



# ARIT NEWSLETTER

American Research Institute in Turkey

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## **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I'm delighted to report that 2019 was another successful year for ARIT, although it was marked by a series of major transitions. The most significant change involved our long-time ARIT-Istanbul branch director, Dr. Antony Greenwood, who retired at the end of June after 37 years of devoted service. Tony arrived at ARIT in 1982 during a time of challenges and changes in the U.S., Turkey, and the world. He managed to complete his dissertation at the University of Chicago during his first year in office, and has spent nearly four decades hosting research fellows and visiting scholars,

developing the library and lecture series, administering Turkish fellowships, engaging with local colleagues and friends, and managing ARIT's facilities and legal status in Turkey. In recent years, Tony developed the Istanbul Digital Library and American Board Archives project, and in 2018 he helped to found the multi-national Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative.

All of us will miss Tony enormously, especially his wisdom and stewardship of ARIT's programs and operations. On June 21st, atop the Adahan Hotel in Beyoğlu, Tony's friends and colleagues had the opportunity to thank him for his service during a festive reception. The evening was extremely well attended,



Retirement reception for Tony Greenwood, ARIT-Istanbul branch director, on June 21st at the Adahan Hotel in Beyoğlu. Tony receives a silver compass from ARIT president C. Brian Rose.

and I had the honor of presenting him with a silver compass (symbolic of his guidance) that was inscribed with thanks from ARIT, while ARIT-Ankara Branch Director Elif Denel presented him with a series of Anatolian copper bowls. We owe many thanks to the Istanbul Friends of ARIT, and especially to Tülin and Gülden, for their help in organizing this special event.

During the same evening we had the pleasure of publicly introducing Tony's successor as ARIT-Istanbul branch director, Ms. Zeynep Simavi. An historian of Ottoman art, Zeynep comes to ARIT from the Freer Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian Institution where she worked in public and scholarly engagement programs. Her areas of specialization include Ottoman art, contemporary art, especially of Iran and Turkey, museum studies, media and cultural studies, and the formation of Islamic art in the U.S. She has a B.A. in Western Languages and Literatures from Boğaziçi University, an M.S. in Media and Cultural Studies from METU, an M.A. in Art and Museum Studies from Georgetown University, and she is currently completing her Ph.D. in Art History at Istanbul Technical University,

with a dissertation on *Contextualizing the Age of Suleyman the Magnificent*. As you will see from her report in this newsletter, Zeynep has quickly taken up the reins of her new office and has already launched a series of innovative scholarly collaborations.

ARIT-Ankara has been equally active in its programming, and I single out the recent workshop focusing on the *Joint Heritage of the Maritime Micro-Region of Lesbos and Pergamon*, co-sponsored by the German Archaeological Institute (DAI, Istanbul) and the Mustafa V. Koç Maritime Archaeology Center (KUDAR) at Koç University. The participants included Turkish, American, German, Greek, and Czech scholars, all of whom are engaged in some way with the northeast Aegean landscape, such as trade, religion, migration, and preservation.

Elif and her staff welcomed the arrival of the new U.S. Ambassador, David Satterfield, who has already signaled his strong support of ARIT and our programs, as has Jeffrey Hovenier, the Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission. The Ankara branch has now outgrown its quarters, and many of the holdings of its superb Toni M. Cross Library are in storage, so we are searching for a larger

space that will allow for a broader scope of research and programming.

As I wrote to you last year, an increasing number of students pursuing their Ph.D.'s at American institutions need financial assistance to conduct research in Turkey, especially those who are non-U.S. citizens. Our funding for these fellowships comes primarily from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and that support is steadily diminishing in the current political climate. If we want the fellowship program to be supported by a truly stable foundation, we need to begin endowing our fellowships. This is an excellent opportunity for you to honor your mentors or supporters with a named fellowship, and it can of course be a provision in your estate plans. I have started the ball rolling by pledging funds to endow a fellowship in honor of Rodney Young, who was a great friend of ARIT and served as Gordion Project director between 1950 and 1974. Former ARIT director Peter Kuniholm has agreed to co-chair this initiative with me, and we will be contacting you for suggestions and support.

Finally, I need to convey the sad news



Retirement reception for Tony Greenwood. From left to right: Brian Johnson, ARIT-Istanbul librarian; Antony Greenwood, retiring ARIT-Istanbul branch director; Zeynep Simavi, new ARIT-Istanbul branch director.



#### **Electronic Communication:**

If you would like to receive the ARIT Newsletter and other communications from ARIT by e-mail, please send a message conveying your preference and contact information to [leinwand@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:leinwand@sas.upenn.edu) in the ARIT office.





Retirement reception for Tony Greenwood, ARIT-Istanbul branch director, at the Adahan Hotel in Beyoğlu.

of the passing of Mary Ellen Lane, the former executive director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. Mary Ellen was always one of ARIT's most vocal supporters, and she served as both a Director and as a member of the Finance Committee. You will find in this newsletter two tributes to her, one by Lee Striker, former president of ARIT, and Nancy Leinwand, ARIT Executive Director, and a second by Margaret Mullett, former director of Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks.

I close with my thanks to all of you for being members of the ARIT community. ARIT has undergone a considerable number of changes during the last few years, and without your support and encouragement we would not have handled them as effectively as we did. In particular, I want to recognize the heroic efforts of Tony, Elif, Zeynep, and Nancy to juggle an enormous number of administrative balls simultaneously, which they consistently handle with grace, resilience, and creativity.

C. Brian Rose  
President

## ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

### Istanbul Branch News

I'm very grateful for the warm welcome everyone at ARIT has extended to me since I came on board as the Istanbul branch director in July. It has been a very enjoyable summer and fall in Istanbul as I re-connected with old colleagues and established new relationships. I look forward to working with all of you to further the mission of ARIT in the years to come. I also would like to thank my predecessor Antony Greenwood for leading ARIT-Istanbul successfully for 37 years, and the entire ARIT Istanbul team for all their hard work and dedication to the institution.

We started the 2019–2020 academic year with a book talk by Dr. Faiz Ahmed, former ARIT fellow of 2010 and of 2016. His first book, *Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires* (Harvard University Press, 2017), is a result of his doctoral research supported by ARIT.

As Faiz is based in Istanbul this year with an ANAMED fellowship

(Koç University's Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations), we took this as an opportunity for collaboration and jointly organized the book talk. I would like to thank our colleagues at ANAMED for serving as generous hosts for our research talks and our library collection as well as the open invitation to ARIT fellows and staff to their Friday afternoon research seminars.

Another pleasant coincidence that came out of this occasion is the meeting of our current ARIT fellow Yasemin Nur Baybek with Faiz Ahmed. Although both are based at Brown University, they weren't aware of each other's research projects on American-Ottoman relations until they began their respective fellowships in Istanbul. This is yet another instance of how important the fellowship programs are for connecting young and established scholars who are working in similar areas.

In the same vein, this year's ARIT fellows currently residing in Istanbul met as a cohort for the first time in October at the ARIT Annex Office, where we had conversations on each other's research areas as well as other academic topics. In October, ARIT fellows and affiliate researchers also attended the research seminar held for the fellows at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII). In the coming months, there will be many more activities to connect ARIT fellows with other researchers and research institutes in Istanbul.

For the American Board of Missions (ABM) Archives, our collaboration with SALT Research continues. Over the summer, ARIT-Istanbul hosted three interns from Hillsdale College in Michigan, two of whom, Anna Payne and Dietrich Balsbaugh, spent six weeks at SALT Research cataloguing the ABM collection. Since September, Mary Berkmen, our long time FARIT member, has also been volunteering her time as a cataloguer. Thanks to their efforts and hard work, along with our colleagues at

SALT Research, the project is steaming ahead with vigor. I would also like to extend my thanks to Prof. Richard Gamble of the Hillsdale College History Department. Now in its second year, our summer internship with Hillsdale students is transitioning into a regular program. This is a partnership which we very much value and hope to continue for many years.

Our third intern from Hillsdale, Henry Brink, spent six weeks at the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery analyzing and recording grave monuments for the Feriköy Cemetery Initiative. Started in 2018 at the initiation of ARIT, the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT), and the Orient-Institut in Istanbul, we began a joint undertaking to conserve, record, and study the site. Our goal is to develop a master plan for the cemetery's use as a burial site, historical landmark, and public space. This year we were joined by the Hungarian Cultural Center and Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, so there are now five institutions engaged in this collaborative endeavor.

