MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Let me thank all of you who have sent information for this newsletter. The response to our request for news, publications, and so forth has been gratifying and we hope that in the coming year even more of you will send items for inclusion. I would also like to thank you for making the online listserve (islamsci@lists.ou.edu) a success through your participation. Please note that Volumes 4-6 of the Newsletter are available at http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/ (vols. 5-6 being in .pdf format, which requires the free and easily downloadable Adobe Acrobat Reader).

This coming July, many of us will attend the International Congress in Mexico City (see page 6). I hope that members of the Commission (and other interested parties) will have time to meet and discuss a number of issues, such as online databases, access to primary sources, bibliographies on Islamic science and mathematics, textbooks meant for general audiences on Islamic science, and making our website a starting point for research on Islamic science, not only for the specialist but also for the student and the curious layman. If you have other ideas about the meeting in Mexico City, please do not hesitate to contact me (jragep@ou.edu) or Julio Samsó, or post them to the listserve. See you in Mexico City!

F. Jamil Ragep
2. ORGANIZATIONS/ NETWORKS/ GROUPS

- Although the History of Science Department at Istanbul University was closed last April 2000, the faculty and staff continue to do research in the history of science and teach elective courses as well as have graduate programs for M.A. and Ph.D. students within the Philosophy Department.

For further information about recent publications on history of science in Turkey, the status of the Turkish Society for History of Science (TBTK), and future activities, please contact: Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, IRCICA, Yıldız Sarayı, Seyir Köşkü, Barbaros Bulvarı 80700 Beşiktaş/Istanbul-Turkey. Tel.: (212) 259 1742; Fax: (212) 258 4365; Email: ircica@superonline.com

- THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR THE NEAR EAST (NINO) is dedicated to advancing branches of scholarship relating to the civilizations of the Near East. It maintains an institute in Leiden as well as subsidiary institutes in countries of the Near East. It also maintains a scientific library, publishes journals and books on the ancient and modern Near East, and supports research activities.

For further information: Address: P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, the Netherlands. Tel.: +31-71-5272036; Fax: +31-71-5272038; Email: beurs@rullet.leidenuniv.nl; Internet: http://www.leidenuniv.nl/nino/nino.html

- THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ISLAM IN THE MODERN WORLD (ISIM) promotes and conducts interdisciplinary research on contemporary social and intellectual trends and movements in Muslim societies and communities. The ISIM’s research approach is interdisciplinary and comparative, covering a large geographical range that includes North Africa and the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and Muslim communities in the West. (http://isim.leidenuniv.nl/)

3. NEW JOURNALS/SERIES/ NEWSLETTERS

- On the 750th anniversary of Khwāja Naṣir al-Dīn al-Dīşbš death, FARHANG, the IHCS (Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies) quarterly magazine, is issuing a special number, which will include articles on his mathematics, philosophy & reason, literature & mysticism, politics as well as essays on editions of his manuscripts.

Those wishing to contribute should send their articles in Farsi, English, French or Arabic (approx. 30 pages A4, double space), by February 20, 2001 to: FARHANG office. A hard copy and a diskette (Macintosh or Windows or Tex) should also be included.

For further details please contact: H. Faqih Abdollahi & J. Aghayani Chavoshi, FARHANG office, P.O. Box 14155-6419, Tehran, Iran; Tel.: 0098 (21) 8036316; Fax: 0098 (21) 8036317; Email: Faqih@ihcs.ac.ir

- Two new publishing series have been initiated as part of Brigham Young University’s Middle Eastern Texts Initiative (http://meti.byu.edu/):

— Graeco-Arabic Sciences. Dedicated to the publication of bilingual editions of significant scientific and philosophical works from the Arabic intellectual tradition. The series will include texts from the traditional scientific disciplines such as astronomy, mathematics, medicine as well as ethics, economics, and music theory. (http://meti.byu.edu/ast.html)

— Islamic Translation Series. Dedicated to the publication of bilingual editions of significant works in the Arabic and Persian philosophical tradition, making them available to scholars, students, and the general public. (http://meti.byu.edu/its.html)

Additional inquiries may be directed to Dr. Glen Cooper (Series Editor, The Graeco-Arabic Sciences) at gmc24@email.byu.edu or The Center for the Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts, Brigham Young University, P.O. Box 7113, University Station, Provo, UT 84602

- SCIAMVS: Sources and Commentaries in Exact Sciences is now preparing its second volume. (See “Appendix” for the Table of Contents of Volume 1.) Those who are interested in subscribing and/or sending contributions to SCIAMVS, please visit their homepage: http://plaza.harmonix.ne.jp/~sciamvs/ Also see Prof. Yano under “Work in Progress.”

- The first volume of the new international journal Suhayl. Journal for the History of the Exact and Natural Sciences in Islamic Civilisation (in English and Arabic) has been published. Contributions are welcome for the next issue. (See “Appendix” for the Table of Contents of Volume 1.)
4. CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIA/MEETINGS/LECTURES IN 1999-2000

• SCIENCE AND ISLAM - MODERN HISTORY AND THE CONTEMPORARY DEBATE. 7th IAMES Congress, October 4-8, 2000 in Berlin, Germany

The “Islamization of Disciplines” is one of a number of projects which over the last three decades have sought to create an Islamic approach to modern Western science and technology. The time seemed ripe to bring together historians of science and contemporary Muslim scholars to examine and assess the scientific knowledge from preceding centuries with what contemporary Muslim scholars have been developing in the 20th century.

For the proposed panel on Science and Islam (http://www.fu-berlin.de/iames/) papers were invited from both fields of scholarship: “Islamic Science” and “The History of Modern Science in Islamic Countries (ca. 1600-2000 AD).”

