



SYMPOSIUM PERSICA

First International Biennial
Conference and Graduate Workshop

**The Persianate World
and Central Eurasia**

February 21-24, 2018

Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies (IPGS)
School of Global Studies and Partnerships
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma



Dr. Randy Kluver

Dean, School of Global Studies and Partnerships

As the Dean of the School of Global Studies and Partnerships, I am delighted to welcome all the participants to the 2018 Symposia Persica. It is my honor to host such a distinguished group of participants, which is the flagship event for our program in Iranian and Persian Gulf studies for this year. The symposia hosts participants from around the world, and we are delighted that you have come to Stillwater for this event. Iran as a nation, and the larger region of Central Asia, is an important region to the faculty, staff, and students of Oklahoma State University. Our pioneering president, Henry G. Bennett, was killed in a plane crash outside Tehran in 1951, while serving as Director of the Point 4 Program. While serving as president of the university, Dr. Bennett launched Oklahoma State (then known as Oklahoma A&M) into its legacy of global engagement, which is now approaching 70 years of global collaboration, outreach, and education. The land-grant institution initiative, launched with the Morrill Act of 1892, is to build quality institutions that focus on practical knowledge that results in economic growth and educational opportunities to students without access to elite education. The land-grant universities have also been pioneers in extending our outreach and extension models globally.

The School of Global Studies and Partnerships serves as both the locus of our graduate education and global affairs as well as the central administrative office for the university's global engagement. Our graduate program, of which the IPGS is part, is focused on training students not just in cultural and policy studies, but also in the sorts of technical and applied skills that address chronic global issues, including poverty, environmental issues, conflict, and development. As our IPGS program continues to develop and grow, it will undoubtedly focus heavily on bringing a mindset and skillset towards addressing these global issues.

Finally, let me just restate my welcome. We are delighted to host you at OSU and in the Wes Watkins Center, and I very much hope that you greatly benefit from this event.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randy Kluver

The Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies (IPGS)

program at Oklahoma State University is a program designed to facilitate greater understanding of Iran and Persian Gulf region at Oklahoma State University. The initiative, housed in the School of Global Studies and Partnerships, began in response to an initial gift from the Farzaneh Family to increase understanding of, and engagement with, this important region. The program also coordinates academic collaboration with institutions from Iran, including research collaboration, a visiting scholar program, and building educational ties that serve both nations. Finally, the IPGS has an important community outreach function, helping citizens of the state of Oklahoma to understand and appreciate the historical and contemporary importance of the region.

OSU's engagement with Iran dates back decades, as the former president of the university, Henry G. Bennett, facilitated academic and technical engagement with Iran as Director of the Point Four program, the forerunner of today's United States Agency for International Development. Dr. Bennett and his wife Vera died in a plane crash in Iran in 1951, while visiting a Point Four project site.

This legacy of engagement provides the foundation for OSU's School of Global Studies and Partnerships, and a commitment to ongoing academic and community engagement around the globe. As a land grant institution, OSU's global focus is oriented towards addressing ongoing human need, in development, sustainability, and social resilience. The IPGS likewise is dedicated to local and global engagement with tangible social, technical, and economic benefits.

Activities of the IPGS:

- IPGS Speakers Series
- Farzaneh Family Speakers Series
- Dr. Ali Fazel Speakers Series
- Persian Tea Breaks

For more information, contact:

Dr. Pedram Khosronejad

Farzaneh Family Scholar and Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies

Pedram.khosronejad@okstate.edu



Dr. Pedram Khosronejad

Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies

Pedram Khosronejad is Farzaneh Family Chair and Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies Program (IPGS) at the Oklahoma State University and also associated member of Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités, CNRS-Paris, France. His research interests include cultural and social anthropology, the anthropology of death and dying, visual anthropology, visual piety, devotional artefacts, and religious material culture, with a particular interest in Iran, Persianate societies and the Islamic world. He is author of *Qajar African Nanies* and *Les Lions en Pierre Sculptée chez les Bakhtiari: Description et significations de sculptures zoomorphes dans une société tribale du sud-ouest de l'Iran*, *The Anthropology of Persianate Societies, Volume 2*, Sean Kingston Publishing, U.K. He is also the editor of several publications: *The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi'ism: Iconography and Religious Devotion in Shi'i Islam* (I.B.Tauris); *Saints and their Pilgrims in Iran and Neighboring Countries* (SeanKingston); *Iranian Sacred Defence Cinema: Religion, Martyrdom and National Identity* (SeanKingston); *Unburied Memories: The Politics of Bodies, and the Material Culture of Sacred Defense Martyrs in Iran* (Routledge). He is the founding editor of the *Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* (ACME) and chair of The Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia Network of the European Association of Social Anthropologists.



Dr. Anné-Marie Condacse

Associate Professor of Music

Romanian-born soprano Anné-Marie Condacse has been a resident artist with the George Enescu Romanian National Philharmonic and has appeared as guest soloist with the Romanian National Opera, Ion Dacian Operetta Theater, Oradea Lyric Theater, Cairo Philharmonic, and Cairo National Opera. Dr. Condacse has performed as a recitalist and concert artist throughout the United States, Romania, Italy, Germany, Egypt, and Mexico. She has appeared on programs broadcast on the Romanian National Television and Romanian National Radio. Her latest recording, *Anné-Marie Condacse Performing Chamber Music by Felicia Donceanu*, was released on Electrecord label.