We are also actively working on communicating our research on the cemetery to international audiences. To this end, ARIT Istanbul librarian Brian Johnson and Richard Wittmann, associate director of the Orient Institute, participated in the *Association of Significant Cemeteries in Europe (ASCE) Conference 2019* held in Ghent, Belgium, where their poster presentation of the Feriköy Cemetery received considerable attention. Brian and Richard came back with an extended international network for info-sharing on best practices and common challenges facing the cemeteries today, along with opportunities for future collaboration.

While Brian was in Belgium, I was in Ankara attending the *16th International Congress of Turkish Art* at Hacettepe University. The congress, held every four years, brings together an international group of scholars specializing in Turkish art. This year, for its 60th anniversary, the congress returned to Ankara for the first time since 1959, when it was first convened by Prof. Suut Kemal Yetkin. I met many former ARIT fellows during

the congress and presented a paper on *The Age of Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent* exhibition which toured the United States in 1987, discussing its impact on the fields of Islamic art and Ottoman art.

As for Friends of ARIT, new additions to an already strong program of city walking tours include visits to the contemporary art venues of Istanbul, many of which formed part of a newly robust arts program due to the 16th Istanbul Biennial. In November we spent a Sunday afternoon with the contemporary artist Sinem Dişli at her new solo exhibition, *Hollows and Mounds: A Take on Göbekli Tepe*, at the Leica Gallery and Ara Güler Museum in Bomontiada, Istanbul. We ended the week on a Friday evening with Şeyda Çetin, curator of Meşher, who gave FARIT members a tour of their inaugural exhibition, *Beyond the Vessel: Myths, Legends, and Fables in Contemporary Ceramics around Europe*. Our thanks go to all the scholars and colleagues who took time from their busy schedules to lead the FARIT tours, the entire list of which you can find below, and to all



*Joint Heritage of the Maritime Micro-Region of Lesbos and Pergamon* workshop, held at the Sanat Fabrikası in Ayvalık on November 10th-11th 2019, and co-organized by ARIT, KUDAR (Matthew Harpster) and DAI (Felix Pirson).



FARIT members and tour participants for their support, with a special mention of the FARIT Steering Committee members: Yaprak Uras Archibald, Beate Becher, Nedret Butler, Sinan Ceylan, Caroline Finkel, Başak Kızıldemir, Aylin McCarthy, Alan Mellaart, Lucienne Şenocak, and Neslihan Tonbul.

I look forward to reporting on many more exciting projects, partnerships, and research initiatives with you in the coming months as well as meeting in person with those of you whom I haven't yet met, and working closely with all of you on a new range of programs at ARIT-Istanbul. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions and/or suggestions either via email (zeynepsimavi@gmail.com) or in person when you are in Istanbul to chat, brainstorm, and enjoy the view of the Golden Horn with the ARIT-Istanbul team.

Zeynep Simavi  
Istanbul Branch Director

#### 2018-2019 ARIT-Istanbul Lectures (in chronological order)

❖ Nareg Seferian (independent researcher), "The Armenian 'Revolution' of 1818:

What, How, Why, and What Next."

❖ Dr. Yücel Yanıkdağ (University of Richmond), "Ottoman Theater and Cross-Dressing in First World War Prison Camps."

❖ Dr. Rebecca A. Clothey (NEH-ARIT Fellow, Drexel University), "A Diaspora in Cultural Crisis: Uyghurs in Turkey."

❖ Turhan Turgut (President of the Academy of Turkish Philately), "Effects of the Post on Everyday Life in Ottoman Times from 1840 Onwards."

❖ Dr. Mali Skotheim, (NEH-ARIT Fellow, University of Wisconsin, Madison), "The Greek Dramatic Festivals of Roman Asia Minor."

❖ Chloe Bordewich (ARIT Fellow, Ph.D. Candidate, Harvard University), "The Social Lives of Secrets: Trust and Treason at the end of Empire."

❖ Dr. Nicholas Cahill (University of Wisconsin, Madison), "Sardis Archaeological Excavation Biennial Lecture 2019."

❖ Dr. Faiz Ahmed (ARIT Fellow of 2010 and of 2016, Brown University), "Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires."

#### 2018-2019 FARIT Istanbul Trips and Tours (in chronological order)

❖ 32nd Annual Dinner at ARET Meyhane in Beyoğlu.

❖ A day trip to Edirne, led by Dr. İnci Türkoğlu.

❖ A walking tour of the monuments of Üsküdar, led by Egemen Demircioğlu.

❖ A weekend tour to İznik, led by Erkut Aldeniz.

❖ A walking tour of underground Istanbul, led by Şerif Yenen.

❖ A walking tour of Kuzguncuk, led by Egemen Demircioğlu.

❖ A walking tour of the Galata and Karaköy districts, led by Dr. İnci Türkoğlu.

❖ A weekend tour to Troy and the battle sites of the Dardanelles, led by İlke Duru.

❖ A long weekend tour to Urfa, Göbekli Tepe, Zeugma, and Gaziantep, led by Dr. Fahri Dikkaya.

❖ A walking tour of the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery, led by Dr. Brian Johnson.

❖ A five-day trip to the Peloponnese, led by Dr. Ivana Jevtic.

❖ An eight-day trip to Armenia and Georgia, led by local guides.

❖ A tour of the *Hollows and Mounds: A Take on the Göbekli Tepe* exhibition at Leica Gallery and Ara Güler Museum in Istanbul, led by the artist Sinem Dişli.

❖ A tour of the *Beyond the Vessel: Myths, Legends, and Fables in Contemporary Ceramics around Europe* exhibition at Meşher in Istanbul, led by Meşher curator Şeyda Çetin.



FARIT members visiting the exhibition *Beyond the Vessel: Myths, Legends, and Fables in Contemporary Ceramics around Europe*, at Meşher, Istanbul.



#### Notice for book donations:

Before sending books to ARIT libraries, please contact the ARIT branch or U.S. office for shipping information.

## SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

### ARIT-BU Summer Fellowships for Advanced Turkish, 2019

In June of 2019, 19 American students arrived in Istanbul to start the intensive summer Turkish Language and Culture Program at Boğaziçi University, funded by the U.S. Department of Education through the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Fellowships. ARIT-Istanbul Director Tony Greenwood settled us in style in the Büyük Londra Hotel and we gathered for a delicious Circassian dinner near the ARIT Istanbul Branch Office on Kallavi Sokak. The orientation activities included the required testing, security briefing, and logistical information followed by a walk to Istiklal Avenue. This summer included the exciting Istanbul mayoral election re-run on June 23rd, allowing those who had been studying Turkish politics in the abstract to see democracy in action

(elections are usually not held in the summer months).

After the students were settled into their dormitories and classes, we attended the bittersweet party in honor of Tony Greenwood's retirement. Tony Bey has been such a gracious host to the ARIT-BU Advanced Turkish Fellows over the years, giving them a real sense of ARIT as a place to support their research into the future. For the first time in years, this group was not taken on the Bosphorus tour for a fish lunch and swim near the Black Sea, with Tony Bey leading the way. The ARIT-BU Fellows enjoyed the fabulous cuisine of Turkey, which has diversified to include more global offerings such as Arabic, Georgian, and even Thai food. After their intensive course of Advanced Turkish, with four instructors and several TAs for each student, and added lectures, movie showings, visits to archives and bookshops, and other weekend excursions, the 19 participants met on August 7th for a final day of testing and feasting, hosted by our new Istanbul

Branch Director Zeynep Simavi and the stalwart team on Kallavi Sokak. We just recently learned of the continued Department of Education funding for the summer of 2020, and so the cycle continues!

Sylvia Wing Önder  
ARIT-BU Fellowship Project Director



### ARIT SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS FOR ADVANCED TURKISH LANGUAGE STUDY

Application deadline  
February 3, 2020

[http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/  
ARITSummerLanguageProgram.html](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/ARITSummerLanguageProgram.html)



The ARIT-BU fellows with Dr. Sylvia Önder.



