

**ANIS MAKDISI PROGRAM IN LITERATURE**  
**Annual Report 2005-06**

**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 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 writer. The Program has continued its varied activities in the academic year 2005-2006 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.

**Advisory Committee:**

Peter Heath

Maher Jarrar (Director)

As'ad Khairallah

Andrew Long (October 2002-February 2006)

Saree Makdisi

**Graduate Assistants**

Hadi, Diana BA (1<sup>st</sup> semester)

Feghali, Zalfa BA (who proved her excellence in work and dedication)

**B. ACTIVITIES**

**1. Panels and Workshops**

- Wednesday, November 9, 2005, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

*A Panel on Sabah-Kharrat Zouein* (Yusra Muqaddim, Mona Amyuni, Georges Dorlian:

moderator).

- Friday, December 16, 2005, 6:00 pm West Hall, Room 204

*A Panel on Samuel Shamoun's: An Iraqi in Paris* (Abbas Baydoun, Iskandar Habash, Maher Jarrar: moderator).

- Wednesday, February 22, 2006, 6:00pm West Hall, Auditorium B

*Nour: The Women's Encyclopaedia* (A Panel discussion with: Imad Ghazi (Egypt) and Muhammad Dakroub, Latif Zaytouni: moderator).

- Saturday, March 25, 2006, 9:30 am-3:30 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

AUB Book Club, in collaboration with AMPL, *Workshop on Issues in Literary Translation* (from Arabic into English)

- Wednesday, April 5, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

*Centennial Khalil Takieddine* (Touma Arida, Ali Hamadeh, Bassem al-Jisr, Sulayman Takieddine, Nazek Saba-Yared, Mona Takieddine-Amyuni: moderator).

- Wednesday, May 19, 2006, 6:00 pm Auditorium B

*A Panel on the work of Iman Humaydan-Younes* (Valerie Creusot, Max Weiss, Maher Jarrar: moderator).

## **2. Conferences and Exhibitions**

- Wednesday, November 16 - Friday, November 18, 2005, 3:00-8:00 pm

*Colloquium on Elias Khoury: Ayyam Elias Khoury* (together with the International College)

Wednesday and Thursday, International College, Imad Taher Auditorium; Friday, AUB, Nicely Hall 409

- Monday, December 12 - Saturday, December 17, 2005 with a lecture to be delivered on Wednesday, December 14, 5:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Huda Taleb-Srage, *Gender Iconography through the Stamps of the Arab World* (Exhibition).

- Thursday, April 27, 2006 – Saturday, April 29, 2006 West Hall, Bathish Theatre

*A Conference on the Artistic Collaboration between Fayrouz and Ziyad Rahbani, 1973 – 2006; Music, Poetry, and Theatricality* (Supervision and

Management: Akram Rayyes).

- Friday, May 19, 2006 - Sunday, May 21, 2006 West Hall, Room 204

*A Conference on Arabic Prose Poetry. Keynote Speech: Unsi Al-Hajj.*

### 3. General Lecture Series

- Monday, October 31, 2005, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Ludwig Ammann, *Conservative Reform in Contemporary Western Islamic Thought: Tariq Ramadan, A Case Study.*

- Monday, November 12, 2005, 6:00 pm West Hall, Bathish Theatre (In collaboration with the *Zaki Nassif Music Program*)

Minister of Culture Tarek Mitri, *The Role of Music in the Formation of the Citizen.*

- Wednesday, November 23, 2005, 5:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

*Poetry Evening* (Arabic), His Excellency ‘Abd al-‘Aziz Khoja, Saudi Ambassador..

- Wednesday, January 25, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Andreas Pflitsch, *Idwar al-Kharrat and the Involuntary Autobiography.*

- Wednesday, February 8, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Tamim Barghouthi, *Poetry Evening & Discussion.*

- Wednesday, March 1, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Julia Genz, *Comparative Literary Perspectives of Europe/Germany and Lebanon.*

- Tuesday, March 7, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Room 204

Dimitri Gutas, *Greek, Arabic, Latin. History and the Transmission of Knowledge in the Medieval Mediterranean.* (Moderator: Ramzi Baalbaki)

- Thursday, March 9, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Dimitri Gutas, *The Triumph of Reason: The Absence of Mysticism in the Philosophy of Ibn Sina.* (Moderator: Peter Heath)

- Monday, March 13, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Akram Najjar, *The Short Story Experience* (Discussion of issues related to short stories as well as readings by Akram Najjar of some of his work)

- Thursday, March 16, 2006, 5:00 pm West Hall, Room 204

Salwa Bakr, *My Experience as Novelist*.

- Thursday, March 23, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Robin Ostle, *Excellence in Modern Arab Literature*.

- Friday, March 24, 2006, 6:00 pm West Hall, Auditorium B

Merlin Holland (Oscar Wilde's grandson), *Confounding the Critics; Surviving the Scandal. The Remarkable Reputation of Oscar Wilde*.

### **3. May Memorial Lecture**

- Friday, May 26, 2006, 7 pm West Hall, Bathish Theatre

Tarek Ali, *Literature and Empire*. (Introduced by Saree Makdisi)

### **4. Students' Activities** (Coordinator: Zalfa Feghali)

MA Brown Bag

- Thursday, January 12, 2006

Rana Issa, *A Feminist Reading of Edward Said*.

- Monday, February 20, 2006

Ali Hocine Dimerdji, *Towards a New Concept of Democracy: Plane of Understanding, la politique vs. le politique*.

Director,

Maher Jarrar