

DANA SAJDI
CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of History
Boston College
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Academic Positions

2008-Now Associate Professor of Islamic and Middle Eastern History, Department of History, Boston College.

2004-2005. Visiting Research Associate, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University.

2002-2005. Assistant Professor of Middle East History, History Department, Concordia University, Montreal (On leave of absence, 2004-2005).

1992-1998. Teaching Assistant, Columbia University.

1991-1992. Assistant Director and Artistic Director, Department of English and Comparative Literature and Theatre, American University in Cairo.

Education

Ph.D. 2002, Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University.

Awarded with Distinction. Subject: Ottoman History. Languages acquired: Turkish/Ottoman.

M.Phil. 1997, Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Subject: Islamic History 1000-1500. Language requirements: Arabic, Persian, French, and German.

M.A. 1994, Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University.

Subject: Islamic Law and Islamic History 550-1258.

B.A. 1991. Majors: Sociology and Theatre. American University in Cairo. Awarded with honors.

The first student to graduate from the American University in Cairo with a double major, and the first student to major in Theatre

RESEARCH

Publications

Monographs and Edited Volumes

2013: *The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant*. Stanford University Press.

The story of the barber and his book will be broadcast in an Al-Jazeera English documentary series,

The Arabs: A People's History. The episode was filmed in Dublin, where the unique manuscript of the

barber's chronicle is housed at the Chester Beatty Library.

Reviewed by Hope Leman: <http://criticalmargins.com/2013/10/31/review-barber-damascus-dana-sajdi/>

Précis of the book by Jeri Zeder, "What the Barber Saw", *Boston College Magazine*.
http://bcm.bc.edu/issues/winter_2014/inquiring_minds/what-the-barber-saw.html

Interview with Elliot Brandow, Senior Reference Librarian, Boston College Libraries
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQIAQLSFgk8>

2008: *Ottoman Tulips, Ottoman Coffee: Leisure and Lifestyles in the Eighteenth Century*. London: IB Tauris. Paper back in 2014. Turkish translation by Koç University Press, forthcoming (2014)

Reviewed by Caroline Finkel, "Fountains of Pleasure", *Times Literary Supplement*, December 4, 2009.

Reviewed by Rümeyşa Kiger, "Book Aims to Change Prejudices about Ottoman Tulip Era" in *Today's Zaman* (the largest circulating English newspaper in Turkey), September 29, 2014.

http://www.todayszaman.com/arts-culture_book-aims-to-change-prejudices-about-ottoman-tulip-era_357172.html

2008: Co-edited with Marle Hammond, eds., "*Transforming Loss into Beauty*": *Essays on Arabic Literature and Culture in Memory of Magda Al-Nowaihi*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 2008.

Articles, Chapters, and Encyclopedia Entries

2014: "Ibn `Asakir's Children: Monumental Representations of Damascus until the 18th Century". Submitted and accepted by S. Judd and J. Schneider eds, *Ibn `Asakir's Influence on Arabic Historiography* (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming)

2013: "In Other Worlds? Mapping Out the Spatial Imaginaries of 18th-Century Chroniclers from the Ottoman Levant", *Journal of Ottoman Studies*, in a special issue edited by Virginia Aksan on "Ottoman Identities." Accepted.

2013: "New Voices in History: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Levant" in Syrinx von Hees, ed. *Inhatat (Decline): Its Influence and Persistence in the Writing of Arab Cultural History*, forthcoming.

2011: "The Dead and the City: The Limits of Hospitality in the Early Modern Levant" in *Hosting the Stranger: Between Religions*, edited by James Taylor and Richard Kearney (New York: Continuum, 2011), 123-131.

2010: "Muhammad b. Isa Ibn Kannan (d. 1741)," entry in *Historians of the Ottoman Empire*, <http://www.ottomanhistorians.com/> eds. Cemal Kafadar, Hakan Karateke, and Cornell Fleischer, [On the life and work of the 18th –century Damascene historian and geographer, Ibn Kannan]

2009: Reprint of "Re-visiting Layla's al-Akhyaliyya's Trespass," in *Early Islamic Poetry and Poetics*, the Formation of the Classical Islamic World Series, edited by Suzanne Pinckney Stetkevych (Farnham, UK and Burlington, VT: Ashgate/Variorum, 2009), 157-200.