## REMEMBERING DR. MARY ELLEN LANE, 1946 – 2019

by Lee Striker, Former ARIT  
President, and Nancy Leinwand,  
ARIT Executive Director

We are saddened by the death of Dr. Mary Ellen Lane, retired Executive Director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC, 1986-2014) and member of the ARIT Board of Directors.

ARIT was one of the founding member institutions of CAORC, joining in 1982. Then ARIT President Lee Striker was active from the start, helping to develop CAORC's office and by-laws. The status of the younger overseas research centers was precarious at the time. While the overseas research centers were numerous, they had little to do with one another. They ranged in size from the large American Academy in Rome to smaller centers, like ARIT, having no permanent quarters in America or abroad. And their financing was a patchwork of federal and private sources, in many cases very limiting.

Mary Ellen Lane began as CAORC

Executive Director in 1986. Among her significant achievements are the bringing together within a single organization of two dozen centers that are diverse from one another in almost every respect; introducing the centers to various federal and private funding organizations, and these to the centers; and organizing various joint programs and projects. She also significantly increased the financial support of overseas centers.

Mary Ellen was an ardent supporter of ARIT from the start. She protected the funding for both centers in Turkey, and loved to hold meetings of the AORC directors in Istanbul, with the help of Istanbul Director Tony Greenwood. She supported ARIT's commitment to maintaining fellowship programs for Turkish scholars, and promoted many regional programs and collaborations, often focused on the Mediterranean realm.

Typical is the W.D.E. Coulson and Toni Cross Aegean Exchange Program, which brings Turkish scholars to Greece, and Greek scholars to Turkey, using as a base for their research the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and the Ankara or Istanbul branch of ARIT. This program was initiated by the two

ORC Directors—William Coulson in Athens and Toni Cross in Ankara—in the course of a CAORC Directors' meeting in Athens. The two centers funded exchange scholars with intermittent State Department funding for more than a decade. Subsequently, through the initiative of Mary Ellen, the U.S. Congress approved funding for the program through a grant to CAORC from the U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs. Since 2004, the program has funded 88 Greek and Turkish scholars and continues as a thriving exchange today. Her work at CAORC and with the



Mary Ellen Lane and Tony Greenwood on the Bosphorus in 2014.



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individual centers promoted scholarship, fostered international collaboration, and continues to enhance the lives of scholars.

## REMEMBERING DR. MARY ELLEN LANE, 1946 – 2019

by Margaret Mullett, Former  
Director of Byzantine Studies,  
Dumbarton Oaks

It amazes me that I knew Mary Ellen for only ten years, from our meeting in the Dumbarton Oaks garden in the summer of 2009 to the two brief meetings in April 2019 when I waved her off, with her family, on her last expedition to Africa. I was astounded to learn that she did the job of overseeing archaeological schools abroad, which in the UK is the purview of the British Academy—and that she did it through an institution founded by herself. After that nothing surprised me about Mary Ellen. Not her appetite for travel, or her fondness for young scholars or her ability to leverage social position for her causes, or her (un)canny sense of whom to speak to at what point in a campaign, or her many marks of recognition, none greater than her Mongolian horse. Not even her decision to retire and her fear of the future without her beloved schools and scholars.

Mary Ellen supported me and Dumbarton Oaks in every way she could, with advice, contacts, and, even when her Midas Touch was struggling, funding. She had a gift for friendship, for mentoring, above all for building. She was an ingenious ally, an inspirational leader, a heroine of American archaeology. And, for someone who achieved so much, she was a whole lot of fun. I drink my coffee every morning from a blue CAORC mug given me by Mary Ellen. Its inscription has long worn off in the dishwasher; the memories are indelible.

## ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

### Ankara Branch News

This has been an extremely busy and productive year for ARIT-Ankara, during which we were involved in a wealth of new programs. Most recently, ARIT-Ankara collaborated with the German Archaeological Institute (DAI, Istanbul) and the Mustafa V. Koç Maritime Archaeology Center (KUDAR) at Koç University on the organization of a two-day workshop, *Joint Heritage of the Maritime Micro-Region of Lesbos and Pergamon*, on 10th-11th November 2019, at the Sanat Fabrikası Tiyatrosu in Ayvalık in western Turkey. Spearheaded by Felix Pirson (the Istanbul Director of the DAI and the Director of the Pergamon Excavations) and Matthew Harpster (the Director of KUDAR) and sponsored by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Turkey, and the Municipality of Ayvalık, the workshop highlighted the significance of collaboration between Turkish and foreign scholars, which is a concept that

was continually emphasized by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. The event stressed not only Atatürk's high regard for scholarly research, but also his day of remembrance on the 10th of November, marking the 81st year of his passing.

The workshop brought together an international group of scholars with a broad range of expertise and an equally wide range of national backgrounds, including Turkish, American, German, Greek, and Czech. All of them are working on the maritime micro-region bounded by the island of Lesbos and the western Anatolian coast. With a particular focus on Pergamon and other major settlements in the region, the workshop's 17 participants shared their research on the region, discussing such topics as the significance of the maritime landscape for the extraction of and trade in metal resources, harbors and ancient venues of communication in different periods, artistic and architectural traditions, religious customs, and ancient and current trajectories of migration.

In addition to discussants Felix Pirson and Matthew Harpster, the speak-



The FARIT tour to Georgia featured Gergeti Trinity Church at Stepantsminda.



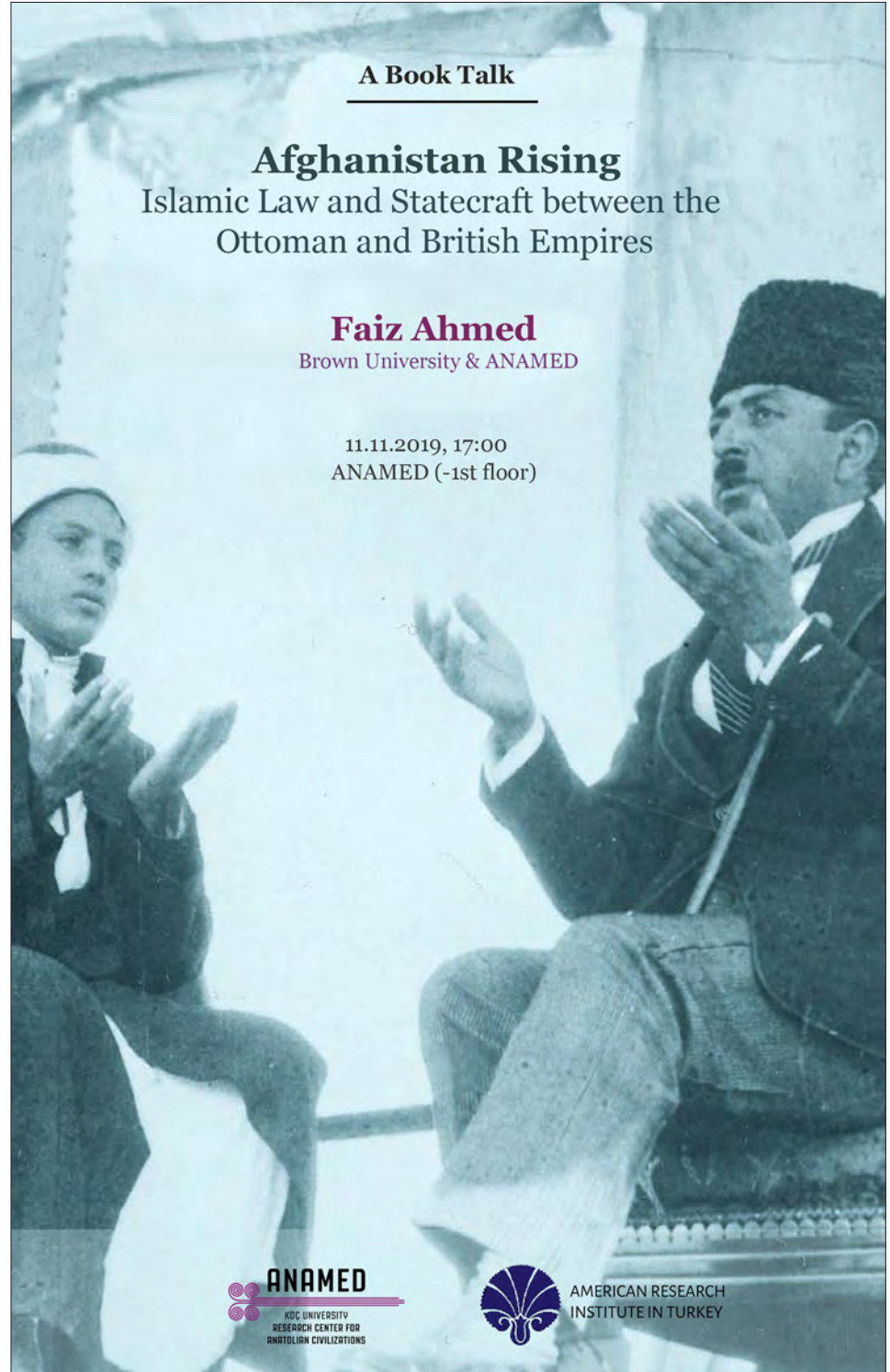
ers included Kokona Rouggou (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports), Thaleia Kyriakopoulou (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports), Ioannis Kourtzellis (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, Lesbos), Theotokis Theodoulou (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities), Aylin Güngör (University Of Hamburg), Alkiviadis Ginalis (DAI, Istanbul), Marek Vervick (University of Karlova, Prague), Murat Tozan (Ege University, İzmir), Bernhard Ludwig (DAI, Berlin), Harun Özdaş (Dokuz Eylül University, İzmir), Turgut Saner (Istanbul Technical University, and Director of the Larisa Buruncuk Architectural Survey), Annette Hoffmann (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Max-Planck-Institut, Florence), Sercan Sağlam (independent scholar), Ahmet İçduygu (Koç University and Director of MiREKoc/Migration Research Center at Koç), Seçil Tezer-Altay (DAI, Istanbul), Ayşegül Özer (Istanbul Technical University and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), and Neriman Şahin-Güçhan (Middle East Technical University, Ankara).

