IN THIS ISSUE
1. Letter from the President of MEEA
2. MEEA Online Journal
3. Minutes of the Business Meeting, Boston
4. MEEA Annual Meeting, New Orleans
5. New Members
6. Announcements
7. New and Recent Titles

Letter from the MEEA President

MEEA has come a long way in terms of growth and maturity over the years. I have taken over the Presidency of MEEA from the position of Executive Secretary as of January 2000. I am fortunate enough to "inherit" a solid and well functioning organization from the previous Presidents, Faisal Al-Mughirah, Solihul Helalud and Abbas Almoradi. In the last few years, MEEA has launched an annual research volume, has started a website, and an electronic proceedings journal of selected papers (Topics in MEEA, at www.gmu.edu/department/economics/meeaN) presented in ASSA meetings.

Along with the eight sessions which we program in Allied Social Sciences (ASSA) meetings every January, MEEA this year is starting occasional summer meetings to be housed outside the US on different sites. The first one scheduled is for the next summer and is being hosted by SOAS at University of London (see attached call for papers by Hussein Elkhalil). Please note that this is in addition to our regular call for papers which are also in this issue by our Executive Secretary, Jeffrey Nugent. We are currently looking for sites in the MENA region or Europe for potential future conferences. A strong presence of MEEA members/researchers and the availability of subsidized university/hotel housing from the local site are desirable qualities. If you would like to propose your university as a future host site, please contact me. I will take your proposal to the MEEA Board for discussion and decision.

Continued on page 8.

Call for Papers

The Twenty-First Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA)
to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting ofthe Allied Social Science Associations inAtlanta, Georgia.
January 4-6, 2002

Please send one-page abstracts by March 31, 2001 to:
Jeffrey Nugent, Executive Secretary
Middle East Economic Association
Department of Economics
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90089
Fax: (213) 740-8649 Email: nugent@usc.edu

Note: Abstracts should be accompanied with a program submission fee of $25.00 US as well as an annual membership fee of $45 US for 2001.
Minutes of the MEEA Business Meeting  
Saturday January 8th, 2000 Boston Westin

Executive Secretary Jeff Nugent called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. Nugent then announced the results of the recent election of officers and the members of the Board for 2000-2001 by secret ballot.

President: Mina Cinar (absent). Executive Secretaries: Jeff Nugent. Treasurer: Bulent Uyar. At Large Board Members: Talal Youcef, Haitham Elshibli, Saif Elali (absent). Farzin Aminzadeh. Thanks were given to outgoing president Eminett Maghsoodlou and Masoud Fouzi (Dept. of Economics, Hofstra University) for creating the ballots. Nugent then recognized several outgoing Board members for their exceptional service to the organization including Karen Pfeffer (absent), Hamid Ladjreni and Rigni Amidi.

Bulent Uyar made the Treasurer's report. MEEA's balance going into 1999 was $1006.50. Revenue was $4220 and expenditures were $4234.19 leaving a balance of $1547.31 as of January 1, 2000.

In the Executive Secretary's report, Jeff Nugent indicated that the number of projected sessions for the 2001 meetings will be eight, the same number as the 2000 meetings, and down from the ten sessions that were allocated to MEEA by ASAL from previous years. Ways to prevent further shrinking of the allocation is to completely fill out the surveys and denote only MEEA as your affiliation, to be sure to attend MEEA sessions since attendance is checked and to denote your affiliation as MEEA when registering for the conference. Jeff also announced the online proceedings, Topics in Middle East Economics, urging all presenters to submit their papers in electronic form to Mina Cinar for the proceedings.

Jeff Nugent announced the policy on MEEA members forming chapters of the organization. Any members interested in forming a chapter must form it at the national level or higher (e.g. Egpyt, the Maghreb, Germany) or form a chapter based upon field of interest.

Any member wishing to form a chapter should contact Jeff Nugent.

