

MEEEA

NEWSLETTER

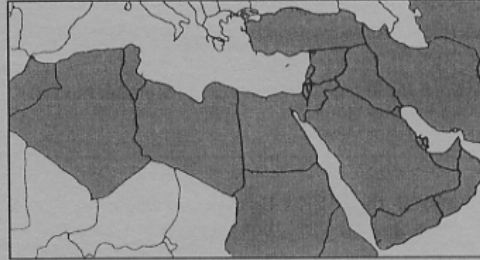
MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

Vol. 11 No. 2

Fall 2000

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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, Fatemeh Moghadam, Sohrab Behdad and Abbas Alnasrawi. In the last few years, MEEA has launched an annual research volume, has started a web site, and an electronic proceedings journal of selected papers (Topics in MENA, at www.gsb.luc.edu/depts/economics/meea) 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 Hassan Hakimian). 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 of
the Allied Social Science Associations in
Atlanta, Georgia
January 4-6, 2002

Please send a one page abstract 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) 740-8543 Email: nugent@rcf.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.

Topics in Middle Eastern and North African Economies

the online journal of MEEA <http://gsb.luc.edu/depts/economics/meea/volume2>

Editor: E. Mine Cinar, Loyola University, Chicago
Contents of Volume 2, September 2000

MODELS OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISES

Roberto S. Mariano, Bulent N. Gultekin, Süleyman Ozmucur, and Tayyeb Shabbir

UNDERWRITER REPUTATION AND SHORT-RUN IPO RETURNS: A RE-EVALUATION FOR AN EMERGING MARKET

Nuray Guner, Zeynep Onder, and Seza Danisoglu Rhoades

PRICES AND REAL WAGES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1469 TO 1914

Sevket Pamuk

INSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND EFFICIENCY OF THE BUDGET PROCESS: A CASE STUDY OF MOROCCO

Cherkaoui Mouna

BUDGETARY INSTITUTIONS IN TURKEY

Izak Atiyas and Serif Sayin

EQUILIBRIUM LEVEL OF THE REAL EXCHANGE RATE AND THE DURATION AND MAGNITUDE OF THE MISALIGNMENTS FOR TURKEY

C. Emre Alper and Ismail Saglam

DETERMINANTS OF TECHNOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES IN TURKISH MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES: A MICROECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Teoman Pamukeu and PMC de Boer

DECOMPOSITION OF INCOME INEQUALITY: EVIDENCE FROM TURKEY

Jacques Silber and Süleyman Ozmucur

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: Mine Cinar (absent); **Executive Secretary:** Jeff Nugent; **Treasurer:** Bulent Uyar; **At Large Board Members:**

Tarik Yousef, Hadi Esfahani, Simel Esim (absent), Parvin Alizadeh. Thanks were given to outgoing president Fatemeh Moghadam and Massoud Fazeli (Dept. of Economics, Hofstra University) for counting the ballots. Nugent then recognized several outgoing Board members for their exceptional service to the organization including Karen Pfeifer (absent), Hans Lofgren and Ragui Assaad.

Bulent Uyar made the Treasurer's report. MEEA's balance going into 1999 was \$6061.50, revenues were \$4220 and expenditures were \$4734.19 leaving a balance of \$5547.31 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 ASSA from previous years. Ways to prevent further shrinking of this 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 Mine 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. Egypt, the Maghreb, Germany) or form a chapter based upon field of interest.

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

Hassan Hakimian announced the plans for a summer conference in 2001 to take place in London with details to be announced later. Conference announcements were made for a May conference at Lebanese 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 then took place concerning improving the website, establishing a list-serv, and purchasing a domain name for MEEA. Tarik Yousef agreed to undertake the responsibility for most of these activities in coordination with Mine Cinar, who established and maintains the current website.

Jeff Nugent then made announcements honoring members of MEEA. He presented outgoing president, Fatemeh Moghadam 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 Olmsted made several announcements concerning the annual volume, including expected publication date of the Vol. 4, the renegotiation of the contract with Elsevier who took over JAI 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 then 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.

Hans Lofgren 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

Presiding
Jeffrey B. Nugent, Univ. of Southern California

Farhad Nomani, American University of Paris and **Sohrab Behdad**, Denison University "The Nature of Marginalization of Women's Workforce in Iran"

Edward Sayre, Kenyon College and **Jennifer Olmsted**, Occidental College, "Labor Market Disruptions 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 Abroad?"

