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Welcome to the monthly newsletter of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA). The *AATA Newsletter* provides AATA members with news of the profession. It appears on or around the 15th of every month.

The *AATA Newsletter* welcomes submissions. Please send your submission (100 - 200 words) in MS Word to admin@aataweb.org. For other inquiries, contact info@aataweb.org.

FROM AATA'S PRESIDENT

Dear AATA members,

As the leaves start to change here in the Washington area, we are thinking about our annual AATA meeting and panel, coming up in just five weeks at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association meeting, November 22-25.

Our annual AATA business meeting (open to all members) will be on Saturday, November 22, from 4:00-5:00, right after our specially organized panel "Arabic Heritage Programs in the US: Problems and Solutions," chaired by Professor Mahmoud Abdalla of Michigan State University.

The cutoff deadline for registering on-line for a special convention rate room at the hotel is October 24, so make sure you register before then.

There are, as always, many interesting and professionally relevant panels to attend at this year's conference. AATA is cosponsoring the following panels: (Panel 088) Building Arabic Corpora: Needs and Challenges, and (Panel 104) New Directions in Teaching Arabic as a Second Language.

I look forward to seeing you there.

All the best,

Karin Ryding

FROM AATA EDITOR

Dear AATA Members,

As you all know, *al-`Arabiyyah* has suffered serious delays during my tenure as editor. The two double volumes which will bring us up to date, Volume 38 - 39 (2005 – 2006) and Volume 40 - 41 (2007 - 2008), are currently in final production. I am optimistic that I will have sample copies of both double volumes at the AATA Business Meeting in November.

Unfortunately, postal rates and printing costs have gone through unprecedented increases in the last year. For that reason, the costs, means, and media of continuing the journal must be a topic for the Association at this next meeting. I will offer a detailed report to the board, and the membership during MESA.

I look forward to seeing you at MESA.

Clarissa C. Burt

FROM AATA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear AATA Members,

As you make your plans for the Middle East Studies Association meeting in November, please keep the following in mind.

We look forward to seeing you at the AATA Panel, "Arabic Heritage Programs in the US: Problems and Solutions" on Saturday, 22 November, 1.30 – 3.30 p.m. The panel is organized by Mahmoud Abdalla, Michigan State University.

The AATA Business Meeting will follow the panel, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. Please plan to join your colleagues at the Business Meeting to honor the recipient of the 2008 AATA Lifetime Achievement Award.

AATA is pleased to co-sponsor two panels this year. "Building Arabic Corpora: Needs and Challenges" is co-sponsored with the American University in Cairo. Organized by Zeinab Ahmed Taha, American University in Cairo, this panel takes place on Saturday, 22 November, 5.00 – 7.00 p.m. With the National Middle East Language Resource Center, AATA will co-sponsor a second panel, "New Directions in Teaching Arabic as a Second Language." This panel is organized by Mahmoud al-Batal, University of Texas, and takes place on Sunday, 23 November, 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

AATA will also co-sponsor a one-day workshop with the Arabic and Middle East Library of Yale University Library. The workshop, "Managing Arabic Text Digitization Projects," will help you provide full text access to Arabic language materials on-line. Further details and registration information appear on page 2 of this issue.

For complete information on the AATA Annual Meeting and AATA co-sponsored activities, please see http://mesa.wns.ccit.arizona.edu/annual/meetings.htm.

We look forward to seeing you at MESA

Elizabeth M. Bergman, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Managing Arabic Text Digitization Projects
MESA 2008, Washington, DC, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Room TBA
Sunday, November 23, 2008 (9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.)

Yale University Library and the American Association of Teachers of Arabic will co-sponsor a one-day workshop about project planning for digitization of Arabic text. The workshop will take place on November 23, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 3 p. m. at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA).

All workshop costs, including morning and afternoon breaks and box lunches, will be covered by the event organizers.

This workshop is supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Education, under its Title VI TICFIA program and is part of the Project AMEEL grant (Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library). Additional support is provided by Yale University Library.

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Format and target audience: This workshop is aimed at academics, language instructors, librarians, archivists, curators, and other information professionals who want to provide full text access to Arabic language material online. The workshop will provide project management information, based on the experience of U.S. universities, libraries, and other institutions, and give attendees essential information about the digitization of Arabic text materials.

