Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

The Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, opened in August 2005, is a branch campus of Georgetown University, the oldest Catholic and Jesuit university in America, founded in 1789. The program builds on Georgetown University’s long tradition of educating future leaders for careers in the international arena through a liberal arts undergraduate program focused on international affairs. For more information about the School of Foreign Service in Qatar, please visit http://qatar.sfs.georgetown.edu.

Center for International and Regional Studies

Established in 2005, the Center for International and Regional Studies at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar is a premier research institute devoted to the academic study of regional and international issues through dialogue and exchange of ideas, research and scholarship, and engagement with national and international scholars, opinion makers, practitioners, and activists.

Guided by the principles of academic excellence, forward vision, and community engagement, the Center’s mission revolves around five principal goals:

• To provide a forum for scholarship and research on international and regional affairs
• To encourage in-depth examination and exchange of ideas
• To foster thoughtful dialogue among students, scholars and practitioners of international affairs
• To facilitate the free flow of ideas and knowledge through publishing the products of its research, sponsoring conferences and seminars, and holding workshops designed to explore the complexities of the twenty-first century
• To engage in outreach activities with a wide range of local, regional and international partners

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development

Founded in 1995 by decree of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, Qatar Foundation is a non-profit organization focusing on education, scientific research and community development. Under Qatar Foundation’s umbrella are Education City which comprises elite universities, several academic and training programmes and Qatar Science and Technology Park which boasts more than 21 world class companies involved in scientific research and development.

Chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned, Qatar Foundation also aims to enhance lives through community development initiatives including Doha Debates, Reach out To Asia and Al Jazeera Childrens Channel.

Joint venture partnerships in the areas of design, ICT, telecommunications, policy studies and event management contribute to fulfilling the objectives of Qatar Foundation.

This publication is made possible by the generous support of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.
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CIRS Activities and Achievements 2008–2009

The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) focuses on two primary areas: Research and Scholarship, including several academic publications, and Public Affairs Programming, including the organization of a variety of intellectually-driven lectures and events. Below are summaries of CIRS achievements in all these areas:

1. Research and Scholarship

The Center for International and Regional Studies sponsors major studies of regional and international significance, focused on international relations, political economy, and domestic issues of the Gulf.

In the 2008–2009 academic year, CIRS organized three research initiatives, inviting working groups of scholars and practitioners from the Middle East region, Europe, and the United States, to engage in discussion and analysis on three major research projects. This academic year, CIRS also hosted its inaugural Senior and Post-Doctoral Fellows who worked under the auspices of Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (GU-Qatar) on a variety of research initiatives. An internship opportunity for students to work at CIRS was also established. In addition, CIRS continued working on its intellectual output by concentrating on its academic publications and enhancing its regional and international profile.

Working Groups

As part of its research and scholarship initiatives, CIRS organizes several ongoing working groups that convene in Doha to examine a variety of international issues. Please see Appendix I for a full list of participants at each event.

International Relations of the Gulf, Session II
January 8–9, 2009

CIRS convened the second session of the International Relations of the Gulf working group in January 2009. This meeting was part of a year-long research initiative that began in June 2008 focusing on several key aspects of the international relations of the Gulf from different angles. CIRS invited a core group of distinguished Gulf studies scholars to Doha to attend the working group meetings and to contribute individual chapters towards a book entitled The International Relations of the Gulf, to be published in the coming year. The book covers topics such as the history of Gulf Shaikhdoms, Gulf security strategies, and political reform in the region. Concomitantly, CIRS also invited several other experts in the field to act as discussants and to give critical consultation and enrich the topics under examination.

The book will break new ground in the literature on the international relations of the Middle East in general, and the Gulf in particular. It will be of interest to academics and scholars specializing in the Gulf and the Middle East, as well as practitioners, policy-makers, and students.
Comparative Ethics of War
Co-sponsored with International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO)
May 3-4, 2009

Over a two-day meeting, the Comparative Ethics of War working group was convened in Doha in order to examine the question of ethics during times of war. Eleven experts on the subject traveled from all over the world to deliberate the topic from a multitude of disciplinary and theoretical angles.

