American Association of Teachers of Arabic
Newsletter
June 2008

Welcome to the monthly newsletter of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA). The monthly newsletter puts AATA in regular contact with membership and provides news of the profession. It appears on or around the 15th of every month. If you have news of interest to AATA members, please send it to the email address, admin@aataweb.org. For other inquiries, please contact info@aataweb.org.

FROM AATA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear AATA Members,

Best summer greetings to everyone who is traveling, relocating, or otherwise enjoying the summer.

Speaking of relocating, has your address changed since last summer? If so, please help AATA get your membership materials to you in a timely fashion.

Last month, you should have received two email messages from the AATA Business Office. One contained your username, the other your password. Using your username and password, you can check and, if necessary, update your contact information on the AATA website (http://www.aataweb.org/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fmembers%2fDefault.aspx). If this link does not work for you, please go to the homepage at www.aataweb.org. From there, you can click on "Current AATA members – Update your membership information".

If for some reason (such as spam filters), these messages have not reached you, please contact the AATA Business Office (info@aataweb.org). They will be happy to help you stay current.

You will also receive your membership renewal form shortly, together with the ballot for new members of the AATA Executive Board.   The membership renewal forms will be sent via US Mail. In the meantime, you are welcome to renew your membership on line at http://aataweb.org/Default.aspx?pageID=11.

As you may remember, AATA has an agreement with Georgetown University Press to distribute *The Teaching of Arabic As a Foreign Language: Issues and Directions*, edited by Mahmoud Al-Batal. The work has not been available during the transition, but we were delighted to receive this message from Georgetown University Press this week:

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"The inventory has now officially been received at the Georgetown University Press warehouse, which is ready to fulfill orders. This will not be up on our website until August, but it can be ordered by calling 1-800-537-5487, or (outside the US) 410-516-6965. Basic how-to ordering information is at:

http://press.georgetown.edu/order.html

The price is $34.95; the ISBN is 978-0-9621530-9-9."

Looking ahead to July and August, these are likely to be quiet months for the *AATA Newsletter*. So we are pleased to announce the First *AATA Newsletter* Summer Contest. Help your colleagues to find new resources. To enter, send an email to admin@aataweb.org. Your message should contain the name and a brief (100 word) description of a resource you recommend for classroom teaching or research. The winner, to be chosen at random, will receive her or his choice of a back issue of *Al-'Arabiyya: the Journal of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic*. Selected resources will be included in July and August issues of the *AATA Newsletter*.

As you look to the fall, please remember that the AATA Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, 22 November in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association meeting at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. We look forward to seeing you at the AATA Panel, "Arabic Heritage Programs in the US: Problems and Solutions." The AATA Business Meeting will follow the panel. Please plan to join your colleagues at the Business Meeting to honor the recipient of the 2008 AATA Lifetime Achievement Award.

With best wishes,

Elizabeth M. Bergman, Ph.D.
Executive Director

CALLS FOR PAPERS

❖ **Al al-Bayt University, Jordan: Applications of Phonetics and Phonology on Arabic. 04 – 06 November 2008**

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2008 First International Linguistics Conference on 'Applications of Phonetics and Phonology on Arabic'. This event will be held on the university campus from November 4-6 2008, organized and hosted by the Arts and Humanities Faculty at Al al-Bayt University.

The conference has the following main objectives:

Firstly, to handle issues related to phonetics and phonology terms, and to shed a new light on the contributions of ancient Arab linguists to the terminology pertaining to phonetics and phonology.

Secondly, to focus on the phonological system of The Holy Quran, namely Quranic recitations via phonological studies.

Thirdly, to tackle phonological and phonetic phenomena of old and modern Arabic dialects.

Fourthly, to study phonetic and phonological changes of Arabic.

Fifthly, to focus on the far reaching effects of rapid technological changes on the phonetic study of Arabic, and the resulting demands of computational phonetics applications on Arabic.

Sixthly, to analyze the phonetic and phonological systems of Arabic, through investigating the correlation between these systems and other linguistic systems, such morphological, syntactic, and semantic, on one hand, and examining translation, language acquisition, and language learning problems, on the other.

Seventhly, to explore the far reaching results of phonetics and phonology on applied linguistics fields, such lexicography, phono-stylistics, etc.

We hope that this conference and similar conferences will enrich and bridge the phonetic and phonological Arabic language studies among language studies.

We take a great pleasure in inviting you to participate in making this event a success.