The workshop will include a mixture of presentations on topics related to digitization projects, such as text or collection selection, copyright concerns, and staffing. The conversion of scanned images to searchable Arabic text will be explained using two software products specifically created for the Optical Character Recognition of Arabic text. In addition, attendees will learn about related technical topics such as metadata (for describing and organizing digitized materials), formats (e.g. TIFF, JPG, PDF), and preservation needs. Also, the instructors will demonstrate the AMEEL repository, which holds full text digital copies of scholarly journals from the Middle East.

Prerequisites:

* Knowledge of, or some familiarity with, the Arabic language is not essential but is strongly recommended for maximum benefit from the workshop.
* Workshop participants are expected to be either working on an Arabic scholarly (library or archival or teaching) digitizing project, including plans for Optical Character Recognition (OCR), or to be planning for such an activity.
* Understanding of the concepts of creating digital images, OCR, and some exposure to digitizing techniques, while not required, is highly desired, e.g. desktop scanning, or mass digitization techniques for entire books or collections.
* Participants should have an interest in potential cooperative ventures with the AMEEL project, such as collaborating in future initiatives, bringing attention to special collections, or exchanging expertise.

Instructors:

Simon Samoeil, Curator, Near East Collection & AMEEL Project Outreach Director
Elizabeth Beaudin, Manager, International Special Digital Projects & AMEEL Project Manager

Application: Enrollment for each workshop is limited to 50. Please write an email to us at ameel@yale.edu with the following information:

- Name
- Institution and current position
- Postal and e-mail addresses
- Telephone and fax numbers
- Please describe the extent of your knowledge of Arabic (in reading, writing, speaking: e.g. Student, Faculty, Working Professional or Staff, Native Speaker)
- Please describe the reasons for your interest in this workshop and how it will facilitate the work of your library or archive or educational needs.

Application deadline: 31 October 2008. An early expression of interest will be the best guarantee of acceptance. Notifications of acceptance will be made by 14 November 2008.

For additional information:

Elizabeth Beaudin,
Manager, International Special Digital Projects
Yale University Library
130 Wall Street
P. O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
Phone: 01-203-432-8441 ; Fax: 01-203-432-8527 ; Email: elizabeth.beaudin@yale.edu

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About Project AMEEL: (http://www.library.yale.edu/ameel/)
This grant was awarded under the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI TICFIA Program, which fosters innovative techniques or programs that address national teaching and research needs in international education and foreign languages by using technologies to access, collect, organize, preserve, and widely disseminate information on world regions and countries other than the United States (http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsticfia/index.html).

About Yale University Library: http://www.library.yale.edu . About Yale University Library's Near East Collection: http://www.library.yale.edu/neareast/

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Arabic Language and Culture Studies: Toward Greater Expertise

We invite submissions of paper abstracts for a conference on U.S. Government Arabic Programs to be held at the U.S. Naval Academy February 19-21, 2009. The central topics of the conference are:

•Impediments to the teaching and learning of Arabic
•Assessment of Arabic students, classes and programs
 •Creative responses to the DOD framework for regional and cultural expertise

In addition to these topics, we invite student demonstrations of Arabic skills and presentations of other academic and linguistic products by students of U.S. Government Arabic Studies programs. Please refer to the attachment below for detailed descriptions of conference topics and outlines for student participation.

Please send proposal forms, including paper abstracts (approx. 200 words) and proposals for student demonstrations by October 25th, 2008 to:

Conference on Arabic Toward Greater Expertise
Clarissa Burt
c/o Language and Culture Studies Department
U.S. Naval Academy
589 McNair Rd. Stop 10-C
Annapolis, MD 21402

410 293 6353 wk
410 293 2729 fax

Or email burt@usna.edu

Notifications of proposal acceptances will be sent by November 30th, 2008.

Please indicate in your proposal the language (Arabic or English) in which you intend to deliver your paper. We wish to encourage the use of Arabic in this conference to the furthest possible extent, but proposals for presentations in English are most welcome.

