



Annual Report

2007-2008




CIRS

CENTER FOR
INTERNATIONAL
AND REGIONAL
STUDIES

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE IN QATAR

Center for International and Regional Studies
Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar



About the 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>.

About the 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.

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CIRS Activities and Achievements 2007-2008

The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) focuses on four primary areas: research and scholarship; publications; events, lectures, and conferences, including an annual Model United Nations conference; and community outreach, including annual cultural endeavors. In 2007-2008, under the leadership of a new director, Mehran Kamrava, the Center grew to include a large variety of programming and publications. CIRS also focused on community outreach projects, held research seminars, and prepared for two new research positions made up of a Senior Fellow and a Post-Doctoral Fellow. Below are summaries of CIRS achievements in all four 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 academic year 2007-2008, CIRS successfully organized three research seminars composed of working groups which gathered together scholars and practitioners from the Middle East region, Europe, and the United States, for in-depth discussions and analysis of current events. CIRS also established two new fellowship positions in the interest of commencing a variety of research initiatives.

Working Groups

America's Role in the World, October 23, 2007

Co-sponsored with the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University

This seminar focused on analyzing a draft report entitled “America’s Role in the World” composed by a working group from Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (ISD). This is a major international project that has been in preparation since 2006. The report summed up the various geopolitical challenges that the new U.S. administration will face in coming years and how changes to U.S. foreign policy will determine America’s role in the world.



Seminar participants in discussion.

This seminar was part of a four-session project, which took place over four different meetings and locations. The Qatar seminar intended to give the researchers non-American feedback on the draft report. The format for this seminar consisted of a closed-door round-table discussion, resulting in policy consultation and analysis. See *Appendix I* for a complete list of participants.

*Global Development, Organizations, and Faith in the Muslim World,
December 17, 2007*

Co-sponsored with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University



Participants taking part in the day-long seminar.

The seminar, geared towards practitioners across the Muslim world, was a consultation event co-sponsored by CIRS and the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs. It focused on institutions; relationships among public, private, and religiously inspired actors; financing issues; and other issues such as children, education, health, and gender.

This working group held an intense, day-long, private discussion, resulting in international policy analysis and offering a variety of research-based, and faith-inspired solutions to global development. See *Appendix I* for a full list of participants.

International Relations of the Gulf, June 18-19, 2008

In June 2008, CIRS hosted academics researching issues affecting the international relations of the Gulf region. This seminar occurred over two days and will result in an edited volume composed of 12 chapters. Each member of the working group will contribute a chapter on a topic of their expertise. The edited collection will be published in 2009. A list of the participants can be found in *Appendix I*.



Seminar participants listening to a presentation.

CIRS Research Positions

CIRS undertook successful searches for its two newly established research positions. In the Fall of 2008, James Onley of the University of Exeter joins CIRS as a Senior Fellow and Katja Niethammer from the German Institute for International and Security Affairs will be the Center's Post-Doctoral Fellow, developing her thesis for publication. The topic of her research is Bahrain's reform process and will be due for publication in 2009.

Senior Fellow, 2008-2009

James Onley

James Onley is Director of the Gulf Studies programme and Senior Lecturer in Middle Eastern History at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, England. He was previously Assistant Professor of Gulf History at the American University of Sharjah, UAE. He specializes in the history, society, and culture of the Gulf Arab states and holds a DPhil from the University of Oxford (2001), where he studied at St. Antony's College.



Onley is the author of *The Arabian Frontier of the British Raj: Merchants, Rulers, and the British in the Nineteenth Century Gulf* (Oxford University Press, 2007) and has articles/chapters in *New Arabian Studies* (2004), *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* (2004), *Transnational Connections and the Arab Gulf* (2005), *Journal of Social Affairs* (2005), *Maghreb-Machrek* (2006), *History and Anthropology* (2006), and *The Gulf Family: Modernity and Kinship Policies* (2007).

He is the recipient of dissertation awards from both the Middle East Studies Association of North America (2001) and the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (2002). Before joining academia, James Onley served in the Canadian Army for twelve years and was a UN peacekeeper in Iraq at the end of the Iran-Iraq War.

During his Fellowship, Onley is invited to lecture on Gulf history and culture and is welcomed as part of CIRS and SFS-Qatar's intellectual community.

Post-Doctoral Fellow, 2008-2009

Katja Niethammer

Katja Niethammer completed her Ph.D. in Islamic Studies at the Free University of Berlin in 2007. From 2004-2008 she worked as a researcher at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP) research group “Middle East and Africa.”