Information:

Time: November 4-6, 2008
Place: AL al-Bayt University Campus
Application Form Deadline: 1/6/2008
Papers and Abstracts Deadline: 1/8/2008
Conference Fees: No Fees

Cost: University covers housing and hospitality for (03-07 November), and for participants outside the country transportation from and to ALIA international Airport in Amman.

For further information, please see: http://www.aabu.edu.jo/art/home.htm.

> ❖ **Arabic Literature Now: Between Area Studies and the New Comparatism: A special issue of** *Comparative Literature Studies*

Edited by Amal Amireh and Waïl S. Hassan

Interest in Arabic literature in the United States has been sparked by Naguib Mahfouz's winning of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1988, by multiculturalism, and by postcolonial studies, particularly Edward Said's critical legacy. But in recent years, this interest has intensified because of the two Gulf wars, 9/11, and the ongoing "war on terror." Studying Arabic literature in the American academy and beyond cannot be abstracted from a context of Middle East politics and is taking place in the shadow of a "clash of civilization" ideology that posits the Arab and Muslim worlds as the dangerous other of western civilization.

As editors of a special issue of *Comparative Literature Studies* (*CLS)* devoted to Arabic literature, we are seeking papers that take into account the complex contexts in which Arabic literature is being studied outside the Arab world at this historical juncture. Among the questions we are interested in are the following: What is the status of Arabic literary studies today? Has Arabic studies freed itself from the legacy of Orientalism? What is the impact of postcolonial theory on Arabic literary studies? What is the

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place of Arabic literature in the new articulations of comparative literature (from Gayatri Spivak's *Death of a Discipline* to Haun Saussy's *Comparative Literature in an Age of Globalization*) and world literature (e.g. Franco Moretti, David Damrosch, Pascale Casanova)? What roles have postcolonial theory, feminist theory, translation theory, and reception theory played, or can play, in such articulations? What are the points of contact between Arabic literature and those of Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Australia? How do issues of gender, sexuality, war, nationalism, globalization, and human rights figure in Arabic literature today? What are the pedagogical implications and challenges of the current interest in Arabic literature and culture?

We invite articles that reflect on these and related questions in connection with Arabic-language texts written in the Arab world and elsewhere as well as texts by Arab writers of Dutch, English, French, German, Hebrew, Portuguese, and Spanish expression.

The issue is scheduled to appear in late 2010. Completed papers will need to be submitted no later than 30 January 2009. 500-word proposals and brief CV are due by 30 September 2008 to Amal Amireh (aamireh@gmu.edu) and Waïl S. Hassan (whassan@uiuc.edu). Contributions should conform to *CLS* style, and be between 6000 and 10,000 words. See the *CLS* style guide at (http://cl-studies.psu.edu/submissions.shtml) for further information.

❖ **Arabic Natural Language Processing Session (ANLP-ACIT'2008) at the International Arab Conference on Information Technology (ACIT'2008) December 16-18, 2008, Hammamet, Tunisia**

Arabic language is spoken in more than 20 countries. It is the native language of over 200 million people. Arabic is considered among the languages that are difficult to process automatically. Nevertheless, the necessity of Arabic NLP systems is essential, especially with the Internet explosion. Thus, the need to help Arabic people to have access to information and technologies in their mother tongues is of great importance. The aim of this session is to bring together researchers and members of industries that are actively involved in Arabic language processing and give them an opportunity to exchange ideas, approaches and implementations of computational systems; to discuss the common challenges faced by all practitioners; and to assess the state of the art in the field. In addition, one of the aims of this session is to identify promising areas for future collaborative research in the development of Arabic NLP systems.

This session includes but is not limited to the following topics:
* Part of speech tagging
* Morphological analysis and generation
* Shallow and deep parsing
* Word sense and syntactic disambiguation
* Semantic analysis
* Information retrieval
* Information extraction
* Question answering
* Text clustering and classification
* Text summarization
* Text and web content mining
* Named entity recognition

Session chairs : Lamia Hadrich Belguith, Bilel Gargouri & Abdelmajid Ben Hamadou (LARIS-MIRACL, University of Sfax, Tunisia)

ACIT Keynote speakers:

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Professor Ali Farghaly (Oracle, USA): Arabic language processing: Overview, current applications and leader projects

Professor Abdel Belaïd (LORIA, Nancy- France): Arabic Language Recognition

Richard Thomas Watson (University of Georgia): The Business of Open Source Submission:

Submissions must be in English. Authors are invited to submit a paper of 8 pages (in Postscript or PDF) to: Bilel Gargouri (bilel.gargouri@fsegs.rnu.tn) with CCs to: Lamia Hadrich Belguith (l.belguith@fsegs.rnu.tn) and (bilel.gargouri@gmail.com).

