi, Sa'adi, and Firdawsi.

**William and Gretchen Cleveland Arabic Collection and Digitalization Project** The late Dr. William L. Cleveland (1941-2006) was Professor Emeritus in the Department of History, Simon Fraser University. A world-renowned scholar of the Middle East and North Africa, he was the founder of SFU’s Middle East and Islamic program and the mentor of numerous undergraduate and graduate students. His publications, including his seminal work, A History of the Modern Middle East, now in its fifth edition, are required readings in most North American institutes of higher education. After his passing, his family donated to the SFU Library his personal collection of Arabic books on the Middle East and North Africa. These volumes reside in Special Collections as the “William and Gretchen Cleveland Arabic Collection.” The Collection consists of approximately 300 Arabic books and is rich in first-edition Beirut and Cairo imprints in history, memoirs, travelogues, and novels.

The Cleveland Collection Digitization Project of the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures (CCMSC-SFU) aims to convert many of the Arabic works in this collection into a digital format, which will allow researchers access to the material without the costs and risks associated with a physical examination of the Collection. The CCSMSC envisions this digitization project as the first step in a long-term strategy of collaboration with the SFU Library to make its increasingly important collections of Middle East and Islamic Studies accessible to a wider academic and public audience.
FACULTY AND STUDENT PROFILES

Dr. Rima Berns-McGown is Associate Director of the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures, and Jack and Doris Shadbolt Fellow in the Humanities.

Most recently, Dr. Berns-McGown was the Senior Project Advisor and Research Director of The Mosaic Institute’s study on “The Perception & Reality of ‘Imported Conflict’ in Canada,” and Adjunct Lecturer in diaspora studies at the University of Toronto. Dr. Berns-McGown’s book Muslims in the Diaspora: The Somali Communities of London and Toronto (UTP, 1999) explored the renegotiation of identity and religion that Somali refugees undertook in the first years after moving into the West. She has published extensively on racism, Islamophobia, the institutional barriers faced by Somali youth and other racialized Canadians, political culture, and the dynamics between diasporic communities and the wider society. “I am Canadian’: Challenging Stereotypes about Young Somali Canadians,” was published by IRPP in 2013.

Dr. Adel Iskandar joined Simon Fraser University in September 2014 as Assistant Professor of Global Communication from Georgetown University’s Center for Contemporary Arab Studies. His research focuses on the intersections of media, identity, and politics. He is author of Egypt in Flux: Essays on an Unfinished Revolution (AUC/OUP, 2013), co-author of Al-Jazeera: The Story of the Network that is Rattling Governments and Redefining Modern Journalism (Basic, 2003), and co-editor of Mediating the Arab Uprisings (Tadween, 2012) and Edward Said: A Legacy of Emancipation and Representation (U of California Press, 2010). His most recent work is a co-edited volume Media Evolution on the Eve of the Arab Spring (Palgrave, 2014).

Dr. Iskandar’s forthcoming work deals with power and “cultural diplomacy” as well as memes and digital dissidence. He is a co-editor of Jadaliyya, a critical ezine produced by the Arab Studies Institute.

Khashayar (Khash) Hemmati is an Iranian Canadian graduate student who received his BA at SFU with a Major in History and a Concentration in Middle East and Islamic History. He has worked as a Research Assistant for the CCSMSC and a volunteer for MEICON-BC. He is currently in the second year of his MA program, also in History at SFU, and is the 2014 recipient of the Dossa Muslim Studies Travel Award. Mr. Hemmati is a historian of the architecture of the modern Middle East. His MA thesis focuses on the Shahyad (Azadi) Monument Square in Tehran to reflect on larger issues of Iranian modernity and nationalism from the Pahlavi to the Islamic Republic. He is the author of “Turkey’s Post-1980 Coup d’Etat,” Illumine: Journal of the CSRS Graduate Students Associations.
Ataman Avdan is a PhD candidate in Sociology at SFU. He completed his BA in Political Science and International Relations at Yildiz Technical University (Istanbul, 2008) and his MA in Modern Turkish History at Bogazici University (Istanbul, 2010). Mr. Avdan was a Lecturer with the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Isik University (Istanbul, 2010-2012), where he taught 19th- and 20th-century history. Currently, he is interested in how socio-environmental change occurs at the nexus of ecological, social, economic, and political conditions. His dissertation research focuses on the transformation of peri-urban landscapes in western Turkey. Specifically, he is examining how social actors produce, internalize, or challenge particular environmental imaginaries and their expression in concrete socio-ecological projects. Since September 2013, Ataman has also been a Research Assistant with the CCSMSC.