Previously, Niethammer worked as Academic Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Center “Social and Cultural History of the Middle East” from 2001-2004, and as project manager for both the publishing group Georg von Holtzbrinck and the Berlin-based House of World Cultures (Haus der Kulturen der Welt). She studied Islamic Studies and Communication Studies at the Free University of Berlin and the University of Birzeit, Palestinian Autonomous Territories.

During her Fellowship, Niethammer will be involved in three major projects. In the first project, Niethammer will initiate a year-long examination of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries’ domestic and foreign policies. In the second project, Niethammer will devote time to the topic of political reform 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 manuscript. A third project Niethammer will work on is analyzing the role Qatar and Saudi Arabia play in regional conflict mediation.

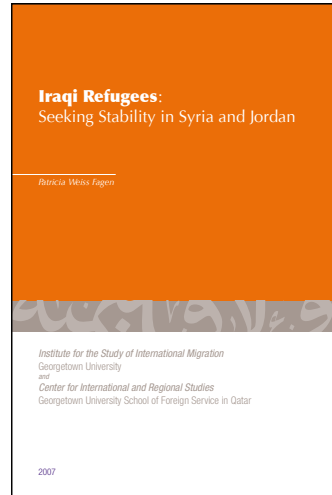
2. Publications

This year, CIRS initiated its publications program, producing two Occasional Papers and three newsletters. The first Occasional Paper, *Iraqi Refugees Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan* (November 2007), was produced in conjunction with the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) at Georgetown University. The author, Patricia Fagen, traveled to the region to undertake research on the conditions and impact of the Iraqi refugee crisis in Syria and Jordan. The second paper was a comprehensive study of the effects of industrialization on biodiversity, authored by Dr. Renee Richer of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar. The study is entitled *Conservation in Qatar: Impacts of Increasing Industrialization* (March 2008). Contact cirsresearch@georgetown.edu to request a free copy.

Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan

In November 2007, CIRS published an Occasional Paper entitled *Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan* by Patricia Weiss Fagen, a senior researcher at Georgetown's Institute for the Study of International Migration. This study is the first in a series of Occasional Papers to be published by CIRS.

The report sheds light on an important but often-ignored phenomenon in today's Middle East. Relying extensively on primary sources, field interviews and on-site observations, Dr. Fagen presents a concise and piercing study of one of the most massive population displacements the world has seen in recent decades. In addition to scholars and the larger academic community, the analyses and recommendations contained in this Occasional Paper will be greatly beneficial to the many governments involved as well as to international aid agencies and NGOs in the field.



The ISIM-CIRS study examines the conditions of the Iraqi refugees in Syria and Jordan and also analyzes their impact on each host country's social, political, and economic structures. In specific, the study examines the various strategies and policies used by the host countries to accommodate, absorb, or expel incoming refugees.

The paper ponders the questions: Once settled in the host countries, what are the conditions in which the refugees are likely to find themselves? And, apart from geographic proximity, what factors have resulted in a disproportionate number of refugees finding their way to either Jordan or Syria as opposed to other countries neighboring Iraq?

Conservation in Qatar: Impacts of Increasing Industrialization



Conservation in Qatar: Impacts of Increasing Industrialization, a CIRS Occasional Paper published in March 2008, is a continuation of a paper delivered at a panel hosted by CIRS in November 2007 entitled “Environmental Degradation and Conservation: Challenges and Prospects.” See p. 15 for more details on the panel.

This is a comprehensive study, authored by Dr. Renee Richer of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, examining the state of environmental degradation in Qatar with regards to increased industrialization.

Richer’s research focuses on the state of biodiversity in Qatar and how best to preserve it. Richer argues that if more detailed and thorough research were to be undertaken by experts in the field of biological research, then these investigations may yield many more species that are as yet unknown to Qatar and possibly even to science.

Richer suggests that Qatar can find a happy medium between increased industrialization and environmental protection. The strategy would be for Qatar to exercise sustainable development and educate its own population, as well as those within the Gulf region, about the benefits of ecological development.



CIRS Newsletters

This year, CIRS published its first three newsletters detailing all its activities, publications, conferences, and events. All CIRS newsletters are available in hard copy format as well as online at <http://cirs.georgetown.edu/publications/newsletters/>

3. Conferences, Lectures, and Events

During the past year, the Center sponsored a variety of events and hosted a number of lectures given by leading experts in the field of international politics and affairs. The following is a summary breakdown of all the event categories in the 2007-2008 academic year:

Lectures and Distinguished Speakers

CIRS hosts a variety of large scale Distinguished Lectures featuring well-known and respected public figures, which are open to the general public as well as other smaller lectures catered to specific audiences and invited guests. Several lectures were offered throughout the year, attended by the Qatari public, the academic community, as well as the SFS-Qatar students, faculty, and staff.