Contact persons: (1) The program coordinator Amr Hamzawy, 7th IAMES Congress, Freie Universitäts Berlin, Ihnestr. 31, D-14195 Berlin, Germany; Tel.: +49-30-83 85 66 39/40; Fax: +49-30-83 85 66 37; Email: iames@zedat.fu-berlin.de. (2) The panel coordinator Rainer Broemer; Email: Rainer.Broemer@gmx.de

• The 1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ISLAMIC HERITAGE AND SCIENCES. July 1-4, 2000. Sponsored by the Islamic Heritage Foundation & The Ameer Khusro Society of America in collaboration with the University of Chicago. Sessions included: 1) Time & Space in Islam; 2) Islamic Thought and Sciences; 3) The Development of Inner-Self in Islam.

For the program, see http://humanities.uchicago.edu/nlec/IslamicConference/Program.html; contact person: Dr. Habibuddin Ahmed, Coordinator; Email: hahmed@unistarinc.com; Tel.: 630-739-9028

• INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 900TH ANNIVERSARY OF ḤAKĪM OMAR KHAYYĀM NEYSHABOURI. May 18-20, 2000 in Nayshabour, Iran

The Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, along with the World Mathematics Year 2000, organized an International Congress in Commemoration of the 900th Anniversary of, ʿakīm Omar Khayyām. This event was organized with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, and the office of the Governor of Neyshabour.

For information contact: The Congress Secretariat, No. 17, 1st Alley, Shahid Hesari St., Mirdamad Blvd., P.O. Box 11365-4498, Tehran 15489, Iran; Fax: (98-21) 225 2536; Tel.: (98-21) 222 7825 / 227 9885; Email: irunesco@vax.ipm.ac.ir

• 2000 YEARS OF TRANSMISSION OF MATHEMATICAL IDEAS: EXCHANGE AND INFLUENCE FROM LATE BABYLONIAN MATHEMATICS TO EARLY RENAISSANCE SCIENCE. May 8-12, 2000 in Bellagio, Italy

The purpose of the conference was to discuss various forms of common mathematical problems, and to try finding direct or indirect influences, possible connections, and eventual means of transmission. All papers presented during the conference will be revised based upon discussion during the meeting, and will be published in a volume of proceedings by Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany.

Organizers: Joseph W. Dauben (New York) and Yvonne Dold (Heidelberg). Website: http://www.iwr.uni-heidelberg.de/transmath/

Participants included: A. Allard (Tourpes, Belgium); M. Bagheri (Tehran, Iran); J. L. Berggren (Burnaby, B.C., Canada); A. Eberhard-Bréard (Paris, France); C. Burnett (London, England); K. Chemla & A. Keller (Paris, France); B. van Dalen (Frankfurt, Germany); A. Djebbar (Orsay, France); L. Dun (Beijing, China); W. van Egmond (Tempe, AZ, USA); M. Folkerts (München, Germany); R. Franci (Siena, Italy); J. Hogendijk (Utrecht, Netherlands); J. Hoyrup (Roskilde, Denmark); T. Lévy (Vanves, France); D. Pingree (Providence, R.I., U.S.A.); K. Plofker (Providence, R.I., USA); U. Reckhoff (Freiburg, Germany); S. R. Sarma (Aligarh, India); J. Sesiano (Laussane, Switzerland); A. Volkov (Montreal, Canada)

• SCIENCE AND SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT IN MAGHREB. February 11-12, 2000 in Marrakesh, Morocco

The Group for Research in History and Philosophy of Science (GRHPS, Rabat, Morocco) organized a roundtable Feb. 11-12, 2000 in Marrakesh on the theme “Science and Scientific Thought in the Maghreb.”

 Bennacer El Bouazzati, the coordinator of the GRHPS, was the commentator. All the papers presented analyzed the state of sciences in the Middle Ages.

Participants included: Mohammed Mitfah, Salem Yafout, Bennacer El Bouazzati, Abdessalam Benmaissa, Abdelmajid Sghaier, Hammou Naqari, Driss Lamrabet, Mohammed Abattouy, Mohammed Aballagh, Ahmad Dallal, Jacques Langhade.
• SCIENCE AND ISLAM: FROM THE CLASSICAL AGE TO CONTEMPORARY DEBATE: DAVO STUDY GROUP ON “ARABIC-OTTOMAN SCIENCES IN THE MODERN PERIOD.” December 1999 in Hamburg, Germany

The first panel on Arabic-Ottoman sciences organized by the German Middle East Studies Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation (DAVO) convened on Saturday Dec. 12, 1999 in Hamburg at the 6th Annual Congress of the DAVO. The individual contributions covered the periods from the 17th through the end of the 19th century. The issues discussed ranged from contacts between French and Persian travelers at the time of Nicolas de Peiresc (Sonja Brentjes, Frankfurt/Main) and the role of the sciences in al-Zabīdī’s encyclopedia Ṭāj al-ʿarās (Stefan Reichmuth, Bochum) to the reconstruction of the 18th-century scholar Muḥāfīd Šīdū’s private library collection (François Charette, Frankfurt/Main), the scientific career of the 19th-century astronomer Maḥmūd Bey al-Falākī between the Geomagnetic Association and Egyptian Khedivial geodesy (Rainer Brömer, Göttingen), and the creation of a popular scientific “dialogue” between late 19th-century Arabic journals like al-Muqtaṣaf and their readership (Dagmar Glaß, Leipzig).

The general conclusion from the discussions was that the scientific development in the Islamic and Ottoman world was anything but insignificant; however, more profound case studies are required in order to estimate the scientific status of the compiling of, commenting on, and the elaboration of scientific knowledge derived from various indigenous and international sources. There are clear indications of the innovative role of scientific šarḥ-literature, and the ḥadīth works as al-Jabartī’s famous chronicle which contain numerous references to empirical scientific practice in the 18th- and early 19th-century Middle East.

