

NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

BUSINESS MEETING
of the
MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

November 4, 1982
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

President I. William Zartman presided over the meeting.

- A. President Zartman began the MESA Business Meeting with a number of opening remarks.
- B. The minutes of the November 1981 Business Meeting were approved.
- C. President Zartman reported on the following:
 1. The "Controversy" series has received a contribution of \$1,000 from the Albert Kunstadter Family Foundation. More funds are being sought, and plans for the first issue of the series will go ahead.
 2. The MESA Dissertation Awards in the Social Sciences and the Humanities were instituted this year. The 1982 Social Sciences Committee was composed of John Gulick (Chair), Bruce Borthwick, and Joseph S. Szyliowicz; the Humanities Committee was composed of George F. Hourani (Chair), Herbert L. Bodman, and John Voll. There were four dissertations submitted in the Social Sciences category and three in the Humanities category. Winners will be announced at the banquet. [The winners (tie) in the Social Sciences category were: Karen A. Rasler for her dissertation entitled "Conflict and Escalation in Lebanon" and Dilworth Blaine Parkinson for his dissertation entitled "Terms of Address in Egyptian Literature"; the winner in the Humanities category was Cornell H. Fleischer for his dissertation entitled "Gelibolulu Mustafa Ali Efendi, 1541-1600: A Study in Ottoman Historical Consciousness."]
 3. MESA has set up a Fund-Raising Committee, comprised of Thomas Barger, James A. Bill, George Lenczowski, Charles Percy, R. Bayly Winder, and I. William Zartman.
- D. Report of the Executive Secretary, Michael E. Bonine (see Attachment 1)
- E. Membership Dues

Because of increased costs, a slight increase for the 1983 dues was proposed by the Board of Directors and passed by the membership. The 1983 dues will be: \$45 for Full and Associate Members (\$55 for Joint); \$20 for Student and Retired Members (\$30 for Joint).

F. 1983 Nominating Committee

Candidates for the 1983 Nominating Committee election were proposed by the Board of Directors and opened to the floor for additional nominations. The individuals nominated are:

- Lisa Anderson, Harvard University
- Herbert L. Bodman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Kathleen R. F. Burrill, Columbia University
- W. L. Cleveland, Simon Fraser University
- Fred M. Donner, University of Chicago
- Michael M. J. Fischer, Rice University
- Nicholas L. Heer, University of Washington
- John F. Kolars, University of Michigan
- Barbara Larson, University of New Hampshire
- Howard A. Reed, University of Connecticut
- Barbara Stowasser, Georgetown University.

G. Resolutions

Several resolutions were proposed by the Board of Directors. The final versions, which were discussed extensively and finally approved by the membership, are attached (see Attachments 2-4). Attachment 2, "Disclosure of Funding," originally contained a third paragraph, which was not approved but instead was returned to the Ethics Committee for further deliberation. It read as follows:

As a matter of principle, the Association also calls upon its membership to make public their research consultantships, official connections with governmental organizations of all countries, and sources of extramural research support.

The meeting was adjourned.

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ATTACHMENT 1

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
November 4, 1982
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

I would like to begin this report by thanking a number of individuals. Being on sabbatical in Germany in the spring and summer of 1982, it was gratifying to know that the MESA Secretariat was left in capable hands. William J. Wilson served as acting Executive Secretary, and the MESA office was well cared for by Lucina Myers and Louise Fields. I. William Zartman, as our current president, also spent a great deal of time on behalf of MESA. Thanks go to all these individuals for their time, effort, and concern for the well-being of our association.

1982 Membership

MESA, as of November 1, 1982, has 1,217 members (see Table 1). This breaks down to 828 Full Members, 196 Student Members, 191 Associate Members, and 2 Institutional Members. We especially thank our two educational Institutional Members, the University of Texas at Austin and Florida State University. In these days of declining (or non-existent) budgets, we realize how dear this membership (\$500.00) is; but please do realize how dear and necessary such contributions are to the functioning of MESA.

The slight membership decline which began in the late 1970s seems to have ended, and we actually have more paid-up members than some years previously. The 1,217 members in November 1982, for instance, compares to 1,268 in 1979; 1,164 in 1980, and 1,235 in 1981. These previous years, however, included carrying delinquent members (for dues) for one year, which ran about ten per cent of the membership (or more) annually. The practice of carrying delinquent members was discontinued this year by Cambridge University Press, so the membership numbers actually are more realistic.

It should also be pointed out that our total of Full Members, 828, is larger than almost all previous years, as is the number of Associate Members, 191. It is the number of Student Members, 196, that is drastically down--compared to the early and mid-1970s, our student membership has dropped more than half. There should be major efforts undertaken to encourage our students to become MESA members.

The membership in 1982 comes from 36 countries (based upon mailing addresses, see Table 2) with 86 per cent from the United States and 89 per cent from the United States and Canada, combined. There are 1,044 members from the United States; 40 from Canada; 50 from 10 European countries, mainly France, England, and West Germany; 71 from 17 countries of the Middle East, with Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey having over half; and 12 members from 7 other countries, including Japan, Australia, and Zambia.