Conferences

In 2007-2008, CIRS hosted three major conferences as well as its third annual Model United Nations conference. The largest event of the year was a two-day research conference entitled “Innovation in Islam”, which brought together seventeen leading scholars of Islamic studies. CIRS also hosted two one-day conferences, which included speakers from Qatar, the Middle East region, Asia, Europe, and the United States.

Panels

In November 2007, for the first time, representatives from each of the five branch campuses at Education City took part in a public lecture on the topic of environmental conservation. Hosted by CIRS, this panel was entitled Environmental Degradation and Conservation: Challenges and Prospects. Various groups interested in the study of the environment attended the presentations, as did members of the general public. CIRS produced an Occasional Paper on the environment in Qatar as a result of this event (see p. 9).

Monthly Dialogue Series

Beginning in August 2007, CIRS added a new lecture program entitled *Monthly Dialogue Series*, which is geared towards a smaller invited audience to learn about the research initiatives of Georgetown University faculty and invited speakers. Six Dialogues were held from September to April in the SFS-Qatar library; four were delivered by faculty members located at SFS-Qatar and two were given by faculty from the Main Campus in Washington, DC.

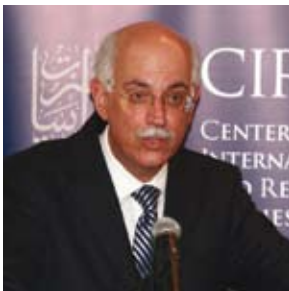
Community Outreach and Cultural Programming

CIRS delivers a variety of community outreach activities in order to strengthen its relationship with the local community and with educational institutions in Qatar and the region. CIRS also hosts cultural programs designed to spark the public’s interest in poignant issues and current affairs through a wide-reaching and popular medium such as documentary films, music and literature. These are culturally significant endeavors that are organized for the benefit of the public.

Distinguished Lecture Series

Thomas Pickering

On October 24, 2007, CIRS hosted a conference entitled “America and the Middle East after the Bush Presidency: The View from the Outside.” Thomas Pickering, former United States Ambassador to the United Nations, gave the keynote speech and Distinguished Lecture (see p. 12).



Andrew Natsios

On January 24, 2008, CIRS sponsored a Distinguished Lecture by Andrew Natsios, Professor on the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University and former U.S. Special Envoy to Darfur. The lecture was attended by fifty invited guests who were given expert insight into the Darfur problem, one of the world’s most prominent crises.

John Esposito

Author and Georgetown University Professor, John L. Esposito, spoke to an audience of 400 guests on February 17, 2008, at the Diplomatic Club in Doha. Esposito presented the main findings of his latest book, *Who Speaks for Islam? What a Billion Muslims Really Think* (2008).



Stephen Walt and John Mearsheimer

Professors John J. Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago, and Stephen M. Walt of Harvard University, presented the findings of their book *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* (2007) at the Diplomatic Club on June 17, 2008, to an audience in excess of 500 people.

Conferences and Panels

Please see Appendix I for a full list of speakers at each event.

America and the Middle East after the Bush Presidency: the View from the Outside, October 24, 2007



The panelists prepare to speak to the audience.

The conference took place over two panels. The first panel discussed the subject of “The United States and the Middle East after the Bush Presidency” and the second panel concentrated on “America’s Role in the Middle East”. Thomas Pickering, Chairman of the Board at ISD, Georgetown University, gave the keynote speech (see p. 11).



An audience member asks a question.

Global Media Between Dialogue and War: When Enemies Boost the Ratings, February 26, 2008

CIRS hosted a one-day conference with the Italian organization Reset - Dialogues on Civilizations on February 26, 2008.

This conference featured an intensive set of discussions in which experts from the fields of academia, media, journalism, international relations, and film studies came together to deliberate the consequences of using the international media as a weapon of war. The conference was attended by students, journalists, scholars, Doha-based ambassadors, and members of the public.



Paolo Mancini from the University of Perugia delivers his speech.

Innovation in Islam, April 5-6, 2008

On April 5-6, 2008, CIRS hosted the “Innovation in Islam” research conference, featuring two days of discussion with some of the most prominent scholars on Islamic thought, culture and history.

