From the Desk of the President

Dear ASMEA Member:

2010 is proving to be another excellent year for ASMEA.

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Leslie Gelb, president emeritus, Council on Foreign Relations, has agreed to give the keynote address at our annual conference on November 4-6, 2010. As the date draws closer, we will update you on the latest additions to what will be an excellent roster of speakers and presenters.

Equally as exciting, is the soon-to-be-released inaugural issue of our flagship publication, the Journal of the Middle East and Africa. Launching a new academic journal is no easy task and we commend the diligence and hard-work of our editor-in-chief, Prof. J. Peter Pham. Among the topics covered in this issue are terrorism in South Africa; Islamism and economic self-interest; Islamic law in Nigeria; and many others.

For those of you in the Washington, D.C. area on Wednesday, April 21, Amb. Hank Cohen, former assistant secretary of state for Africa affairs, will join ASMEA Vice President Prof. J. Peter Pham and Prof. Ricardo Rene Laremont of SUNY Binghamton for a discussion on the almost 40-year conflict in Western Sahara. The event will take place at the Council on Foreign Relations on 1777 F Street, NW. Space is limited. Click here for more information.

As always, I thank you for your continued participation in ASMEA. And please do not hesitate to share your feedback and comments on the news and information reported here.

Sincerely,
Mark T. Clark, Ph.D.
President
Professor of Political Science
Director of the National Security Studies program at California State University, San Bernardino
Inaugural Issue of ASMEA Journal Set to Be Released this Month

The *Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, the flagship publication of ASMEA, is the first peer-reviewed academic journal to include both the entire continent of Africa and the Middle East within its purview—exploring the historic social, economic, and political links between these two regions, as well as the modern challenges they face.

Interdisciplinary in its nature, the *Journal* approaches the regions from the perspectives of Middle Eastern and African studies as well as anthropology, economics, history, international law, political science, religion, security studies, women's studies, and other disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. It seeks to promote new research to understand better the past and chart more clearly the future of scholarship on the regions.

The *Journal of the Middle East and Africa* is published in cooperation with Taylor & Francis. Below is a full table of contents:

**Articles**

“Not Another Failed State: Toward a Realistic Solution in the Western Sahara” (Dr. J. Peter Pham)

“Islamic Law, Muslim-Christian Relations, and the Transition to Democracy in Nigeria’s Fourth Republic” (Dr. Ricardo Rene Laremont)

“The Tyranny of Vested-Interest Sources: Shaping the Record of Soviet Intervention in the Egyptian-Israeli Conflict, 1967-1973” (Dr. Isabella Ginor and Mr. Gideon Remez)

“At the Crossroads of Cultures? A Historic and Strategic Examination of Kenya-Somalia Relations” (Dr. Donovan C. Chau)

“The Spanish and Ottoman Empires in the Mediterranean, 1714-1914” (Dr. Wayne H. Bowen)

“The Persian Gulf Theater in World War II” (Dr. Jeffrey Macris)

“Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism in South Africa” (Dr. Hussein Solomon)

“Can Money Make Us Friends? Islamist Entrepreneurs and Chances for Democratization in the Muslim World” (Dr. Seda Demiralp)

**Book Reviews**

“Somaliland: An African Struggle for Nationhood and International Recognition” (Dr. J. Peter Pham)

“Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine” (Dr. Robert P. Barnidge, Jr.)

Scholarly papers on current research only, are now being accepted for the second issue. For consideration, please submit papers to journal@asmeascholars.org by May 31, 2010.
Announcing Dates and Location for the 3rd Annual ASMEA Conference

The Middle East and Africa in the 21st Century: 
Local Trends, Regional Challenges, Global Impacts

November 4-6, 2010
Washington, D.C.

The third annual conference of the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) will be held November 4-6, 2010 at the Key Bridge Marriott in Washington, D.C. The 2010 conference will feature:

- Special address by ASMEA Chairman Prof. Bernard Lewis
- Banquet luncheon and keynote address by Dr. Leslie Gelb, president emeritus, Council on Foreign Relations
- Feature presentations by top scholars and official policymakers.
- Roundtable discussions on political, cultural and security issues in Africa and the Middle East.
- Professional networking reception.
- Publishers' displays with the latest academic titles.

A complete schedule of events will be available shortly. Washington, D.C. flights and hotels fill up quickly, we recommend you make your reservations as soon as possible.

