



Newsletter, June, 29 2016

American Association of Teachers of Arabic



The American Association of Teachers would like to update you on the following:

Activities of AATA in Chronological Order

Held on November 2016, Boston at the Boston Marriott Copley Place

Thursday 11/17/2016:

- **Executive Board Meeting**, 9am-12am, place, MIT (3)
- **Panel, Thursday**, 1-3pm, place Regis (3) (See details below)
- **Business Meeting**, 3:30-4:30 pm, place Regis (3)

Topic: Arabic Foreign Language Pedagogy: Current and Innovative Techniques November 17, 2016

Chair: Ahmed Ferhadi, New York University

Discussant: David Wilmsen, American University of Beirut

Panelists:

- Aman Attieh, St. Edwards University
"Immersion on Day One of Beginning Arabic"
- Nasr Abdrabo, Defense Language Institute
"Basis of Teaching Listening Macro skills in Teaching Arabic as a Second Language"
- Ruwayshid Alruwaili, Northern Borders University
"Arabic on the Massive Open Online Courses or MOOC: A Review Study for Providing a MOOC course on Arabic"
- Emma Trentman and Heather Marie Sweetser, University of New Mexico
"Developing the First and Second Year Curriculum Based on Genre Theory: Successes and Challenges"





Two other Panels sponsored by AATA

Topic: "Arabic Study Abroad in Comparative Contexts: Towards an Integrated Approach, Friday, 11/18/2016, 1:45 p.m.

Chair: *Brahim Chakrani, Michigan State University*

https://mesana.org/mymesa/directory_mem.php?page=/mymesa/meeting_program_session.php?sid=0ec4d3c6ea660e0671c1492a2aba0364&mem=32f9d02a45361f57c86ebdc960e7a00

Discussant: *Mohammad, T Alhawary, University of Michigan*

Panelists:

- *Mohammed Bounajma, Al Akhwayn University*
"Arabic Culture and Literature Courses through Blended Learning for Advanced Students in Study Abroad Programs"
- *Ahmed Idrissi Alami, Purdue University*
"Learner-Generated Content as/in Experiential Learning in Arabic Summer Study Abroad Programs"
- *Brahim Chakrani*
"Increasing the Sociolinguistic Competency of Heritage Arabic Speakers in Study Abroad Program"
- *Dris Soulimani*
"Study Abroad and Service Learning: The View from the Global Campus"

Topic: "Variation and Change in Modern Written Arabic", 11/19/2016, 12:00 noon

Chair: *Zeinab Taha, American University in Cairo*

Panelists:

- *Dalal Aboel Seoud, American University in Cairo*
"Pedagogical implications to language variation"
- *Kristen Brustad, University of Texas at Austin*
"What is Not New about Variation in Written Arabic"
- *Alexander Magidow, University of Rhode Island*
"Periods of Development in the History of the Arabic Language"





- Zeinab Taha
"Variation in Egyptian Printed Media"

We certainly ENCOURAGE all of you to attend these panels.

Committees Formed to Solicit New Members to AATA

Each of the following Executive Members are in charge of contacting Arabic language and linguistic programs in several universities and/or colleges as is shown below:

- Steve Blackburn sblackburn@hartsem.edu
Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado
- Ahmed Ferhadi af3@nyu.edu
Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho
- Abderrahmane Zouhir zouhir@wayne.edu
Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana
- Rania Habib rhabib@syr.edu
Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri
- Gergana Atanassova g.atanassovaboft@gmail.com
Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York
- David Wilmsen dw06@aub.edu.lb
North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Lebanon
- Zeinab Taha zeintaha@aucegypt.edu
Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Egypt
- Aman Attieh amana@stedwards.edu
Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Mexico
- Ghassan Hussenali ghussein@gmu.edu
Universities in the Arab Gulf States

We kindly ask you, current members, to encourage others who are not members, to join our organization ranks since we have common interests in advancing our professional goals in the teaching of Arabic as a foreign language.





Redesigning AATA's Website

In response to the conversation at the Business meeting of 2015 and AATA's survey, calls for redesigning AATA's website were heeded and Brahim Chakrani is in charge to redesign the website in a more interactive format. If any of you, AATA members, has the skill or interest to assist Brahim, please contact him at chakrani@msu.edu

Accreditation for Teaching Arabic in US Public Schools

In response to several inquiries about obtaining certification for teaching Arabic in the public schools, there seems to be two options at this point in time. One is to obtain the certification by registering for pedagogical courses offered by Michigan State University. The other is to take a test offered by American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages via this link <http://www.languageTesting.com/take-a-test>

The Passage of Professor Farhat Ziadeh

1917-2016

*Unless one has been associated with The University of Washington in Seattle, this generation of Arabic students and instructors may not be familiar with the life, contributions, and tremendous influence of Professor Ziadeh. He was one of the strongest pillars in the fields of teaching Arabic as a foreign language and Islamic studies in his publications and instruction. For two generations, starting from the 1950s, his books on Modern Literary Arabic and Islamic studies have had extensive effect on both students and scholars alike. His book, *A Reader in Modern Literary Arabic* includes selections that are still relevant to the present social and political milieu of the Arab world, particularly the predicament of Arab nationalism or Islamism.*

The eulogy you read through the link below celebrates his life and bountiful accomplishments

May he rest in peace

<https://jsis.washington.edu/mideast/remembering-farhat-j-ziadeh-1917-2016/>

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/obituary.aspx?pid=180382339>





A Kindly Request

AATA would like to receive news from the membership to include in the next Newsletter. For example, information on individual awards and grants, faculty and graduate students' publications, success stories related to the teaching and learning of Arabic, students' travel and study abroad experiences, retirees in the field and of those who departed, workshops, conferences and event announcements, etc.

AATA hopes that you had a good Independence day celebration enjoying the fireworks and sends greetings on the occasion of Eid al-Fitr.