The conference explored topics such as the idea and reality of innovation in Islam; development of knowledge in early Islam;



Hassan Hanafi speaks to conference attendees.

development and change in Islamic legal systems; the arts and artistic innovation in Islam; science and scientific innovation in Islam; jurisprudential innovation in Islam; and politics and political innovation in Islam.



Adonis asks the panel a question.

The keynote address was entitled “Innovation in Islam: New Directions for Humanity” and was delivered by the acclaimed poet Adonis. A pioneer in modern Arabic poetry, Adonis (Ali Ahmad Said Esber) has written more than twenty books.

In addition to posting the proceedings of the conference on its website, CIRS will publish key papers of the conference in the form of a book.



SFS-Qatar student Assma Al Adawi asks a question.

Third Annual Model United Nations Conference, January 24-27, 2008



CIRS sponsored the third annual Model United Nations (MUN) conference at the Marriott Hotel in Doha. On January 24-27, 2008, the MUN counted 330 registered students: 100 students from 14 schools in Qatar and 230 students from 38 schools in 21 foreign countries. New countries represented at the conference this year were the Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Hungary, and Morocco. A complete list of participating schools can be found in *Appendix I*.



Students from all over the world attended SFS-Qatar's Third Annual Model United Nations conference.

Andrew Natsios, former U.S. Special Envoy to Darfur, and Professor on the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University, delivered the keynote speech at the Opening Ceremony. Also speaking were James Reardon-Anderson, Dean of SFS-Qatar, CIRS Director Mehran Kamrava, and several SFS-Qatar students.

The MUN program featured seven regular committees in which students participated, chaired by SFS-Qatar students, ranging from the African Union to the U.S. National Security Council. Each committee included anywhere between 15 and 60 delegates and was chaired by an SFS-Qatar student. This was the second year that some thirty students participated in a "Press Committee", comprised of three teams competing to cover the conference – BBC World, Al Jazeera English and CNN International. Several professional journalists offered their support and spoke to the Press Committee, giving advice and taking questions from students. Each group was given the necessary facilities to work as acting journalists and published two newsletters during the conference.

The conference schedule included a visit to Education City, where students sampled university lectures given by professors at the various branch campuses, engaged in activities organized by Qatar Foundation, visited booths staffed by the admissions personnel of all five universities, and had dinner on campus. A new addition to the week's schedule was the offering of several workshops designed for the accompanying teachers and counselors, both from within and outside Qatar.



Students deliberate current affairs.

The Closing Ceremony, comprised of the Diplomatic Lunch and Awards Presentation, was an opportunity for students to mingle with invited ambassadors, embassy staff, and journalists, before heading home after a successful conference.

Environmental Degradation and Conservation: Challenges and Prospects, November 12, 2007



Panelists left to right, Tim Beach of Georgetown University, Patrick Linke of Texas A&M University in Qatar, Deborah Lange of Carnegie Mellon University, Peter Martin of Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar and Renee Richer of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar.

Experts from Education City and Georgetown University's Main Campus in Washington DC. came together on 12 November, 2007, to discuss environmental conservation and degradation. The panelists discussed these challenges from the perspective of their distinct academic disciplines. Timothy Beach commenced the evening by outlining the overarching geographical cycles of world weather, Patrick Linke discussed water resource issues and desalination schemes in Qatar, Deborah Lange recounted the success of environmental awareness and recycling programs at Carnegie Mellon's Main Campus, Peter Martin described the growing rift between humans and their natural environment, and Renee Richer concluded the discussion with a presentation regarding localized environmental degradation in Qatar.

Monthly Dialogue Series

The 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 their research agendas. Each month a professor is invited to discuss his or her latest work with interested community members.

Amira Sonbol

“Cairo Women of the *darb*.” October 30, 2007

In her portrayal of Cairo women, Amira Sonbol, Professor of History at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, stressed that we must stop viewing women as an object of oppression in the



Islamic world and instead focus on the histories that show them to have been a vibrant part of life in Cairo for centuries.



Patrick Laude

“The Ambassadors of Inner Islam and the Encounter of Religions.” November 28, 2007

Patrick Laude is Professor of French at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar. In this lecture, he discussed three great scholars of Islam who successfully blended faith with scholarship.