AFFILIATIONS AND POSITIONS

Amyn Sajoo, Scholar in Residence
A specialist in civic culture and law, Dr. Amyn Sajoo holds degrees from King’s College London and McGill University, Montreal. His current research is at the interface of human rights, public ethics, and religion (notably Islam), including issues of sectarianism, citizenship, and bioethics. Since 2009, he has served as the editor of the Muslim Heritage Series (I.B. Tauris), of which A Companion to Muslim Cultures and The Shia World: Pathways in Tradition and Modernity are the most recent volumes. Dr. Sajoo has taught several courses over the past year on the history and politics of the Muslim world, including the manifold implications of the Arab Spring, on which he also comments to the media. Over this past year, he has guest-lectured at the University of Vienna, Arizona State University, and the Institute of Ismaili Studies, London.

Amir Koushkani, Research Associate
Dr. Amir Koushkani is an ethnomusicologist, composer, and performer, with a particular expertise in the theory of Iranian classical music and the performance of tar and setar instruments. He received a PhD in Ethnomusicology at York University in 2013, with a dissertation on the history and theory of the radif. He is the co-author of two wide-ranging books on the vocalist Shajarian, the leader of several musical groups, a composer of music – including the “First Concerto for Tar and Orchestra” performed by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in 2004 – and a performer on tar and setar with seven CDs in his discography. During his fellowship at the Centre, Dr. Koushkani will work on his current research project, “Oral Transmission and Written Transcription of Iranian ‘Classical’ Music: The Evolution of Practice and Theory in Iran.”
Nahid Ghani, Research Associate
Dr. Nahid Ghani is a historian of ancient Iranian culture and society whose research is based on Middle Persian, Avestan, Manichaean, Jewish Persian, and New Persian. She completed a PhD in Ancient Iranian Culture and Languages at the University of Tehran in 2013 with a dissertation on marriage laws in Zoroastrian jurisprudential texts. She published a book on old Jewish-Persian texts in 2009 and has presented numerous papers at learned conferences. She also serves on the editorial board of Iran Vij (Tehran). Dr. Ghani is resident at the CCSMSC in the first phase of a new project that examines the emergence of a science of archaeology and museums in Iran and their functions as arenas of disputation in the emergence of Iranian nationalism and authoritarianism.

Aliaa Remtilla, Research Associate
Dr. Aliaa Remtilla is an anthropologist and filmmaker with a PhD in Social Anthropology with Visual Media from the University of Manchester (2012). Her research focuses on how the Ismaili Muslims of the Tajik province of Badakhshan accommodate post-Soviet political and economic changes within the context of their spiritual leader, the Aga Khan IV, and the Aga Khan Development Network. She has presented numerous papers on this topic as well as an article on how Tajik Ismailis engage with spiritual photographs. She is the director of the film Bridging the Divide (2013), which examines the everyday lives of Tajik Ismailis within the context of development work, drawing especially on the interplay of Badakhshani and transnational connections within and across cultures. While at the Centre, she will be working with her Badakhshani data to reflect on questions of how financial and economic systems affect the ethical sensibilities of societies.

STUDENT AWARDS

Edward W. Said Memorial Scholarship:
The 2014 award was given to Edip Golbasi, allowing him to spend the past summer doing doctoral research in the Ottoman archives in Istanbul. Mr. Golbasi’s thesis focuses on the politics of internal security and violence in the eastern provinces of the Ottoman Empire in the late 19th century. In the course of his visit, he also presented portions of his research-in-progress at various conferences, workshops, and invited lectures.

Dossa Muslim Studies Graduate Travel Award:
This year the award went to Khashayar (Khash) Hemmati, an MA student in History. For his research Khash travelled to Harvard University, the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., and to the National Archives in England. Khash’s thesis focuses on contemporary Iranian architecture, in particular the Azadi/Shahyad Monument Square designed by Hossein Am-anat and inaugurated in 1971.
SFU students now have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the languages of the Middle East. The Language Training Institute at Simon Fraser University offers a series of Persian and Arabic courses.

**LANGUAGE OFFERINGS**

**PERS 118-3: Introduction to Persian I**

Introduction to Persian I teaches the Persian alphabet along with its phonology, morphology, and basic syntax. Students learn basic reading and writing skills and how to translate simple sentences. References to Persian history and culture accentuate understanding of the language.

**ARAB 134-3: Introduction to Classical Arabic**

ARAB 134 includes the study of Arabic language, its grammar, vocabulary, and history. It will provide students with basic written skills in Classical Arabic.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dr. Steven Salaita, “First Peoples, Palestine, and the Silencing of Free Speech?” January 12, 2015, 7:30pm, Segal Rooms, SFU-Harbour Centre; January 14, 2015, 5pm, Coach House, Green College, UBC.

Dr. Adel Iskandar (Simon Fraser University), “From Immolation to Preservation: The Self and Identity Politics since the Arab Uprisings,” January 22, 2015, 7 pm, Room 1400, SFU Harbour Centre.