2009: "Print and its Discontents: A Case for Pre-Print Journalism and Other Sundry Print Matters," *The Translator*, 15:1, 2009, 105-138. Special Issue "Nation and Translation in the Middle East" edited by Samah Selim. [Argues against the technological determinism of the "impact of print" historiography and offers a connected history that sees chronicle-writing as a predecessor for print journalism]

2008: with Marle Hammond, "Introduction," in "*Transforming Loss into Beauty*": *Essays on Arabic Literature and Culture in Memory of Magda Al-Nowaihi*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 2008, xvii-xxvi. [Theorizes the place of the poetic genre of elegy in Arabo-Islamic history and culture]

2008: "Re-visiting Layla's al-Akhyaliyya's Trespass," in "*Transforming Loss into Beauty*": *Essays on Arabic Literature and Culture in Memory of Magda Al-Nowaihi*. Cairo, American University in Cairo Press, 2008, 185-227. [Examines the historical and cultural context surrounding the poetry and career of the transgressive 8th century female poet, Layla al-Akhyaliyyah]

2008: "'Decline' and its Discontents and Ottoman Cultural History: By Way of Introduction," in *Ottoman Tulips, Ottoman Coffee: Leisure and Lifestyles in the Eighteenth Century*, ed. Dana Sajdi. London: IB Tauris, 2008, 1-40. [Sketches the state of the field of Ottoman studies on the 17th and 18th centuries with a view of the demise of the framework of "Ottoman decline" and the recent emergence of cultural history].

2007: "Shihabaddin Ahmad Ibn Budayr al-Hallaq (fl. 1762)," entry in *Historians of the Ottoman Empire*, <http://www.ottomanhistorians.com/> eds. Cemal Kafadar, Hakan Karateke, and Cornell Fleischer. [On the life and work of the 18th –century Damascene barber-chronicler Shihab al-Din Ahmad Ibn Budayr]

2004: "A Room of His Own: the 'History' of the Barber of Damascus (fl. 1762)," *The MIT Electronic Journal of Middle East Studies* 4 (2004), 19-35. [A literary and cultural analysis of the chronicle of the above-mentioned barber. Awarded the Syrian Studies Association Prize for Best Published Article in 2004].

2003: "Halal-o-Haram," entry in the *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, Ed. Ehsan Yarshater, London: Routledge Kegan Paul, 1982-. [On the categories of the "permissible" and the "prohibited" in Islamic law].

2000: "Trespassing the Male Domain: The *qasidah* of Layla al-Akhyaliyyah," *Journal of Arabic Literature* 31.2 (2000), 121-146 [On an 8th century female poet who is the only woman known to have composed a poem in the pre-eminent literary form of the tri-partite ode].

Book Reviews

2012: Review of Yuval Ben-Bassat and Eyal Ginio, *Late Ottoman Palestine: The Period of the Young Turk Rule* (London: IB Tauris, 2011) *Journal of Palestine Studies* XLI no. 3 (2012), 122-123.

2010: Review of Elyse Semerdjian, *"Off the Straight Path": Illicit Sex, Law, and Community in Ottoman Aleppo*, (Syracuse, N.Y: Syracuse University Press, 2008). Humanities and Social Sciences Online, H-Levant.

2009: Review of Shirine Hamadeh, *The City's Pleasures: Istanbul in the Eighteenth Century* (University of Washington Press: Seattle and London, 2008) *New Perspectives on Turkey* 41 (2009).

2008: Review of Muhannad Ahmad Salim al-Mubayyidin, *Ahl al-qalam wa dawru-hum fi al-hayah al-thaqafiyya fi madinat Dimashq, 1121/1708-1172/1758* (Men of the Pen and their Role in the Cultural Life of the City of Damascus, 1121/1708-1172/1758)." *Syrian Studies Association Newsletter*, 13.2 (2008), 12-13.