Sherene Seikaly

“A Public Good? Palestinian Businessmen and the British Colonial State 1939-1948.” December 10, 2007

Sherene Seikaly, the 2007-2008 Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow at Georgetown University’s Center for Contemporary Arab Studies in Washington, DC, spoke to a local audience in Doha, where she defended the view that Palestine had a vibrant and diverse economic culture during the British mandate.



Gary Wasserman

“Democracy and American Foreign Policy: Do Interest Groups Help or Hinder?” February 11, 2008

Gary Wasserman, Professor of Government at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, discussed the topic entitled “Democracy and American Foreign Policy: Do Interest Groups Help or Hinder?”, in which he explored the role of lobby groups in American foreign policy decisions.



Elzbieta Gozdziaik

“Victims No Longer: Challenges, Dilemmas, and Opportunities in Studying Trafficked Children.” March 2, 2008

Elzbieta Gozdziaik is the Director of Research at the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) at Georgetown University and Editor of the journal *International Migration*. She shared research findings of her study on world-wide child trafficking operations.

Victoria Pedrick

“A Hunger for Trees: Myths of Desecration in Nature.” April 22, 2008

Victoria Pedrick, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Classics at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, lectured on the importance of trees in ancient Greek mythology.



4. Outreach and Cultural Programming

Workshops

CIRS sponsored training workshops and school visits in an effort to engage with local educational communities. This year, Ganesh Seshan, Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics at SFS-Qatar, collaborated with researchers from Qatar University on a Statistical Analysis project. The project's results lead on from a year-long study he conducted in Qatar on the subjects of migrant labor and remittances.



Students from Al Khor School for Girls display gifts they received from Georgetown University while visiting the campus.

In addition, Dr. Mehran Kamrava and SFS-Qatar faculty visited many area schools to explore future partnerships. Professor Candith Pallandre and Ms. Molly McHarg worked with local schools in the area of English-language training and CIRS staff visited local schools to prepare high school students for the Model United Nations program.

CIRS also hosted a visit from the Al Khor School for Girls at SFS-Qatar who took a tour of the building and, to experience a real day at university, attended a sample lecture given by Dr. Mehran Kamrava.

Discussion with Gary Wasserman, October 5, 2007

CIRS hosted a luncheon at which Gary Wasserman, Professor of Government at SFS-Qatar, discussed the 2008 United States presidential elections before an intimate audience of Doha-based diplomats and business leaders.

Student Lecture by Ambassador Stephen Day, November 8, 2007

CIRS hosted a lecture by Stephen Day, British career diplomat and former Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Tunisia and Qatar. Day delivered a lecture on the evolution of British diplomacy since the end of the First World War, focusing on the underlying dynamics that continue to characterize the basis of British policy globally and in relation to the Middle East.

Discussion with Ed Husain, March 4, 2008

On March 4, 2008, Ed Husain visited SFS-Qatar to meet with Georgetown University students and to engage with them in an informal group discussion. Ed Husain is the Deputy Director of The Quilliam Foundation, which is a Muslim organization against extremism and author of *The Islamist: Why I joined Radical Islam in Britain, What I Saw Inside and Why I left*, published by Penguin in 2007.

Promises Documentary Film Screening and Discussion, April 14, 2008

CIRS hosted B.Z. Goldberg and Justine Shapiro, creators of the award-winning documentary film *Promises*, and invited them to take part in public lectures and screenings of the film. This was the first time the film had been publicly screened in the Middle East.



Justine Shapiro and B.Z. Goldberg discuss the film with students from Anna Bint Wahab Independent Secondary School for Girls.

Promises is a documentary film that follows the stories of seven children from opposite sides of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The film was the winner of two Emmy Awards and a nominee in the category of “Best Documentary” at the 74th Annual Academy Awards.

CIRS organized two different screenings of *Promises* in order to accommodate public demand and interest. The first screening was a morning show aimed at local Qatari and international middle-school students. The evening event was dedicated to members of the general public and began with a reception for the attendees. The producers, Goldberg and Shapiro, were in attendance at both events and took the stage after the screenings to answer audience questions.



Children in the documentary film, “Promises”.

CIRS Launches New Website

CIRS has unveiled its new domain name and has launched its new website designed to make internet navigation as easy and user-friendly as possible. The new site can be visited at cirs.georgetown.edu. Here, the public can learn all about CIRS activities and achievements, sign up to join the mailing list, register for conferences, enquire about future events, link to useful resources and contact other regional and international research centers.