Participants included:
Charles Burnett, “Cultural Bases of Science in Medieval Europe” (Commentator: Ken’ichi Takahashi)
Jamiil Ragep, “Cultural Bases of Science in the Islamic World” (Commentator: Takanori Suzuki)
B. V. Subbarayappa, “Cultural Bases of Science in India” (Commentator: Michio Yano)
Keizo Hashimoto, “Cultural Bases of Science in China”
Shuntaro Ito, “The Horizon of the Comparative History of Science”

HORMOZ EBRAHIMNEJAD delivered a paper on “Religion and Medicine in Qajar, Iran,” at a symposium held September 4-7, 2000 in Bristol, UK.

BENNACER EL BOUAZZATI gave a paper entitled “On the Relevance of Averroist Cosmology,” and participated in a roundtable discussion on the theme “Science and Scientific Thought in the Maghreb” organized by the Group of Research in History and Philosophy of Science held in Marrakesh, Morocco February 11-12, 2000 (See page 3 for conference.)

FEZA GÜNERGUN presented the following papers:
— “Cemiyet-i Tibbiye-i Sahane’ın Mekteb-i Tibbiye-i Sahane’ye Getirdiği Eleştirleri (Imperial Medical School as Criticized by the Imperial Medical Society).” Paper presented at the “VIth Congress on Turkish Medical History,” May 22-24, 2000 in Izmir, Turkey.

• INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES (IIAS): INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMPARATIVE HISTORY OF SCIENCE” October 28-30, 1999 in Kyoto, Japan

Theme: The Cultural Bases of Science.

Organizing Committee: Shuntaro Ito (Chair), Nobuo Miura (Secretary), Keizo Hashimoto, Ken’ichi Takahashi, Michio Yano.

English abstracts of the papers presented at the congress will be posted on the DAVO homepage at www.geo.uni-mainz.de/davo. Contact the Study Group c/o Rainer Brömer at Rainer.Broemer@gmx.de
MOUSTAFA MAWALDI presented the following papers:

—“The Volume of the Sphere of the Mathematicians in Arabic Civilization.” The Syrian-Lebanese Meeting for Research of the Patrimony of Arabic Science, January 20-21, 2000 in Beirut, Lebanon.


Nancy G. Siraisi (Distinguished Professor, Hunter College, City University of New York): “Girolamo Mercuriale and Renaissance Medical Antiquarianism”

For details, contact F. Jamil Ragep, Dept. History of Science, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019-3106. Tel.: (405) 325-2213. Fax: (405) 325-2363. Email: j ragep@ou.edu. Web page: http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/medposter -online.htm

• THE FIRST GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE ON IBN ŚNĀ. Spring 2001, Yale University

The recent growth of research interest in the life, times, and philosophy of Ibn Śnā on the part of graduate students in the United States and Europe represents an exciting development in the fields of Islamic Studies and the History of Philosophy. The First Graduate Student Conference on Ibn Śnā has two main objectives: to foster communication and debate among graduate students pursuing research on Ibn Śnā; and to introduce this new generation of students and their research interests to senior scholars working on Ibn Śnā.

This two-day conference is tentatively scheduled for March 2001 and will be held at Yale University. Presenters of papers will be limited to graduate students and junior scholars (recent Ph.D.s). The conference will be chaired and discussed by senior scholars. Students and scholars at all career stages are invited to attend. The theme of the conference is Ibn Śnā studies broadly conceived. Areas of investigation for paper presentation include but are not limited to:

• Autobiography/Biography complex (life and times)
• Bibliography and Manuscripts
• Thought (including all exact and philosophical sciences addressed by Ibn Śnā)
• Reception of Ibn Śnā’s philosophy (Arabic, Persian, Turkish)

The Latin Avicenna will not play a significant role in the conference.

A 300-word abstract of paper topic is requested by June 1, 2000. First drafts of papers are due November 1, 2000. There is a strong possibility that partial travel and maintenance stipends will be awarded to participants. The proceedings will be published.

For further information contact: David C. Reisman or Ahmed al-Rahim, NELC, Yale University, P.O.Box 208236, New Haven, CT 06520-8236; Tel.: (203) 432-2944; Fax: 203 432-2946; Email: david.reisman@yale.edu or ahmed.al-rahim@yale.edu

5. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

• HISTORY OF EARLY MEDICINE: A SYMPOSIUM. November 20, 2000 in Norman, Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma’s Rockefeller Fellowship Program, which is devoted to research on “Scientific Exchanges Between Islam & Europe 1300-1800,” in conjunction with the College of Medicine, will sponsor a symposium on “History of Early Modern Medicine.” There will be a workshop focusing on “Medical Exchanges between Islam and Europe” as well as the below lectures. In addition there will be “An Exhibit of Renaissance Medical Books” presented by Alain Touwaide at the University’s History of Science Collections.

Participants include:

Lutz Richter-Bernburg (Orientalisches Seminar, Universität Tübingen, Germany): “Communicable Diseases in Pre-modern Islamic Medicine”

Gül A. Russell (Associate Professor of Humanities in Medicine, Texas A&M): “Perception of Continuity and Change: The Role of Medical History in Medical Curricula”
- EXCHANGES OF ISLAMIC MATHEMATICS BETWEEN ISLAM AND EUROPE.
March 29-31, 2001 in Norman, Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma’s Rockefeller Fellowship Program, “Scientific Exchanges Between Islam & Europe 1300-1800,” will sponsor a series of lectures on Islamic mathematics and a workshop devoted to the question of exchanges of mathematical knowledge between Islam and Europe, especially after 1300. The subject area takes advantage of the presence of one of this year’s Rockefeller Fellows, Dr. Irina Lyuter, who is Senior Research Associate at the Institute for the History of Science and Technology in Moscow, Russia. These events will occur in conjunction with the Math Day being sponsored by the University of Oklahoma’s Mathematics Department, whose featured speaker will be Professor Karen Parshall of the University of Virginia. She will be participating in the other activities as well. Scheduled participants include: Len Berggren, Jan Hogendijk, Elaheh Kheirandish, and Kim Plofker.