Instructions for preparing the manuscript are available on http://www.acit2k.org/sub2008.html?ACIT2008/final.html.

Papers will be evaluated at least by two reviewers for originality, significance, clarity, and contribution. Submitted papers must not have been previously published or currently submitted for publication elsewhere.

Important dates:

Paper Submission: July 15, 2008
Notification of acceptance: September 1, 2008
Camera-ready submission & registration: October 1, 2008
Conference period: December 16-18, 2008

Contact: For any additional information, Please contact Bilel Gargouri (bilel.gargouri@fsegs.rnu.tn).

❖ **ECOLT 2008: Bridging the Divide: Language testing theory in practice, 07 – 08 November 2008, The George Washington University, Washington, DC**

EXTENDED Receipt Deadline: July 7, 2008; Notification: July 30, 2008

We invite proposals from colleagues in academia, government, and not-for-profit organizations. The East Coast Organization of Language Testers (ECOLT) encourages students, researchers and teachers to present papers or posters on projects with relevance to language testing theory in practice.

TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS: Proposals are requested for presentations in the following categories: 1. Papers; 2. Posters.

PAPERS (30 minutes): This format is best suited for theory-oriented presentations, or the presentation of completed research. Presenters will have 20 minutes to discuss their paper, followed by 10 minutes for questions and comments from the audience.

POSTERS (1 hour): Poster sessions will provide an opportunity for the presentation of work in progress and research that is being planned, as well as for the presentation of test development projects, new tests, and technological innovations. Poster presenters will then interact with interested participants at the location of the poster display for one hour.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Contribution to the field
2. Quality of the research/study
3. Clarity of the abstract

FORMAT OF PROPOSALS: Each submission should be on two pages.

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Page One:

1. Contact Information:

a. Full name of principal presenter and full contact information (affiliation, postal address, telephone, fax, email) All return correspondence will be to this individual only.
b. Full name, affiliation, addresses, and email addresses of co-presenter(s) if any

2. Type of presentation (Paper or Poster)

3. Title of presentation

4. AV equipment required: a laptop & overhead projector will be provided for all presentations. Display areas, tables and poster boards (32x40 inch white boards with foam core) will be provided for posters.

5. Abstract: Abstracts should be between 200 and 300 words, single-spaced. Abstracts should be clearly written and concisely address the following:

a. Context of the issue(s) researched
b. Purpose of the study
c. Summary of the methodology or analytical procedures used
d. Results/conclusions
e. Implications/significance to the field of language testing

Page Two:

1. Type of Presentation (Paper or Poster)

2. Title of Presentation

3. Abstract (duplicated from Page One)

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

The two-page submission should be sent as an email attachment to lorena.llosa@nyu.edu by June 20, 2008. The filename should read: ECOLT08ABS_YOURLASTNAME.

For further information, please see: http://www.cal.org/ecolt/index.html.

❖ **First and Second Languages: Exploring the Relationship in Pedagogy-related Contexts, 27 - 28 March 2009, University of Oxford**

Organizing Committee:

The Applied Linguistics Research Group (University of Oxford)

Plenary speakers confirmed:

Professor Fred Genesee, Department of Psychology, McGill University
Professor Vivian Cook, School of ECLS, University of Newcastle
Professor Kees de Bot, Department of Applied Linguistics, University of Groningen

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Deadlines:

Deadline for proposals (individual papers and symposia): 1 July 2008.
Deadline for proposals (posters): 1 October 2008

Please send proposals providing a Title and an Abstract of no more than 200 words to
ernesto.macaro@education.ox.ac.uk.

For further information, please see: http://www.education.ox.ac.uk/home/news/index.php?id=23.

❖   **Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (JNCOLCTL)**

The Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (JNCOLCTL) is soliciting articles for publication.

Our general editorial focus is on policy, education, programs, advocacy, and research in the field of less commonly taught languages (all foreign languages except English, French, German, and Spanish). The segmentation of the Journal is as follows:

a. Methodology and Technology,
b. Academia,
c. Beyond Academia,
d. Social Embeddedness

The first section will include papers focusing on broader theoretical and technological issues in all fields of less commonly taught languages. The second section will encompass reports about research and teaching in academia, at both K-12 and collegiate levels. The third section shall comprise papers addressing research and teaching in government and industry. Finally, the fourth section will address the issues of a broader social environment, ranging from heritage communities to advancing LCTLs in federal initiatives and legislation.