In addition to launching the new website and in the interest of more efficient communication, CIRS has also created two new contact e-mail addresses to deal with specific enquires addressed to its various branches. Due to its expanded operations in the areas of research, scholarship and event organization, CIRS has created these contact accounts to be able to tailor its responses to various audiences and to address queries in as timely a manner as possible. For all questions related to research and publications, contact cirsresearch@georgetown.edu and for all inquires regarding CIRS positions and appointments, contact cirspositions@georgetown.edu

CIRS Professional Memberships

The Center for International and Regional Studies is a member of several renowned international academic and research associations. During the 2007-2008 academic year, CIRS traveled to two international conferences to take part in the development of the international dialogue on Middle East Studies in particular and international relations scholarship in general.

The Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

November 17-20, 2007, Montreal, Canada

CIRS attended the annual Middle East Studies Association conference in Montreal. Dr. Kamrava, Director of CIRS, was invited to chair a panel entitled “Conflict and Change in Iraq.”

The conference provided CIRS with a forum to make new professional connections with scholars and publishers in the field of Middle East Studies and to showcase some of its publications and research initiatives.

49th Annual International Studies Association (ISA) Convention

March 26-29, 2008, San Francisco, CA, USA

CIRS attended the International Studies Association’s annual convention, where Dr. Kamrava, Director of CIRS, was invited to deliver a paper entitled “How Institutions Change: Lessons from the Middle East” and to chair the “Religion, Politics, and Development” panel. He was also a discussant on the “Religion, Identity, and Conflict” panel.

CIRS exhibited its research initiatives and distributed its publications and promotional materials to interested academics and convention attendees.

Appendix I

CIRS Activities 2007-2008

Research and Scholarship

Publications

Occasional Paper: *Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan* (November 2007). The paper was written in conjunction with the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University. The author is Patricia Fagen of Georgetown University.

Occasional Paper: *Conservation in Qatar: Impacts of Increasing Industrialization* (March 2008). The paper was authored by Renee Richer of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar.

Working Groups

America's Role in the World

October 23, 2007

Co-sponsored with the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University

Participants:

- Farid Abboud, Ambassador of Lebanon to Tunisia
- Gilles Andreani, Conseiller Maitre, Cour de Comptes
- Habib Ben Yahia, Secretary General, Arab Maghreb Union
- Chan Heng Chee, Ambassador of Singapore to the United States
- Radhika Coomaraswamy, UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict
- Chester A. Crocker, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
- Alavaro de Soto, Former UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process
- Jeremy Greenstock, Director of the Ditchley Foundation
- Han Sung-Joo, President of Korea University
- Mehran Kamrava, Director, Center for International and Regional Studies
- Zyad Limam, CEO, AM International, France
- Osman Faruk Logoglu, President, Center for Eurasian Strategic Studies
- Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, President, Qatar University
- Thomas R. Pickering, Chairman of the Board, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
- Ahmed Rashid, Journalist, Pakistan
- James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- James Seevers, Professor, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
- Amira Sonbol, Professor, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Casimir A. Yost, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
- Vahan Zanoian, PFC Energy International

Symposium on Global Development, Organizations, and Faith in the Muslim World
December 17, 2007

Co-sponsored with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs,
Georgetown University

Participants:

- Abdullah H Alnameh, Qatar Charity
- Azhari Gasim Ahmed, Islamic Development Bank
- Hady Amr, Brookings Institution
- Mona Atia, Gerhart Center
- Noureddine Benmalek, High Communication Authority, Morocco
- Roksana Bahramitash, University of Montreal
- Patrice Brodeur, University of Montreal
- Paul Dhalla, Aga Khan Development Network
- Khaled N. Diab, Qatar Red Crescent
- Hany El Banna, Islamic Relief
- Saad Eddin Ibrahim, Arab Democracy Center
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Katherine Marshall, Berkley Center, Georgetown University
- Omnia Nour, Reach Out to Asia
- Salman Shaikh, Office of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned
- Ali Yurtsever, Rumi Forum

International Relations of the Gulf

June 18-19, 2008

Participants:

- James Onley, University of Exeter
- Fred Lawson, Mills College
- Mohammed Ayoob, University of Michigan
- Daniel Byman, Georgetown University
- Joseph Kostiner, Tel Aviv University
- J.E. Peterson, historian and political analyst
- Gerd Nonneman, University of Exeter
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Gregory Gause, University of Vermont
- Steven Wright, Qatar University
- N. Janardhan, Gulf Research Center
- Katja Niethammer, German Institute for International and Security Affairs

Conferences, Lectures and Events

SEPTEMBER, 2007

The United States and Iran: A Dangerous but Contained Conflict

September 10, 2007

Mehran Kamrava, Director, Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

OCTOBER, 2007

America and the Middle East After the Bush Presidency: The View from the Outside

October 24, 2007

Keynote Speech: Thomas Pickering, Chairman of the Board, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (ISD), Georgetown University.