For further details, contact F. Jamil Ragep, Dept. History of Science, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019-3106. Tel.: (405) 325-2213. Fax: (405) 325-2363. Email: jragep@ou.edu.

---

XXIST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISTORY OF SCIENCE 8-14 July 2001 in Mexico City, Mexico.
Theme: Science and Cultural Diversity

For information contact: Juan José Saldaña, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the XXIst ICHS, Apartado postal 21-873, 04000 México, D.F., México. URL: http://www.cilea.it/history/DHS

* SCHEDULED ICHS SYMPOSIUMS *

— “ASTRONOMICAL HERITAGE OF NON-EUROPEAN CULTURAL AREAS.” Organized by S. M. R. Ansari (Aligarh/ India), Il-Seong Nha (Seoul / South Korea), and Marco A.M. Corral (Mexico); co-sponsored by the Commission on History of Science and Technology in Islamic Civilization. Contact Person: S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Raza.Ansari@gmx.net)

— “HISTORY OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD.” Organized by Hélène Bellosta.

---

— “THE MEDIEVAL NEXUS: SCIENTIFIC TRANSMISSION WITHIN AND FROM ISLAMIC LANDS.” Organized by Julio Samsó and Jamil Ragep sponsored by the Commission on History of Science and Technology in Islamic Civilization. 2 Sessions.

SESSION 1 [non-astronomical topics]:
Mohamed Abattouy (Morocco), “Transmission of Mechanics from Eastern to Western Islam and from Islam to Europe”
Mercè Comes (Spain), “The Arabic Influence on European Cartography”
Irina Lyuter (Russia): subject to be determined although related to the later history (13th c. and after) of Islamic mathematics and its relation with European mathematics
Mònica Rius (Spain), “Contacts Between the Maghrib and Egypt in the 16th century: The Works of al-Tãjýrþ (d. 990 / 1580) on the Qibla”

SESSION 2 [astronomical topics]:
Benno van Dalen (Netherlands), “The Dissemination of Materials from zijes within the Islamic World”
Miquel Forcad (Spain), “Sources and Background of Andalusian Criticisms of Ptolemy”
Roser Puig and Emilia Calvo (Spain), “Rereading the Alfonso T treatise on Al ß ibn Khalaf’s ’Sammar Universal’”
Jamil Ragep (USA), “The Islamic Influence on Copernicus’s Theory of Trepidation”
Julio Samsó (Spain), “Jā íbr ibn Aflaﬁ’s Criticism of Ptolemy’s Determination of the Parameters for Venus and Mercury”

— “OTTOMAN SCIENCE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.” Organized by Ekmeleddin Îhsanoölu, E. Nicolaidis, and A. Picon; co-sponsored by the Commission on History of Science and Technology in Islamic Civilization. Contact Person: Ekmeleddin Îhsanoölu (ircica@superonline.com)

— “SCIENCE AT THE FRONTIERS: MEDICINE AND CULTURES IN THE ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WORLDS.” Organized by Alain Touwaide (atouwaide@hotmail.com)

• BETWEEN EMPIRES - ‘ORIENTALISM’

An international conference on cultural interaction between Europe and the ‘Orient’, from the early Middle Ages to 1600. The aim of the conference is to explore the forms of dialogue that existed between empires of the East and of the West, and to investigate the formation of these categories themselves. It will consider the concrete forms of such dialogues: the vicissitudes of trade, translation, and theft that characterize transactions of a material nature. It will also consider the imaginative dimension of relations that existed between empires: the catalogue of marvels, myths, and misgiving that both encouraged and impeded those dialogues.

Call for papers: Submission Deadline 30 September 2000. Please send abstracts of no more than 500 words to: Email between.empires@trin.cam.ac.uk; Web site: http://www.arts.usyd.edu.au/Arts/departs/medieval/conf.html

6. RECENT PUBLICATIONS

PLEASE NOTE that these publications have been submitted from online members and should be supplemented by the ISIS critical bibliography (http://depts.washington.edu/hssexec/isis) and the International Society for the History of Arabic and Islamic Science and Philosophy’s Newsletter (http://tamushsc.tamu.edu/humanity/newsletter/index.html) among other sources.


ANA MARIA ALFONSO-GOLDFARB. Livro do Tesouro de Alexandre. Editora Vozes. Petropolis, 1999. [Study of an Arabic alchemical text that includes a lengthy introduction, a densely annotated Portuguese translation, a facsimile of the manuscript (Escorail 947), and a rich bibliography.]


—— (with Alexander Jones). Ptolemy’s Geography: An Annotated Translation of the Theoretical Chapters. Princeton University Press, Oct. 2000. [The work also outlines the history of Ptolemy’s work from ancient times to its Latin translation in the 14th century, and illustrates this history with color reproductions of historically significant maps from Greek and Latin versions of the Geography.]


FARHANG. Quarterly Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies. Special Issue Topic: Commemoration of Khayyâm. Vol. 12, No. 29-32, Spring 2000. (See “Appendix for the Table of Contents.)


—. “An Ottoman Professor of Botany: Salih Efendi (1817-1895) and His Contributions to Botanical Education.” In Science Technology and Industry in the Ottoman World.