In preparing the manuscript, please use the latest edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA), see http://www.apa.org/journals/authors/guide.pdf. Manuscripts should be a maximum of 25 pages (excluding references, charts, notes, etc.) and preferably submitted electronically via email attachment. Double-space the manuscript throughout, including notes, references, and tables, using 12-point font with a 1.5 inch left margin. The manuscript should be accompanied by a 150 word (or less) abstract and a cover sheet containing the manuscript title, name, address, office and home telephone numbers, fax number, email address, and full names and institutions of each author. Because the manuscript will be blind reviewed, identifying information should be on the title page only, and not appear in the manuscript.

While submissions are accepted throughout the year, in order for a paper to be considered for the 2009 volume, it has to be received by October 1, 2008. Please send your manuscripts to:

ncolctl@mailplus.wisc.edu
NCOLCTL
4231 Humanities Building
455 N. Park Street
Madison, WI 53706

Tel: 608-265-7903; FAX 608 265 7904.
Hong Gang Jin, NCOLCTL President
Danko Sipka, JNCOLCTL Editor.

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❖ **Language Policy and Planning in the Mediterranean, 17 – 19 October 2009, Nicosia, Cyprus**

The conference will focus on language policy and language planning issues in the countries of the Mediterranean basin.

The Mediterranean has long been considered as a unitary space on historical, sociological and cultural grounds. This conference aims to explore how unity or singularity is witnessed in language policy and language planning by bringing together specialists from various parts of the Mediterranean world. Special emphasis will be given to the dynamics of the relation between macro and micro perspectives in LPLP, to the interaction between national and local objectives and to new developments or insights that the study and comparative work on LPLP in the Mediterranean societies bring about. This conference particularly welcomes contributions from the Euro-Mediterranean countries.

Contact: Pavlos Pavlou, ppavlou@ucy.ac.cy.

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, SEMINARS

❖ **31st annual Second Language Research Forum (SLRF), 17-19 October 2008, University of Hawaii at Manoa**

Theme: EXPLORING SLA: PERSPECTIVES, POSITIONS, AND PRACTICES

Plenary speakers:
- Dr. Harald Clahsen (University of Essex)
- Dr. Alan Firth (Newcastle University)
- Dr. Carmen Munoz (Universitat de Barcelona)
- Dr. Richard Schmidt (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)

Invited colloquia:
"Comparing child L2 and SLI: Crosslinguistic perspectives" (Theres Gruter - organizer)
"Language learning in and out of the classroom: Connecting contexts of language use with learning and teaching practices" (Christina Higgins - organizer)

To see an overview of the entire conference program (with over 200 presentations), see the SCHEDULE GRID at: http://www.nflrc.hawaii.edu/slrf08/program.htm.

PRE-REGISTER for the conference by AUGUST 15 to enjoy special discount rates.

For more information, visit: http://www.nflrc.hawaii.edu/slrf08/registration.htm.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: TEACHING

The following lists teaching positions in academia and elsewhere. For other positions, please see below.

For further information about any position listed here, please contact the institution.

❖ **American University: Instructor of Arabic**

American University's Department of Language and Foreign Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences invites applications for the following position beginning in the fall 2008 semester:

Instructor of Arabic. This is a one year temporary appointment with possibility of renewal.
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Qualifications: MA degree in the field (the position is restricted to candidates with an MA or ABD); native or near-native fluency; experience in teaching all levels of Modern Standard Arabic and evidence of excellence in the classroom.

Responsibilities: Teach 21 credit hours of Arabic-language courses (Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced) per academic year (fall and spring semesters). Other responsibilities include student advising and service to the Department.

Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to:

Arabic Instructor Search Committee, Language and Foreign Studies
American University
4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016-8045

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. American University is an EEO/AA University, women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. American University is seeking highly dedicated teachers and scholars who are deeply committed to interdisciplinary learning, the application of new technologies in teaching and scholarship, and to the preparation of students for life in a diverse and rapidly changing global society.

❖   **Boston University: Part-time instructors of Arabic language**

Boston University seeks part-time instructors of Arabic language to begin 9/1/08. Native or near native fluency in Arabic, MA, and teaching experience required.