Student presenters from USAFA and USMC may be housed at USNA. Other participants requiring housing will be able to book hotel rooms within walking distance of the Naval Academy. There may be funds to help defray some of the travel costs of participation for some presenters. Details of such arrangements will be discussed in conjunction with acceptance of proposals for participation.

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Preparing Language Teachers for the 21st Century: Sixth Language Teacher Educator Conference

May 28 - 30, 2009 at The George Washington University, Washington, DC

This conference is co-sponsored by the National Capital Language Resource Center (NCLRC) and the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA), both of which receive funding from the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI Language Resource Center Program. Designed for practitioners and researchers involved in the preparation and ongoing professional development of language teachers, LTE 2009 will address the education of teachers of all languages, at all instructional and institutional levels, and in many national and international contexts in which this takes place including: English as a Second or Foreign Language (ESL/EFL) instruction; foreign/modern/world language teaching; bilingual education; immersion education; indigenous and minority language education; and the teaching of less commonly taught languages.

The conference aims to bring together teacher educators from these contexts to discuss and share research, theory, and best practices and to initiate and sustain a meaningful professional dialogue across languages, levels, and settings. The conference will focus on four broad themes: The Knowledge Base of Language Teacher Education; Social, Cultural, and Political Contexts of Language Teacher Education; Collaborations in Language Teacher Education; and Practices of Language Teacher Education

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2008. For further information about themes, types of sessions, submission of abstracts, and to submit an online abstract, please see (http://nclrc.org/lte2009/).

Special Issue on Arabic Natural Language Processing (ANLP): *International Journal of Computer Processing of Oriental Languages (IJCPOL)*

Arabic is a strongly structured and highly derivational language. Arabic language processing requires the treatment of the language constituents at all levels. Each level requires extensive study and exploitation of the associated linguistic characteristics. Over the last few years, Arabic natural language processing (ANLP) has been gaining increasing importance, and has found a wide range of applications including: machine translation, information extraction, and tutoring systems. These applications require developing innovative approaches and techniques for natural language analysis, natural language generation, and linguistic resources.

This special issue of the *International Journal of Computer Processing of Oriental Languages* is intended to present the state-of-the-art research on Arabic natural language processing, Arabic computational linguistics, applied Arabic linguistics and related areas. This call is intended to be as broad as possible. We solicit original research papers on topics including, but not limited to:

Linguistic resources (corpora, electronic dictionaries, treebanks, etc.); Transliteration, transcription and diacritization; Part of speech tagging; Morphological analysis and generation; Shallow and deep parsing; Machine translation; Word sense and syntactic disambiguation; Semantic analysis; Information extraction and retrieval; Question answering; Text clustering, and classification; Text summarization; Text and web content mining; Named entity recognition; Colloquial-based language processing

Submissions due for review: 15 Jan 2009

Submission Guidelines: Submissions should be 3,000 to 7,500 words (counting a standard figure or table as 200 words) and should follow the journal's style and presentation guidelines (see http://www.worldscinet.com/ijcpol/mkt/guidelines.shtml). References should be limited to 10 citations. To submit a manuscript, access the Journal online submission system at http://www.worldscinet.com/ijcpol/editorial/submitpaper.shtml. In the message to editors, please state

clearly that the paper is submitted to the special issue on Arabic NLP. An electronic version of the paper should also be submitted directly to the Guest Editor by e-mail at the same time.

For further information, contact Guest Editor Prof. Khaled Shaalan, (Fellow) School of Informatics University of Edinburgh, UK; Faculty of Informatics, British University in Dubai; Faculty of Computers & Information, Cairo University: k.shaalan@fci-cu.edu.eg.

For a PDF version of this Call for papers upload http://www.buid.ac.ae/shaalan/arabnlpcfp.pdf

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, SEMINARS

National Foreign Language Center: Applying for a STARTALK Grant: Designing a Winning Program

The National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland invites you to attend a workshop session, "Applying for a STARTALK Grant: Designing a Winning Program". The workshop will be held at ACTFL's Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, on Sunday, November 23, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. There is no workshop fee.

STARTALK provides funding for summer programs in critical languages for K-12 students and/or current and prospective teachers of levels K-16. This workshop will provide guidance for those interested in applying for a STARTALK grant and provide you with information about the selection criteria.   Data on reviewers' findings will be shared. Participants will also be introduced to the STARTALK curriculum templates, which are used to design curriculum.

