

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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Date of Birth: June 22, 1976  
Birthplace: Neptune, NJ

### Academic Degrees

- 2006 Ph.D., Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, in the field of Semitic Philology (Arabic and Northwest Semitic); doctoral dissertation, *The Neo-Mandaic Dialect of Khorramshahr*, awarded distinction
- 2003 A.M., Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, in the field of Semitic Philology (Arabic and Northwest Semitic)
- 1998 A.B., Brown University (Providence, RI), joint degree from the Center for Old World Archaeology and Art and the Program in Ancient Studies, in the fields of Archaeology and Ancient Languages (Latin and Phoenician); awarded *magna cum laude*

### Other Education

- 2001 American University of Beirut, Summer Arabic Language Program (Modern Standard Arabic and colloquial Lebanese Arabic)
- 1997 Università degli studi di Bologna (Bologna, Italy), Dipartimento di Glottologia, year-long program in Near Eastern Studies (modern and Biblical Hebrew, Iranian language and religion, Phoenician art and archaeology, Sumerian)

### Work Experience

- 2006- Instructor in Middle Eastern Studies and Assistant Director for Development and Communications, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey (Piscataway, NJ)

### Other Professional Experience

- 2006- Co-Editor (with Jorunn J. Buckley), *Gorgias Mandaean Series* (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias)
- 2006- English Language Editor and Contributor, *American Iranian Council Update*. Articles include:
- "The Fourth People of the Book" *AIC Update* 3.47
- 2006- Senior Editor and Contributor, *The Arab Washingtonian*. Articles include:
- "The Terror that Walks among Us" (Issue 9)
  - "Objectivity under Fire" (Issue 6)
  - "The Rape of Basra: The Cleansing of the Iraqi Mandaeans" (Issue 4)
  - "Amir Taheri's Iraq: The Real Deal?" (Issue 3)
  - "We Report, You Decide: What the News Media Leave to the Imagination" (Issue 2)
- 2000- Web Administrator. Websites include:
- [www.arabwashingtonian.org](http://www.arabwashingtonian.org), a bilingual (Arabic and English) weekly serving the Washington, D.C. community

- [www.nacal.org](http://www.nacal.org), official website of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics
  - [www.mandaic.org](http://www.mandaic.org), providing information on the Mandaic language
  - [www.whitelevy.org](http://www.whitelevy.org), The Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications (Cambridge, MA)
  - <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~semitic/Cesnola/>, the Cesnola Collection from Ancient Cyprus of the Semitic Museum at Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
- 1998- Editor and Proofreader. Previous publications include:
- *Hebrew Grammar*, Jo Ann Hackett (forthcoming)
  - *The Holocaust in Historical Context*, vol. 2, Steven T. Katz (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003)
  - *Life in Biblical Israel*, Philip J. King and Lawrence E. Stager, Douglas A. Knight, ed. (New York: Westminster John Knox, 2002)
  - *The Archaeology of Jordan and Beyond: Essays in Honor of James A. Sauer*, Lawrence E. Stager, Joseph A. Greene, and Michael D. Coogan, eds. (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2000)
  - *NELC Newsletter* 1.1-3.1, Official newsletter of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
  - *CAARI News*, Official quarterly newsletter of the Cyprus-American Archaeological Research Institute (Nicosia, Cyprus)
  - *Semitic Museum News*, Official quarterly newsletter of the Semitic Museum at Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
- Graphic and design contributions include:
- Graphics and Photography, *The Houses of Ancient Israel* Exhibit, Harvard Semitic Museum (Cambridge, MA)
  - Photography, *Riches Hidden in Secret Places: Ancient Near Eastern Studies in Memory of Thorkild Jacobsen*, Tzvi Abusch, ed. (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2002)

## Book

- [Forth.] *The Neo-Mandaic Dialect of Khorramshahr*, Semitic Viva, ed. Otto Jastrow (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz)

## Articles

- 2007 The Relative Pronoun *d*- and the Pronominal Suffixes in Mandaic, in *Journal of Semitic Studies* 52.1: 71-78 (Manchester)
- 2006 Iranian Scripts for Aramaic Languages, in the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 341: 21-30 (Boston)
- 2003 The Lingua Franca and International Communication, *NELC Department Newsletter*, Spring 2003 (Cambridge, MA). This article also appeared in the *GSAS Bulletin*, Vol. XXXII, no. 8, and on the website of Iran's Cultural Heritage News Agency, <http://www.chn.ir/en/news/?id=7&section=2> (accessed June 10, 2003)

