ANIS MAKDISI PROGRAM IN LITERATURE
Annual Report 2006-07

A. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

The Anis Makdisi Program in Literature (AMPL) was inaugurated in October 2002. The aim of the program is to promote and support an interdisciplinary dialogue, develop literary and humanistic studies at AUB and to encourage an openness to different cultural forms and traditions in literature, in keeping with the approaches elaborated in the work of Anis K. Makdisi.

The Program fosters intellectual dialogue and scholarly exchange among members of different departments, their students, and visiting scholars. The Program's activities include seminars, lecture series, workshops and conferences on various topics in cultural and literary studies, in order to provide a forum for scholarly dialogue among the various academic communities in Lebanon. In addition, two student scholarships are awarded annually a graduate fellowship to support graduate studies in literature at AUB, and an undergraduate scholarship for undergraduate studies. The centerpiece of the program is the Anis K. Makdisi Memorial Lecture, held annually at AUB and given by a leading scholar or author.

The Program has continued its varied activities in the academic year 2006-2007 working closely together with different programs and departments at AUB as well as with educational, academic and cultural institutions and intellectuals from Lebanon and abroad.

Our main achievement this year has been a close collaboration with the very prestigious international research institute, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Much of our energy this year was dedicated to launching the AMPL website (http://staff.aub.edu.lb/~webampl/index.htm). The website Master: Wissam Yassine

Advisory Committee:
Sirine Harb
Peter Heath
Maher Jarrar (Director)
As‘ad Khairallah
Andrew Long (October 2002-February 2006)
Saree Makdisi (UCLA)

Graduate Assistants
Feghali, Zalfa BA (1st semester)
B. ACTIVITIES

1. Conferences

- Oct. 2-13, 2006: International Summer Academy

EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (WISSENSCHAFTSKOLLEG ZU BERLIN) & ANIS MAKDISI PROGRAM IN LITERATURE, in cooperation with the HEINRICH BOELL FOUNDATION Middle East Office and THE GERMAN ORIENT INSTITUTE
SUMMER ACADEMY
TRAVELLING TRADITIONS: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES ON NEAR EASTERN LITERATURES

Monday, October 2
20.30 - 22.00 Keynote Speech
PETER HEATH
*Foundations and Meta-Practice: Genealogy, Metonymy, and Analogy as Principles for Organizing Literary Study.*
Welcome and Moderation: Maher Jarrar and Angelika Neuwirth in Bathish Theatre in West Hall, AUB Campus
Afterwards: Welcome Cocktail at Gefinor Rotana Hotel, at the C-floor foyer starting at 22:00pm