Although there is no charge for this workshop, you must register with the NFLC in advance.   Enrollment is limited to 60. If you are interested, please contact Scott Nichols (snichols@nflc.org, or 301-405-9823) to reserve a space before November 7th. Participation in the workshop will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: ACADEMIC

The following lists teaching positions in academic institutions. For other positions, please see below. Please contact the hiring institution directly for further information.

Appalachian State University: Assistant professor in Modern Standard Arabic

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Appalachian State University invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor in Modern Standard Arabic with a teaching specialization in any second area taught in the College of Arts and Sciences. Ph.D. by date of appointment is preferred; ABD will be considered. The ideal candidate is expected to have native or near native fluency in Arabic and in English, to have experience teaching Modern Standard Arabic, and to be committed to building an Arabic program that collaborates with other units on campus. Ability to integrate technology in teaching is highly desirable.

A letter of application, CV, names and contact information of three (3) references, and unofficial transcripts of all graduate work should be sent to Professor Josette Hollenbeck, Search Committee Chair, Department of Foreign Languages, 519 Sanford Hall, P.O. Box 32063, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608. Initial review of applications will begin on December 1, 2008. Completed applications will continue to be accepted until the position is filled. Preliminary interviews will be conducted at MLA. Applications via email will not be accepted. Federal law requires proper documentation of identity and employability

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prior to final consideration for this position. Appalachian State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. http://www.fll.appstate.edu

Beloit College: Summer Teaching Positions in Arabic

Senior instructors and graduate teaching assistants are needed for Beloit College's summer intensive Arabic program (June 10 - August 7, 2009). In 2009, we expect to offer first- through third-year Arabic. Each level, with enrollments of ten students, has one instructor and one graduate teaching assistant. Instructors collaborate with each other, the language coordinator, and the CLS director on curriculum, syllabi, and instruction. Duties include classroom teaching and evaluation, and assistance with organizing cultural activities for the program. Instructors will be expected to live on campus (single occupancy), share lunch and dinner with the students in the dining commons, and be available to students evenings and weekends.

Minimum qualifications for senior instructors include an M.A., teaching experience preferably in an immersion environment, native or near-native proficiency in Arabic, and advanced proficiency in English. An advanced degree in Arabic, applied linguistics, or foreign language education is desirable. For graduate teaching assistants, an M.A. in progress is required. Salary is competitive, and includes room and board. Employment is contingent upon new employees providing documents verifying U.S. citizenship or, for non-citizens, documents verifying legal permission to work in the United States.

Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and list of three references to Patricia L. Zody, Center for Language Studies, Beloit College, 700 College Street, Beloit WI 53511. Applications will not be accepted by e-mail. Review of applications will begin on October 31, 2008, and will continue until positions are filled. For more information about the summer language programs, please call 608-363-2277 or visit our Web site at http://www.summerlanguages.com. Beloit College is committed to the education benefits of diversity, and urges all interested individuals to apply. AA/EEO Employer.

Calvin College: Part-time Arabic language instructor

Calvin College invites applications for a part-time instructor of Arabic language beginning in September 2009.

For more information, please contact:

Dean Ward, Academic Dean
Calvin College - Office of the Provost
1820 Knollcrest Circle SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4450

Phone: (616) 526.6203
email: ward@calvin.edu

http://www.calvin.edu/admin/provost/open/09-10/arabic.html

Earlham College: Visiting assistant professor of Arabic

Earlham College seeks a Visiting Assistant Professor of Arabic to teach at the novice and intermediate levels and to develop other courses within our emerging program in Islamic Studies. Applicants need to demonstrate experience and excellence in language pedagogy, and be willing to teach Levantine colloquial Arabic and Modern Standard Arabic in the same course.

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Requirements: Near to native proficiency in both Arabic and English required. ABD required; Ph.D. preferred. Send: letter of application and statement of teaching philosophy to:

Deanna Airgood,
Administrative Assistant Philosophy & Religion Dept.
Earlham College 801 National Road West
Richmond, IN 47374-4095 Candidates will be interviewed at MESA. Review of applications begins November 7, 2008, and continues until position is filled.