Migrant Labor in the Gulf
May 16-17, 2009

In 2009, CIRS launched a research initiative to study migrant labor issues and concerns in the Gulf region. The initiative has two distinct but interrelated streams. One stream consists of awarding research grants to scholars interested in conducting primary research and field-
work on migrant labor issues in one of the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council. A total of thirty-three proposal submissions were received under the grant scheme. After a rigorous selection process, the research grant committee, made up of GU-Qatar faculty, selected four of the submitted proposals to fund. The four awarded research proposals are:

1) “A Longitudinal Analysis of Low Income Laborers in Contemporary Qatar” by Andrew Gardner, Qatar University
2) “Migrants to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Values, Behaviors, and Plans” by Arland Thornton, Dirgha Ghimire, Mansoor Mouaddel, and Nathalie Williams, University of Michigan
3) “Migrant Labor and Legal Regulations in Doha and Dubai” by David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts-Amberst
4) “Trends, Impacts, and Policy Implications of Lesser-Skilled India-Gulf Migrants” by Mary Breeding, Georgetown University

The second stream, which runs alongside the research grants program and also includes some of the grant recipients, consists of working group meetings. The first working group, which met on May 16-17, 2009, was made up of academics, experts, labor organizations, and representatives from various governmental and non-governmental organizations. The group discussed the issue of migrant labor from a broad range of perspectives and gave recommendations for further research.
CIRS undertook two successful searches for its inaugural fellowship positions. In the Fall of 2008, James Onley of the University of Exeter joined CIRS as a Senior Fellow and Katja Niethammer from the German Institute for International and Security Affairs took up her position as the inaugural Post-Doctoral Fellow at CIRS. Additionally, GU-Qatar student Assma Al-Adawi was selected to be the first CIRS intern. Below is a report of their scholarly endeavors and achievements during their time at CIRS.

**Post-Doctoral Fellow, 2008-2009**

*Katja Niethammer*

CIRS welcomed Katja Niethammer as its new Post-Doctoral Fellow for the 2008-2009 academic year. During her Fellowship spent within the framework of CIRS research and scholarship initiatives, Niethammer was involved in three major projects.

In the first project, Niethammer helped to initiate a year-long examination of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries’ domestic and foreign policies. In the research, Niethammer looks into the interrelations between domestic political reforms and foreign policies in the Gulf states. She examines the recent initiatives for political reform, all of which have involved some kind of elections—ranging from indirect, partial, elections in the UAE, to municipal elections in Qatar and Saudi Arabia, and parliamentary elections in Kuwait.

In the second project, Niethammer devoted time to the topic of political reform in the GCC and towards turning her Ph.D. dissertation, entitled “The King’s Democracy: Institutional Transformation, Conflicts of Identities, and Discourses on Democracy in Bahrain’s Reform Process,” into a book. Niethammer was awarded a publishing contract with Routledge, and her forthcoming book, *Political Reform in Bahrain: Institutional Transformation, Identity Conflict and Democracy*, is to be published in 2009. The book examines the reasons for the apparent failure of Bahrain’s initially ambitious reform project to achieve a substantial redistribution of political decision-making powers. The research traces the ways in which historical legacies of identity politics and past confessional conflicts continue to obstruct meaningful political progress.

A third project Niethammer helped initiate is on the role Qatar and Saudi Arabia play in regional conflict mediation. While the kingdom has been actively involved in regional conflicts for some time, Qatar’s new diplomatic activism is striking—and somewhat counter-intuitive from realist assumptions about small states’ foreign policy behavior. In a joint project with
CIRS Director, Mehran Kamrava, Niethammer studies Qatar and Saudi Arabia’s divergent motivations for engaging in regional conflict mediation, their capabilities to follow-up on and to implement their initiatives in a sustainable fashion and the consequences this has for other external actors active in conflict mediation in the Middle East, especially the United States and the European Union.

After completing her fellowship at CIRS, Niethammer took up a new position as interim Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies at Hamburg University, where she is also a professor specializing in Islamic Studies.

Senior Fellow, 2008-2009

James Onley

During his fellowship, James Onley took part in both sessions of the International Relations of the Gulf working group. For this research initiative, Onley delivered a paper entitled “Britain and the Gulf Shaikhdoms, 1820-1971: The Politics of Protection.”