Dr. Lesley Peirce (New York University), “Writing Popular Biography: Hurrem Sultan, the Slave who Became Ottoman Queen,” March 12, 2015, Segal Rooms, SFU Harbour Centre, CCSMSC Annual Lecture Series.


International Summer Programme, 6-17 July 2015: “Education in Muslim Contexts: Past, Present, and Future,” to be held at the London campus of the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations (Aga Khan University in the UK), and cosponsored by the CCSMSC.

Rima Berns-McGown (CCSMSC) was the senior project advisor, research director, and lead author, with John Monahan and Michael Morden, of “The Perception & Reality of ‘Imported Conflict’ in Canada,” published by The Mosaic Institute in March 2014.


Nahid Ghani (CCSMSC Research Associate) presented a paper, “Temporary Marriage in Pre-Islamic and Islamic Iran according to Jurisprudential Texts,” at the Tenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference (Montreal, 2014).


Laura Marks (Contemporary Arts) finished her new book *Hanan al-Cinema: Affections for the Moving Image*, which will be published by MIT Press in the fall of 2015.


Amyn Sajoo (CCSMSC Scholar in Residence) has guest-lectured at the University of Vienna, Arizona State University, and the Institute of Ismaili Studies, London.

Thomas Kuehn (History) has presented two conference papers this past year, the first “The Meaning of Difference. Looking for the Imperial in Late Ottoman Governance, 1839-1918” at a workshop titled “Tales of Two Empires. Ottoman and Russian Imperial Studies, Compared”, Amherst College, November 1-2, 2013. The second one was “Autonomies Multiplied: Revisiting Ottoman Governance in Yemen, 1872-1919” at the 21st Symposium of CIEPO (Comité International des Études Pré-Ottomanes et Ottomanes), Budapest, October 7-11, 2014. In October 2014, he also did two weeks of research at the National Archives in Kew, UK and the British Library, London on two projects that look at late Ottoman imperial governance and at aspects of late Ottoman environmental history.
ASSOCIATED FACULTY

Robert Anderson
Professor, Communication.
International development and communication; South Asia, Indonesia.

Yildiz Atasoy
Professor, Sociology.
Political economy and sociology; gender relations; Islamic politics; Turkey, Middle East.

Len Berggren
Professor Emeritus, Mathematics.
History of mathematical sciences in ancient Greece and medieval Islam.

Rima Berns-McGown
Associate Director, CCSMSC, and Jack and Doris Shadbolt Fellow in the Humanities. Canada as a space of inclusion; socially just diversity; diasporic communities and the wider society; racism and Islamophobia.

Luke Clossey
Associate Professor, History.
Comparative world history of religions; early modern; Mughals; China, Mexico.

Parin Dossa
Professor, Anthropology.
Migration, gender and health; Muslim women; Iranians in the diaspora.

Evdoxios Doxiadis
Academic Coordinator and Lecturer, SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies. Early modern; Ottoman Empire; Greece; state-building.

Aude-Claire Fourot
Assistant Professor, Political Science.
Public policies; ethno-religious diversity; Islam in Canada.

Graham Fuller
Adjunct Professor, History.
Islamism and North American foreign policy as it relates to the Muslim World.

Andre Gerolymatos
Director, SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies. Professor, History.
Hellenism; Greek-Turkish military history; international relations and Muslim politics.

Thomas Kuehn
Associate Professor, History.
Social and cultural history of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Derryl MacLean
Director, CCSMSC
Associate Professor, History.
History of religion; Islamics; early modern South and Central Asia; Islam in the West.

Laura Marks
Dena Wosk Professor of Art and Culture Studies. School for the Contemporary Arts. Cinema in the Arab world; Islamic genealogy of new media art.

Mark McPherran
Professor, Philosophy.
Ancient Greek philosophy and religion; ethics; Islamic philosophy.

Tamir Moustafa
Stephen Jarislowsky Chair, Associate Professor, School for International Studies. Comparative law; religion and politics; Middle East; Egypt.

Paul Sedra
Associate Professor, History.
Modern Middle East; education and the rise of the modern state; Egyptian cinema.

Ken Seigneurie
Director, World Literature.
Associate Professor, World Literature. Modern Arabic, French, and British fiction; literary theory and the history of humanist thought.

Ozlem Sensoy
Associate Professor, Education.
Constructions of Muslims in North America through education and media.

John Spagnolo
Associate Professor (Retired), History.
International history of Arab Middle East; Lebanon.

Azadeh Yamini-Hamedani
Assistant Professor, World Literature.
Interconnections of literature and philosophy; semiotics of translations; Persian literature.

Habiba Zaman
Professor, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies. Women and development; globalization and women's work; Bangladesh.