2008: Review of Heghnar Zeitlian-Watenpaugh, *The Image of the City: Imperial Architecture and the Urban Experience in Aleppo in the 16th and 17th Centuries* (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2004), *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 40.1 (2008), 141-142.

2005: Review of Muhammed A. Al-Da`mi, *Arabian Mirrors and Western Soothsayers: Nineteenth-Century*

Literary Approaches to Arab-Islamic History (New York: Peter Lang, 2002), *Journal of Islamic Studies* 16.3 (2005), 371-374.

2004: Review of Philip K. Hitti, trans. *An Arab-Syrian Gentleman and Warrior in the Period of the Crusades: Memoirs of Usamah Ibn-Munqidh* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000), *Arab Studies Journal* 51.2/52.1 (2003-2004), 189-191.

Non-academic publications

2009: "Valse avec Bachir et ses victims disparues. Le refoulement et sa therapie," *Contretemps: Revue Critique*, July. (Translated to French by Christian Dubucq).
<http://contretemps.eu/culture/valse-bachir-ses-victimes-disparues-refoulement-sa-therapie>

Work in Progress

Researching a project entitled "Visualizing Damascus: Arabic Textual Representations from the 12th-20th Centuries"

Preparing, from a unique and hitherto unknown manuscript, a critical edition of the original text of the chronicle of Ahmad Ibn Budayr al-Hallaq, an 18th century barber from Damascus.

Fellowships and Grants

2014-2015: Post-Doctoral Fellow, MIT-Agha Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, MIT.

2010-2011: Senior Fellow, Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations – Koç University, Istanbul
Project: "Imagined in the Image of the Other: Narrations of Damascus and Istanbul"

2006-2007: Post-Doctoral Fellow, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.
Project: "The City Possessed: Civic Identity and the Narrations of Damascus 12th-20th Centuries."

2005-2006: Post-Doctoral Fellow, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
Project: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th Century Middle East."

2004-2005: Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University.

Spring 2013: Exploratory Technology Grant, Boston College.
For the Human Geography Project: mapping out global diasporic communities and individuals in the medieval and early modern periods.

2010-2011: Research Expense Grant, Boston College.

2008-2009: Research Expense Grant, Boston College.

2003-2006 : Jeune Chercheur, Fonds Québécois de Recherche sur la Société et la Culture (FQRSC). Awarded for proposal on “Public Space and Cultural Production in the Early Modern Levant.”

2002-2003: Concordia University Start-Up Research Grant.

Academic and Teaching Recognition and Awards

2012: Professor of the Year, Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society (BC Chapter).

2012: Faculty Appreciation Banquet, ALC/GLC student initiative.

2009: Professor of the Year Award, Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society (BC Chapter).

2009: Faculty Appreciation Banquet, an AHANA-GLBT student initiative.

2004: Syrian Studies Association Best Published Article for 2004.

1992-2001: President's Fellow, Columbia University, (on leave of absence 1999).

Summer 1997: Mellon Summer Language Study Grant, Middle East Institute, Columbia University (attended an intensive course in Turkish at Ankara University TOMER Language Teaching Center, Istanbul).

1990-1991: Cultural Scholarship, American University in Cairo.

Papers

Invited Lectures

2013: “Between Coffeehouse and Barbershop: Aspects of Early Modern Middle Eastern Cities,”
The
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, October 2.

2012: “The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in 18th-Century Syria,” Seminar on the History
of
the Book, Harvard University, December 2.

2012: “The Suppressions of al-Nahda: How a 19th-Century Scholar Edited Out an 18th-Century
Barber,” Yale Arabic Colloquium and Ottoman and Turkish Studies, Yale University, New
Haven,
April 11.

2011: “The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant”. Ottoman
Studies Seminar, New York University, Nov. 10.

2011: “Palatial Residences in 18th-Century Damascus,” in “International Network, Global
Commodities: The Material Culture of Early Modern Cultures”, Bilgi University, Istanbul,
September 15-16.

2011: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant", Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, May 23.

2011: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant", Bosphorus University, Istanbul, May 18.

2011: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant", Bilgi University, Istanbul, May 10.