Hooman Hakimian announced the plans for a seminar conference in 2001 to take place in London with details to be announced later. Conference announcements were made for a May conference at Lebanon American University, for the International Association for Feminist Economics in August in Istanbul, and the Western Economic Association International in Vancouver, British Columbia.

A discussion took place concerning improving the website, establishing a list-serve, and purchasing a domain name for MEEA. Tarek Youcef agreed to undertake the responsibility for most of these activities in coordination with Mina Cinar, who established and maintains the current website.

Jeff Nugent then made announcements honoring members of MEEA. He presented outgoing president Eminett Maghsoodlou with a plaque in recognition for her service as long-time board member, executive secretary and president.

Research in Middle East Economics series editor Jennifer Griffee announced several announcements concerning the annual volume, including expected publication date of the Vol. 4, the renegotiation of the contract with Elsevier who took over LUP Press, the current negotiation with University of Michigan Press for Vol. 6 and beyond, and the request for suggested topics for Vol. 7.

A discussion took place concerning ways to improve the stature of the organization, including the establishment of a peer reviewed academic journal and increasing the number of pre-organized panels at the annual meeting in order to increase the cohesion and attractiveness of these panels.

Hamid Ladjreni moved that the meeting be adjourned and it was seconded and approved at 6:57 PM.
Middle East Economic Association Meeting
in conjunction with Allied Social Science Associations
January 5-7, 2001, New Orleans, Louisiana

January 5, 2001

8:00 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez
Labor Markets, Demography, and Migration in the Middle East

Presidng
Jeffrey B. Nugent, Univ. of Southern California
Farhad Nafisi, American University of Paris and Sahra Behdad, Denison University "The Nature of Marginalization of Women’s Workforce in Iran"
Edward Nye, Kenyon College and Jennifer Oltmann, Occidental College, "Labor Market Disparities and Wage Differences: A Natural Experiment from Israel"
Thomas Bauer, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) and Ira Gang, Rutgers University, "Return Migrants from Egypt: How Long Did They Stay Away?"

Sarah Sayah, Bilgi University and Ahmet Tuney Tirasli, Undersecretariat of Government of Turkey, "Simulation of Benefits from a Money Purchase Federal Scheme for Turkey"

Tarik M. Yousef, Georgetown University "Labor Markets and the Politics of Job Creation in the Arab World"

Discussants
Dusza Turanli, Koc University, Turkey
Shahabuddin Swaminatha, University of Michigan
Michael Kevane, Santa Clara University
Perin Alabed, Leiden University

10:15 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez
Food, Agriculture, and Policy Reform in the Middle East

Presentation
Hans Lodgren, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Hans Lodgren, International Food Policy Research Institute "An Overview of the MEEA Food and Agriculture Program"n
Christina Arndt and Walter E. Tyner, Purdue University "Policy and Progress in Moroccan Agriculture"

Mylen Khatib, Institute of Development Studies, "World Production of Wheat: Potential for Market Reform in Egypt"

Alan Richards, University of California, Santa Cruz "Policy Issues and Food Security in the Middle East"

Discussants
Sarah Sayah, Bilgi University
Tarik M. Yousef, Georgetown University
Jennifer Oltmann, Occidental College

2:30 p.m.
Marriott-Galvez
Fiscal and Monetary Institutions and Policy in the Middle East

Presidng
Bulent Uyar, University of Northern Iowa

Chung-Min Han, OECD "Inflationary Expectations and Interest Rates: Responses and Implications on the Fiscal Shocks: The Case of Turkey"

Mark J. Perry and Yevriy Yav, University of Michigan, "Inflation, Inflation Uncertainty and Output Growth in Turkey: 1963-1997"

Halil Ulus, Middle East Technical University, "Long Memory in Turkish Inflation Rates"

Omer Gumusov and Besim Zeki Oktay, Istanbul Technical University, "Does an Exchange-Rate-Based Stabilization Programme Help for Disorder in Turkey?"