The workshop brought together not only specialists, but also locals who were deeply involved in issues of heritage as well as regional culture and history. In addition, several members of the Greek ephorates presented on recent and substantial work carried out in the Aegean and on the island of Lesbos. Some of the outcomes of this workshop are that dialogue among scholars coming from such a variety of backgrounds is very helpful, and that the Ayvalık workshop ought to be the first of several similar events. At least two more workshops will be organized in the near future, one possibly at Bergama and another on Lesbos. Ayvalık is a current candidate for the UNESCO World Heritage List, and Pergamon, with its multi-layered cultural landscape, is also preparing an application for inclusion on the

List. The workshop program can be found through the website of KUDAR, <https://kudar.ku.edu.tr/events/>.

We hope to continue such collaborations and scholarly workshops. This is a topic we discussed with Ambassador David Satterfield, who arrived in Ankara in June and who generously expressed

his strong interest in ARIT's support of researchers and scholarly programs. We met with him in the fall in the Ankara-ARIT office, and were grateful for the participation of Scott Weinhold (the Counselor for Public Affairs) and Saad Bokhari (Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer) as well.



**A Book Talk**

**Afghanistan Rising**  
Islamic Law and Statecraft between the  
Ottoman and British Empires

**Faiz Ahmed**  
Brown University & ANAMED

11.11.2019, 17:00  
ANAMED (-1st floor)

**ANAMED**  
KOÇ UNIVERSITY  
RESEARCH CENTER FOR  
ANATOLIAN CIVILIZATIONS

**AMERICAN RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE IN TURKEY**

Poster for ARIT-Istanbul book talk by ARIT fellow Dr. Faiz Ahmed.

The Anatolian archaeology community is thrilled that the Republic of Turkey has formally requested that the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. State Department sign an agreement for U.S. import restrictions on Turkish material culture of archaeological and ethnological value. We initiated a series of unofficial workshops with guidance from Cultural Heritage Specialist Christina Luke (Koç University, Archaeology) to provide information to interested parties on the significance of this bilateral agreement between Turkey and the U.S. We hope that it will be signed following a public hearing by the U.S. Cultural Property Advisory Committee on January 21st, 2020.

### **Toni M. Cross Library**

Seventy-two visitors used the Toni M. Cross Library 241 times from the fall of 2018 to the fall of 2019. Twenty-four of these library users were undergraduate students, 22 were M.A. and Ph.D. candidates, 10 were professionals, and 17 were professionals with a Doctorate. The nationalities of the visitors varied greatly,

and included Turkish, Italian, Lebanese, Polish, Croatian, Canadian, and American. The institutional affiliations of the visitors were just as diverse as their national backgrounds. In addition to several independent scholars, the resources in the Toni M. Cross Library were used by visitors from the Embassy of Poland, the EU- Turkey Anatolian Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Institute (which is currently in the process of formation, with its center located in Gaziantep), Fulbright, the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

The Turkish academic affiliations of the visitors included Ahi Evran University at Kırşehir, Ankara University, Atılım University in Ankara, Başkent University, Bilkent Laboratory and International School (BLIS), Çukurova University in Adana, Hacettepe University, Hacı Bayram Veli University in Ankara, Karabük University, Kastamonu University, Koç University, Mersin University, Middle East Technical University (METU), Selçuk University in Konya, and TED University in Ankara. Foreign scholars were affiliated

with the American University of Beirut in Lebanon, Mainz University in Germany, the University of Toronto, the University of California, Santa Cruz, the University of Chicago, and the University of Nevada, Reno.

Özlem Eser, our librarian in Ankara ARIT, recorded a total of 388 new additions to the Toni M. Cross collection. Of these, 58 were acquired through exchange programs with individuals and institutions, 115 were purchased, and 215 were received as gifts. In addition, a total of 125 items from 64 titles were recorded in the periodical section of the library. While 55 of these were received as gifts, two were exchanges and 56 were purchased. Twelve were newsletter publications.

Through the request of Marlene Elwell (Bilkent University, Faculty Academic English Program and FARIT Ankara Steering Committee), Ankara ARIT donated one box of novels (36 items from the Mellink collection and two items from the Ötüken collection) to the John Clarkson Reading Center housed at Bilkent University.

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their donations to the Toni M. Cross Library collection: Ali Metin Büyükkarakaya, Canan Çakırlar, Catherine Peppers, Coşkun Özgünel, Elif Denel, Erkin Emet, Hatçe Baltacıoğlu, İbrahim Benter (Cyprus Evkaf Administration), Sharon Steadman and Gregory McMahon, Tevfik Balcıoğlu. Akdeniz University, Ankara University, Atılım University, Beykent University, Bilkent University, the Mediterranean Civilizations Research Institute, Alevi Araştırmaları Dergisi, British Institute at Ankara, Göç İdaresi Genel Müdürlüğü, Ege University, Mersin University—Kilikya Arkeolojisi Araştırma Merkezi (KAAM), Römisch-Germanische Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Sinop University, Turkish Under-



Open House Party for Ankara FARIT 2019; from left to right: Elif Denel (Director), Çiğdem Önal Emiroğlu (Assistant), Özlem Ester (sitting in front of Çiğdem; Librarian), Burcu Yıldırım (Assistant), Songül Yıldız (Housekeeper).



water Archaeology Foundation (TINA), and Uludağ University.

#### **W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows 2019**

Two Turkish scholars received the W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellowships for 2019.

❖ Feyza Kalav İdrisoğlu, who is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Middle East Technical University in Ankara, is studying increasingly bureaucratized religion in the current government systems of Turkey and Greece, in a comparative research entitled *Religious Bureaucracies in the Context of Changing Religion-State Nexus: The Case of Turkey and Greece*. In order to complement the research that she has already completed in Turkey, she visited the Department of Balkan, Slavic, and Oriental Studies at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki during the spring and early summer of 2019.

❖ Associate Professor Nihal Tüner Önen, from the Mediterranean Civilizations Research Institute at Akdeniz University in Antalya, is working on a book project based on her dissertation research, *Phaselitai in the Aegean World*.