2011: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Ottoman Levant", History Seminar 9, Sabanci University, Istanbul, April 26.

2010: "New Voices from the Street: The Levantine Eighteenth Century Reconsidered." Inhabit (Decline): Its Influence and Persistence in the Writing of Arab Cultural History American University of Beirut, Beirut, Dec. 7-11.

2008: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the Eighteenth-Century Levant." Bosphorus University, Istanbul, June 11.

2010: "The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the 18th-Century Levant" (an exposition of a book-in-progress), Sohbet-i Osmani (Ottoman Conversation), Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Feb. 11.

Discussions and Responses in Academic Meetings

2103: With Ariel Saltzman "Comment on Kate Fleet and Ebru Boyar, *A Social History of Ottoman Istanbul*", the Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop, Guelph University (Guelph, CA), March 29-31.

2012: Discussant in panels, "Authors and Archives: Transforming Subjectivities in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries" and "Mapping Spaces of Inclusion and Exclusion: Sociability in Ottoman Syria", Middle East Studies Association Meeting, Denver, November 17-20.

2008: Discussant in panel, "Renewal and Reform in the 18th Century," Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Nov. 22-26, 2008.

2007: Respondent to Irene Fatsea, "Builders and Craftsmen in the Founding Phase of Modern Athens: the Illuminating Role of the Building Contract," Workshop, "Migration and the Urban Institutions in the Late Ottoman Reform Period," Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, May 10.

2007: Respondent to Tetsuya Sahara, "the Ottoman City Council and the Beginning of the Modernization of Urban Space in the Balkans," Workshop, "Migration and the Urban Institutions in the Late Ottoman Reform Period," Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, May 10.

2007: Discussant, translator and simultaneous interpreter, "New Trends in Egyptian Historiography

of the Ottoman Period: A German-Egyptian Encounter,” Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, March 14.

2006: Respondent to Uwe Wirth, “Circulating Manuscripts: the Genre of Editorial Fiction,” Berliner Seminar, “Cultural Mobility in Near Eastern Literatures: Circulating Genres/Traveling Traditions,” Working Group Modernity and Islam, April 17.

2004: Respondent to Samuel D. Albert, “And was Jerusalem builded here...,” Centre for Canadian Architecture, Study Centre Seminar Series, Montreal, March 19, 2004.

Presentations at Conferences and Workshops

2013: “Ibn `Asakir’s Children: Narrations of Damascus from the 12th to the 18th Centuries”, Middle East Studies Association Meeting, New Orleans, October 10.

2013: “A Book for Tenure: Ibn Kannan and his Topography of the Levant” in Radical Readings: A Workshop on Early Modern Artifacts, 1400-1800, Boston College, May 2-3, 2013

2012: “Imagined in the Image of the Other: Narrations of Damascus and Constantinople/Istanbul”, History Department Seminar, Boston College, September 14.

2012: “In Other Worlds? The Geographical Visions of 18th-Century Syrian Chroniclers,” in “Living Empire: Ottoman Identities in Transition, 1700-1850”, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, April 21.

2011: “ ‘The Worst Affliction is the One that Makes You Laugh’: Humour and Politics in Arabic Literary Genres,” in “History of Emotions: Emotions East and West,” Sabanci University, Istanbul, September 29-October 1.

2011: “The Disorders of a New Order: The Levantine Eighteenth Century Reconsidered,” in “Eighteenth-Century Crossroads in Ottoman Studies”, Central European University, Budapest, May 26-28.

2011: “The Solomonic Compromise: The Umayyad Mosque, Ibn `Asakir (d. 1165), and Evliya Çelebi (d.1682).” Panel on “Stories of Place: Building Narratives, Sacred Sites, and Topographies of Power,” RCAC Fellows Mini-Symposium, Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, Istanbul, March 25.

2010: “Imagined in the Image of the Other: Narrations of Damascus and Istanbul.” Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations – Koç University, Istanbul, October 13.

2010: “The Flaneur of Damascus: The Topographies of Ibn Kannan (d. 1740).” Panel on

"Public Culture and the Experience of Modernity in Ottoman Cities," World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies, Barcelona, July 22, 2010.