As part of his ongoing research, Onley travelled within the Gulf region to gather a variety of academic sources and historical materials. He was invited to highlight his research and to share his knowledge on the history of the Gulf states with the public. Onley delivered the May 2009 CIRS Monthly Dialogue entitled “Agents of Empire: Britain’s Local Representatives in the Gulf, 1750s-1950s.”

CIRS Intern, 2008-2009

Assma Al-Adawi

CIRS selected Assma Al-Adawi as its inaugural intern. Assma is a graduate of the GU-Qatar Class of 2009, with a major in International Politics. During her internship, Assma was trained on various aspects of CIRS publications, including layout and design, editing, writing, and research.
Publications

During the 2008-2009 academic year, CIRS published two *Occasional Papers* and three *Newsletters* and launched two new publications: *Summary Reports*, and *Lecture Briefs*. For more information on any of these publications or to request free copies, please consult http://cirs.georgetown.edu publications or contact cirresearch@georgetown.edu.

**Occasional Paper Series**

*Fixing the Kingdom: Political Evolution and Socio-Economic Challenges in Bahrain*

Steven Wright
December 2008

Wright’s study outlines the challenges facing the Bahraini regime and the program of liberalization that the current King has pursued in response to internal political turmoil. Rising youth unemployment, economic hardship, and political disillusionment all contribute to the continued underground opposition in Bahrain. Wright argues that Bahrain’s political course was significantly altered when Sheikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa succeeded his father in 1999. During this time, Wright notes that “Bahrain began an unexpected journey away from the political order of the past. The reforms under the new King can be viewed as ‘progressive’ since parliamentary and legislative restructuring, in addition to discernable changes within civil society, have taken place.”

*Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan*

Patricia Fagen

Due to the interest shown in Patricia Weiss Fagen’s 2007 *Occasional Paper*, CIRS printed a second edition of the research in 2009, which includes a “Post-Script” update on the current situation.

Fagen attempts to understand Syria and Jordan’s “growing concern that the newcomers pose security problems, are responsible for criminal activities, and are open to recruitment by extremist groups.”
CIRS Newsletters

In the 2008-2009 academic year, CIRS published three Newsletters detailing all its activities, publications, research initiatives, and events.

This year’s Fall, Spring, and Summer editions of the CIRS Newsletter are available in hard copy format as well as online. Online PDFs can be accessed at the following address: http://cirs.georgetown.edu/publications/newsletters.

Summary Report

In conjunction with its research initiatives, CIRS produces Summary Reports. These are collections of participant biographies and paper synopses delivered at CIRS working group meetings.

The first Summary Report is entitled “International Relations of the Gulf” and includes twelve synopses of the papers delivered at the “International Relations of the Gulf” working group meetings as well as biographies of all the participants who took part in the initiative.
Lecture Briefs

CIRS Lecture Briefs are edited transcripts of lectures hosted by CIRS. These Briefs are designed to make contact with a wider readership and extend CIRS activities towards interested members of the public.

To read or download the Lecture Briefs, visit http://cirs.georgetown.edu/publications/briefs.

In 2008-2009, CIRS published three Briefs:

America, the Middle East, and the Gulf: An Arab view of Challenges Facing the Next U.S. Administration
Rami Khouri
August 24, 2008

American Public Diplomacy After the Bush Presidency
Cynthia Schneider
October 19, 2008

Reflecting on the Life and Work of Mahmoud Darwish
Munir Ghannam and Amira El-Zein
October 22, 2008

Edited Volumes

Two edited volumes are to be published in the coming year. Innovation in Islam is to be published by the University of California Press and International Relations of the Gulf is currently under review by another university press.
2. Public Affairs Programming

In the 2008-2009 academic year, CIRS sponsored a variety of academic events and hosted a number of lectures given by leading experts in the field of international politics. As part of its Public Affairs Program, CIRS organizes the following event categories:

- Panels
- Distinguished Lecture Series, including a Faculty Distinguished Lecture
- Focused Discussions
- Monthly Dialogue Series

The following is a summary breakdown of all the Public Affairs Programs for the 2008-2009 academic year:

**Panels**

CIRS organizes panels throughout the year where small groups of scholars gather and discuss current issues in global affairs.