With a particular focus on historical and epigraphic documents, she collected data during the late spring and early summer of 2019 on the significance of Phaselis as an economic and political center. In the course of her research, she examined material from Delphi, Rhodes, Samos, and Delos, as well as at the Epigraphic Museum in Athens. Dr. Tüner Önen also carried out research at the Blegen Library of the American School in Athens, and consulted the archaeology and history collections housed in the library of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

#### **Ilse and George Hanfmann and Machteld J. Mellink Fellows 2019**

❖ Bihter Esener (Ph.D. candidate, Department of Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University) is planning to complete the last part of her dissertation, *A Reflection of One's Own: Seljuk Period Mirrors in Medieval Anatolia (1081-1308)*, which focuses on the social value of mirrors in the Byzantine and Seljuk periods. Ms. Esener's research is taking her to the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Louvre, the Museum of Islamic Art in Berlin, and the David Collection at Copenha-

gen during the fall and winter months of 2019-2020.

❖ Dr. Ali Metin Büyükkarakaya (Anthropology Department, Hacettepe University) is planning to visit the University of Nevada and the National Anthropological Archives at the Smithsonian Institution during the winter and spring of 2020, in order to study human bones collected by the Karataş-Semayük Excavations in the 1960s and 1970s, as part of his research topic, *Bioarchaeological Investigations on the Human Skeletal Remains at Karataş-Semayük*.

❖ Elif Sezer Aydın (Ph.D. candidate, History Department, İstanbul Şehir University) is spending a year in Boston to conduct research for her project, *Transformation of Ottoman Literacy: Reader Notes on the Manuscripts of Popular Stories in the 18th and Early 19th Centuries*, using the research libraries at Boston College, MIT, and Harvard University.

❖ İnan Aydoğan (Ph.D. candidate, Department of Archaeology, Ege University) will be working with Susan Pollock at the Freie University, Berlin, in 2020 to analyze Başur Höyük material for his Ph.D. thesis, *Investigations from Socioeconomic and Cultural Perspectives of Late Uruk Finds from Başur Höyük*.



Trip to Uşak with Fahri Dikkaya (TED University): at Beycesultan.

❖ Tolga Pelvanoğlu (Ph.D. candidate, Department of Ancient Languages and Cultures, Istanbul University) will spend six months in 2020 at the Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg to carry out research on Hittite texts for his dissertation entitled *Princes in the Hittite State Organization*.

❖ Sevilay Zeynep Yıldız (Department of Archaeology, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University), whose project is entitled *Southwestern Anatolia in the 2nd Millennium B.C.: East-West Relations*, will use the resources at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens during the fall of 2019.

### ARIT-Ankara Lectures

ARIT's own Burcu Yıldırım (ARIT Assistant, and Settlement Archaeology Graduate Programme, METU) initiated the 2019 fall lecture series with a presentation entitled *Child Burial in Prehistoric Anatolia*, focusing on her research on Chalcolithic baby burials in domestic and work spaces at the Çadır Höyük excavations. Asu Selen Özcan (INA) delivered the second lecture, *Gelidonya Burnu Eserlerinin Koruma-Onarım Uygulamaları (The Protection-Restoration Processes for the Gelidonya Shipwreck Finds)*, in Turkish. Matthew Harpster (Koç University and Director of KUDAR)

presented his ongoing research in Italy in a talk entitled, *Modeling the Maritime Landscape of Medieval Amalfi, Italy*. Oktay Özel (recently retired from the History Department at Bilkent University) presented his research for a new book project, *Settlement of Immigrants and the Changes in Rural Settlement Patterns in the Central Black Sea Region: Some Observations (1860s to 1920s)*. Edward Erickson (Department of International Relations and Political Science, Antalya Bilim University) discussed his historical investigations into the mythological persona of T. E. Lawrence in a lecture entitled *Wasp or Mosquito? Lawrence of Arabia and the Turks*. Erkin Emet (Department of Turkic Dialects and Literature, Ankara University) discussed the current social and political dynamics involving the Uygur communities in China in his presentation, *The Detention Camps of East Turkestan*. Özde Çeliktemel Thomen (Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of History, METU) presented her research on the history of cinemas in Istanbul in a talk entitled *Capital of Cinema: Early Cinema-Going in Ottoman Istanbul*.

Three lectures were co-sponsored by ARIT and the Turkish American Association: Hasan Peker (Department of Ancient Languages and Cultures,

Istanbul University) presented *The Kingdom of Karkemish through the Late Bronze and Iron Ages: New Discoveries of the Turco Italian Excavations at Karkemish*. Çiğdem Maner (Department of Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University) discussed her social awareness and site management efforts at İvriz, Konya, in her lecture *Sustainable Heritage Protection through Public and Community Archaeology in İvriz, A Neo-Hittite Open-Air Sanctuary*. Olivier Henry (Department of Archaeology at Bilkent University, Associate Researcher at AorOc (UMR 8546)—École Normale Supérieure de Paris, and Director of Excavations at the Carian Sanctuary of Labraunda) discussed *The Hegemony of the 4th Century B.C. Hecatomnid family in the Vicinity of Bodrum/Muğla*.

Finally, we are grateful to Jeffrey Hovenier, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy, for hosting the ARIT and the Friends of ARIT communities in a dinner following a lecture by Charles Gates (Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University), *Archaeology in Turkey: the American Contribution*, which was organized at the Ambassador's Residence in late June, immediately prior to the arrival of Ambassador David Satterfield.

### Ankara Friends of ARIT

The Friends of ARIT sponsor the lectures at the Toni M. Cross Library of ARIT, support the ARIT library, and organize specialized educational trips with scholars to archaeological and historical sites. The Friends of ARIT Steering Committee provides great assistance regarding the organization of events and public outreach projects. The members are Baybars Alpaslan, Elif Denel, Marlene Elwell, Shirley Epir, Charles Gates, Marie-Henriette Gates, Jennie Lane, Ron Tickfer, and Shauna Tufan. ARIT Assistant Burcu Yıldırım recently joined the Committee as well



Trip to Uşak with Fahri Dikkaya (TED University): in front of the Atatürk Museum in Uşak.



as Jeffrey Hovenier, the Deputy Chief of Mission, who replaced Jamie Weinhold, the Community Liaison Office Coordinator for the U.S. Embassy. ARIT and the Friends of ARIT are grateful for the support of all the members of the Steering Committee.

Once again, Baybars Alpaslan (Star Tourism) worked his magic for the sponsorship and organization of the Open House Parties in 2018 and 2019, which took place at the Turkish American Association (TAA). We are grateful to Güneş Kolsuz (Rolling Ball Bowling) for sponsoring the food for the 2018 Open House Party, organized on October 15, 2018, and to Önder Bilen (Holiday Inn) for the last Open House Party, on October 7, 2019. We would like to extend our gratitude to the Director of Foreign Relations and Programs at the TAA, Sera Edamar Özköse, and to the General Director of the TAA, Dilek Dengizek Ersanal, for their hospitality and ongoing support of ARIT and the Friends of ARIT. They generously offer space every year for the Open House Parties and for the ARIT-TAA sponsored lectures.

### **Day trips organized by the Friends of ARIT:**

- ❖ Ankara Castle and the Medieval Islamic Monuments, with Suna Güven (Architectural History Department, METU).
- ❖ Axes of Ankara: Cinnah Street, with Lale Özgenel (Architectural History Department, METU).
- ❖ Kaman-Kalehöyük, including the Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology, Kalehöyük Museum of Archaeology, and the Bükülükale Excavations, with Sachihito Omura, Masako Omura, and Kimiyoshi Matsumura (Directors, Kaman-Kalehöyük Excavations).
- ❖ Gordion and the Sakarya Monument, with Brian Rose (ARIT President, Director of Gordion Excavations and Professor of Archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania).
- ❖ Birdwatching in Gölbaşı, and the Hittite Reliefs at Gavurkale, with Kaan Özgencil (Biology Department, METU) and Elif Denel (ARIT-Ankara Director).

### **Weekend Trips organized by the Friends of ARIT:**

- ❖ The Phrygian Highlands, with Julian Bennett (Department of Archaeology,

Bilkent University) and Ben Claasz Coockson.

- ❖ Presidents' Day in Karia, with Olivier Henry (Department of Archaeology at Bilkent University, Associate Researcher at Archéologie et philologie d'Orient et d'Occident [UMR 8546 AorOc]—École Normale Supérieure de Paris, and Director of Excavations at the Carian Sanctuary of Labraunda).
- ❖ Uşak and Environs, with Fahri Dikkaya (TED University).
- ❖ Boğazkale-Hattuşa, Alaca Höyük, Ortaköy-Sapinuwa, and Çorum Museum, with Marie-Henriette Gates (Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University).