Dr. Condacse earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vocal Performance with a minor cognate area in Vocal Pedagogy and Vocal Science from the Moores School of Music, University of Houston, and her Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the Shepherd School of Music, Rice University.

A Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Condacse served on the voice faculty at the Cairo National Conservatoire of Music, Egypt. She also served as resident artist at the Conservatorio Statale di Musica G. P. Pergolesi, Italy; at the American University in Cairo, Egypt; and at the Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas, Mexico. Dr. Condacse serves as faculty and artist in residence at the ICon Arts International Music Festival in Romania and Italy, and is an Associate Professor of Vocal Studies at Oklahoma State University, where she received the *First Lady of OSU, Distinguished Professor of Music Award*. Furthermore, Dr. Condacse is an Affiliated Faculty at the Oklahoma State University School of Global Studies and Partnerships, and a 2017-2018 Research Scholar at the Middle East Studies Center, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.



Dr. Reuel Hanks

Professor of Geography

Reuel R. Hanks is Professor of Geography at Oklahoma State University and holds the Humphreys Endowed Chair of International Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Hanks was a Fulbright Scholar in Tashkent, Uzbekistan and has published more than 30 articles and book chapters on national identity, Islam, security issues and political geography in Central Asia. He is the author of four books: *Uzbekistan*, an annotated bibliography in the World Bibliographical Series (1999), *Central Asia: A Global Studies Handbook* (2005), *Global Security Watch: Central Asia* (2010), and the *Encyclopedia of Geography Terms, Themes and Concepts* (2011). He is currently writing the *Historical Dictionary of Uzbekistan* for Scarecrow Press and is the founding editor of the *Journal of Central Asian Studies*. He has given numerous scholarly presentations and public lectures in Central Asia, and has been a Visiting Professor at Tashkent State Economics University, Samarkand State Institute for Foreign Languages, KIMEP (Almaty, Kazakhstan), and Eurasian National University (Astana, Kazakhstan). He is an Honorary Professor at Suleyman Demirel University in Kaskelen, Kazakhstan. His work has been funded by the U.S. Dept. of State, U.S. Dept. of Education, IREX, the Fulbright Program and several private agencies.

NOTE:

- All Panel Sessions will be held in the Wes Watkins Center (WWC), Room 209.
- All Lunches will be served in the Wes Watkins Center (WWC), Suite 201.
- All Coffee Breaks will be served in the Wes Watkins Center (WWC), Room 210.
- Graduate workshop will be held in the Wes Watkins Center (WWC), Room 204G.

PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 21st

7:00-9:00 p.m., Welcome Reception

The Piano Lounge, the Atherton Hotel (*Light Snacks and Cash Bar*)

Thursday, February 22nd

8:00-8:45 a.m., Registration, Wes Watkins Center, Room 206.

8:45-9:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Jami Fullerton, Interim Director of Academic Program, the School of Global Studies and Partnerships, OSU

President Burns Hargis, OSU

Dr. Anne-Marie Condacse, Department of Music, OSU

Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, School of Global Studies and Partnerships, OSU

Session One: Keynote Address

9:30-10:15 a.m.

Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies Since WWII: Essential Insights for America.

Dr. William O. Beeman, University of Minnesota

Chair: Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, School of Global Studies and Partnerships, OSU

Coffee Break: 10:15-10:30 a.m.

Session Two: Panel

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Ancient, Medieval, and Modern Historical Themes in Iranian Studies

Chair: Dr. Dilshod Achilov, University of Massachusetts

Papers:

Inclusion or Exclusion? Islamic Prohibition on Marriage and Meat in Persian History.

Dr. Andrew Magnusson, University of Central Oklahoma

Iran, Iraq and the Shrines

Dr. James D. Clark, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Discussant: Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Oklahoma State University

Lunch: 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Session Three: Panel

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Social and Cultural Issues in Central Eurasia

Chair: Dr. Reuel R. Hanks, Oklahoma State University

Papers:

Creative Thinking and Collective Mobilization in the Post-Soviet Muslim Republics.

Dr. Dilshod Achilov, University of Massachusetts

Tajik Cinema in the Heyday of Soviet Rule.

Dr. Kirill Nourzhanov, Center for Arab and Islamic Studies, The Australian National University

Spatial Dynamics of External Labor Migration in Contemporary Kazakhstan.
Dr. Bolat L. Tatibekov, Suleyman Demirel University (Kazakhstan),
Dr. Reuel R. Hanks, Oklahoma State University

Generation Gap and the Attitudes toward the Chechen war in Russia.
Dr. Renat Shaykhutdinov, Florida Atlantic University

Discussant: Brian Gilson, Oklahoma State University

Coffee Break: 3:00-3:15 p.m.

Session Four: Panel

3:15-4:45 p.m.