**Gary Wasserman and James Patti**

*The American Presidential Elections: Democratic and Republican Perspectives*

October 12, 2008

In order to gauge local public opinion regarding the United States Presidential elections, CIRS hosted its own Democratic vs. Republican debate at the Diplomatic Club in Doha. On the Republican side was James Patti, a John McCain supporter and Director of Strategic Planning & Analysis for the Division of Biology & Medicine at Brown University. On behalf of the Democrats was Gary Wasserman, Visiting Professor of Government at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar. The debate was moderated by David Foster, Senior News Anchor at the Al Jazeera English television network.
CIRS hosts a variety of large-scale *Distinguished Lectures* featuring well-known public figures. Every academic year, CIRS also collaborates with the faculty at GU-Qatar to host their selected speaker. Several lectures attended by members of the local community as well as GU-Qatar students, faculty, and staff were offered throughout the 2008-2009 academic year.

**Rami Khouri**  
*America, the Middle East, and the Gulf: An Arab View of Challenges Facing the Next U.S. Administration*  
August 24, 2008

Rami Khouri is the editor-at-large of the *Daily Star* newspaper in Beirut and Director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut. Khouri gave recommendations for how the post-Bush United States administration might overcome the many challenges it will face in the months and years to come.

**Hanan Ashrawi**  
*The Future of Palestine*  
December 1, 2008

Hanan Ashrawi is the Founder and Head of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy – *Miflah*, and an elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council for the Jerusalem District. The professor and Palestinian political activist shared her insights on the Palestinian struggle and how the next United States administration could break with past policies and have a new outlook on resolving the Palestinian question.
Seyyed Hossein Nasr
Islam and the Preservation of the Natural Environment
Faculty Distinguished Lecture
January 26, 2009

Seyyed Hossein Nasr is one of the foremost scholars of Islam and Religious Studies. Nasr’s lecture emphasized that caring for the natural environment was a central theme in Islam. He outlined daily environmental struggles within an elaborate frame of spiritual Islam and commented on how it could alleviate many of the current problems.

Edward Djerejian
U.S. Policy Toward the Arab and the Muslim World: The Challenges the Obama Administration Faces
March 17, 2009

Drawing on his career and experience as a diplomat, former U.S. ambassador to Syria and Israel Edward Djerejian offered his insights and analysis of current foreign policy challenges facing the United States in the Middle East and South Asia. Djerejian relayed some of the themes in his book entitled Danger and Opportunity: An American Ambassador’s Journey through the Middle East, detailing his experiences in the region.

Nabil Fahmy
U.S.-Arab Relations in a Changing World: Opportunities and Challenges
April 29, 2009

Nabil Fahmy is Ambassador-at-Large in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and former Egyptian Ambassador to the United States. Fahmy gave his analysis and insight into the foreign policy challenges facing the United States and the Arab world.
Focused Discussions

Through its *Focused Discussions*, CIRS provides an intellectual forum for academics, diplomats, and opinion-leaders to engage with both students and the public on a particular topic of interest.

Cynthia Schneider

*American Public Diplomacy After the Bush Administration*

October 19, 2008

Cynthia Schneider is Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University, nonresident Fellow at the Brookings institution, and former U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands. Professor Schneider discussed ways in which the next U.S. administration should use culture as part of its diplomatic efforts. Schneider gave recommendations regarding how to combine public diplomacy with broad cross-cultural understanding.

Professor Amira El-Zein and Ambassador Munir Ghannam

*Commemoration of Mahmoud Darwish*

October 22, 2008

In honor of the memory of the Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, CIRS hosted a literary evening to celebrate his life and his legacy. The Palestinian Ambassador to Qatar, Munir Ghannam and Georgetown University GU-Qatar Professor Amira El-Zein, were each invited to share their thoughts on different aspects of the poet’s life and work.
Nabih Berri  
**Compromising Democracy: The Lebanese Example**  
Co-sponsored with the Embassy of Lebanon  
November 19, 2008

CIRS hosted a luncheon talk for the visiting Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, Nabih Berri. During his address, Berri provided a theoretical overview of the basis and key characteristics of a “congruent democracy” as distinct from other forms of democracy, as well as a practical account of its realization in Lebanon.