Zain M. Bhatia, University of Tehran "Inflationary Expectations and Analysis of Budget Provisions in Algeria"

Discussants
Sam Hashem, Economists
Bulent Uyar, University of Northern Iowa

5:30-7:30 P.M.
MEEA Board Meeting
Marriott Beauvoir
(Invitation Only)

Housing Instructions

To make reservations contact
National Hotel and Convention (ASIA) (800) 229-8747
or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]

or [email protected]
January 6, 2001

8:00 a.m.
Marriott - Galvez

Technological Change in the Middle East

Presenting
Fatma E. Meghdad, Hofstra University

Jeremy Reit, University of Connecticut
"Information Diffusion and Technological Adoption: Theory and Evidence from Tunisia"

Tosca Pamanick, Free University of Brussels
"Does Turkish Manufacturing Industries Catch Up with the US?"

Michael Kevane, Santa Clara University and Earth Institute, The New School for Social Research
"Islam and the Islamic Influence on the Agricultural Finance in Sudan"

Nalda M. Rok, American University in Cairo
"Social, Growth, and Information Technology Potential for Egypt's Regional and Global Integration"

Samer Cerifino and M. Galway O'Byrne, Central Bank of Turkey "The Influence of Public Finance over Private Consumption: Expenditure through the Channel of Real Interest Rates in Turkey"

Discussants
Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California
Jennifer Onsted, Occidental College
Samed Edin, International Center for Research on Women
Ahmed El-Sharky, Cairo University
Thomas Bay, Institute for the Study of Labor

10:15 a.m.
Marriott - Galvez

Political Economy Issues in the Middle East

Presenting
Sulehri Bekhad, Denison University

Hasan Kiemans and Agnete Sorensen, Istanbul Bilgi University "Political Economic Dimensions of Political Party Evaluation in Turkey"

Florencio End, American University of Beirut "Understanding Good International Design in Hospital Corporation: a Decision Rights Approach"

Naveed M. Khan, University of Southern California and Brad M. Year, California State University, Hayward "The Political Economy of Democratization: the Tunisia of the Crossroads"

Omar Qudsey, Istanbul Bilgi University "Are Capital Flows Stabilizing the Case of Turkey"

Discussants
Florence End, American University of Beirut
Abdel-Hamed M. Baktir, Gambling State University
Mohammed M. Mehrab, Muhlenberg College
Gazi Erkal, Middle East Technical University

MEEA Business Meeting
Marriott Galvez Room
2:30-6:30 p.m.
Saturday January 6th, 2001

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Along with other smaller economics associations which hold their meetings under the umbrellas of the ASSA, MEEA is being gradually cut back in the number of individual sessions we are allowed to host. The primary criterion used in such decisions is attendance at the meetings. To maintain our existing number of sessions we must increase our attendance. To this end, MEEA members are encouraged to bring colleagues, friends and students.

Please spread the word of what promises to be an excellent program. Looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

Jeff Nugent
University of Southern California

4 MEEA Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 2
January 7, 2001

8:00 a.m.
Marriott–Galvez

Trade and Integration Issues in the Middle East

Presenting
Suleyman Orman, University of Pennsylvania


Ali F. Durar, Louisiana Technical University “Economic Integration in the Arab Maghreb Region: An Empirical Analysis”

Galin Eral, Middle East Technical University and Oguzhan Aykan, ASMASONA Ltd., “Country Concentration of Turkish Exports and Imports over Time”

Nuray Hanemzadeh, Radford University “An Empirical Test of the Twin Deficit Hypothesis for the Export–Inflow Economics of the Middle East”

Ms. Naussa Hamdani, Truman State University “Fluctuation in Oil Prices and the Libyan Economy”

Dinner

Hans Lodgren, International Food Policy Research Institute
Edward Saele, Erken College
Mark J. Perry, University of Michigan-Flint
Nile Konar, University of Southern California