2009: "The Dead and the City: The Limits of Hospitality in the Early-Modern Levant", Conference on Interreligious Hospitality, Boston College, March 13-14.

2009: "Traveling Women", a presentation for the inauguration of the exhibition, "The Book as Art: Artists' Books From the National Museum of Women in the Arts", McCullen Museum, Boston College, February 14.

2007: "Sacred Language and Cultural Decline: Were the Arabs too backward to Print Books?" Berlin-Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, Berlin, June 11.

2007: "Damascus in the 18th Century: What Kind of Civic Sphere?" Ottoman Urban Studies Seminar, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, January 22.

2006: "Authority and History: the Arabic Chronicle until the 18th Century." Panel on, "Genres of Political and Cultural Expression in the Modern Arab World," Middle Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, November 19.

2006: "Authority and History: the Arabic Chronicle until the 18th Century." Berliner Seminar, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, October 18.

2006: "Is the History of Print Culture in the Middle East a Problem?" Workshop "To Print or Not to Print? Knowledge Diffusion in the 18th and 19th Century Middle East," Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, May 6-7.

2005: "Nouveau Literacy in 18th-Century Damascus: A Barber among the Scholars," Berliner Seminar, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, 2 November.

2005: "Nouveau Literacy in 18th-Century Damascus: A Barber among the Scholars," panel on "Circulating Genres: Literature, History, and the Politics of Translation," 12th Annual Congress of die Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Voderer Orient, Hamburg, 27-29 October.

2005: "In Other Worlds: The Geographies of Chroniclers in the 18th Century Levant," Representations of Ottoman Imperial Space: Maps, Texts, Historiographies, Center for International and Comparative Studies and Department of History, Northwestern University, 4-5 March.

2004: "An Introduction to the History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict," Dawson College, Montreal, April 13. (For course "Twentieth Century History")

2004: "A Room of His Own: The 'History' of the Barber of Damascus (fl. 1762)," The Montreal Scholars' Circle, January 30, 2004.

2002: "A Room of His Own: The 'History' of the Barber of Damascus (fl. 1762)," Department of

Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto, November 8, 2002.

2000: "Struggling for Tenure in the 18th century Academy: Autobiography in the Chronicle of Muhammad Ibn Kannan of Damascus," Seminar on "Control, Mobility and Self-Fulfillment: Learning and Culture in the Islamic World since the Middle Ages," Department of Arabic Studies and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University in Cairo, 13-15 April.

1997: "Inter-School Polemics in the Formation of Early Islamic Law," panel on "Initiatives and Reformulations in Islamic Law and Theology," Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington, DC, 6-10 December.

1997: "*Tajawuz al-maydan al-dhukuri: qasidat Layla al-Akhyaliyyah*," ("Trespassing the Male Domain: the *qasida* of Layla al-Akhyaliyyah"), Arabic Language Seminar, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, March 18, 1997.

1993: "An Introduction to Islam", delivered to senior officers of the New York City Police Department, April 1993.

Conferences, Workshop and Lectures Organized

2006: Organized a workshop "To Print or Not to Print? Knowledge Diffusion in the 18th and 19th Century Arabic, Turkish, and Persian-Speaking Worlds," Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, 5-6 May.

2005: Organized a Mellon-funded conference on "Rethinking Culture in the Ottoman Eighteenth Century", Princeton University, 15-16 January.

2004: Organized an endowed lecture series "The Saleh Sassoon Mahlab Lecture Series on the History of Jewish-Muslim Relations." One lecture annually, starting Fall, 2004.

Digital Humanities Skill Acquisition

2014: "Presenting Data and Information" One-day course with Edward Tufte, March 12, 2013.

Research Languages

Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Ottoman, English, French, German.

Research Internships

1995: September-December. Research Assistant, Department of Islamic Textiles, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

1992: June-August. Research Assistant to Prof. Sadeddin Ibrahim, Arab Thought Forum (Muntada al-Fikr al-'Arabi), Amman, Jordan.

