

*Announcing a Seminar Sponsored by*

**THE COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES,  
THE COUNCIL OF AMERICAN OVERSEAS  
RESEARCH CENTERS, AND THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

*Teaching About Islam and  
Middle Eastern Culture*

**January 3-24, 2004**

**American Center of Oriental  
Research ❖ Amman, Jordan**

**Nomination Deadline:  
October 8, 2003**



**THE COUNCIL OF  
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES**

**Council of American Overseas Research Centers**



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## *TEACHING ABOUT ISLAM AND MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURE*

**American Center of Oriental Research ❖ Amman, Jordan, January 3-24, 2004**

The Council of Independent Colleges and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, with support from the U.S. Department of State, are pleased to announce a three-week long seminar for faculty members at CIC colleges and universities on **Teaching About Islam and Middle Eastern Culture**.

This is an excellent opportunity for full-time faculty members in all fields at CIC member institutions to learn more about the Middle East at a time when knowledge and teaching about the region are more important than ever. Intended for faculty members who are not already experts on this subject, the seminar will allow participants to learn about the Middle East and to understand better the region, Islam, and Middle Eastern history as it informs current times. As many colleges do not have experts in this field, the seminar is designed for non-experts with the expectation that they will be able to share new insights and knowledge gained at the seminar when they return to their home institutions.

The seminar will take place at the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), in Amman, Jordan, and will include visits to archaeological sites such as Petra and Jerash. Seminar participants will also reside in ACOR.

The American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan is a private, non-profit academic institution dedicated to promoting research and publication in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, history, languages, biblical studies, Arabic, Islamic studies, and other aspects of Middle Eastern studies both historical and contemporary. Since it was founded in 1968, ACOR has served as a liaison between Jordanian institutions, both academic and governmental, and international scholars interested in working in the Arab world. American archaeologists often use it as their base of operations. ACOR provides advice, coordination, research facilities, and living and meeting space for scholars in an environment that is both academically exciting and socially congenial.

The seminar will be directed by Dr. Pierre Bikai, who is ACOR's director. He has also directed the Petra II Project and the St. George's Church Excavation in Amman, and has also been deputy director of the University of California excavation at Ninevah, Iraq, architect and archaeologist for the Brigham Young University expedition to the Pyramid of Seila, Egypt, and has participated in the American Institute of Nautical Archaeology excavation of a Roman ship at Yassi Ada, Turkey among other projects. Seminar leaders cooperating with Dr. Bikai will include specialists on the Middle East, Jordan, Islam, and other relevant topics.

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## ❖ PARTICIPANTS

Twelve individuals will be selected to attend the seminar. Eligible participants must be full-time faculty members whose institutions are members of the Council of Independent Colleges.

## ❖ LOCATION

The seminar will take place at the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan. Housing will be provided at ACOR.

## ❖ EXPENSES

Travel between the U.S. and Jordan, visa fees, room, board, food, and excursions within Jordan will be covered. There will be no expense to participating faculty members or their institutions.

## ❖ NOMINATION PROCESS

A faculty member who wishes to participate should ask his or her chief academic officer to forward a nomination to the Council of Independent Colleges, along with a cover letter stressing each nominee's teaching qualifications and the opportunities he or she will be given upon returning home to use what has been learned in his or her teaching. Nominations are due by October 8, 2003. Each nomination packet should consist of the following:

- 1) Nomination form completed by the chief academic officer (please use form on the back of this booklet);
- 2) Nominee's curriculum vitae; and
- 3) Nominee's statement of reasons for wishing to participate in the seminar and of anticipated outcomes (no more than one page).

## ❖ NOMINATION DEADLINE

To ensure full consideration, three copies of the completed application package should be received at the address below no later than **Wednesday, October 8, 2003**.

**Selection of Participants Announced: Monday, October 27, 2003**

**Nomination Materials To Be Submitted Together To:**

**Stephen Gibson, Projects Coordinator  
Council of Independent Colleges  
One Dupont Circle, Suite 320  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 466-7230  
E-mail: [sgibson@cic.nche.edu](mailto:sgibson@cic.nche.edu)**

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# ❖ NOMINATION FORM

## *Teaching About Islam and Middle Eastern Culture*

*A Seminar Sponsored by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers,  
the Council of Independent Colleges, and the U. S. Department of State*

**January 3-24, 2004**

**American Center of Oriental Research, Amman, Jordan**

### **NOMINEE**

Name of Faculty Member Being Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

### **NOMINATOR**

Nominator's Name (*Please Print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Statement (Please attach):

### **Please submit together as a package:**

- 1) the nomination form;
- 2) the nominee's curriculum vitae; and
- 3) the nominee's statement.

### **Send three copies to:**

Stephen Gibson, Projects Coordinator  
Council of Independent Colleges  
One Dupont Circle, Suite 320  
Washington, DC 20036

**Nomination Deadline: October 8, 2003**

**Selection of Participants Announced: October 27, 2003**