Tuesday, October 3
10.30 – 11.30 Plenary Discussion: Format and Agenda
Introduction: Friederike Pannewick and Samah Selim
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 1
- Group A (Selim/Hafez)
  Sinan Antoon, *The Sub-Version of a Genre: The Iraqi Prose Poem*  
  Comment: Barbara Winckler
- Group B (Pannewick)
  Christiane Schlote, *Beyond Hegemony: Anglophone Arab Literature and the Postcolonial Canon*  
  Comment: Asli Igsiz
- Group C (Neuwirth/Ashour)
  Refqa Abu Remaileh, *The Representation of the Anti-Hero in Modern Arabic Literature and Film*  
  Comment: Dina Heshmat
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Discussion
ELIAS KHOURY
*Words and War. Press, Media, Literature and Representations of Violence*
Moderation: Radwa Ashour
20.30 - 22.00 Lecture
RADWA ASHOUR
The Road Not Taken: A Reassessment of Chidiac's Adventures of Fariac
Moderation: Sabry Hafez
Wednesday, October 4
10.00 – 11.30 Reading & Discussion
MOURID BARGHOUTI
I saw Ramallah
Moderation: Friederike Pannewick
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Thematic Discussions 1
Group A: Rethinking the Colonial Model of Literary History (Samah Selim)
Walter D. Mignolo “Rethinking the Colonial Model.”
Group B: Friederike Pannewick, The Global Dimensions of Middle Eastern Literature
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 2
Group A (Selim)
Stuart Reigeluth, Detaching from Europe and Connecting the Mediterranean Basin.
Comment: Elizabeth Bishop
Group B (Pannewick/Hafez)
Hani Hanafi, Reconstructing the Past: History in the Modern Arabic Novel.
Comment: Erol Krogulu
Group C (Neuwirth/Ashour)
Sadiah Boonstra, Remix: The Story of Layla and Majnun in the National Cultures of Turkey, Azerbaijan and Iran.
Comment: Mariam Nanobashvili
20.30 - 22.00 Film
ABOUT BAGHDAD
a Film by In-Counter Production. Followed by a Discussion with the Co-Author and Co-Producer SINAN ANTOON
Thursday, October 5
10.00 – 11.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 3
Group A (Selim/Hafez)
Michael Marx, Deciphering Giovanni Di Plano Carpini’s Travel Account to the Mongol Court (1245-1247).
Comment: Aminur Rahman
Group B (Pannewick)
Asli Igsiz, Poetics and Practice of “Minor” Literature in the Western Institutions: A Contemporary Case Study.
Comment: Frode Saugestad
Group C (Neuwirth/Ashour)
Nino Dolidze, Maqama in the 20th Century Arabic Literature.
Comment: Rajeev Kinra
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Thematic Discussions 2
Group A: The Comparative Paradigm (Asli Igsiz)
Group B: Literature and the Problem of the Secular (Michael Allen)
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Lecture
TARIF KHALIDI
Anbara Salam in England, 1924-1926
Moderation. Angelika Neuwirth
20.30 - 22.00 Lecture
SAMAH SELIM
Pharaoh’s Revenge: Translation, Literary History and ‘The Colonial Difference’.
Moderation: Sabry Hafez
Friday, October 6
10.00 – 11.30 Lecture
FAWWAZ TARABOULSI
The Representation of Social Problems in the Musical Theatre of the Rahbani Brothers and Fairuz.
Moderation: Angelika Neuwirth
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 4
Group A (Selim)
Elizabeth Bishop, Fanon in Furs: Theorist for North Africa’s National Liberation in Russian Translation.
Comment: Michael Marx
Group B (Pannewick/Hafez)
Atef Botros, Tradition’s Criticism in Taha Hussein’s Reading of Franz Kafka.
Comment: Hani Hanafi
Group C (Neuwirth/Ashour)
Zalfa Feghali, Personal and Political Space in Mehdi Charef’s Tea in the Harem.
Comment: Refqa Abu Remeileh
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Working Groups - Thematic Discussions 3
Group A: Orientalism Institutionalized – Qur’anic Studies as a Case in Point (Angelika Neuwirth)
Group B: Assimilation, Allegory, and Struggle (Elizabeth Bishop)
Frantz Fanon: The Wretched of the Earth (166-199).
Group C: The Shaping of Identity and a Literature Without Borders (Frode Saugestad)
M. M. Bakhtin: Toward a Philosophy of the Act (56-75); Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak: Death of a Discipline (1-23).
20.30 - 22.30 **Poetry Evening**  
**ABBAS BEYDOUN & MOURID BARGHOUTI**  
Moderation: Assad Khairallah  
**Saturday, October 7**  
Afternoon Tour through Zoqaq al-Blat guided by Ralph Bodenstein  
Afterwards ca. 19.00  
Dinner at a Restaurant  
**Sunday, October 8**  
19.00 – 21.30 **Memory and Memory Politics.**  
An evening with Luqman Slim and Monika Borgmann at their Hangar  
**Monday, October 9**  
10.00 – 11.00 **Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 5**  
**Group A (Selim/Hafez)**  
*Aminur Rahman,* *The Gaze Returned: The Empire in Indian Travelogues.*  
Comment: Stuart Reigeluth  
**Group B (Pannewick)**  
*Stephan Milich,* *Travelling Spectres – Palestinian and Iraqi Poetry of Exile.*  
Comment: Francesca Prevedello  
**Group C (Neuwirth/Ashour)**  
*Dina Heshmat,* *“Cosmopolitan ” Alexandria in Literary Illustrations and its Assessments at the Literary Criticism Level: A North-South Comparison Between Egyptian and Non-Egyptian Writers.*  
Comment: Sadiah Boonstra  
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break  
12.00 – 13.30 **Working Groups - Thematic Discussions 4**  
**Group A:** *History in the Novel* (Hani Hanafi)  
Samia Mehrez: *Egyptian Writers Between History and Fiction: Essays on Naguib Mahfouz, Sonallah Ibrahim, and Gamal al-Ghitani.*  
**Group B:** *Literature as Heritage* (Saadia Boonstra)  
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH  
**PLENARY DISCUSSION**  
Literature, Translation and Genres of Writing  
with **Abbas Beydoun & Rashid Daif**  
Moderation: Sabry Hafez  
20.30 - 22.00 Lecture  
**SABRY HAFEZ**  
Translation and Popular Traditions in Arabic Narrative: The Case of Mahfouz.  
Moderation: Radwa Ashour  
**Tuesday, October 10**  
10.00 – 11.30 **Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 6**  
**Group A (Selim)**  
Comment: Michael Allen  
**Group B (Pannewick)**
Comment: Stephan Milich
Group C (Neuwirth)
Rajeev Kinra, Secretary-Poets in Mughal India and the Ethos of Persian: The Case of Chandar Bhan “Braham.”
Comment: Babür Turna
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 7
Group A (Selim)
Barbara Winckler, Gender Transgressions or How is Gender Reflected in Modern Arabic Literature?
Comment: Sinan Antoon
Group B (Pannewick)
Francesca Prevedello, From the Novel to the Screen: The Adaptation of Western and Egyptian Novels in Egypt between the Thirties and the Sixties.
Comment: Atef Botros
Group C (Neuwirth)
Mariam Nanobashvili, The Prose Romance of Barlam and Ioasaph.
Comment: Zalfa Feghali
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Panel Discussion
What and Where is World Literature?
Introduction: Samah Selim
20.30 - 22.00 Lecture
FRIEDERIKE PANNEWICK
The Performative Potential of Tradition.
At: Orient Institut Beirut, R. Hussein Beyhum, Zokat el-Blat
Moderation: Angelika Neuwirth
Wednesday, October 11
10.00 – 11.30 WORKING GROUPS - Thematic Discussions 5
Group A: Cosmopolitanism, Hospitality, and Cities of Refuge (Dina Heshmat)
Jacques Derrida, On Cosmopolitanism and Forgiveness.
Group B: Alienation and Self-Creation: Locating Arab American Identities (Christina Schlote)
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Presentation of Projects 8
Group A (Selim)
Michael Allan, The Limits of Secular Criticism: On Critical Reading in Colonial Egypt.
Comment: Ivo Spira
Group B (Pannewick)
Frode Saugestad, Individuation and the Shaping of Personal Identity.
Comment: Christiane Schlote
Group C (Neuwirth)
Babür Turna, Ottoman “Nasihatname” and European Utopia Literature in the Early Modern Period (1400-1600).
Comment: Nino Dolidze
13.30 – 15.00 LUNCH
15.00 – 16.30 Working Groups – Thematic Discussions 6
Group 1: The Culture and Politics of Persian in South Asia (Rajeev Kinra)
Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi: Refashioning Iran: Orientalism, Occidentalism, and Historiography.
Group 2: Influence, Intertextuality, and Transnational Literary Contexts (Erol Koroglu)
Jay Clayton and Eric Rothstein: “Figures in the Corpus: Theories of Influence and Intertextuality.”
Franco Moretti: “Conjectures on World Literature.”
20.30 - 22.00 Panel Discussion
Beirut. City of Vernacular Cosmopolitanism
Samir Khalaf, Elias Khoury, Jean Said Makdisi, Fawwaz Taraboulsi
Moderation: Stefan Weber
Thursday, October 12
10.00 – 11.30 Lecture
ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH
Moderation: Friederike Pannewick
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30 Working Groups - Discussion of Further Research Agenda