10:15 a.m.
Marriott–Galvez

Money in Turkey

Presenting
Fed Alpkan, Hamilton College

Sahat Khasimzhanov and Erkis Yeldin, Bilkent University “A Political Economy Approach to the Turkish Dollarization Program”

New Members 2000

Channing Arndt
Purdue University

Thomas Buer
ingen Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn

Erhan Cetinkaya
Central Bank of Turkey

Ali F. Durar
Louisiana Tech University

Florence Fil
er American University of Beirut

Ali El Shibly
Cairo University and World Bank

Jeremy Foltz
University of Connecticut

Emir Gungo
Rutgers University

Barry Grogolin
Louisiana State University

Tayyip Guleh
Lebanese Center for Policy Studies

Moez Hafez
York University

Sama Hikim
B原标题

Shawkat Hameedzadeh
Drexel University

Nezar Hanemzadeh
Radford University

Nihal Kaya
University of Southern California

Michael Kevane
Santa Clara University

Ahmed Khabour
McMaster University

Rabia N. M. Misri
University of Southern California

Nicholas W. Mini
International Food Policy Research Institute

Farideh Mahdavi
New York University

Henri L. Orsay
Istanbul Technical University

Mark J. Perry
University of Michigan-Flint

Marjana Novak
Truman State University

Yochevan Sheshmane
City College of the City University of New York

Khairy Tourk
Illinois Institute of Technology

Ganeris Uzun
Undersecretary of the Treasury, Turkey

MEEA Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 2
ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEEA CONFERENCE IN EUROPE—JULY 2001

The Middle East Economic Association (MEEA) is organizing its first European conference in London University in the summer of 2001. This international conference marks the twentieth anniversary of MEEA's foundation and is a joint venture with the Centre of Near East and Middle East Studies (SOAS).

The theme of the conference is Global Change and Regional Integration: The Redrawing of the Economic Boundaries in the Middle East and North Africa. The aim is to provide an opportunity for addressing MENA's economic challenges in a global setting, looking at ways in which the changing patterns of trade, investment, and finance, and labour flows are likely to influence the future direction of the region's economies.

Papers that address the theme of the conference are solicited. Abstracts should be submitted by 28 February 2001. Full papers should be submitted by 20 June 2001.

Papers for complete sessions (three to four papers each) are also invited. Organizers of proposed sessions should submit a proposal of papers by 31 January 2001. Abstracts submitted for the organized session will be considered on an individual basis unless the proposal specifies that the session be considered as a whole. See flyer enclosed with this newsletter for a complete description of the conference themes. The conference fee is £52 for MEEA members and £70 for non-members.

Please submit abstracts by mail, fax, or via the internet to:

Hassan Hakimi, Conference Chair
Department of Economics
SOAS, University of London
Thornhaugh Street
London WC1H OXG, UK

Email: hhakimi@soas.ac.uk; Fax: +44-20-7888 4597; Tel: +44-20-
7888 4577

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE—MAY, 2001

The School of Business at the Lebanese American University is holding its Third International Conference on the Economics of the Middle East and North Africa May 17th-19th, 2001, in Byblos, Lebanon. The conference theme is The Economics of the Health, Environment, and Welfare of the Middle East and North Africa.

Papers and pre-organized panels that address the theme of the conference are solicited. Abstracts should be submitted by January 31st, 2001.

Please submit abstracts or full papers by mail, fax, or email (as a Word attachment) to: Dr. Salim Houssarioun, Conference Chair, Lebanese American University, School of Business, 475 Riverdale Drive, Byblos 1815, New York, NY 10115 USA. Email: chef@lau.edu.lb. Website: www.lau.edu.lb

MEEA-CHRAF

MEEA's Committee on Human Rights and Academic Freedom (CHRAF) monitors infringements of human rights and academic freedom of economists in the Middle East. For information, please contact Co-Chairs of MEEA-CHRAF, Abbas Alfonzari, or Suhail Behdad. Professor Alfonzari may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont 05405 USA (telephone 802-656-3064, fax 802-656-8405, email alfonz@uvm.edu). Professor Behdad is at Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, Ohio, 43023 USA (telephone 740-587-6410, fax 740-587-6148, email behdad@dension.edu).