Panel I: The United States and the Middle East after the Bush Presidency

Chair: Jim SeEVERS, Georgetown University

- Casimir Yost, Georgetown University
- Chan Heng Chee, Singapore Ambassador to the United States
- Jeremy Greenstock, Director of the Ditchley Foundation
- Chester Crocker, Georgetown University

Panel II: America's Role in the Middle East

Chair: Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Jaafar Abbas, Al Jazeera English
- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Eldad Pardo, Hebrew University
- Steven Wright, Qatar University

Living in the Past: Cairo Women of the darb

October 30, 2007

Amira Sonbol, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

NOVEMBER, 2007

A Short History of British Diplomacy

November 8, 2007

Ambassador Stephen Day

Co-sponsored with the International Relations Club at SFS-Qatar

Environmental Degradation and Conservation: Challenges and Prospects

November 12, 2007

Panelists:

- Timothy Beach, Georgetown University
- Patrick Linke, Texas A&M University in Qatar
- Deborah Lange, Carnegie Mellon University
- Peter Martin, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar
- Renee Richer, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

[The Ambassadors of Islamic Spirituality and the Encounter of Religions](#)

November 28, 2007

Patrick Laude, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

DECEMBER, 2007

[A Public Good? Palestinian Businessmen and the British Colonial State 1939-1946](#)

December 10, 2007

Sherene Seikaly, Georgetown University

[An Evening with Hany El Banna and Azhari Gasim Ahmed](#)

December 17, 2007

Co-sponsored with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University

Hany El Banna, President, Islamic Relief and Azhari Gasim Ahmed, Islamic Development Bank

JANUARY, 2008

[The Sudan in Crisis and the International Response](#)

January 24, 2008

Andrew Natsios, Georgetown University

[Third Annual Model United Nations Conference 2008](#)

January 24-27, 2008

Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

Opening Keynote by Andrew Natsios

Participating Schools

Inside Qatar

Academic Bridge Program
Al Ieman Secondary School for Girls
Al Jazeera Academy
American School of Doha
Amna Bint Wahab Secondary School for Girls
Doha College
Gulf English School

MES Indian School
Omar bin Khattab Secondary School for Boys
Park House School
Qatar Academy
Qatar International School
Qatar Leadership Academy
The Learning Center

Outside Qatar

Access U.S. Embassy Program, Algeria
Al Raja School, Bahrain
Bahrain Bayan School
International School of Prague, Czech Republic
Academia Cotopaxi, Ecuador
Narmer American College, Egypt
Escuela Americana El Salvador
International Community School of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
American Community School of Athens, Greece
British International School of Budapest, Hungary
Canadian International School of Bangalore, India
Pathways World School, India
Katzenelson High School, Israel
St. Joseph Secondary School, Israel
Walworth Barbour American International School in Tel Aviv, Israel
Ahliyya School for Girls, Jordan
Amman Baptist School, Jordan
National Orthodox School, Jordan
American International School of Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
American International School of Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
British International School of Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Dhahran Ahliyya School for Girls, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
American Community School of Beirut, Lebanon
U.S. Embassy Program, Morocco
American International School of Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
International School of Islamabad, Pakistan
Lahore Grammar School, Pakistan
Evangelical Lutheran School of Hope, Palestine
Ramallah Friends School, Palestine
Terra Sancta School for Boys, Palestine
Damascus Community School, Syria
Pakistan International School of Damascus, Syria
St. Andrews School, Thailand
Ozel Bilkent, Turkey
Robert College, Turkey
Uskudar American Academy, Turkey
Yuzyl Isil, Turkey

FEBRUARY, 2008

[Democracy and American Foreign Policy: Do Interest Groups Help or Hinder?](#)

February 11, 2008

Gary Wasserman, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

[Who Speaks for Islam? What a Billion Muslims Really Think](#)

February 17, 2008

John Esposito, Georgetown University

[Global Media Between Dialogue and War: When Enemies Boost the Ratings](#)

February 26, 2008

Co-sponsored with Reset - Dialogues on Civilizations, Italy

Panel I: Media as Weapons? Crossed views between East and West

- Giancarlo Bosetti, Reset Magazine, Italy
- Daniela Conte, IMT Lucca, Italy
- Ashraf Galal, Qatar University

