

The Future of Social Science Research in Libya Conference Tripoli, Libya September 30, 2013- October 2, 2013

The conference brings together leading U.S. and Libyan scholars to assess the current challenges and discuss future research priorities for the country. This three-day multi-disciplinary conference consists of presentations and round-table discussions focusing on: Political Science and Policy Studies, Economics/Development, History/Oral History, and Anthropology/Archaeology. The roundtable discussions include local invited scholars and graduate students concerning the goals and research priorities of each field within Libya.

The Future of Social Science Research in Libya conference will:

- Enable scholars to address challenging questions on the future of research in Libya;
- Assess the level of expertise across a range of social science disciplines in Libya;
- Connect directly, for the first time in more than 40 years, Libyan and American academics;
- Promote an open dialogue and increased cooperation between U.S. and Libyan academics;
- Strengthen institutional ties between the U.S. and Libya; and
- Generate concrete plans for future collaboration between Libyan and U.S. institutions.

We propose to follow up the conference with workshops and a speaker series that would allow a number of the participating U.S. scholars to give public lectures at Libyan institutions and the

Libyan academics to visit and lecture at the other AIMS research centers in Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia.

AIMS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Libya Ministry of Higher Education and the Benghazi Center for Research and Consulting, with special thanks to Dr. Fathi Ali, Dr. Zahi Mogherbi and Dr. Diederik Vandewalle.

Presenters and Program

Dr. Zahi Mogherbi, Professor Emeritus of Political Science from Benghazi University, AIMS' planning partner in Libya

Dr. Dirk Vandewalle, Professor of Government at Dartmouth College, AIMS Libya Committee Chair

Dr. John Entelis, Professor of Political Science at Fordham University, AIMS President

Political Science and Policy Studies

U.S. Scholar: Lindsay Benstead, Portland State University; Mietek Boduszynski, Pomona College

Libyan Scholar: Amal Obeidi, Benghazi University

Development/Economics

U.S. Scholar: Jacob Mundy, Colgate University

Libyan Scholar: Fathi Ali, Benghazi University

Anthropology/Archaeology

U.S. Scholar: Susan Kane, Oberlin College

Libyan Scholar: Dr. Mohammed El-Kawash, Benghazi University

History and Archival Research

U.S. Scholar: Mia Fuller, University of California, Berkeley

Libyan Scholars: Mahmoud Abu Suwa, University of Tripoli

Summary Panel “New Directions in Social Science Research in Libya”

U.S. Scholar: Dirk Vandewalle, Dartmouth College

Libyan Scholar: Najib El-Hassadi, University of Benghazi

Schedule

SEPTEMBER 30:

Evening Introduction (AIMS President, Libyan Minister of Higher Education)

Reception: (18:00-19:00) – **Al Waddan Hotel**

OCTOBER 1:

Morning Session 1 (9:00-10:30) – **Political Science and Policy Studies**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Morning Session 2 (10:45-12:15) – **Economics and Development**

Lunch at Hotel (12:30-14:30)

Afternoon Session 2 (15:00-16:30) – **Anthropology and Archaeology**

Dinner TBA for Participants (19:30-21:00)

OCTOBER 2:

Morning Session 1 (8:30-10:00) – **History and Archival Research**

Coffee Break: (10:00-10:15)

Morning Session 2 (10:15-12:00) – **Summary Panel**

Lunch at Hotel

Afternoon Excursion to either Sabratha or Leptis Magna (*tentative*)