IBN KHALDUN PRIZE

Reminder that submissions for the Ibn Khaldun Prize for the best paper on one or more Middle Eastern countries by a junior economist (no more than three years after receiving Ph.D.) must be received by December 10, 2000 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0251. USA. The entries will be evaluated by a three-person committee.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH FORUM

Several MEEA members participated in the Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey's Seventh Annual Conference held in Amman, Jordan, October 26-29, 2000. Three parallel sessions were held throughout the conference in the areas of labor, public health, resource, and finance.

Next year's conference will be held in Baku. Further information about CBR, including submission deadlines, dates, and topics, can be obtained by writing to BRF at 7 Hebron Hana St., Dobisi, Cairo, Egypt. Fax: 202-361-6042; Email: cbr@baku.gov.az

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT—ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER, UNSCO GAZA

Under the direct supervision of the Chief of the UNSCO Regional Economic Affairs Unit, the Economic Affairs Officer will coordinate a programme of research, information gathering, and reporting on socio-economic conditions and general economic developments and trends.

Candidates with advanced university degrees in economics or related fields will be considered. A minimum of 5 years experience in economic research in government, university, and/or international institutions is required and familiarity with the Palestinian economy is important. Writing samples must be submitted for the consideration.

Applications should be sent to: Dr. Anthony C. Ghanem, OLO, Government House, P.O. Box 490, Jerusalem 91014 or contact UNSCO by email at: aghanem@un.org, or telephone at +972-2-7260 074 or by fax at +972-2-72820 966 with inquiries.
New and Recent Titles

As part of the information services to MEEA Members, the Newsletter will announce new titles on the political economy of the Middle East. We renew our request to publishers to send us copies of new titles on the political economy of the Middle East.


Murphy, Emma C. Economic and Political Change in Palestine from Independence to the New York, St. Martin’s, 1999.


Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Middle East Economic Association, please fill out this form and return it to the Treasurer. The membership fee is $45 U.S. for faculty and other professionals and $35 U.S. for students.

Name:

Rank & Affiliation:

Professional Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Send to:
Bulent Uyar
Treasurer, Middle East Economic Association
College of Business Administration
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

The Middle East Economic Association, a non-profit international organization, was formed in 1978 and is affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Middle East Studies Association. The main objective of MEEA is to foster scholarship and to establish lines of communication among specialists interested in the Political Economy of the Middle East. Web: gsb.luc.edu/depts/economics/MEEA

Board of Directors

Mine Cinar
Loyola University
President
mccin@luc.edu

Parvin Alizadeh
London Guildhall University
Jeffrey Ninger
University of Southern California
Executive Secretary
ninger@usc.edu

Bulent Uyar
Univ. of Northern Iowa
Treasurer
uyar@uiw.edu

Past Presidents

Charles Issawi
Princeton University
1978-1983

Issa Alawari
University of Vermont
1993-1994

Abbas Alawari

Shahab Umar

University of Illinois
1984-1985

Columbia University
1995-1996

Stamboulia, Wellman

Erdonmez Altintop

International Center for Research on Women

University of Akron
1986-1989

Patrice Moghadam

Hofstra University
1997-1999

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11 NO. 2, FALL 2000

Send in news about yourself or other organizations, forthcoming conferences and new publications. Address all communications to the editor:

Edward Saeed
Dept. of Economics
Kenyon College
 Gambier, OH 43022
Email: saeed@kenyon.edu

8 MEEA Newsletter Vol. 11 No. 2