Please send a letter of application, CV, three recommendation letters, and representative course evaluations if available to Dr. Giselle Khoury, Boston University MLCL Department, 718 Commonwealth Ave., Boston MA 02215.

Review of applications begins July 10, but applications will be considered until position is filled.

Boston University is an Equal Opportunity /Affirmative Action employer.

❖   **LEARN NC:Develop/Instructor for Level 1 of Online Arabic**

LEARN NC, a K-12 outreach program of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in collaboration with the NC Department of Public Instruction, the NC General Assembly and the NC Virtual Public School, is currently seeking a developer and instructor for Level 1 of Online Arabic. This course is the first in a two-part series designed to help students develop proficiency in Arabic. The opportunity requires the individual to both develop and then teach the course online. This course will place great emphasis on the spoken language while cultivating reading and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic. With the assistance of the development team*, the course will be completed by May 31, 2009, to be taught in the fall semester of 2009*.
The following information details our expectations/requirements for both the developer position and the instructor position. In addition, we will be seeking conversation coaches to provide 2, 45-minute practice sessions with a group of 3-4 students weekly for the semester (18 weeks).

Developer Expectations and Requirements
- Must be proficient in Arabic.
- Must be, or be able to be, **certified** as an Arabic teacher.
- Must have American high school teaching experience or comparable work with teenagers.

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- Must have basic knowledge of Microsoft Word, use of Arabic characters in the electronic environment, and preferred knowledge of HTML editor like Dreamweaver or similar HTML editors (www.nvu.com is a great HTML editor that is free!)
- Must be detail-oriented and be able to collaborate regularly with the Project Manager, the Instructional Designer, and the Development Team during the development stage.
- Must have daily, reliable Internet access to collaborate with Instructional Designer and Project Manager.
- Must have a background in language education and second language acquisition
- Willingness to complete 2 online instructor preparation courses this summer and fall to develop and improve teaching skills online.
- Willingness to become familiar with LinguaFolio, a formative assessment tool, and incorporate its use in the course.
- Willingness to review other Arabic courses' materials and resources at leisure to understand development standards and to effectively develop Arabic 1.
- Willingness to learn Blackboard, the course management system in which the course will be developed (LEARN NC can provide online instruction in the use of this tool)
- Ability to work with video team to develop scripts for introductory dialogue for each lesson (video vignette) and approve video/audio content produced by video team.
- Willingness to work with a development team.
- Ability to communicate effectively in English with development team
- Desire to be a part of a pioneering effort to bring Arabic language and culture to students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn!
- Ability to work with development team to finish course by **May 31, 2009**
- Developer salary: $6,000-8,000

Instructor Expectations and Requirements
- Must be proficient in Arabic.
- Must be, or be able to be, **certified** as an Arabic teacher.
- Must have American high school teaching experience or comparable work with teenagers.
- Must have basic knowledge of Microsoft Word, use of Arabic characters in the electronic environment.
- Must have daily, reliable Internet access.
- Background in language education and second language acquisition.
- Willingness to complete 2 online instructor preparation courses this summer and fall to develop and improve teaching skills online.
- Willingness to become familiar with LinguaFolio, a formative assessment tool, and incorporate its use in the course.
- Willingness to learn Blackboard, the course management system in which the course will be developed (LEARN NC can provide online instruction in the use of this tool)
- Must coordinate with conversation coaches (1 per 4-5 students) on a weekly basis what students should practice.
- Must keep good records of students' progress and grades throughout the course.
- Must communicate with the NC Virtual Public School about registration and technical issues.
- Must work with NCVPS to communicate with the Distance Learning Coordinators at representative high schools where students are enrolled.
- Must love teaching Arabic to a range of students!
- Instructor Salary ~ $225 per student

Application Process
The following materials must be submitted electronically no later than July 15, 2008, to Dr. Bobby Hobgood at bhobgood@learnnc.org.   Please use the following subject line for your message: Arabic I Developer
1. A current resume or CV

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2. A description of current and past teaching experience in Arabic
3. A statement of current teacher certification(s) and in what states
4. A statement of your use of technology and any experience in online teaching and learning
5. A statement to indicate you are available to begin working this summer
6. Contact information

❖   **Qatar University: Assistant/Associate Professor in Sociolinguistics**

The Department of Social Sciences at Qatar University is seeking candidates for faculty position at the level of Assistant OR Associate Professor in Sociolinguistics including nonverbal communication.