We extend our gratitude to all those who support ARIT and the Friends of ARIT, for dedicating their time and knowledge, whether for Steering Committee meetings, or for organizing workshops, leading tours, or giving lectures. It is only through their support and guidance that ARIT maintains a strong community devoted to the promotion of Anatolian archaeology.

Elif Denel

Ankara Branch Director



Kaman Kalehöyük Trip: at the Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology with Sachihito Omura, Masako Omura, and Kimiyoshi Matsumura.



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**NORTH AMERICAN  
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*ARIT thanks all those who supported our centers and activities over the past year, through October 2019. Your support ensures our future work.*

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## ARIT FELLOWSHIPS 2019-2020

### ARIT-NEH Fellows

*ARIT-NEH Fellowships are funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

❖ Professor Berin Gölönü (Art History/ Visual Studies, State University of New York at Buffalo, and People's Parks–Millet Bahçeleri), *Structuring Public Leisure Space in the Late Ottoman*

*Empire*. This study examines the first European style parks or “people’s gardens” established in the Ottoman Empire in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These gardens served as symbols of the Empire’s modernization and westernization. Comparing today’s neoliberal people’s gardens shows how political ideologies can be read through the use, preservation, and development of green urban public space.

❖ Professor Melis Hafez (History of the

Middle East, Virginia Commonwealth University), *Moral Entrepreneurs: Cultural Politics and Moral Citizenship in Late Ottoman Society*. Undergoing socioeconomic and political upheavals, the late Ottoman public sphere was saturated with demands for moral reform. This project focuses on a diverse cohort of moralists (Muslim, Christian, Jewish), who took an entrepreneurial role in developing locally a duty-centered civic morality, while criticizing the state and society.

❖ Dr. Canay Özden-Schilling (Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University), *Midstream Capitalism: An Ethnography of the Port of Mersin*. Storage containers, oil tankers, modular ports, and port cities—how do these infrastructures shape markets’ activities? This ethnographic project is set in the port of Mersin, Turkey, and investigates the pecuniary role of midstream infrastructures in oil markets. Studying the work culture of storage engineers, port administrators, and oil merchants can show us that port infrastructures call supply and demand into being by determining which commodities can pass, at what quantities, toward which clienteles.

### ARIT U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellows

*ARIT ECA Fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs, administered by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.*

❖ Dr. Joseph Alpar (Ethnomusicology, City University of New York), *Singing Pirkei Avot in Istanbul: Performance and Transmission of a Para-liturgical Synagogue Repertoire*. On Saturdays between the holidays of Passover and Shavuot, hazzanim (cantors) gather at the Şişli synagogue in Istanbul to sing a musical setting of *Pirkei Avot*, a collection of ethical rabbinic teachings from the Talmud.



Henry Brink, ARIT summer intern, deciphering a difficult tombstone inscription with the help of a reflector at Feriköy Protestant Cemetery, Istanbul.



This rendition, rooted in Ottoman classical music practices, is unique to the Turkish Jewish community. Dr. Alpar examines this distinctive and important Turkish Jewish repertoire, studying its compositional design, organization, and contemporary performance.

❖ Dr. Cheryl Anderson (Archaeology, Boise State University), *Ethnicity, Health, and Ritual Violence: A Bio-archaeological Examination of the Hellenistic Period at Kaman-Kalehöyük*. Archaeological evidence for the presence of Galatians, and potential ritual sacrifice associated with Celtic identity, has been documented at the site of Gordion. Similar Hellenistic period human burials have been excavated from Kaman-Kalehöyük but to date no comprehensive skeletal examination has been performed. This project addresses questions about identity, health, and ritual violence by performing a bioarchaeological examination of all the Hellenistic period human skeletons from the site.

❖ Ms. Nur Yasemin Bavbek (Sociology, Brown University), *Imperial/National Imaginations in Uncertain Times: American Empire in the Ottoman World*. This project explores interactions between the American and Ottoman empires, the making of Turkish nationalism, and the nation-state, focusing on elites who were in favor of Ottoman Turkey becoming an American mandate. Why did some Ottoman Turkish elites seek to become a colony of another empire? How did they imagine this transformation and understand empire in general, and the American and Ottoman empires in particular, in the period after America began to acquire overseas colonies (1898) and before the institutionalization of a version of Turkish nationalism in the 1920s?

❖ Mr. Nicholas Glastonbury (Cultural Anthropology, City University of New York), *Sound and Fury: Soviet Broadcasting, Cassette Tapes, and the Cold War in Turkey*. On the basis of archival

and ethnographic fieldwork in Muş, Erzurum, and Istanbul, this project explores the role that cassette tapes played in forming Kurdish social and political movements in Cold War era Turkey. Tracing the social networks through which cassettes were circulated, duplicated, and exchanged, it shows how “outdated” sonic media continue to inflect the present situation of Kurds in Turkey.

❖ Mr. Erol Koymen (Ethnomusicology, University of Chicago), *The Forgotten Modern: Sound, Space, and Kemalist Subjectivity in the Turkish Republic*. This is an ethnographic study of Western art music communities and nostalgia for the Kemalist past in the new, Islamist Turkey. The practice of Western art music in contemporary Turkey holds open the possibility of resistance by constructing localized spaces of musical practice that transcend the present political reality—Kemalist chronotopes simultaneously oriented nostalgically toward a Kemalist past and aspirationally toward a modern future.

❖ Ms. Ellen M. Nye (History of the Middle East, Yale University), *Frictions of Finance: Inter-imperial Credit Relations in Eighteenth-Century İzmir and Basra*. This project examines inter-imperial credit relations in the Ottoman ports of İzmir and Basra during the eighteenth century. Despite discomfort with interest, with little cash, credit provided the dominant form of payment in Ottoman commerce. Foreign merchants too depended on Ottoman credit networks notwithstanding the challenge of navigating them with limited local knowledge. Through research in Istanbul, the project seeks to decenter traditional Eurocentric notions of capitalism’s emergence and to replace this narrative with an understanding of financial techniques developing through interaction with non-European, and particularly Ottoman, varieties of

merchant capitalism.

❖ Mr. Taylor C. Zajicek (History, Princeton University), *Missiles and Anchovies: An Environmental History of the Cold War in the Black Sea Region, 1945-1995*. This project analyzes the Cold War as experienced on one of its central fault lines: the transnational Black Sea region. Bringing diplomatic history into conversation with that of science and environment, the project asks how did the Cold War structure environmental change in the Black Sea region, and what can an “on-the-ground” perspective (that considers actors as diverse as scientists, jellyfish, diplomats, and anchovy fishers) teach us about the conflict’s logics and legacies?

### John Freely Fellow

*These fellowships are awarded in memory of John Freely, the author of many travel and history books on Turkey, and a great supporter of ARIT.*

❖ Mr. Cevat Dargın (Modern Middle East History, Princeton University), *Question within Questions: Seyit Rıza and Dersim as Part of Kurdish, Armenian and Alevi Questions in the Making of Modern Turkey from the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878 to the Suppression of Dersim in 1937-1938*. This project follows the story of Seyit Rıza (1863-1937), a local leader of the Dersim region in eastern Turkey, in order to explore the process of transformation from empire to nation-state. Analysis of the events in Dersim demonstrates that throughout his life Seyit Rıza and most other tribal leaders in Dersim preferred working with the state rather than against it. Afraid of a Kurdish nationalist movement, however, Turkish authorities perceived most developments involving the Kurds through the prism of nationalism. As such, they wanted to impose state authority by all means necessary on places like Dersim where, they believed, it was absent or lacking.

## Friends of ARIT Fellow

*Fellowship funded by the Friends of ARIT.*

❖ Ms. İlkim Karakuş (Social Anthropology, Harvard University), *Moral Economies of 'Revolutionary' Politics: Care, Ethics, and Resistance in an Urban Margin in Turkey*. This study explores grassroots politics in a marginalized neighborhood of Istanbul. As a low-income neighborhood, home to religious and ethnic minorities, Candere has maintained a tradition of socialist politics since the 1970s despite recurrent state violence. Today, residents frame their grassroots mobilization as “revolutionary” and perform their aspirations to an idealized future through acts of care to render the present habitable and the idealized, emancipated future tenable. Through ethnographic fieldwork, the project examines how caring as a quotidian practice, and “revolution” as a project of larger scale transformation, come together in this urban margin.