Call for Papers
ASMEA members from any discipline are encouraged to submit proposals to participate in the conference. Proposals from senior graduate students also are welcome. Click here for more information on requirements and deadlines.

Registration Information
By registering in advance for the conference, ASMEA members are ensured access to every panel and roundtable as well as the keynote luncheon at a significantly discounted rate. Registration includes tickets for the welcome reception, the breakfast buffet each morning, the keynote luncheon, as well as snacks and beverages throughout the event. Click here to register.

- Full/Associate Members - $60; after Sept. 15, $75
- Student Members - $30; after Sept. 15, $50
- Non-Members - $150

Please note that there will be no registration fee refunds after September 1, 2010.

Lodging Information
ASMEA Conference Registrants may take advantage of a discounted rate available on a first come, first served basis at the Key Bridge Marriott.
ASMEA Members in the Media

Prof. David Meyer, CBN-TV, “After Meeting, U.S.-Israel Relations Still Thorny” (03/24/2010)
Prof. Robert Barnidge, Jr., Jyllands-Posten, “Moammar Kaddafi’s Grave Threat: The Call for Jihad Against Switzerland is a Clear Violation of International Law” (3/16/2010)
Prof. J. Peter Pham, Forbes, “Ghana’s Dubious New Partner” (2/26/2010)
Prof. Gordon Bowen, News Leader, “Thanks Owed to Dutch Passenger” (1/13/2010)

Please share your next opinion piece or media hit on the Middle East or Africa with us. E-mail your links to info@asmeascholars.org

ASMEA Book Notes

**Immortal: A Military History of Iran and Its Armed Forces**
Reviewed by: Wyndham Whynot, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of History, Livingstone College

**Leaving Terrorism Behind: Individual and Collective Disengagement**
Edited by Tore Bjørgo and John Horgan eds. (London and New York: Routledge, 2009), p. 308
Reviewed by: Daveed Gartenstein-Ross
Ph.D. Candidate at the Catholic University of America

Are you interested in participating in the ASMEA Book Notes program? Send us an e-mail at info@asmeascholars.org for list of currently available titles.

Are You Looking for New Employment Opportunities? Does Your Department Have an Opening?

ASMEA Job Bank provides an online resource for members seeking new employment opportunities, as well as a place for employers searching for quality scholars to fill openings at their campus. Access to ASMEA Job Bank is free to all members. Additionally, ASMEA welcomes submissions by employers for the job bank and lists employment opportunities at no charge.

Individuals interested in any of the opportunities in our Job Bank should contact the sponsoring institutions directly.

Only ASMEA members can access the Job Bank, so please log in first and follow the link from the Services tab in the drop-down menu.

Institutions interested in placing job opportunities in the ASMEA Job Bank should e-mail info@asmeascholars.org.
On April 13, ASMEA partnered with the Foreign Policy Initiative to present: “Sudan: On the Path to Peace or Crisis?” ASMEA Vice President Prof. J. Peter Pham and ASMEA Academic Council Member Dr. Gerard Prunier were joined by distinguished panelists: Amb. Hank Cohen, former assistant secretary of state for African affairs; John Prendergast, author and co-founder of the Enough Project; Amb. David Shinn, former U.S. ambassador to Burkina Faso and Ethiopia; as well as representatives from the Embassy of Sudan and the Southern Sudan Mission. Speaking before a packed audience, the event exposed likely hazards that will erupt from Sudan’s upcoming, and already flawed, national election process.

The latest book by ASMEA Chairman Prof. Bernard Lewis, Faith and Power: Religion and Politics in the Middle East was released this month. Covering a variety of topics including women’s rights, propaganda, and democracy in the Middle East, this book follows his 2008 release Islam: the Religion and the People.

ASMEA Member Mr. John Williams, deputy director of the Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies at the U.S. Naval Academy, recently received a grant from the Institute for National Security Studies to explore Hezbollah as an example of ”hybrid threats.”

ASMEA is also pleased to announce that Suzanne Kurtz has joined our team as the director of public affairs. Previously, Kurtz served as press secretary for the Republican Jewish Coalition and in communications roles with the American Heart Association as well as in industry. She has written for the Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia magazine, Colorado Woman, news agencies, and numerous other publications. Suzanne earned her B.S. and Master of Journalism degrees from Temple University.

We are very interested in the activities of our members. If you have upcoming publications, a recent op-ed, were awarded a fellowship or received a research grant and would like to share your achievements with your colleagues at ASMEA, please contact us at info@asmeascholars.org or 202.429.8860.

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