Application Deadline: 31-Dec-2008
Position Category: Academic
Employment Type: Full Time
Position Term: Three Years Renewable

Duties and responsibilities: 1. Teaching general and specialized courses (3 a semester); 2. Office hours (4 hours per week); 3. Supervising graduation projects; 4. Student advising; 5. Department, College and University Committee service and, when applicable, Community service communication.

Competencies: Preference for bilingual (English-Arabic) – able to teach undergraduate courses in English or in Arabic.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in Sociology or Anthropology specializing in sociolinguistics and nonverbal communication. Several years of teaching experience in the United States.

Required Documents:

1. Online Application letter; 2. Curriculum vita; 3. Names, phone numbers, and email address of three references; 4. Academic transcript; 5. Any additional documents deemed relevant to application.

Benefits:

1. A three-year renewable contract; 2. Competitive tax-free salary; 3. Furnished accommodation in accordance with QU HR policies; 4. Annual round trip air tickets for faculty member and dependents; 5. Educational allowance for candidate's children (eligible candidates only) in accordance with QU HR policies; 6. Annual leave in accordance with QU HR policies; 7. End-of-contract indemnity.

How to Apply: click on: http://recruit.qu.edu.qa/pls/recruitment/recruiter.rec

Returning Applicants: Please login to update/edit your saved profile. Use this profile to apply for this position.

New Applicants: You need to setup an account with QU Recruitment System and complete your personal profile. Once your profile is complete you may use it to apply for an open Position.

❖   **University of New Haven: Lecturer in Modern Languages**

The University of New Haven has an opening for a non-tenure-track Lecturer in Modern Languages beginning August 27, 2008. The successful candidate will teach courses in Elementary and/or Intermediate Arabic, Chinese, Russian, or Spanish. The successful candidate should also be able to develop courses in culture, film, and/or literature that would contribute to the Global Studies major and study abroad

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initiatives. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in one of the four foreign languages listed above. Candidates with a background in applied linguistics and second language pedagogy are preferred.

Submit cover letter, CV, and three letters of reference to Search # 08-17, Search Committee Chairperson, University of New Haven, 300 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 06516 or via email to www.hrdept@newhaven.edu (electronic submission is strongly encouraged).

The University of New Haven is a private, master's comprehensive university. UNH has over 3,000 undergraduates and 1,700 graduates and offers more than 80 undergraduate and 25 graduate degree programs. Conveniently located near downtown New Haven, the University provides employees with a comprehensive benefit package and a professional, productive and pleasant work environment. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. The University of New Haven is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and A leader in Experiential Education.

❖ **University of Virginia: Part-Time Lecturer in Modern Standard Arabic**

The Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Virginia invites applications for a nine-month, two-thirds time lectureship in Modern Standard Arabic, to begin 25 August 2008. The successful applicant will be asked to teach two Arabic language classes each semester. We are looking for a skilled language instructor with strong competence in Arabic grammar and the ability to teach language at elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels. Native or near-native fluency in Arabic is required, and experience teaching Arabic at the university level is preferred. Candidates must hold an MA or higher degree. This position includes part-time fringe benefits. Review of applications begins immediately.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of introduction, an updated curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to Arabic Search, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures, P.O. Box 400781, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4781, USA. Application materials can also be submitted electronically to dl2h@virginia.edu.

The University of Virginia is an EO/AA employer.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: OTHER

❖ **Abu Dhabi University: English-Arabic translation**

The English Department of Abu Dhabi University is looking for a part-timer in English-Arabic translation for the academic year 2008-2009. S/he should have a PhD in the field with some experience in translation and teaching. Flexible scheduling can be arranged.

Please check ADU web site www.adu.ac.ae for application information.

❖ **National Foreign Language Center: Najdi Arabic Narrators/Lesson Content Reviewers**

The National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland is seeking native Najdi (central Saudi Arabian) Arabic speakers as narrators and lesson content reviewers for a multimedia project on Arabic Variants Identification. Narrators must be able to record at our College Park, Maryland office. We will consider applicants for narrator who are not local (travel/lodging expenses will be covered). These are short-term contractual assignments (estimated timeframe is mid-late summer). For more information, please contact Margo Rice, Project Manager, at 301.405.9827 or mrice@nflc.org.

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3416 Primm Lane, Birmingham, AL 35216
telephone: 205.822.6800; fax: 205.823.2760

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For newsletter submissions and other questions: admin@aataweb.org

❖   **University of Sharjah: Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

The University of Sharjah is seeking to recruit a dean for the College of Arts , Educational and Social Sciences starting from the academic year 2008/2009. Applicants who meet the criteria listed below are invited to apply immediately.