PUBLIC LECTURES & DISCUSSIONS & FILM
Monday, October 2, 2006, 20.30
Professor Peter Heath (American University in Beirut), Foundations and Meta-Practice: Genealogy, Metonymy, and Analogy as Principles for Organizing Literary Study.
Tuesday, October 3, 2006, 20.30
Professor Radwa Ashour (Ain Shams University, Cairo)
The Road Not Taken: A Reassessment of Chidiac's Adventures of Fariac.
Wednesday, October 4, 2006, 10.00
Reading: Mourid Barghouti (Palestine), I Saw Ramallah.
Wednesday, October 4, 2006, 20.30
About Baghdad, a Film a Film by In-Counter Production. Followed by a Discussion with the Co-Author and Co-Producer Sinan Antoon (Baghdad / New York)
Thursday, October 5, 2006, 15.00
Professor Tarif Khalidi (AUB), Anbara Salam in England, 1924-1926.
Thursday, October 5, 2006, 20.30
Dr. Samah Selim (Marseille), Pharaoh ’s Revenge: Translation, Literary History and ‘The Colonial Difference’.
Friday, October 6, 2006, 10.00
Professor Fawwaz Taraboulsi (Lebanese American University), *The Representation of Social Problems in the Musical Theatre of the Rahbani Brothers and Fairuz.*
Friday, October 6, 2006, 20.30
Poetry Evening with Abbas Beydoun (Beirut) & Mourid Barghouti (Palestine)
Moderation: Assad Khairallah
Monday, October 9, 2006, 20.30
Professor Sabry Hafez (SOAS, London), Translation and Popular Traditions in Arabic Narrative: The Case of Mahfouz.
Moderation: Radwa Ashour
Tuesday, October 10, 2006, 20.30
Professor Friederike Pannewick (Oslo University), The Performative Potential of Tradition.
At: Orient Institute Beirut, R. Hussein Beyhum, Zokaq el-Blat
Wednesday, October 11, 2006, 20.30
Panel Discussion: Samir Khalaf, Elias Khoury, Jean Said Makdisi, Fawwaz Taraboulsi
Beirut. City of Vernacular Cosmopolitanism.
Moderation: Stefan Weber
Thursday, October 12, 2006, 10.00
Professor Angelika Neuwirth (Free University Berlin), Ink vs. Blood: Biblical and Qur’anic Mnemonics in the Martyr Discourse reflected in Near Eastern Literature and Art.