Historical Antecedents in the Persian Realm

Chair: Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Oklahoma State University

Papers:

Maintaining a Shaky Peace between Mesopotamia and Elam in the 21 Century B.C.

Dr. Tonia Sharlach, Oklahoma State University

Assimilation or Not? A Comparative Study of the Assimilation Programs of Ilkhanate and Yuan.

Cyrus Ki Yip YEE, The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

From Guests to Locals - - Muslims in China after 13th Century Mongol Invasion.
Yi Lei, George Washington University

Discussant: Dr. Thomas Carlson, Oklahoma State University

Cocktail Reception & Conference Dinner (6:30 p.m.)

The Starlight Terrace, Student Union (adjacent to the Atherton Hotel)

Friday, February 23th

Session Six: Panel

8:45-10:15 a.m.

Themes in Persianate Literature and Philosophy

Chair: Dr. William O. Beeman, University of Minnesota

Papers:

Hasan, Husayn, and the Heretics. Deconstructing Shi'ism in Zayn al-Din Vasifi's "Bada'i` al-vaqa'i."

Catherine Ambler, Columbia University

The Mystical Anthropologies of Early Modernity: Making the Human in the Prose of Husayn Vā'iz Kāshifī and Mu'azzin Khurāsānī.

Robert Landau Ames, Harvard University

From the Theories of Analysis to Shia Theosophy.

Rayhana Hassani, George Washington University

Discussant: Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Oklahoma State University

Coffee Break: 10:15-10:30 a.m.

Session Seven: Panel

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Religion and Nationalism in the Persian Periphery

Chair: Dr. Kirill Nourzhanov, Australian National University

Papers:

Religion and Irreligiosity in Azerbaijani Nationalism.

Brian Gilson, Oklahoma State University

Accommodation of Religious Diversity in the Ex-Communist Muslim Republics.

Dr. Renat Shaykhutdinov, Florida Atlantic University

Discussant: Dr. Dilshod Achilov, University of Massachusetts

Lunch: 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Session Eight: Panel
1:30-3:00 p.m.

History of Science in Persia

Chair: Dr. Thomas Carlson, Oklahoma State University

Papers:

Did Persian Science Decline Before the Introduction of European Science?

Dr. Peter Barker, University of Oklahoma

Patronage and Science in Safavid Persia: Bahā' al-Dīn 'Āmilī's Scientific Career.

Younes Mahdavi, University of Oklahoma

How Did European Science Begin in Persia?

Dr. Tofigh Heidarzadeh, University of California, Riverside

Discussant: Dr. Andrew Magnusson, University of Central Oklahoma

Coffee Break: 3:00-3:15 p.m.

Session Nine: Panel
3:15-4:45 p.m.

Themes in Persianate Humanities, Music and Geography

Chair: Brian Gilson, Oklahoma State University

Papers:

Belonging in a World of Division: Prison Narratives in Iranian Diasporic Literature.

Leila Zonouzi, University of California, Santa Barbara.

The Baloch geography of the Arab Gulf States: Local communities and transitional circuits of cultural activism.

George Murer, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

The Tajik Saxophone: A Lecture-Recital on Christian Lauba's "Tadj" for Solo Soprano Saxophone.

Dr. Jeffrey Loeffert, Oklahoma State University

A Study on the Name of Kharq and Identification of the Rock-cut-tombs in the Kharq Island.

Dr. Ahmad Heydari, Islamic Azad University, Branch of Birjand

Discussant: Dr. William O. Beeman, University of Minnesota

Concert: *Echoes from the Near East*

7:30 p.m.

Oklahoma State University

Seretean Center for the Performing Arts Concert Hall

Echoes from the Near East Concert features music by composers from the Middle East and Central Eurasia. The majority of the works performed in this concert are presented for the first time in the United States and several are world premieres. The concert is hosted and performed by Dr. Anné-Marie Condacse with the participation of the Oklahoma State University Concert Chorale conducted by Dr. Z. Randall Stroope, OSU University Singers conducted by Dr. Christopher Haygood, OSU Youth Choir conducted Dr. Julia Haley, and the Stillwater Chamber Singers conducted by Prof. Nataša Kaurin-Karača. Among the guest artists are Dr. Shahryar Cohanzad, Dr. Naser Shahnoushi, Hossein Khaleghian, and faculty of the OSU Department of Music including Prof. Babette Belter, Dr. Jeffrey Loeffert, Prof. Wayne Bovenschen, and pianist Pi-Ju Chiang. The event features graphic narrative projections by Prof. Pouya Jahanshahi and fashion design by Shiva Sheibani.

Graduate workshop

Saturday, February 24th

8:45-9:45 a.m.

Doing fieldwork in Iran: academic institutions, resources and travel situation.

Dr. James D. Clark, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Overseas Director of the American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIrS)

Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Oklahoma State University

Coffee Break: 9:45-10:00 a.m.

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Publishing in the field of Iranian Studies.

Dr. Pedram Khosronejad, Oklahoma State University



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201 Wes Watkins Center | Stillwater, OK 74078

P 405.744.2507 | F 405.744.8973 | Pedram.khosronejad@okstate.edu