7. WORK IN PROGRESS


J. L. BERGGREN and GLEN VAN BRUMMELEN submitted for publication papers dealing with al-Khâfî’s treatises on the distance from the center of the earth to the shooting stars, on rising times of arcs of the ecliptic, and on drawing two straight lines forming a given angle from a given point to a given line. They are also preparing for publication a study of al-Khâfî’s treatise “On What is Seen of Sky and Sea.”

RAINER BRÖMER is interested in the comparative reception of Darwinism in Western and Muslim societies. He is finishing a PhD thesis on the role of Ernst Haeckel’s monism in Italian biology during the kulturkampf period (late 19th c.). His advisor is Olaf Breidbach, Jena, Germany. He is also co-editing the proceedings of an international workshop on “Darwinism and/as ideology” which was held in 1999 in Regensburg, Germany.

He is also interested in the history of science in the Ottoman Empire, focusing on the interplay between traditional “Arabic” science and “Western” science. He was involved in the coordination of panels on Ottoman science at the congress of the German Middle East Association (DAVO) and the International Association for Middle East Studies (IAMES) in October 2000. He is currently preparing a research project on the nature of the scientific community in 18th- and early 19th-century Cairo, starting with a systematic analysis of al-Jabarî’s chronicle Ajâ’ib al-‘āthâr fi l-tarîjim wa ’l-akhbâr and the sources he mentions (cf. Al-Jabarî History of Egypt. A Guide. T. Philipp & G. Schwald. Stuttgart: Steiner, 1994). For information regarding his work with the DAVO Study Group on Arabic-Ottoman Sciences in the Modern Period, see http://www.isim.nl/newsletter/5/research/4.html

Brömer is also interested in the contemporary debate on “Islamization of Knowledge”/“Islamic Science” and he is involved in preparing a panel at the IAMES congress in Berlin.

BENNO VAN DALEN is currently working at the Institute for History of Science in Frankfurt am Main, Germany on an updated version of E. S. Kennedy’s “Survey of Islamic Astronomical Tables” (1956). This update will include a list of the more than 200 so-called zijes (astronomical handbooks with tables) in Arabic, Persian and some other languages that are meanwhile known, with basic information on author, locality, time, references in
primary and secondary sources, and, for the extant works, contents and available manuscripts. Furthermore, the developments in a number of topics occurring in almost every zij (namely, planetary parameters, eclipse computation and mathematical astrology) will be described on the basis of a representative group of 30 or more extant zijes.

Van Dalen also continues to work on an edition and translation of, and commentary on, a highly original zij compiled by a group of Muslim astronomers who were brought to China by the Mongols around 1270 AD. The main source for this work is a Chinese translation made in 1384, which has until now aroused interest in particular by Chinese and Japanese scholars, but has never been systematically compared with Arabic and Persian astronomical works.

Van Dalen’s work is financed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) for two years. For more information: http://www.rz.uni-frankfurt.de/~dalen

FEZA GÜNERGUN started to edit the Proceedings of the Symposium on “History of Science, Technology and Medicine in Turkey (1973-1998)” that was organized in Istanbul by the Department of History of Science in October 1998. This volume will cover most of the publications made on the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in the past 25 years in Turkey and present the activities of institutions working in these fields.

TOSHIKAI KASHINO is studying transmission of astronomy from Greece to Islam at Osaka Prefectural University under the guidance of Prof. Ken Saito.

DAVID A. KING is working on the final version of his Studies in Astronomical Timekeeping in Medieval Islam (the first version was written in Cairo in the 1970s) and a long-term project to catalogue all medieval astronomical instruments up to ca. 1500.

IRINA LYUTER is currently at the University of Oklahoma working on a project entitled, “The Influence of Islamic Philosophical and Logical Doctrines on the Geometrical-Kinematical Investigations of Naṣr al-Dīn al-Dīşbî (1201-1274) and Qūḥ al-Dīn al-Shīrāzī (1236-1311) and a Comparison of their Work with that of the Italian and English Scientific Communities (17th c.).”

The investigation is based upon the treatises of the prominent 13th c. scholar-encyclopaedist Naṣr al-Dīn al-Dīşbî and his famous disciple Qūḥ al-Dīn al-Shīrāzī. The geometrical problems considered by them, such as the problem of the legitimacy of introducing motion into mathematics, could be solved positively not only by expanding the system of Euclid’s axioms but also by modifying the philosophical standpoints of the majority of medieval Islamic scholars, whose outlook was inspired by Aristotelian views that impeded the further development of mathematical knowledge. A comparison of the dependence of mathematics upon philosophy in the medieval Islamic East with the situation in the 17th c. Italian and English scientific communities (with particular emphasis on Galileo and Newton) is at the center of this study, which is aimed at constructing the identities of Islamic and Western European scholar-encyclopaedists.

ALAIN TOUWAIDE is currently working at the University of Oklahoma on a project entitled “Medicinalia Arabo-Byzantina: Documents and Texts on Scientific Exchanges between the Arabic World and Byzantium.”

His project, which aims to fill an important gap in current studies and to open a new perspective for research, deals with the edition and translation of the Byzantine medical treatises presented as translations from the Arabic that he has inventoried in a systematic exploration of Byzantine manuscripts. The work will start from the unedited treatises and will exclude, at least initially, treatises such as the Efodia, Nikolaos Myrepsos and Johannes Aktoários, on which scholars are currently working. The editions will be introduced by the history and a full analysis of the text, including the identification of its Arabic source when possible, so as to furnish the material for further studies on the diffusion of Arabic science and on its contribution to World Cultural History.