## Reviews & Review Articles

- [Forth.] Review of Jorunn J. Buckley, *The Great Stem of Souls* (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias, 2006), in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (Chicago)
- [Forth.] Review of Bogdan Burtea, *Das mandäische Fest der Schalttage* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2005), in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (New Haven, CT)

- [Forth.] Review of J.B. Segal and E.C.D. Hunter, *Catalogue of the Aramaic and Mandaic Incantation Bowls in the British Museum* (London: British Museum, 2000), in *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung* (Berlin)
- 2005 Review of Lynne Long (ed.), *Translation and Religion* (Clevedon, UK: Multilingual Matters, 2005), in LINGUIST LIST 16.2711, <http://linguistlist.org/issues/16/16-2711.html> (accessed September 21, 2005)
- 2004 Mandaean Studies Since the Millennium, in *Folia Orientalia* 40 (Kraków)

#### Conferences

- 2006 Convener, the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics (San Antonio, TX)
- 2005 Webmaster and Assistant Organizer, the 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics (Seattle, Washington)
- 1999 Assistant Organizer, 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the ARAM Society (Cambridge, MA)
- 1998 Event Staff, 45<sup>th</sup> Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale (Cambridge, MA and New Haven, CT)

#### Talks

- 2006/11 "Iranian Scripts for Aramaic Languages: The Origin of the Mandaic Script" – ASOR Annual Meeting (Washington, DC)
- 2006/3 "Pragmatics in the Middle Eastern Marches: Identifiability and Objective Referentiality" – NACAL 34 (Seattle, WA)
- 2005/10 "Working with New Data – Fieldwork in Semitic Languages" – Harvard University Semitic Philology Workshop (Cambridge, MA)
- 2005/3 "Languages in Contact: Neo-Mandaic and Iranian" – NACAL 33 (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2004/11 "The Relative Pronoun *q-* and Pronominal Suffixes in Mandaic" – Harvard University Semitic Philology Workshop (Cambridge, MA)
- 2004/5 "Mandaic: Yesterday, Today ... and Tomorrow?" – Harvard University Semitic Philology Workshop (Cambridge, MA)
- 2004/3 "The Neo-Mandaic Dialects of Khorramshahr and Ahwaz," AOS 214 (San Diego, CA)
- 1999/3 "The Marsala Punic Shipwreck" – Harvard Shipwrecks Seminar (Cambridge, MA)

#### Grants and Fellowships

- 2005 Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship (Harvard University)
- 2001 Foreign Languages Area Specialization Grant (American University of Beirut)
- 1998 G. Ernest Wright Graduate Prize (Harvard University)
- 1998 Susan Colver Rosenberger Prize (Brown University)

#### Courses Taught

- 2006 Introduction to Qur'anic and Classical Arabic (one semester)
- 2006 Multiple Identities of the Middle East (one semester)
- 2003 ARABIC A: Elementary Arabic (two semesters)
- 2002 ARABIC A: Elementary Arabic (two semesters)
- 2001 LIT&ARTS C-37: The Hebrew Bible and its Interpreters (one semester)
- 2001 CLAS-HEB A: Introduction to Biblical Hebrew (two semesters)
- 2000 CLAS-HEB 138: The Historical Grammar of Biblical Hebrew (one semester)

#### Academic Societies

- 2006- Member, American Schools of Oriental Research

2001- Member, American Oriental Society  
1999- Member and past Convener, North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics  
1998 Member, Phi Beta Kappa Society (Alpha of Rhode Island)

## Research Interests

- *Language Contact*: Lingua Francas, Mixed Languages, Pidgins, Creoles, Trading Jargons, Diglossia, Jewish Languages, and the linguistics of prestige.
- *Language Death*: Ancient Near Eastern Languages, Modern Neo-Aramaic dialects
- *Historical Linguistics*: Central Semitic, including Syro-Palestinian (Northwest Semitic), Aramaic, Arabic, and Ugaritic, genetic classification of the Semitic languages
- *Field Work*: Neo-Mandaic (dialect of Khorramshahr), Setswana
- *Epigraphy*: Phoenician and Punic, Old Aramaic, Aramaic Incantation Texts
- *Palaeography*: Hebrew, Syriac, Mandaic, and Arabic
- *Religion*: The Near East during the Hellenistic, Roman, and Late Antique Periods

## Languages

Modern: English (native), Italian (fluent), French (reading), German (reading), Arabic (written Arabic and colloquial Levantine Arabic), Fārsi, Neo-Mandaic, Turoyo

Ancient: Latin, Greek, Old Persian, Pahlavi, Hebrew, Aramaic (Syriac, Old Aramaic, Biblical Aramaic, Mandaic), Akkadian, Phoenician (including Punic)