## Istanbul Friends of ARIT Fellow

*Fellowship funded by the Friends of ARIT, Istanbul.*

❖ Mr. Ufuk Erol (Middle Eastern History, Indiana University), *Neither Sunni nor Shi'i: The Formation of Qizilbash/Alevism in Anatolia, 1450s-1550s*. In this period, Qizilbash/Alevi Sufis challenged the Ottoman empire-building in Anatolia, which resulted in a series of rebellions. While the Turkish nationalist positivist approach has defined this religious phenomenon as a heterodox-nomadic belief, recent critical studies have provided us with an insider approach through original Qizilbash sources. Drawing on a Eurasian context and using historical-anthropological perspectives, this study argues that Qizilbash Alevism originated from the radical transformation of the

anti-nomian/Abdal Sufism of Anatolia along messianic and millennial lines together with a universalist understanding of religion.

## ARIT Fellows in Intensive Turkish Language, Summer 2019

*The U.S. Department of Education, Georgetown University Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages, and ARIT, provide support for participants in the Boğaziçi University Summer Program in Intensive Advanced Turkish Language.*

- ❖ Sabeen Ahmed (Vanderbilt University)
- ❖ John Al-Haddad (University of Chicago)
- ❖ Reilly Barry (Georgetown University)
- ❖ Grace Bertsch (Indiana University, Bloomington)
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- ❖ Lediona Shahollari (University of Michigan)
- ❖ John Stewart (Indiana University, Bloomington)
- ❖ Mina Turunc (Vassar College)

❖ Madeline Undis (Smith College)

## W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows

*ARIT and ASCSA Aegean Exchange Fellowships are funded by the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and cosponsored by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.*

### From Turkey:

- ❖ Ms. Feyza Kalav İdrisoğlu (Political Science and Public Administration, Middle East Technical University), *Religious Bureaucracies in the Context of Changing Religion-State Nexus: The Case of Turkey and Greece*. Ms. İdrisoğlu will carry out her comparative study in affiliation with the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki.
- ❖ Dr. Nihal Tüner (Akdeniz Uygarlıkları Araştırma Enstitüsü, Öğretim Üyesi), *Phaselitai in the Aegean World*. Dr. Tüner will study the city of Phaselis, a Greek and Roman city on the coast of ancient Lycia, in affiliation with the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

### From Greece:

- ❖ Dr. Dimitra Andrianou (National Hellenic Research Foundation), *Thracians outside Thrace: Funerary Reliefs from the Strymon Valley and Kyzikos*. This project explores funerary reliefs from two areas that connect closely with the Roman province of Thrace. Dr. Andrianou will work with Turkish colleagues and study materials critical to the research in the Archaeological Museums of Istanbul and Kyzikos.
- ❖ Ms. Alexandra Courcoula (History of Art and Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology), *The Benaki Collection c. 1920- 1940: Negotiating History, Heritage, and Identity in Interwar Greece*. Ms. Courcoula is studying the foundation of the Benaki Museum in Athens, which focused initially on Ottoman and Islamic



art for the benefit of the Greek state. She will conduct archival research on the life and work of the Ottoman-Greek archaeologist Theodore Macridy Bey, the Benaki's founding director.

❖ Dr. Theodore Ganetsos (Material Analysis and Research, University of West Attica), *Applications of in-situ Non-destructive Techniques regarding Documentation, Identification of Pigments and Precious Stones, Authentication and the Promotion of our Cultural Heritage*. This research focuses on application of innovative technologies for the identification of ancient pigments. It aims to study systematically: a) important ecclesiastical documents (patriarchal *sigilia*), dated to the Byzantine and Post-Byzantine periods from the Theological School of Chalki; and b) to study the use of precious and semi-precious stones in gospels.

❖ Dr. Panagiotis Kontolaimos (Architecture, independent scholar), *From Late Medieval Castles to Early Modern Towns: Ottoman Urbanism in Thrace. The Cases of Gelibolu and Uzunköprü*. This project examines the development of existing and newly established towns in Eastern Thrace, Turkey, under Ottoman rule, in relation to the economic, demographic, and political advancements of the early modern period (14th through 16th centuries). The study combines research in libraries and archives in Istanbul with site observations, to expand understanding of Ottoman urbanism in Thrace.

❖ Dr. Georgios Theotokis (History, University of Athens), *Diffusion of Military Knowledge in the Seventeenth Century Ottoman Empire—the Case of Esirî Hasan Ağa's Advice to the Commanders and Soldiers.* This collaboration with Aysel Yıldız of Koç University aims to study the views on warfare of a military official of the Ottoman army who brought wide experience and attention to military affairs. Dr. Theotokis will produce an English translation of Esirî Hasan Ağa's as yet unpublished work on Ottoman military organization.

### **George M. A. Hanfmann, Ilse Böhlund Hanfmann, and Machteld J. Mellink Fellows**

*The Hanfmann and Mellink Fellowships are supported by the Merops Foundation in honor of George M. A. and Ilse B. Hanfmann, and Machteld J. Mellink.*

#### **George M. A. Hanfmann Fellows**

❖ Ms. Bihter Esener (Art History, Koç University), *A Reflection of One's Own: Seljuk Period Mirrors in Medieval Anatolia (1081-1308)*. Ms. Esener will travel to the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Louvre, the Museum of Islamic Art at Berlin, and the David Collection at Copenhagen to study materials for her analysis of the social value and function of mirrors in the Byzantine and Seljuk periods.

❖ Ms. Sevilay Zeynep Yıldız (Archaeology, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University), *Southwestern Anatolia in the 2nd Millennium BC: East-West Relations*. Ms. Yıldız conducted dissertation research using the resources of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, reviewing several categories of Bronze Age remains from southwestern Anatolia.

#### **Ilse B. Hanfmann Fellows**

❖ Ms. Elif Sezer Aydın (History, İstanbul Şehir University), *Transformation of Ottoman Literacy: Reader Notes on the Manuscripts of Popular Stories in the 18th and Early 19th Centuries*. Ms. Aydın will conduct dissertation research with colleagues at Boston College, MIT, and Harvard University.

❖ Dr. Ali Metin Büyükkarakaya (Anthropology, Hacettepe University), *Bioarchaeological Investigations on the Human Skeletal Remains at Karataş-Semayük*. Dr. Büyükkarakaya will review existing analyses of the skeletal material from Karataş-Semayük at the Smithsonian Institution and at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

### **Machteld J. Mellink Fellows**

❖ Mr. İnan Aydoğan (Prehistory, Ege University), *Investigations from Socioeconomic and Cultural Perspectives of Late Uruk Finds from Başur Höyük*. Mr. Aydoğan will carry out an analysis of early period material from the site of Başur Höyük, in consultation with Professor Susan Pollock and Reinhard Bernbeck at the Free University in Berlin.

❖ Mr. Tolga Pelvanoğlu (Ancient Cultures Program, Istanbul University), *Princes in the Hittite State Organization*. Mr. Pelvanoğlu will work with colleagues and make use of the textual resources at the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Studies of the Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg, to study Hittite royal state structure.

### **ARIT Turkish Dernek Fellows**

*ARIT Turkish Fellowships are funded by the Friends of ARIT and the American Research Institute in Turkey.*

❖ Ms. Pınar Akdeniz (Political Science, Bilkent University), *Differentiation of Faiths: Strategies of Intra-Group and Inter-Group Boundary Maintenance among Alevi in Turkey*. Ms. Akdeniz studies contemporary Alevi associations in Turkey to discover their definition of Alevism in relation to Islam. The research also aims to show how Alevi construct intergroup boundaries in relation to Sunnis.

❖ Mr. Varlık İndere (Prehistory, Istanbul University), *Settlement Abandonment: The Case of Aşıklı Höyük*. Mr. İndere is analyzing evidence for the abandonment of this well-stratified early Neolithic site.

❖ Mr. İlgin Külekçi (History of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University), *Larisa (Buruncuk): The Characteristics of the Ancient Settlement*. Based on architectural survey, Mr. Külekçi conducted research on the settlement patterns at the site of Larisa



(Buruncuk), which was occupied from the Archaic through the early Hellenistic period.