For more information, visit www.earlham.edu/jobs or contact airgode@earlham.edu

Franklin & Marshall College: Arabic language fellow

Franklin & Marshall College invites applications for its Arabic Language Fellow position, beginning Fall 2009. M.A. (or equivalent), teaching experience, and excellent command of Arabic are required, including Modern Standard Arabic and at least one spoken dialect. The yearly teaching load includes two lower-level language courses and a number of drill sections. The successful candidate will assist the Director of the Arabic Language Program in a variety of curricular and co-curricular activities. The Language Fellow receives a competitive salary and fringe benefits as well as opportunities for training and professional development.

Send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, graduate school transcripts, and three letters of recommendation (at least one of which addresses the candidate's proficiency in Arabic) to Uri Horesh, Director of the Arabic Language
Program, Franklin & Marshall College, P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604-3003, or via e-mail AS PDF FILES ONLY to uri.horesh@fandm.edu.

Deadline for applications is November 1, 2008. Initial interviews will be held at the MESA meeting in Washington, DC, November 22-25, 2008. Please indicate your availability during those days.

Franklin & Marshall College is a highly selective liberal arts college with a demonstrated commitment to cultural pluralism. EOE

Georgia State University: Assistant professor in Arabic language and culture

The Middle East Institute at Georgia State University (Atlanta) invites applications for an anticipated assistant professor in Arabic language and culture to begin in the Fall 2009 semester. We seek an energetic individual who will contribute to a dynamic and growing interdisciplinary Middle East Institute. The successful candidate must be able to teach courses in Modern Standard Arabic at all levels and related courses (culture, literature) in their area of specialization. Native or near-native proficiency in Arabic and a Ph.D. in an appropriate discipline is required. An active research agenda and previous collegiate teaching experience is highly desirable. The Middle East Institute offers an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree and minor in Middle East Studies (www.gsu.edu/mideast).

Please send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference to: Arabic Search Committee, Middle East Institute, Georgia State University, P.O. Box 4089, Atlanta, GA 30302. Review of applications will begin October 10, 2008. Georgia State University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer. An offer of employment will be conditional on background verification.

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James Madison University: Assistant professor of Arabic

The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures at James Madison University invites applications for a tenure-track position in Arabic at the rank of beginning assistant professor. Position available fall 2009. The department is looking for energetic and enterprising candidates who can demonstrate a commitment to the growth of the Arabic language program. Native or near-native fluency in both English and Arabic is required. College-level teaching experience is necessary. PhD is required. Advanced ABDs considered. The faculty member selected for this position will teach Arabic language at all levels and develop the curriculum to include courses in culture and civilization. Other desirable qualities include experience in teaching business Arabic, comparative literature, and familiarity with a broad range of instructional materials and methodologies. Teaching load: Three (3) courses per semester.

Review of applications will begin November 3, 2008. Candidates must apply online at https://joblink.jmu.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1224381190434 and should send two letters of recommendation, transcript of highest degree, and other relevant materials to: Dr. Donald Corbin, Arabic Search Committee Chair, Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures, James Madison University, MSC 1802, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

New York University: Assistant professor/faculty fellow

The Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies invites applications for a full-time, non-tenure track position as Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow to begin September 1, 2009, pending budgetary and administrative approval. Candidates must have completed the Ph.D. no earlier than May 2004. The appointment will be for one year and may be renewable for a second year. We are looking for an outstanding junior scholar specializing in Arabic literature in the premodern period. The successful candidate will teach four courses a year and work with our graduate students in Arabic literature.

Please send a c.v., a cover letter describing your research and your teaching experience, a writing sample, and three letters of recommendation to: AP/FF Search Committee, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University, 50 Washington Square South, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10012. The deadline for applications is December 1, 2008, but we may continue to accept applications until the position is filled.

University of Maryland University College: Adjunct faculty to teach Arabic

At University of Maryland University College (UMUC), we are now hiring talented, part-time adjunct faculty to teach Arabic/Foreign Language courses on-site and online. You may qualify with a terminal degree (i.e., Ph.D., D.B.A., J.D., etc.) from a regionally accredited institution. In certain disciplines, candidates with a master's degree and professional or industry experience and extensive teaching experience may be considered.