Mona Eltahawy  
**Female Suicide Bombers in Iraq**  
January 19, 2009

Journalist and author Mona Eltahawy gave a lunch-time lecture at the GU-Qatar campus on the subject of “Female Suicide Bombers in Iraq.” Eltahawy is an award-winning syndicated columnist and an international public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. Eltahawy’s talk was designed to dispel the myth that female suicide bombers are a new ideological formation particular to Islamic extremism and to the Middle East.

Mehrzad Boroujerdi  
**Presidential Elections in Iran**  
June 14, 2009

Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Associate Professor of Political Science at Syracuse University, delivered a lecture about the 2009 Iranian presidential elections. He framed the electoral process historically before proceeding with an analysis of post-election events and the subsequent public reaction to the results. He concluded by elaborating on the impact this election might have on the future shape of the Iranian political system.
The CIRS Monthly Dialogue Series is designed to present interested community members with a forum for quiet, thoughtful dialogue with scholars from Georgetown University and elsewhere about their latest academic endeavors and research agendas. Each month, a faculty member is invited to discuss his or her work with the community.

Renee Richer
Beauty and the Beast: Environment and Industry in Qatar
September 15, 2008

Renee Richer, professor of biology at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, lectured on the impacts of industry on Qatar’s natural environment. She put into context false assumptions that strict environmental rules automatically reduce environmental damage.

James Reardon-Anderson
Rainfall and the American Civil War
November 3, 2008

James Reardon-Anderson, Dean of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, explained how geographic particularities and atmospheric trends help to shape human behavior and the means by which nations sustain their various economies.
Georgetown University professors Jo Ann Moran Cruz and Haifaa Khalafallah shared insights regarding their upcoming book entitled *Religion and the State in the Christian and Islamic Worlds*, in which they study coinciding Islamic and Christian historical experiences by juxtaposing a variety of primary sources.

Katja Niethammer

*Democrats and Autocrats, Shi’ites and Sunnis: Political Reform and Confessional Identities in Bahrain*

January 18, 2009

The 2008–2009 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow, gave a lecture that analyzed the differences in goals, strategies and behavior between Shi’ite and Sunni Islamist political organizations in Bahrain. The lecture was part of a larger study undertaken for her upcoming book, *Political Reform in Bahrain: Institutional Transformation, Identity Conflict and Democracy*, to be published by Routledge.

Ibrahim Oweiss

*The Current Economic Global Depression: Causes and Effects With Reference to the Gulf Economies*

February 10, 2009

Oweiss, Georgetown University Professor of Economics, discussed the effects of the global economic decline on the Gulf states and prescribed actions to remedy the current crisis.
Mehran Kamrava
*International Power Realignment in the Gulf*
March 10, 2009

Mehran Kamrava, Director of the Center for International and Regional Studies and an expert on Iran and the Gulf, informed the audience about how Qatar and the United Arab Emirates go against the prescribed model of how small states should act according to various international relations theories. Kamrava explained that the changing dynamics in the Gulf are resulting in the emergence of these small states as major players in the region.

Mark Farha
*Lebanon as the Mirror of Arab Politics*
April 7, 2009

Georgetown University professor Mark Farha discussed Lebanon’s unique history and diverse mix of cultures. He argued that, despite occasional confessional conflict, the liberalism of Lebanon was a function of its pluralism. He commented on the fact that there are few options for a country which is so divided, ethnically and religiously, and one of them is to recognize, as Lebanon does, each group and give each its due.

James Onley
*Agents of Empire: Britain’s Local Representatives in the Gulf, 1750s-1950s*
May 4, 2009

Onley is the Director of the Gulf Studies programme at the University of Exeter and the 2008-2009 CIRS Senior Fellow. Specializing in the history, society, and culture of the Gulf Arab states, Onley elaborated upon the role of Britain’s historical Residency system in the Gulf protectorates.
CIRS Professional Memberships

International Affairs Forum (IAF)
IAF is a research and news portal. On this internet-based forum, CIRS promotes research opportunities and activities, and connects with other research centers in the field of international relations.

International Relations and Security Network (ISN)
ISN is an open access information service for international relations and security professionals. On this network, CIRS promotes its research initiatives and shares information about upcoming events and research positions.