MICHIKO YANO has been working for the past 12 months on the publication of the journal SCIAMVS along with his colleagues in Japan, especially Ken Saito, who is a specialist on Greek mathematics and is the managing editor of the journal. They are now in the process of editing the second volume. Volume 1 contains contributions by Muroi and Robson on cuneiform texts, Hogendijk and Sesiano on Arabic and Latin manuscripts, and Hayashi and Pingree on Sanskrit manuscripts (see “Appendix” for Table of Contents). Those who are interested in subscribing and/or sending contributions to SCIAMVS, please visit their homepage: http://plaza.harmonix.ne.jp/~sciamvs/

Prof. Yano is also working recently with what he feels is a very promising graduate student from the University of Tokyo, Taro Mimura who edited Kūshyār ibn Lābbān’s work on the astrolabe as his B.A. thesis, and is now preparing a M.A. thesis on al-Bīrūnī’s work on the astrolabe. Along with his former student Toshiaki Kashino, they are all reading a part of al-Bīrūnī’s al-Qārīn al-Maṣūdī.
8. INSTITUTIONS

GRADUATE PROGRAM AT YALE. The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Yale University has an extensive program in Graeco-Arabic studies and in science and philosophy in the Islamic world. Interested students may check their website at http://www.yale.edu/nelc/ or write directly to dimitri.gutas@yale.edu.

HISTORY OF SCIENCE IN ISLAMIC CIVILIZATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA. The Department of the History of Science at the University of Oklahoma offers courses in Arab/Islamic science and the opportunity to pursue advanced degrees (both Master’s and Doctoral) in this area. Interested students may obtain information about the Department and application procedures at http://www.ou.edu/cas/hsci/ or email jragep@ou.edu.

9. RESEARCH/CONFERENCE REPORTS


10. TEACHING

BENNACER EL BOUAZZATI has, during the last two years, had three seminars (Argumentation, Interactions Art/Science in the history of ideas, and Sociology of Science) for postgraduate students of the “Unit of Formation and Research: Epistemology and History of Science” within the Faculty of Letters of Rabat. The project of the Unit was elaborated by him in 1998.

FEZA GÜNERGUN has taught the following undergraduate courses in 1999-2000: Science in Medieval Times and Renaissance; Science in the 17th and 18th Centuries; Weighing and Measuring in World Cultures; and Weights and Measures in Ottoman Turkey. She also taught a course for M.A. students entitled “Scientific Revolutions.”

TZVI LANGERMANN has for the third year running given a graduate seminar in Arabic medical texts at Bar Ilan (Israel) with over 25 students. They read the chapters on mizãj in Ibn Sjahª’s Qãnýn fþ al-Ðibb, and also looked at the corresponding chapter in a manuscript of Abý Sahl al-MasªÝjp’s Kitãb al-Mi’a. Abý Sahl is reported to have been Ibn Sjahª’s teacher. It has been suggested that Kitãb al-Mi’a served as a model for the Qãnýn, but the results of the class were decidedly negative; Ibn Sjahª really broke new ground, especially in his systematic and coming year (2000/2001) they will read from two texts on toxicology, both of which Langermann is in the midst (really the beginning) of editing (in 3 languages), translating, and commenting upon: Maimonides book on poisons, and Ibn Rushd’s monograph on the theriac.

For next year’s seminar (2000-2001) Langermann plans to deal with toxicology and that most famous of medieval medicines, the theriac. Toxicology will be taking up a good part of his own research, as he has begun a number of projects (with solid interest from publishers) dealing with Ibn Rushd’s monograph on the theriac, Maimonides’ treatise on poisons and their antidotes, and the Hebrew version of Jãbir ibn Hayyân’s book on poisons.

MOUSTAFA MAWALDI has for the past ten years been teaching annually a course on historical methods and manuscript sources at Aleppo University.

11. THESES/DISSERTATIONS


12. OBITUARIES

DIRK J. STRUIK died October 21, 2000 at his home in Belmont, Massachusetts (USA) at the age of 106. Dr. Struik, who was born in the Netherlands, was a prolific historian of mathematics who taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1926 to 1960. Throughout his career he encouraged research on non-Western traditions of mathematics, especially Islamic mathematics.

13. AWARDS/ELECTIONS/New Positions

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN THE HUMANITIES, History of Science Program, The University of Oklahoma announces the 2000-2001 Fellows:

— IRINA LYUTER is Senior Research Associate at the Institute for the History of Science and Technology in Moscow, Russia, where she received her Ph.D. in 1992 after completing her post-graduate course of study. Her dissertation was on “The Geometric Transformations in the Works of the Medieval Arabic Scholars,”


BENNACER EL BOUAZZATI was a Visiting (Fulbright) Scholar at Harvard University for three months (July -Sept. 2000). His project was about the place of the Science of Optics in the Scientific Renaissance in Europe.

SONJA BRENTJES is acting as advisory editor to Isis for the next three years. In this capacity, she is inviting submissions of papers of high standing on any topic concerning history of science in Islamic Civilization or related to it; she is also asking for recommendations of published or forthcoming books on such themes for reviewing. If you wish to submit papers or books for review to Isis, please contact her at brentjes@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de.

RAINER BRÖMER has a two-year lectureship in the history of science in the Cultural History Group at Aberdeen University, Scotland.

GLEN M. COOPER has accepted a position as Associate Research Editor of a new academic series, Graeco-Arabic Sciences, published out of Brigham Young University, which is part of their Islamic Translation Series (see “New Journals/ Series/Newsletters.”)

ROBERT MORRISON was lecturer on Arabic at Cornell University (USA) for 1999-2000.