2. Exhibitions

- Monday, February 5 – 12, 2007; Opening Wednesday, February 7, at 5:00 pm West Hall, Common Room

“*Bertha von Suttner. An Exhibition of her Life and Works.*”

Introduced by Samira Khoury (AUB; International Vice President of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom).

Under the auspices of His Excellency the Austrian Ambassador to Lebanon Dr. Georg Markhof. Together with *The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom* and *The Arab Women Solidarity Association Lebanon*.

3. Work-shops

- Monday, March 12- Friday 16, 2007

Najwa Barakat, *A Seminar on: Arabic Creative Writing.*

The Lebanese renowned writer and novelist living in France gave a crash seminar on Arabic Creative Writing to students from AUB (together with Dr. As‘ad Khairrah in Arabic 251F).

4. General Lecture Series
• Wednesday, March 28, 2007, 5:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

In Honor of Shafiq Juha.

• Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Dr. Lale Behzadi, “Inspired Inspiration: Goethe’s Faust and Arabic Literature.”

• Thursday, April 19, 2007, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Professors Martha Mundy and Richard Smith, “Land and Property in Bilad al-Sham under the Ottoman Tanzimat.”

• Wednesday, April 25, 2007, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Dr. Arnim Heinemann, "ما أحلى القمر مثل القمر": World-Music in Contemporary Arabic Literary Texts.

5. May Memorial Lecture

• Thursday, May 24, 2007, 7 pm West Hall, Bathish Theatre

His Excellency Archbishop Georges Khodr: al-Masḥiyyūn al-‘Arab.

G. Future Development

To continue along the lines of our mandate as elaborated above in section A.

Director,

Maher Jarrar