The advantages add up.

* Flexible schedule—teaching that fits into your work and personal life
* Choices—on site or online teaching formats
* Training—superior preparation for online teaching with Webtycho, our state-of-the-art proprietary platform
* Support—collegial sharing and mentoring
* Satisfaction—interaction with highly motivated, non-traditional students

We invite you to learn more or apply online at: www.umuc.edu/facultyrecruit

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The University of Maryland University College has locations in Maryland, Northern Virginia and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, as well as on military bases in Europe and Asia.

EOE/F/MC/V. Women and minority applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill: lecturer positions in Arabic language

The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill invites applications for two three-year renewable lecturer positions in Arabic language beginning July 1, 2009. We are seeking a skilled language instructor with a commitment to a proficiency-based approach to language teaching at all levels, and an interest in ongoing professional development in language pedagogy. Native or near native fluency in Modern Standard Arabic, an Arabic dialect, and
English are required. Experience teaching Arabic to nonnative speakers is preferred. MA in Arabic, applied linguistics or an allied field of the humanities, social sciences, journalism, or education is preferred, but those near completion of an MA program will be considered. Applicants having ACTFL-OPI certification or interested in acquiring such a certification are preferred. Responsibilities include teaching three courses per semester and working closely with other faculty members in Arabic to expand and manage a cohesive language and culture program.

Submit a letter detailing teaching philosophy, CV, available sample syllabi and course evaluations online at http://hr.unc.edu/jobseekers/. Paper applications will not be accepted. In addition, send a teaching DVD/video (if available) and have two original, signed letters of reference sent to: Arabic Search Committee, Department of Asian Studies, CB 3267, 113 New West, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill NC 27715. Complete applications must be received by November 10, 2008. For additional information, contact arabicsearch@unc.edu. UNC-CH is an equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: OTHER

Verberations: Arabic language consultant

A Metro NYC-based dialect coach who specializes in training actors to deliver lines in languages they do not normally speak seeks an Arabic language consultant on a short-term corporate video production project. The successful candidate will translate English language scripts into Arabic, teach the coach to pronounce and deliver the lines without accent, and help the coach direct the narrator during taping sessions. We hope to interview several candidates as soon as possible. Applicants must be native speakers of a universally understood dialect of Arabic, be of normal speech and hearing, have a legal status that allows for work in the US, be available to work in New York City on multiple days over the next two months, and be competent in Dubai dialect as well as a more universal dialect such as Egyptian Arabic. Compensation will be very competitive.

Doug Honorof, Ph.D.
Founding Member
Verberations! LLC
1 (800) 205-8029
www.verberations.com/dialects

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Language Flagship: Promoting Diffusion of Innovation

The Institute of International Education (IIE) is pleased to announce the competition for new awards under the Flagship institutional grants program, "Promoting Diffusion of Innovation." The purpose of this program is to expand the effectiveness, scope, and scale of Language Flagship funding efforts to establish partnerships between the existing Flagship Centers and new institutions and organizations interested in Flagship focused instruction. Proposals are sought for projects that replicate the effective and innovative Flagship practices and diffuse those practices through instruction at their institutions and/or organizations. The deadline for submission of proposals to IIE is Thursday, December 19, 2008.

Proposals must be submitted with the signature of a Flagship Center Director currently receiving funding from The Language Flagship. Partners may include academic institutions, public sector and non-profit sector agencies, school districts, businesses, or private sector organizations. The application should identify the role of each of the partners, which may consist of a group of Flagship Centers, institutions and/or organizations.

We ask that you share this information with your membership and any other interested parties. This application booklet and additional information about The Language Flagship may be found at http://www.thelanguageflagship.org/institutional_funding.html. You can access the application directly at http://www.thelanguageflagship.org/downloads/FY2009_Promoting_the_Diffusion_of_Innovation.pdf. We strongly encourage all those submitting proposals to visit this website.

Please direct questions about this new funding opportunity to Ed McDermott - mcdermottg@ndu.edu.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Includes opportunities for teachers and other Arabic language professionals, as well as students.