International Studies Association (ISA) Convention
In February 2009, CIRS attended the annual ISA convention in New York. CIRS exhibited its research initiatives and distributed its publications and promotional materials to academics and convention attendees. Director of CIRS Mehran Kamrava delivered a paper entitled “The Origins of 'Informal' Empire: The Security Dilemma of the Persian Gulf” and chaired a panel entitled “Middle East Foreign Policy: The Role of Iran and Syria.”

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
Members of the CIRS team traveled to Washington, DC, in November 2008 to take part in the annual MESA convention. The convention provided CIRS with a forum to make professional contacts with scholars and publishers in the field of Middle East studies and to exhibit CIRS publications and research initiatives. CIRS Director Mehran Kamrava delivered a paper entitled “Political Discourses in Post-Reform Iran.”

CIRS Podcasts
The CIRS Podcast series includes audio recordings of lectures that can be downloaded to a computer and played back on an iPod or any other mp3 player. To download CIRS lectures, please visit: http://cirs.georgetown.edu/events/podcasts.
Appendix I

CIRS Activities and Achievements 2008-2009

1. Research and Scholarship

   Working Groups

International Relations of the Gulf: Session II
January 8–9, 2009

Participants:
- Mohammed Ayoob, Michigan State University
- Daniel Byman, Georgetown University
- Gregory Gause, University of Vermont
- N. Janardhan, Gulf-Asia Affairs, UAE
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Rami Khouri, American University of Beirut
- Joseph Kostiner, Tel Aviv University
- Fred Lawson, Mills College
- Katja Niethammer, CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow 2008-2009, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Gerd Nonneman, University of Exeter
- James Onley, University of Exeter, CIRS Senior Fellow 2008-2009
- J. E. Peterson, University of Arizona
- Lawrence Potter, Columbia University
- Paul Salem, Carnegie Middle East Center
- Kristian Coates Ulrichsen, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Robert Wirsing, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Steven Wright, Qatar University

Comparative Ethics of War
Co-sponsored with International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO)
May 3–4, 2009

Participants:
- Christine Amadou, University of Oslo
- Torkel Brekke, University of Oslo
- Mahinda Deegalle, Bath Spa University
- Mohammad Faghfoory, George Washington University
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Ivan Koniar, Catholic University in Ruzomberok, Slovakia, and Visiting Scholar, International Peace Research Institute, Oslo
- Greg Reichberg, International Peace Research Institute, Oslo
- Kaushik Roy, Presidency College, Kolkata
- Hanne Røislien, Norwegian University of Science and Technology and International Peace Research Institute, Oslo
- Amira Sonbol, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Migrant Labor in the Gulf
May 16-17, 2009

Participants:
- Attiya Ahmad, Duke University
- Maryam Al Maliki, Qatar Foundation for Combating Trafficking in Humans
- Sabika Al Najjar, Awal Women’s Society
- Mary Breeding, Georgetown University
- Suleman Din, American University of Cairo
- Bridget Ganguly, Al Amana Center, Oman
- Andrew Gardner, Qatar University
- Dirgha Jibi Ghimire, University of Michigan
- Hend Abdalrahman Mohamed Jolo, Qatar University
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Habibul Haque Khondker, Zayed University
- Noora Lori, Johns Hopkins University
- David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Sharon Nagy, DePaul University
- Filippo Osella, University of Sussex
- Mohammad Mizanur Rahman, University of Singapore
- Nasra Shah, Kuwait University
- Helen Thiollet, Independent scholar
- Antoinette Vlieger, University of Amsterdam

Publications

Occasional Papers:

*Fixing the Kingdom: Political Evolution and Socio-Economic Challenges in Bahrain* was authored by Steven Wright, Professor of Gulf Politics at Qatar University. This paper was published in December 2008.

The second edition of the 2007 Occasional Paper *Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan* by Patricia Fagen was printed in March 2009.

Lecture Briefs:

*America, the Middle East, and the Gulf: An Arab View of Challenges Facing the Next U.S. Administration* is an edited transcript of a lecture given by Rami Khouri on August 24, 2008.

*American Public Diplomacy After the Bush Presidency* is an edited transcript of a lecture given by Cynthia Schneider on October 19, 2008.