- Thomas Gorguissian, Qatar University
- Ibrahim Helal, Al Jazeera International
- Steven Livingston, George Washington University
- Paolo Mancini, University of Perugia, Italy
- Lawrence Pintak, American University of Cairo
- Mohamed Zayani, American University of Sharjah

Films and Discussion: Religious Television and International News

- Hossein Dehbashi, Filmmaker
- Mateo M. Farzaneh, Filmmaker
- Carlo Sartori, CEO, NewCo Rai International

Panel II: How Politics Can Deal with the Media War

- Giuliano Amato, Italian Minister of Interior
- Giancarlo Bosetti, Reset Magazine, Italy
- Mehran Kamrava, Director, Center for International and Regional Studies
- Otto Schily, Member of the German Parliament

MARCH, 2008

Victims No Longer: Challenges, Dilemmas, and Opportunities in Studying Trafficked Children

March 2, 2008

Elzbieta Gozdziaik, Georgetown University

The Islamist

March 4, 2008

Ed Husain, author and Deputy Director of the Quilliam Foundation

APRIL, 2008

Innovation in Islam

April 5-6, 2008

Keynote Speech: Adonis

April 5, 2008

Panel I: Innovation in Islam; Concept and Reality

Chair: James Reardon-Anderson, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Nasr Hamid Abu-Zayd, University of Humanistics at Utrecht
- Nelly Hanna, American University in Cairo

Panel II: Islamic Institutions: Traditions and Contributions

Chair: Patrick Meadows, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Sumaiya A. Hamdani, George Mason University
- Amira Sonbol, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Zakaryya Abdel-Hady, Qatar University

Panel III: Islam and the Intellectual Process

Chair: Ibrahim Oweiss, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Hassan Hanafi, Cairo University
- Mohammed Arkoun, La Sorbonne, Paris
- Tariq Ramadan, St. Anthony's College, Oxford

April 6, 2008

Panel IV: Literary and Artistic Innovation

Chair: Patricia O'Connor, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Walter Denny, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Patrick Laude, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Jawid Mojaddedi, Rutgers University

Panel V: Theology and Politics of *Fiqh*

Chair: Edmund Ghareeb, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Ziba Mir-Hosseini, University of London
- Omaima Abou Bakr, Qatar University

Panel VI: Islam and Modernity

Joshua Mitchell, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Sherman Jackson, University of Michigan
- John Voll, Georgetown University
- Peter Gran, Temple University

[“Promises” Documentary](#)

April 13-14, 2008

BZ Goldberg and Justine Shapiro

[A Hunger for Trees: Myths of Desecration in Nature](#)

April 22, 2008

Victoria Pedrick, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

JUNE 2008

[The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy](#)

June 17, 2008

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt

Appendix I

CIRS Advisory Board

Dr. Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, President, Qatar University

Mr. Alexander Dodds, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar

Dr. Robert Galucci, Dean, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

Dr. Michael Hudson, Director, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University

Dr. Stanley N. Katz, Director, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University

Sir Timothy Lankester, President, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University

Dr. James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

Dr. Gary Sick, Senior Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University



Pictured in the back row, left to right, are Dr. Michael Hudson, Dr. Gary Sick, and Sir Tim Lankester. Pictured in the front row are Dr. Mehran Kamrava and Dr. Stanley N. Katz. Not pictured are Dr. Sheikha Al-Misnad, Dr. Robert Galucci, Mr. Alexander Dodds, and Dr. James Reardon-Anderson.

CIRS Staff Directory 2007-2008



Mehran Kamrava
Director
mk556@georgetown.edu



Aphrodite Hammad
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Key Responsibilities:

- Provides reception
- Handles Director's schedule
- Manages contact list



Kathryn King
Program Coordinator
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Key Responsibilities:

- Organizes Model United Nations Conference
- Primary contact for local and international schools
- Works on CIRS newsletter, website and other publications



Suzi Mirgani
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Key Responsibilities:

- Writes event summary reports
- Organizes CIRS publications
- Assists with research initiatives



Naila Habiby Sherman
Associate Director for Administration and Finance
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Key Responsibilities:

- Manages Center's administrative operations
- Handles Visiting Scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellow program
- Primary contact for vendors



Maha Uraidi
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Key Responsibilities:

- Organizes events, including conferences, lectures and cultural activities
- Primary contact for speakers and event-related vendors
- Coordinates with other Education City event managers



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