Professional development workshops on teaching about Islam and Muslims

Georgetown University's Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim Christian Understanding offers teacher workshops at no cost to school districts, university outreach centers and departments, private schools, civic organizations and other institutions in the US and Canada. Schedule a customized workshop program for elementary through high school teachers, selecting from interdisciplinary content modules and teaching resources related to teaching about:

  * Islamic beliefs and practices
  * world religions in the world history/geography curriculum
  * cultural exchange
  * Muslim demographics and contemporary issues.

Teachers receive a resource CD, and lunch is provided for full-day workshops. The presenter is ACMCU's Education Consultant, Susan Douglass, who has published numerous books, articles, and teaching resources in print and online.

For details and registration visit http://cmcu.georgetown.edu/about/educationaloutreach/ or e-mail SusanD@cmcuworkshops.net

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STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

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

AMIDEAST's new Education Abroad Programs in the Arab World

The programs were inaugurated last fall with a semester program in Rabat, Morocco. Over the past year we have been revamping that program, making it into a semester or academic year program, depending on the interests of the students. We also will inaugurate a summer intensive Arabic program in Rabat this coming May.

In addition, we have also been planning for new semester/academic year programs that will begin next fall in Cairo, Amman, and Kuwait, and a service learning program for students who have completed one year of Modern Standard Arabic in Tunisia this coming summer.

For more information on all of our programs and to read about our commitment to Arabic language instruction, our Arabic Language Advisory Board and our Academic Consortium, please visit our website at: http://www.amideast.org/abroad

We have posters (letter sized) as well as brochures and fliers about our programs and will be happy to send them to you if you let me know how many you want and the address where we should send them.

During the MESA conference in November we will have a booth in the book exhibits and I invite you to stop by to talk with me, Driss and representatives of our local partners in Rabat, Cairo, Amman, Kuwait and Tunisia. We also will be holding information sessions twice during the conference.

For further information, please contact Email: jbookinweiner@amideast.org; Internet: http://www.amideast.org

2009 Critical Language Scholarship Program

The United States Department of State and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) are pleased to announce the availability of overseas scholarships for intensive summer language institutes in eleven critical need foreign languages for summer 2009.

Languages offered: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla/Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, and Urdu.

Countries may include: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Egypt, India, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Russia, South Korea, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, or others where the target languages are spoken.

Critical Language Scholarships (CLS) provide seven to ten week group-based intensive language instruction and extensive cultural enrichment experiences at the beginning, intermediate and advanced levels (beginning not offered for Azerbaijani, Russian, Chinese or Persian). Program details and the on-line application are available on our website, www.CLScholarship.org.

The CLS Program is part of the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI), a U.S. government interagency effort to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering critical need foreign languages. Students of diverse disciplines and majors are encouraged to apply. Participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship period, and later apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers in any field.

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Deadline to Apply: On-line application due on Friday, November 14, 2008.

Grant Benefits: All CLS Program costs are covered for participants including: travel to and from the student's U.S. home city and program location, mandatory Washington, D.C. pre-departure orientation, applicable visa fees, room, board, group-based intensive language instruction, program-sponsored travel within country, and all entrance fees for CLS Program cultural enhancement activities. Note: U.S. passport fees will not be paid by the scholarship.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions regarding the CLS Program and application process at www.CLScholarship.org.

Joseph H. Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies

We are pleased to announce that the Joseph H. Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies is now accepting applications for the Class of 2011. We hope that you will inform qualified candidates of this opportunity. We encourage you to read through the information below for further details.

Program Highlights:
· Combines a Wharton MBA, a Master's in International Studies, and extensive language training from the University of Pennsylvania
· Students specialize in one of eight languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, or Spanish in which they already have advanced knowledge
· Students participate in a two-month, in-country immersion the summer before their first year
· The Institute's environment fosters teamwork and sharing diverse cultural experiences

The Lauder JD/MA in International Studies: The Lauder Institute also offers a unique JD/MA joint-degree program in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Students fulfill the JD degree requirements over three years, combining their studies with the Lauder MA in International Studies during the last two years of law school. They participate in the language training, in-country summer immersion, and in-country research projects together with the MBA/MA students.