❖ Ms. Hatice Özer (Sociology, Mimar Sinan University), *The Decentralization of Medicines: The Class- and Location-Based Practice of Doctors' Prescription Writing*. Ms. Özer's project aims to analyze patterns of prescription drug delivery based on class and location.

❖ Ms. Çilem Sönmez-Sözer (Anthropology, Ankara University), *A Comparative Study of Micro Dental Wear in Different Societies*. Ms. Sönmez-Sözer conducted a comparative analysis of dental microwear based on material from the Roman/Byzantine site of Milas-Belentepe.



Mask from the theater at Myra.



The theater at Aphrodisias.



## REPORTS ON ARIT FELLOWSHIPS

**Dr. Mali Skotheim, University  
of Wisconsin, Madison, and the  
Warburg Institute, London**

ARIT-NEH Fellow 2018-2019

*In the Footsteps of the Technitai of Dionysus:  
A Research Trip Through the Ancient Greek  
Cities of Turkey*

In the ancient Greek world, drama was performed at religious festivals in public theaters. These theaters were a central part of the architectural fabric of ancient Greek cities, but it was the celebration of festivals which filled them with activity, drawing spectators and performers into the urban center, as well as merchants and buyers eager to take advantage of the tax-free markets which sprang up during festival time. In the Hellenistic and Roman periods, actors, poets, and musicians who traveled to perform at festivals throughout the Greek-speaking Mediterranean were organized into associations known as the *Technitai*, or Craftsmen, of Dionysus. These festivals, and something of the lives of the performers who competed at them, are documented extensively in stone inscriptions, for which Asia Minor is a rich source. For four months during Spring 2019, as an NEH fellow at ARIT, I had the privilege to follow in the footsteps of the *Technitai* of Dionysus through the ancient cities of Asia Minor, in an attempt to better understand the festival landscape of this region.

The dramatic festivals of Asia Minor formed a close-knit network in the Roman era, which provided the *Technitai* with opportunities to win cash prizes as well as high-status victories that carried great honor and social prestige. Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamum hosted festivals of

the highest status in the Roman period, and were festive centers long before that. Nearby, the cities of the Maeander river valley, Herakleia, Magnesia, Tralles, Aphrodisias, and Laodicea, celebrated their own musical and dramatic festivals. A relief from Aphrodisias of an actor wearing his traveling cloak and holding his mask speaks of the centrality of travel to the acting profession in the Roman period, and inscriptions help to clarify how they

moved through the area. In inscribed documents from Aphrodisias from the second century CE, administrators refer to the *Technitai* traveling from a festival at Tralles to Aphrodisias, and then stopping afterwards at the festival at Herakleia, near the mouth of the river, suggesting that this river system supported a local circuit of festivals. The Maeander river valley also had strong Dionysiac connections, as one candidate for the birthplace of



Relief of a traveling actor from Aphrodisias.



Dionysus. While the Nysa of Dionysus' birth was variously located in Greece, Asia Minor, Palestine, and India, the Carian Nysa laid claim to this story by decorating the theater with reliefs representing the life of Dionysus in the Roman period.

The theater reliefs at Nysa situate the myth of Dionysus within the local landscape, in relation to the nearby river and mountains. At Aphrodisias, reliefs of masks and garlands of edible fruits, such as apples, grapes, and pomegranates, were installed in the South Agora in the first and second centuries CE, connecting the city's festivals with the produce of the land and the abundance of festival time. Seeing these artworks within the landscapes of the region, I began to ponder festivals as the sites of human-landscape interactions. How did the preparations for the festival draw people, animals, and plants from the surrounding countryside into the urban center? Who wove the garlands to decorate the theater during festival time, and the vegetal crowns for the victors?

I followed the tracks of the *Technitai* south, to Lycia, to a small city called Oinoanda, where a musical and dramatic festival, the *Demostheneia*, was established in the second century CE. That a small polis in the mountains of Northern Lycia would have celebrated a dramatic festival shows quite clearly how pervasive the performance of drama was in the Roman period. My husband and I arrived at Oinoanda at the end of March in a light, freezing rain. The agora and theater were still dusted with snow. No wonder the festival was celebrated in mid-summer, in July! I reflected on the seasonality of a place like Oinoanda, with its reliance on the harvest to last through the cold of winter, extending well until spring. Reading the inscription attesting to the *Demostheneia* again, I was struck by the

attention paid to the involvement of the farmsteads from the region in providing bulls for the sacrifice, each farmstead carefully noted for its contribution and participation in the procession to the theater, and the significance this celebration must have had for the local community of Oinoanda.

I found, during these months in Turkey, that research questions formed in response to the entire world around me. I went to search for echoes of the festivals amid the stones of ancient Asia Minor, but I found the history of the festivals also in the riverways and sea routes of the *Technitai*, in the cycles of the year, and among the farmsteads of Lycia.

**Dr. Rebecca Clothey,**  
**Drexel University**

ARIT-NEH Grant Fellow 2018-2019

*Uyghur Language and Cultural  
Transmission in Turkey*

As the immigrant populations increase worldwide, there is an urgent need to understand the challenges immigrants face in adapting to their

new host environments. Among the challenges articulated by many immigrants who have resettled in foreign countries is the maintenance of their mother tongue and the transmission of their cultural traditions to the next generation. Research on the ways in which immigrant groups negotiate the continuation of their own cultural ties while adapting to their host environment will provide governments, policy makers, and educators with better tools to support growing immigrant populations. My research, funded by an ARIT-NEH fellowship, aimed to explore these challenges among one immigrant ethnic group within Turkey, the Uyghurs, whose refugee population has surged in recent years.

I was based in Turkey from mid-September 2018 to mid-January 2019, and I returned again in mid-February 2019 to attend a follow up conference organized by the Uyghur community on Uyghur mother tongue education. Preliminary results show that there are 13 different Uyghur-run and legally registered NGOs in Istanbul, each of which plays a different role in



Uyghur Research Institute, Istanbul.



addressing Uyghur needs. My main concern in this project was to explore the ways in which Uyghur culture was promoted and maintained. To this end, I discovered at least 10 different independently run Uyghur language classes in Istanbul that had been established for Uyghur children. These courses were run on weekends and were established either by a private and concerned individual (who in many cases also taught the courses) or by a Uyghur NGO. Most of the NGOs that ran language courses were religious.

In addition to the classes, there were several Uyghur schools, also run by religious organizations, which usually include Koran classes and other religious instruction. Despite these efforts, there is still concern within the community that over the next generation the language will die out. Therefore, individuals within the community have focused on preserving books written in the Uyghur language, and have also produced new Uyghur language journals and textbooks.

**Dr. Canay Özden-Schilling,  
Johns Hopkins University**

ARIT-NEH Grant Fellow 2019-2020  
*Midstream Capitalism: An Ethnography of  
the Port of Mersin*

This project emerged out of an interest in the infrastructures that make global capitalism possible. I call it “Midstream Capitalism” to draw attention to the spaces of shipping, handling, customs, and storage—spaces that are critical to capitalism’s contemporary moment marked by just-in-time and just-in-place manufacturing and delivery. Scholarship often treats these spaces as neutral—as cogs of a well-oiled machine. But studying individual nodes of global supply chains can show us that they are governed by a

multiplicity of economic, political, and cultural logics, beyond simply a drive for the optimization of shipment practices.

In this project, I studied Mersin, Turkey, as one such node—a city of logistics that contributes to the global movement of commodities daily, and which is home to competing logics for acceptable and desirable means to profit in capitalism. I selected Mersin because it is a city with a wide range of midstream activities. Mersin houses what is currently Turkey’s largest container port by handling volume—a critical node of supply chains passing through the Eastern Mediterranean.

Mersin is also a historical center of merchant capitalism, having served as a cosmopolitan Ottoman port during the late nineteenth century. In my first round of fieldwork for this project, generously supported by ARIT and the NEH, I interviewed the city’s many groups of logistics experts and found a rich, and sometimes tense, landscape of opinions on capitalistic activity, which complicate popular accounts of competition, privatization, and neo-liberalization. I discovered that global streams of profit rely on local economic cultures—beliefs around public good, private gain, and desirable ways to allocate profit between the two. I look forward to returning to Mersin and deepening my ethnographic exploration of the city, its culture of logistics, and its function as one of the many local nodes that uphold global capitalism.



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