TEACHING

Courses

Lecture and Undergraduate Courses

Islamic Spain/al-Andalus/Sepharad: Text, Image, Monument (HS 334/FA 226.01/IC 226.01). With Pamela Berger. Projected for Spring 2014.

The History and Historiography of the Arab-Israeli Conflict (HS344)

Islamic Civilization (HS 171/TH174/FA174). With Jonathan Bloom/Sheila Blair

The Study and Writing of History: "The Arabian Nights" from Baghdad to Hollywood. (HS 300-66)

Odysseys in the European and Islamic Traditions(HS 365). With Sarah Ross

Summer Abroad Courses (Summer 2009)

The Jordan Connection: The History and Culture of the Middle East from Ancient to Modern Times

(Summer 2013)

Colloquia

The Big Picture: The Mediterranean, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean (HS 824)

Spaces and Places in History (HS 832)

The City in the Pre-Modern Eastern Mediterranean (HS 661)

Reading and Research Courses

Fall 2009: Introduction to Ottoman Provincial History

With Jefferey Dyer, Jenna Larson, and Clayton Trutor

Fall 2008: The Biographical Dictionary in the Islamic Tradition

With Regan Eby

Nationalism and Identity in Georgia (the Caucasus)

With William Sadd, Undergraduate

Spring 2008. Pilgrimage and Shrine Veneration in the Islamic Tradition

With Austin Mason

Advising

Ph. D. Students

Current: Jeffery Dyer, "The Ottomans in the Age of Empire." Co-advisor with Prasannan

Parthasarathi

M.A. Students

2008-2009: Jenna Larson-Boyle, "From Natural History to Orientalism: The Russell Brothers on the

Cusp of Empire"

Senior Theses Advising

Spring 2011: Badreddine Ahtchi, "The Harraga Phenomenon in Libya, Morocco, and Algeria"

Spring 2009: Alexandra Saieh: "The Palestinian Issue in Post-Oslo Palestinian School Textbooks"

Fall 2009: Stuart Pike: "Changing Palestinian and Israeli National Identities through Recent

Palestinian and Israeli films”

Sandra Williams: “Contemporary Middle Eastern Art through the Works of Three Multi-Media Artists”

SERVICE

To the Community

Summer 2013: Co-teacher, and co-guide in a Primary Source-organized, NEH-funded educational trip in Turkey for k-12 teachers. The course, “Ottoman Cultures: Society, Politics, and Trade in the Turkish Empire, 1299-1922” took place in Summer 2013.

In addition, I helped writing the grant, coordinating with academics in Turkey, and drawing up the syllabus.

To the Profession

Review and Adjudication Committees

2012: Tenure Review for a colleague at Colorado College

2011: External reviewer for *Journal of Arabic Literature*.

2008: External reviewer for the Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research

Fellowship for the year 2008-2009.

2007: One of five international internal reviewers of proposal to launch the Berlin Graduate School of

Muslim Cultures and Societies. Submitted to the “Excellence Initiative” funded by German Federal and State Governments. Grant awarded.

2007: External reviewer for *History Compass*.

2005: External reviewer for *Journal of Urban History*.

To Boston College

2012- Board, Institute for Liberal Arts, Boston College

2008- Advisory Board, Islamic Civilization and Societies

2008-2010: Advisory Board, International Programs

To the Department of History

2013- .Conceived and launched, along with “The Big Picture” graduate seminar students, the Human Geography Project of mapping out diasporic communities in the medieval and early modern periods.

2012-2013: History Workshop Seminar Committee

2012: African History Position Search Committee

2008-2010: Phi Alpha Theta (History Honors Society) Advisor

2008-2009: Undergraduate Elective Committee

Membership of Professional Associations

Middle East Studies Association, Syrian Studies Association, American Historical Association, Association of American University Professors.

Volunteer Work

Summer 1991: Jordan Coordinator, Harvard International Study Team examining the effects of the 1991 Gulf War on Iraqi civilians, August-September 1991. Responsible for recruiting a team of about 30 Jordanian professionals, surveyors and translators, and for organizing and co-supervising their 2-week long fieldwork in Iraq.