JAMIL RAGEP was promoted to Full Professor, History of Science, University of Oklahoma. He was also appointed Associate Director of the University’s Center for Peace Studies as well as Coordinator of its Middle Eastern Studies Program. In addition, he is presently Director of a Rockefeller Foundation Postdoctoral Program, 2000-2003, focusing on scientific interrelations between Europe and Islam during the period 1300-1800 (see “Jobs/Fellowships/Grants”). He was also awarded a National Science Foundation Research Grant to complete “A Translation, Edition and Study of the Risālah Muḥiyya and the , al-i Muḥiyya, two Persian astronomical treatises by Naṣr al-Dīn al-Dūyshānbe” (in collaboration with Wheeler Thackston, Harvard University, and Sally P. Ragep, University of Oklahoma).

YAHYA SHA``AR won the “Arab Cultural Heritage Prize for Editing” for 1998-9, presented by the Arab Society for Education, Culture and Science (Cairo) for his edition of مُتْمَّتَات الْبَاقَى مِنْ ذِكْرِ الْهَوَاءِ وَالْتَأْرُّعِ وَالْأَرْبَابِ. It was under the supervision of Dr. Moustafa Mawaldi at Aleppo University.

MARINA TOLMACHEVA was the Washington State Fellow in the American Council for Education program for women administrators in higher education in Fall 1999.

14. JOBS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

- THE CENTER FOR THEOLOGY AND THE NATURAL SCIENCES’ (CTNS) Science and Religion Course Program offers a series of resources to support scholars & faculty in their teaching of science & religion:
  - $10,000 awards for new course syllabi
  - Introductory and Advanced Workshops
  - Specialized Conferences
  - Regional Support
  - Publications
  - International network of leading scholars

To apply for the Course Award Competition, visit www.ctns.org or request an application packet using the contact information below. Applicants must submit both preliminary and final applications to qualify for the award competition. Preliminary applications are due November 1, 2000. Late applications will be accepted with attendance of a January 2001 Workshop.
For more information regarding the Science and Religion Course Program contact: The Science and Religion Course Program, CTNS, 2380 Ellsworth St., Berkeley, CA 94704 USA; Tel.: 510.665.8141; Fax: 510.665.1589; Email: srcourse@ctns.org; Web site: www.ctns.org

• THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Linguistics and International Academic Programs, announce a full-time Instructor position for a professional language teacher of Arabic, effective Fall 2001.

This is a one-year position with possibility for renewal. Responsibilities include three courses per semester at the beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. The University of Oklahoma is building an exciting and innovative Middle East Studies program, and we seek someone who is committed to excellent language teaching and who will advance the study of Arabic and Arabic culture on campus. Requirements include an M.A.; a Ph.D. is preferred. Preference will be given to applicants whose area of expertise is Arabic language and literature; native or near native fluency and experience teaching the language are highly desirable. Representatives from OU will be attending the MESA 2000 annual meeting and will be available to provide additional information and meet potential candidates; to arrange a meeting, please contact Prof. Jamil Ragep (jragep@ou.edu). The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. To apply, send a curriculum vitae, three confidential letters of recommendation and a cover letter summarizing relevant interests and experience to: Prof. Helga Madland, Chair, Dept. of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Review of materials will begin Dec. 1, 2001 and will continue until position is filled.

• THE DIBNER LIBRARY RESIDENT SCHOLAR PROGRAM. The Program awards stipends of $2,500 per month for up to six months to individuals working on topics relating to collections in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology. Historians, librarians, and pre-doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars are invited to apply.

For more information about the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology and its holdings, consult the web site: www.sil.si.edu/Branches/dibner.htm

For an application form: Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, Resident Scholar Program, NMAH 5016, MRC 630, Washington, DC 20560-0630; Email: libmail@sil.si.edu; Web site: www.sil.si.edu. (then click on Research Grants and Internships)

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS 
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA.


The History of Science Program at the University of Oklahoma invites applications for its Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship Program. The 2001-2002 program focuses on scientific interrelations between Europe and Islam during the period 1300-1800 and on comparisons between their respective scientific traditions. Possible topic areas include transmission of scientific ideas between Islam and the West, the roles of various communities and travelers in this transmission, how political and economic factors influenced the transmission of science, and comparisons of knowledge structures and the institutionalization of knowledge between Islam and Europe.

Fellows will be associated with the History of Science Program, which has seven core members who teach and conduct research in multifaceted aspects of the history of science from ancient to modern times. A central resource of the Program is the noted 88,000-volume History of Science Collections. The Middle East Studies Faculty includes four members who cover the ancient Near East, medieval Islam, Judaic Studies, the history of science and philosophy in Islam, and the modern Middle East.

Two fellowships will be awarded for 2001-2002 to scholars with doctorates or equivalent background in appropriate fields. The 9-month fellowship carries a stipend up to $32,000, with benefits including a budget for travel and research expenses.

Applications are due February 1, 2001.

For further information and application forms, please contact F. Jamil Ragep, Department of the History of Science, The University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm, Room 622, Norman, OK 73019-3106 USA; Tel.: (405) 325-2213; Fax: (405) 325-2363; Email: jragep@ou.edu; Web site: http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/Rockefeller.htm

15. EXHIBITIONS/EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS

• LEIDEN UNIVERSITY:
— A virtual exhibition on Yunani Tibb, the Greek-Islamic medicine in India and Pakistan (Leiden University): http://www.etcl.nl/bc/tentoonstelling/yunani/default.htm
— The homepage of the Special Collections (Leiden University Library): http://www.etcl.nl/bc/default.htm
— Oriental collections web site: http://www.etcl.nl/bc/olg/default.htm

MARINA TOLMACHEVA had a photography exhibition “Echoes of Asia” at the Compton Union Building Gallery at Washington State University in spring 2000.
APPENDICES


TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE, by Michio Yano, Chief Editor