If you have any questions, please contact us at lauderinfo@wharton.upenn.edu or 215.898.1215. Lauder Institute website is http://lauder.wharton.upenn.edu/

OTHER RESOURCES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Al-Jaleys Part II

I am pleased to inform you that my textbook, *al-Jaleys Part II*, has been published on the College Website System. Here is the link:

http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/mjiyad/textbooks.shtml

I certainly hope that will find it useful in your professional work. *Al-Jaleys Part II* is designed for the intermediate level of proficiency.

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Al-lisaan al-arabi: **OPI playlist**

Below is a link to the *Al-lisaan al-arabi* playlist at Duke University. It is a collection of oral proficiency interviews conducted in Arabic, and based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.

I will be adding new interviews into the site regularly.

http://www.youtube.com/user/DukeAMES

As-salaam Alaykum! Beginning Modern Standard Arabic

As-salaam Alaykum! is an exciting new series for beginning middle- and high-school Arabic learners that takes students step-by-step into Modern Standard Arabic. *As-salaam Alaykum!* combines a comprehensive language-learning curriculum with activities and cultural notes to make learning fun — and is in accordance with the National Standards (the 5 Cs).

To complement the textbook, a workbook also includes communicative exercises that offer realistic and rewarding goals. The accompanying audio CD guides students to standard Arabic pronunciation.

Coming in July 2009 from Cheng & Tsui Company (http://www.cheng-tsui.com/).

If you are a teacher of Arabic and are interested in field testing *As-salaam Alaykum!*, please contact us at editorial@cheng-tsui.com.

CALICO

Are you currently implementing technology in your language courses or would like to do so? Would you like more information on best practices or ways and means of doing so? If so, CALICO might be the professional organization to help you.

The Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO) is an international academic organization devoted to computer-assisted language learning (CALL). CALICO's members include teachers, faculty, researchers, developers, and other professionals active in the field of CALL.

CALICO features:
-- An annual conference--this year at Arizona State University, March 2009
-- An online journal--the CALICO Journal--now in its 26th year of publication
-- A book series on timely topics in the discipline (most recent title: *Opening Doors through Distance Language Education: Principles, Perspectives, and Practices*)
-- A directory of professionals in the field with contact information
-- A variety of Special Interest Groups (e.g., computer-mediated communication)
-- A joint membership agreement with EUROCALL
-- A discussion forum
-- connections to other CALL organizations and journals

To learn more about CALICO, visit our website at https://calico.org or contact us at info@calico.org

Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS): Online Arabic assessment pilot

The Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS), a National Foreign Language Resource Center at the University of Oregon, invites you to pilot an online listening, reading, speaking, and writing

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assessment in Arabic at Novice, Intermediate, and advanced levels starting October 20th. This pilot test, appropriate for middle school, high school and college students, utilizes real-life tasks in order to assess students' ability to use the language.

By participating in the pilot, you and your students will take part in a state-of-the-art assessment free of charge. Your students will have the opportunity to improve their test taking skills and to prepare for future online assessments. Best of all, you will be able to help shape the Arabic assessment; your input will be taken into consideration during the final test construction.

For more information, visit our introductory site at http://caslspilot.uoregon.edu or contact Zahra Foroughifar, pilot coordinator, at arbpilot@uoregon.edu or 541-346-1588. Please share this announcement with others in the Arabic community who may be interested in this opportunity.

The Place I Call Home: **An Egyptian documentary film by Tamer Ezzat**

Four young Egyptians take a journey on different paths to find the place they can each call home. Whether it is for financial, family, religious, career or personal reasons, they search to find true belonging. For some the answer is immigration and for others the answer is right around them. In an attempt to find their true meaning of home, filmmaker Tamer Ezzat captures their stories in moments of confrontation, reflection and everyday activities with their friends and families. These stories are not only touching, humorous and dramatic, but they are real as well.

(Arabic/English with English subtitles)

To purchase the film for academic/institutional use, click on:
https://www.createspace.com/Store/ShowEStore.jsp?id=253288

To purchase the film for personal use, click on:
https://www.createspace.com/Store/ShowEStore.jsp?id=242120

"Shifting Winds in Arabic Teaching" at www.insidehighered.com

Colleagues may be interested in this article about the growing number of instructors teaching spoken Arabic in the classroom. Here's a link to the page:
http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/10/01/arabic

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