Roster of Members

The 1982 Roster of Members has just been published, and each member will be receiving his or her free copy within the next couple of weeks. There was a disappointing response to our request in the MESA Newsletter for phone numbers and addresses for the Roster, with only slightly more than 200 members responding. Next year we hope to have a revised format for the Roster, which will include such information as academic or business position (if applicable), highest degree, discipline, and principal interests in the Middle East. The Roster is for members only; it is not to be redistributed or sold.

Directory of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs and Courses in Middle East Studies in the United States, Canada, and Abroad

The 1982 Directory of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs and Courses in Middle East Studies in the United States, Canada, and Abroad was compiled and edited by Karen Seger of the University of Arizona and was published this past spring. We would like to acknowledge, once again, the generous support of ESSO Middle East, Standard Oil of California,

and the Near East Center of the University of Arizona, which enabled the Directory to be published. The Directory lists alphabetically 118 programs in the United States and Canada and another 84 programs abroad. It includes an index listing the schools by states in the United States, by provinces in Canada, and by countries abroad. Finally, there is also an index listing the approximately 2,000 faculty members associated with these programs.

If your program was not included, be sure to inform the Secretariat so you will be contacted for the 1984 edition. In the next edition, we hope to include the major Middle East libraries and their holdings (as was done in some earlier editions).

The Directory sells for \$5.00 to members and \$10.00 to non-members. There is an additional charge of \$1.00 per copy for postage and handling.

Future Annual Meetings

The 1983 Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Radisson Chicago Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, November 3-6. Richard L. Chambers, head of the Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Chicago, and John Carswell, also of the University of Chicago, will co-chair the Local Arrangements Committee.

The co-chairs of the Program Committee are Fred M. Donner and John Woods, both of the University of Chicago.

We have worked with the Association of Arab-American University Graduates to coordinate next year's meeting. AAUG is also having its meeting in Chicago; it will be held the weekend before the MESA Annual Meeting.

Other future annual meetings will be held in --

- 1984 San Francisco - Hosted by Center for Middle Eastern Studies of the University of California, Berkeley
- 1985 New Orleans - Concurrent meeting with African Studies Association
- 1987 Austin - Hosted by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies of the University of Texas at Austin.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all the above institutions and individuals for their respective offers. Their enthusiasm is immensely gratifying and causes us to be very optimistic about future annual meetings.

The 1986 site is still not set. We would like to have it on the East Coast, preferably somewhere in the Northeast, since the last time we met there was in 1974 in Boston.

National Endowment for the Humanities Grant

The grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the Near East Union List Project continues. The grant--of \$100,000--is for the period from February 1982 to January 1985. No matching funds have

been found. (Provisions of the grant are for an additional \$240,080 on the condition that matching funds of one-half this amount, or \$120,040, are found by January 31, 1984, with the matching NEH money being subject to the availability of sufficient funds by NEH.)

Finances

Finances are somewhat stable for the present operation of MESA, with the salaries of the Secretariat staff provided by the University of Arizona, with a small subsidy provided by MESA. However, expenses are still slightly exceeding income; and, of course, if we want to expand any of our activities or services, additional income will have to be generated.

The cash balance at the end of 1981 (see Table 3) was \$29,999, which included \$23,509 deposited in the Investor's Diversified Services Cash Management Fund. Total receipts in 1981 were \$134,895: this included \$41,330 in membership dues, \$27,591 for the 1981 Annual Meeting in Seattle, and \$35,569 for the NEH grant for the Near East Union List Project. Disbursements in 1981 totaled \$138,193, representing a deficit of \$3,298. The major disbursements in 1981 were: \$34,502 to CUP for publishing the International Journal of Middle East Studies and printing the MESA Bulletin; \$25,529 for the 1981 Annual Meeting in Seattle (we made a profit of \$2,062 from the 1981 Annual Meeting); and \$35,569 for the Library of Congress for the Near East Union List Project.

1982 Annual Election

The 1982 Nominating Committee was comprised of:

- Ervand Abrahamian, Baruch College, The City University of New York
- Richard L. Chambers, The University of Chicago
- Dale F. Eickelman, New York University
- Nancy E. Gallagher, University of California, Davis
- Donald M. Reid, Georgia State University.

They nominated the following slate of candidates for the 1982 election:

President Elect

- Ira M. Lapidus, University of California, Berkeley
- Fazlur Rahman, The University of Chicago.

Board of Directors

- Ludwig W. Adamec, University of Arizona
- Jere L. Bacharach, University of Washington
- Roger Joseph, California State University, Fullerton
- Marilyn R. Waldman, The Ohio State University.

The results of the 1982 elections are as follows:

- Ira M. Lapidus, President-Elect
- Jere L. Bacharach, Board Member
- Marilyn R. Waldman, Board Member.