K. Muroi, Quadratic Equations in the Susa Mathematical Text No. 21


J. P. Hogendijk, Al-Nayrizi's Mysterious Determination of the Azimuth of the Qibla at Baghdad

J. Sesiano, Un recueil du XIIe siècle de problèmes mathématiques

T. Hayashi, The Caturacintamani of Giridhara: A Sixteenth-Century Sanskrit Mathematical Treatise

D. Pingree, A māṭalahapof Nityānanda


List of Contributors:

J. L. Berggren and Glen Van Brummelen, Abū Sahl al-Kūhī's "On the Ratio of the Segments of a Single Line that Falls on Three Lines"

A. Djebbar, Figurate Numbers in the Mathematical Tradition of al-Andalus and the Maghrib


D. Pingree, Sanskrit Translations of Arabic and Persian Astronomical Texts at the Court of Jayasimha of Jayapura

M. Forcada, Astrology and Folk Astronomy: the Mukhtar min al-Anwār of Aḥmad b. Fāris

D. A. King, Too Many Cooks ... A New Account of the Earliest Muslim Geometric Measurements

P. Kunitzsch, The Chapter on the Stars in an Early European Treatise on the Use of the Astrolabe (ca. AD 1000)

R. Lorch, Some Early Applications of the Sine Quadrant

M. Viladrich, Medieval Islamic Horary Quadrants for Specific Latitudes and their Influence on the European Tradition


CONTENTS

Mohammed Abattouy and Paul Weing, Introduction

M. Folkerts, Early Texts on Hindu-Arabic Calculation

S. Broussin, Observations on Hermann of Carinthia's Version of the 'Elements' and its Relation to the Arabic Transmission

J. Høyrup, On a Collection of Geometrical Riddles and their Role in the Shaping of Four to Six 'Algebras'

Wilbur R. Knorr †, On Heiberg's Euclid

F. Jamil Ragep, Šydand Copernicus: The Earth's Motion in Context

Julio Samsó, Astronomical Observations in the Maghrib in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries

Mohammed Abattouy, Greek Mechanics in Arabic Context: Thābit ibn Qurra, al-Isfizārī and the Arabic Traditions of Aristotelian and Euclidean Mechanics

Paul Weing, Thābit ibn Qurra's Liber karastonis in the Latin West


Matthias Schramm, Frederic the Second of Hohenstaufen and Arabic Science

Richard Lorch, Greek-Arabic-Latin: The Transmission of Mathematical Texts in the Middle Ages


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Ahmed Djebbar, ŠOmar Khayyām et les Activités Mathématiques en Pays d’Islam aux XII-XIII Siècles

Jafar Aghayani Chavoshi and Faïza Bancel, ŠOmar Khayyām et l’Hydrostatique


Nasser Kanani, ŠOmar Khayyām and the Parallel Postulate

Ali R. Amir-Moéz, Khayyām, Hashtrowdā and Quartic Equations

Sid Mehra-Dehlan Nafī'ī / حكم عرب بن أباهيم خيام نیشابوری احمد شرف الدین / حکم عرب خیام و نیشابوری

جعفر ایاقانی جاووش / حکم عرب خیام و مثلث حساب

محمدی فلادوندن / سهم صادق هداری در شناسندگان خیام

مجردا صیاد / دستاوردهای روشی های روشی های تقویم رصد نیزی و جدول خیام

ساسن سیننا / مدل در آرای موسيقی خیام

غلامرضا جمشیدزاده اول / سهم دبیره رشته دروجود از...

(هرم رابتعاصلی و ترجیح رشته رشته)

بناز هاشمی بور / تکثیری در پای رشته درالکورن و التلیف از...

(هرم رابتعاصلی و ترجیح رشته)

حامد ناجی اصفهانی / تصحیح و ترجیح رشتهای الجواب عن ثلاث سائل

منصور وسگانی سفی / خیام، فارز و نسخه جمل ریاضات

جعفر ایاقانی جاووش / دستاوردهای روشی های تقویم رصد نیزی و جدول خیام و نیشابوری (ترجیح رشته)

† decease
ELECTRONIC LINKS

- **HISTORY OF ISLAMIC SCIENCE WEBPAGE**
  Access to the following information:
  — the Commission on History of Science & Technology in Islamic Civilization
  — RECENT NEWS
  — past Newsletters of the Commission
  — ADDRESS LIST of historians of science
    http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/

- **ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA**
  http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/Rockefeller.htm

- **NEWSLETTER: INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ARABIC AND ISLAMIC SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY**
  http://tamushsc.tamu.edu/humanity/newsletter/index.html

- **HOMEPAGE OF SCIENCE HERITAGE CENTER, CAIRO UNIVERSITY**

- **HISTORY OF ISLAMIC MATHEMATICS BIBLIOGRAPHY**
  (courtesy of Jan Hogendijk):
  http://www.math.uu.nl/people/hogend/Islamath.html

- **MUQARNAS. Project at the Institute for Scientific Computing, Heidelberg**
  (courtesy of Yvonne Dold):
  http://www.iwr.uni-heidelberg.de/iwr/ngg/Muqarnas/

In order to be included in our ONLINE ADDRESS LIST (http://www.ou.edu/islamsci/WebbAdd.htm) and/or the LISTSERVE (islamsci@listserv.ou.edu), please fill in the following and send by email to jragep@ou.edu or by regular mail to: F. Jamil Ragep, Dept. of the History of Science, 601 Elm Street, Room 622, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma 73019 USA

☐ Please include me on your address list

☐ Please put me on your listserve

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Title: ____________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone: ____________________________

Fax: __________________________________

Email: ________________________________________________

---

Commission on History of Science & Technology in Islamic Civilization
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

c/o History of Science Department
601 Elm Street, Room 622
The University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019-3106
USA

122-7247