SCOPE OF WORK: The Dean of the COLLEGE OF ARTS, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
reports directly to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and directs, administers, and coordinates all research and educational and training activities related to the College, sets the strategic directions and plans for the College, and integrates College activities within the environment of the United Arab Emirates and the region.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The Dean is expected to:
Create and maintain a strong Communication services network outside the College to facilitate education, training and research.
Establish and supervises the implementation of strategic directions, goals, objectives and policies, in relation to the education and research within the College and across the departments.
Represent the University in the Communication field at various forums outside the university.
Recommend and supervise the development and implementation of the annual budget for the College and perform periodic productivity and effectiveness analyses.
Develop and maintain a network of adjunct professors to support the College in research and educational activities.
Recommend and participate in the development of University policies and procedures.
Coordinate agreements with Ministries, relevant Authorities and agencies within the United Arab Emirates and abroad.
Have knowledge of human resources, management concepts, practices, policies, and procedures in higher education.
Foster and create research programs relevant to the region.
Have strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community.
Have experience in communication with Communication networks and establishments and other related institutions for activating education and research
Have experience with international Communication bodies as well as international accreditation bodies

MINIMUM JOB REQUIREMENTS:-
The applicant must:
-Be a Full Professor in one of the College fields.
-Have full command of spoken and written English and Arabic.
-Have demonstrable qualities of leadership and a research background in Communication.
-Have a clear vision for the development of higher education in general and the College in particular.
-Have experience with the credit hour system
-Be familiar with international accreditation standards
-Have occupied a significant administrative experience preferably at the level of dean at a reputable university.

The University of Sharjah offers competitive tax free salaries and excellent benefits package. For more details on duties, salaries, and benefits, please visit our website at http://www.sharjah.ac.ae.

Applications should be sent to the Office of the Chancellor office no later than July 15, 2008. Applications must include a curriculum vita, letter of application addressing qualifications for this position and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of at least four current academic professional

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references. Those who are short-listed for the post will be required to submit official university transcripts. Applications should be submitted by electronic mail or by special delivery mail to:

Office of the Chancellor
University of Sharjah
P.O. Box 27272
Sharjah - U.A.E.

Contact Information:
E-mail : uos@sharjah.ac.aw
Web Site : sharjah.ac.ae
Phone : 97165585000
Fax : 97165050110

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDIES

Includes opportunities for teachers and other Arabic language professionals. Please note that this information is provided as only a service; AATA does not endorse Arabic language programs.

❖   **Marburg University: New M.A. program in Semitic studies.**

Starting in October 2008, the Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies of Marburg University (Germany) offers a 2 years M.A.-program in Semitic studies.

Requirements:
- Knowledge of Oriental Studies or Linguistics on the B.A. level
- Acquaintance with two Semitic Languages

Classes are in German.

Further information:
http://www.uni-marburg.de/cnms/studium/studiengaenge/master.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Includes opportunities for teachers and other Arabic language professionals.

❖   **Cornell University: Workshop on the implementation of the Integrated Approach**

The Arabic Program at Cornell University will be holding a one-day workshop on Friday, August 15, 2008 for its instructors on the implementation of the Integrated Approach (introducing MSA and a spoken Arabic dialect simultaneously) in the classroom. The workshop will be open to a limited number of Arabic teachers from other institutions who are interested in this approach, and will consist mainly of informal discussions and exchanges of ideas among the participants on the most effective and practical ways to prepare Arabic students to function in the two language varieties. The discussions will take place mostly in spoken Arabic, so proficiency (and comfort) in speaking an Arabic dialect is essential.

The workshop will be free, and limited funding will be available for travel and lodging for participants from other institutions on a first-come-first-served basis.

If interested in joining us, please email me (Munther Younes) at may2@cornell.edu.

❖ **Georgetown University's Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding: Free Professional Development Workshops**

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim Christian Understanding at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University is pleased to offer free full and half-day professional development workshops for teachers from elementary through high school, at your venue. Outreach centers, school districts, civic organizations and educational institutions may select from a variety of previously offered and new content modules that are correlated to national and state academic standards and curriculum frameworks for teaching about Islam and other world religions. These modules provide content knowledge and lesson materials on specific historical and contemporary issues related to Muslim regions of the world, and link to many subject areas in the curriculum such as math, literature and the arts, including a new module on Islamic Spain, its history and culture, and on Islam in the Media. Participants receive a Teacher Resource CD loaded with lessons, cross-curricular and multi-media resources, and links to useful online resources on these challenging topics.