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Table 1
Membership Figures

<u>Category</u>	<u>Full</u> *	<u>Student</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Institutional</u>	<u>Total</u>
1967	307	113	52	-	472
1968	404	212	103	26	745
1969	492	283	125	34	934
1970	559	372	161	39	1131
1971	609	548	235	46	1438
1972	811	475	172	72	1530
1973	827	544	181	79	1631
1974	784	403	145	86	1418
1975	839	379	146	108	1472
1976	854	418	140	126	1538
1977	963	483	129	-	1575
1978	873	333	139	5	1350
1979	776	376	115	1	1268
1980--Sept.	727	286	150	1	1164
1981--Mar.	913 [†]	322		1	1236
1982--Nov.1	828	196	191	2	1217
1983					
1984					

* Full = Fellows 1967-71: Fellows and Regulars 1972-80.
[†] Full and Associate Members.

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Table 2
MESA Membership Breakdown *

<u>United States</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Middle East</u>	<u>Other</u>
1044	40	15 France	24 Israel	4 Australia
		13 England	9 Egypt	2 India
		9 Federal Republic of Germany	8 Saudi Arabia	2 Japan
		3 Netherlands	6 Turkey	2 South Africa
		3 Spain	4 Kuwait	1 New Zealand
		2 Scotland	3 Tunisia	1 Zambia
		2 Sweden	2 Lebanon	
		1 Denmark	2 Morocco	
		1 Norway	2 Pakistan	
		1 Poland	2 Qatar	
			2 West Bank	
			1 Cyprus	
			1 Iran	
			1 Jordan	
			1 Libya	
			1 Syria	
			1 UAE	
			1 Yemen (YAR)	
<u>Total</u>				
1044	40	50	71	12
(85.8%)	(3.3%)	(4.1%)	(5.8%)	(1.0%)

Continued . . .

Table 2 (Continued)

Membership comes from 36 countries (i.e., mailing addresses), with 89.1% from the United States and Canada.

* As of November 1, 1982

[For Table 3: Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for Year Ended December 31, 1981, see MESA Bulletin XVI, 2 (December 1982), pp. 100-101.]

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ATTACHMENT 2

RESOLUTION: DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING

The Middle East Studies Association of North America, recognizing that the continued credibility and trust of the public in academic research on the Middle East rests upon an open and free disclosure of funding sources for such research, calls upon its membership to disclose fully in any written results and also to all persons involved in its conduct (i.e., participants, contributors, and subjects) all sources of support--other than personal--for that research.

In addition, it calls on organizations and institutions in Middle East Studies to make regular disclosure of the sources of funding for their programs, conferences, and activities as they are announced and take place, and calls on its members to urge such disclosure.

ATTACHMENT 3

RESOLUTION: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND EQUALITY IN HIRING AND PROMOTION IN MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

The Middle East Association of North America declares that teachers, students, administrators, and writers in the field should have freedom to express their views without fear of threats, physical attacks, economic or career reprisals, or other forms of intimidation or attack. The appropriate response to views with which one disagrees, even if these views are considered harmful by some, is counter-argument, including publication and dissemination of contrary views along with their factual backing. Any activity aimed at silencing other views, particularly when they are views held by responsible scholars, is a threat to free speech and enquiry. Intimidation and reprisal have no place in the world of scholarship. The very controversiality of some areas in the Middle East field makes it all the more imperative that Middle Eastern scholars and their associations and universities take all actions necessary to preserve free speech, free enquiry, and hiring and promotion based on merit without consideration of partisan positions.

Specifically, in the past several years some professors have been threatened with violence and bombs have been placed in professors' homes and cars. These threats have resulted in intimidation, loss of valuable teaching services, and mental anguish. MESA condemns all such activities and promises whatever aid it can give to help academicians subject to such, or lesser, harassments.

Secondly, MESA calls for all hiring and promotion to be based on ability to fill the requirements of a position, and not to be influenced by personal or political views, national or religious origins, race, or gender. MESA declares its willingness to receive reports of cases of alleged discrimination and to support and assist qualified groups, such as the American Association of University Professors, in investigating such cases, as well as cases of intimidation discussed above.

MESA affirms its commitment against all forms of discrimination and intimidation in the Middle East field.

ATTACHMENT 4

RESOLUTION: NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

WHEREAS the University of Washington has announced its intention to eliminate the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature and the possible elimination of many courses in Near Eastern Language, Literature, Culture, and Civilizations, and

WHEREAS the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature at the University of Washington is one of the leading departments in its field in the country in terms of the quality of its faculty, and

WHEREAS the said department is the main pillar of the Middle East Center at the said university, whose quality is reflected in its ability to obtain federal funding for its activities, and

WHEREAS the importance of Near Eastern languages as an academic discipline has a long established record, and

WHEREAS this action is totally inconsistent with our national needs, now and in the foreseeable future, and also inconsistent with the role of a university as a center of specialized higher learning,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Middle East Studies Association of North America now meeting in Philadelphia on November 3-6, 1982, deplors this action and urges the University of Washington administration to preserve the instruction in Near Eastern Languages and Literature by supporting it financially and morally.