*Reflecting on the Life and Work of Mahmoud Darwish* is an edited transcript of a lecture given by Munir Ghannam and Amira El-Zein on October 22, 2008.
Newsletters:
CIRS published three issues of its newsletter, Fall, Spring, and Summer.

Edited Volumes:
*International Relations of the Gulf* is under review at a university press.
*Innovation in Islam* is to be published by the University of California Press.

Summary Reports:
“The International Relations of the Gulf”

## 2. Public Affairs Programming

**August 2008**
**America, the Middle East, and the Gulf: An Arab View of Challenges Facing the Next U.S. Administration**
Rami Khouri, Editor-at-Large, *Daily Star* and Director, *Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut*
Distinguished Lecture: August 24, 2008

**September 2008**
**Beauty and the Beast: Environment and Industry in Qatar**
Renee Richer, Professor of Biology, *Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar*
Monthly Dialogue: September 15, 2008

**October 2008**
**The American Presidential Elections: Democratic and Republican Perspectives**
Gary Wasserman, Professor, *Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*
James Patti, Director, *Strategic Planning & Analysis for the Division of Biology & Medicine at Brown University*
The debate was moderated by David Foster, *Al Jazeera English*.
Panel: October 12, 2008

**American Public Diplomacy After the Bush Administration**
Cynthia Schneider, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy, *Georgetown University* and nonresident Fellow, *Brookings Institution*
Focused Discussion: October 19, 2008

**Commemoration of Mahmoud Darwish**
Munir Ghannam, Ambassador of Palestine to Qatar, and Amira El-Zein, Professor, *Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*
Focused Discussion: October 22, 2008
November 2008
Rainfall and the American Civil War
James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

Compromising Democracy: The Lebanese Example
Co-sponsored with the Embassy of Lebanon
Nabih Berri, Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament
Focused Discussion: November 19, 2008

December 2008
The Future of Palestine
Hanan Ashrawi, Founder of the Executive Committee, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy-Miftah
Distinguished Lecture: December 1, 2008

Religion and Legitimization of Rule in Islamic and Christian Worlds: Preliminary Findings
Jo Ann Moran Cruz and Haifaa Khalafallah, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

January 2009
Democrats and Autocrats, Shii’ites and Sunnis: Political Reform and Confessional Identities in Bahrain
Katja Niethammer, Post-Doctoral Fellow, CIRS, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Monthly Dialogue: January 18, 2009

Female Suicide Bombers in Iraq
Mona Eltahawy, Journalist and Author
Focused Discussion: January 19, 2009

Islam and the Preservation of the Natural Environment
Seyyed Hossein Nasr, University Professor of Islamic Studies, George Washington University
Faculty Distinguished Lecture: January 26, 2009

February 2009
The Global Depression and the Gulf Economies
Ibrahim Oweiss, Professor of Economics, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
March 2009
International Power Realignment in the Gulf
Mehran Kamrava, Director, Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Monthly Dialogue: March 10, 2009

U.S. Policy Toward the Arab & Muslim World: The Challenges the Obama Administration Faces
Edward Djerejian, Director, James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University
Distinguished Lecture: March 17, 2009

April 2009
Lebanon as the Mirror of Arab Politics
Mark Farha, Visiting Assistant Professor of Middle Eastern Politics, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Monthly Dialogue: April 7, 2009

U.S.-Arab Relations in a Changing World: Opportunities and Challenges
Nabil Fahmy, Former Egyptian Ambassador to the United States and Ambassador-At-Large in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry
Distinguished Lecture: April 29, 2009

May 2009
Agents of Empire: Britain’s Local Representatives in the Gulf, 1750s-1950s
James Onley, 2008-2009 CIRS Senior Fellow, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Director of the Gulf Studies Programme, University of Exeter
Monthly Dialogue: May 4, 2009

June 2009
Presidential Elections in Iran
Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Associate Professor of Political Science and Founding Director, Middle Eastern Studies Program, Syracuse University
Focused Discussion: June 14, 2009
Appendix II

CIRS Advisory Board

Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, President, Qatar University

Alexander Dodds, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar

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Key Responsibilities:
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• Handles Visiting Scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellow program
• Primary contact for vendors

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Key Responsibilities:
• Organizes all academic and public events
• Primary contact for speakers and event-related vendors
• Coordinates with other Education City event managers