The workshops are conducted by ACMCU Education Consultant Susan Douglass, who is a published author of teaching resources and curriculum research on Islam and Muslim history, world history and geography, and academic standards. For over a decade, Ms. Douglass has presented workshop sessions for public school systems, private schools, university outreach programs, governmental and non-governmental agencies, and professional conferences.

For further information about scheduling workshops to meet your professional development needs, visit http://cmcu.georgetown.edu/ under "Education Outreach" or http://www1.georgetown.edu/sfs/acmcu/about/educationaloutreach/, or contact SusanD@CMCUworkshops.net, call (703) 442-0638.

The ACMCU workshops require at least 25 participants, and are all expenses paid.

❖ **Institute of International Education: Educators to Saudi Arabia Program**

DEADLINE APPROACHING: JULY 7, 2008

We are pleased to announce that applications are now available for the Educators to Saudi Arabia Program. The program is open to full-time elementary and secondary school (grades 1-12) Social Studies Teachers and Library Media Specialists.

For more information, please access our website at www.iie.org/esap.

Thank you for considering this request to publicize the Aramco study opportunity among your members. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at esap@iie.org.

Allison Deines
Senior Program Manager
Professional Exchanges
Institute of International Education
Phone: 1-800-671-0130
Email: esap@iie.org

OTHER **R**ESOURCES AND **A**NNOUNCEMENTS

Other Resources

Information about resources is provided as a service to AATA members and the general public. Please note that AATA does not endorse any resources; this information is provided as a service to AATA members and the general public.

❖ **Ramzi Baalbaki: *The Legacy of the Kit ā b: S ī bawayhi's Analytical Methods within the Context of the Arabic Grammatical Theory***

Book URL: http://www.brill.nl/default.aspx?partid=210&pid=26210

Hardback: ISBN: 9789004168138 Pages: 352 Price: Europe EURO 129
Hardback: ISBN: 9789004168138 Pages: 352 Price: U.S. $ 199

This book is a comprehensive study of the Kit ā b of S ī bawayhi (d. 180/796), undoubtedly the most authoritative work in the long history of Arabic grammar. It carefully examines the methodological concepts and methods that underline S ī bawayhi's analysis of Arabic and the way in which these methods evolved at the hands of later grammarians. Placing the Kit ā b within the context of early Arabic philological activity, this book analyzes a wide range of its passages and demonstrates the coherency of its author's system of grammatical analysis and the interrelatedness of his analytical tools and notions. In particular, S ī bawayhi's huge influence on the overall
Arabic grammatical tradition is highlighted throughout the book. This notwithstanding, it is argued that most later grammarians largely neglect the semantic dimension which vividly features in S ī bawayhi's approach to language as a social behavior and his reconstruction of the internal thinking of the speaker and the listener.

Ramzi Baalbaki, Ph.D. (1978, University of London), is the Margaret
Weyerhaeuser Jewett Professor of Arabic at the American University of
Beirut. He has published extensively on the history of the Arabic grammatical tradition. Several of his articles were collected in a Variorum volume entitled *Grammarians and Grammatical Theory in the Medieval Arabic Tradition* (2004).

Readership: All those interested in the Arabic grammatical theory, in particular morphology and syntax, as well as Arabists in general and researchers in the history of linguistics having a basic knowledge of Arabic.

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❖ **Database of Department of Education's International Research Studies (IRS) Programs**

In association with the U.S. Department of Education's International Research Studies (IRS) Program, JBL Associates, Inc. (JBLA) and the Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) are developing a database of all projects funded by this program since 1958. CAL and JBLA are currently gathering data to build the database. The project includes an evaluation component that will investigate the impact of the funded projects on the foreign language teaching and learning field. The database will also inform potential applicants as well as the Department of Education in determining needs and priorities for future funding.

This project will build on previous efforts to collect information on IRS funded projects. The public database will provide investigators with a history as well as other data such as the availability of developed products, and contact information.

In order to provide a database that is as complete as possible, CAL and JBLA are talking with principal investigators, authors and project directors about the project histories and asking a series of short questions about project impact and influence. Professionals with direct knowledge and understanding of specific IRS funded projects will be contacted through August 2008 and asked to provide their specialized knowledge.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about this project, please call or email JBL Associates, Inc. or the Center for Applied Linguistics at the phone numbers or email addresses below.

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