Serdar Sayun, Bilkent University and **Ahmet Tunçay Teksoz**, Undersecretariat of Government of Turkey, "Simulation of Benefits from a Money Purchase Pension Scheme for Turkey"

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

Discussants

Insan Tunali, Koc University, Turkey
Shailender Swaminathan, University of Michigan
Michael Kevane, Santa Clara University
Parvin Alizadeh, London Guildhall University

10:15 a.m.
 Marriott-Galvez

Food, Agriculture, and Policy Reform in the Middle East

Presiding
Hans Lofgren, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Hans Lofgren, International Food Policy Research Institute "An Overview of the MEEA Food and Agriculture Volume"

Channing Arndt and **Wallace E. Tyner**, Purdue University "Policy and Progress in Moroccan Agriculture"

Mylene Kherallah, **Nicholas Minot** and **Peter Gruhn**, International Food Policy Research Institute "Adjustment of Wheat Production to Market Reform in Egypt"

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

David Butterfield, **Atif Kubursi** and **Steven Spencer**, McMaster University and Econometric Research Limited and **Jad Isaac**, Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem "Impacts of Water and Export Market Restrictions on Palestinian Agriculture"

Discussants

Serdar Sayan, Bilkent University
Tarik M. Yousef, Georgetown University
Jennifer Olmsted, Occidental College

2:30 p.m.
 Marriott-Galvez

Fiscal and Monetary Institutions and Policy in the Middle East

Presiding
Bulent Uyar, University of Northern Iowa

Cigdem Kogar, OECD "Inflationary Expectations and Interest Rates: Responses and Implications on the Fiscal Stance: The Case of Turkey"

Mark J. Perry and **Tevfik Nas**, University of Michigan, Flint "Inflation, Inflation Uncertainty and Output Growth in Turkey: 1963-1999"

Haluk Erhat, Middle East Technical University, "Long Memory in Turkish Inflation Rates"

Oner Guncavdi and **Benan Zeki Orbay**, Istanbul Technical University, "Does an Exchange-Rate-Based Stabilization Programme Help for Disinflation in Turkey?"

Zine M. Barka, University of Tlemcen "Description and Analysis of Budget Procedures in Algeria"

Discussants

Sam Hakim, Energetix
Bulent Uyar, University of Northern Iowa

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

Housing Instructions

To make reservations contact
 NOMCVB Housing Bureau (ASSA)108
 Wilmot Road, Suite 400
 Deerfield, IL 60015.
 Full reservation information is available
 at the AEA website
www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/hotres.htm

Fax (Credit card only) 1(800) 521-6017
 Phone(Credit card only)1(800)424-5250

Hotels

Hilton New Orleans Riverside
 2 Poydras St.
 New Orleans, LA 70140
 (504)561-0500

Inter-Continental
 444 St. Charles Ave.
 (504) 525-5566

Sheraton New Orleans
 500 Canal St.
 New Orleans, LA 70130
 (504) 525-2500

Double Tree Hotel
 300 Canal St.
 New Orleans, LA 70130
 (504) 581-1300

New Orleans Marriot
 555 Canal St.
 New Orleans, LA 70130
 (504) 581-1000

Embassy Suites
 315 Julia St.
 New Orleans, LA 70130
 (504) 525-1993

January 6, 2001

8:00 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez

Technological Change in the Middle East

Presiding
Fatemeh E. Moghadam, Hofstra University

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

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

Michael Kevane, Santa Clara University and
Endre Siansen, The Nordica Africa Institute
"Salam and the Islamic Influence on the Agricultural Finance in Sudan"

Nagla E. Rizk, American University in Cairo
"Trade, Growth, and Information Technology: Potential for Egypt's Regional and Global Integration"

Evren Ceritoglu and **M. Guleny Ongan**, 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 Olmsted, Occidental College
Simel Esim, International Center for Research on Women
Alaa El-Shazly, Cairo University
Thomas Bauer, Institute for the Study of Labor

10:15 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez

Political Economy Issues in the Middle East

Presiding
Sohrab Behdad, Denison University

Hasan Kirmanoglu and **Agmet Suerden**, Istanbul Bilgi University
"Political Economic Dimensions of Political Party Evaluation in Turkey"

Florence Eid, American University of Beirut
"Understanding Good Institutional Design in Hospital Corporatization: a Decision Rights Approach"

Nake M. Kamrany, University of Southern California and **Daud M. Yaar**, California State University, Hayward
"The Political Economy of Afghanistan: the Taleban at the Crossroads"

Omar Oziccek, Istanbul Bilgi University
"Are Capital Inflows Stabilizing: the Case of Turkey"

Discussants

Florence Eid, American University of Beirut
Abdel-Hameed M. Bashir, Grambling State University
Shah M. Mehrabi, Montgomery College
Guzin Erlat, Middle East Technical University

MEEA Business Meeting
Marriott, Galvez Room
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Saturday January 6th, 2001

2:30 p.m.
Marriott-Galvez

Banking and Financial Markets in MENA Countries

Presiding
Mine Cinar, Loyola University Chicago

Abdel-Hameed M. Bashir, Grambling State University
"Determinants of Commercial Bank Profitability: Evidence from the Middle East"

Sam R. Hakim, Energetix and **Simon Neaime**, American University of Beirut
"Price Linkages and Integration of Middle East Stock Markets"

Seza Danisoglu Rhoades and **Nuray Guner**, Middle East Technical University and Zeynep Onder, Bilkent University
"Information Content of Seasoned Equity Offerings"

Alaa El-Shazly, Cairo University and World Bank
"Incentive-Based Regulations and Bank Restructuring in Egypt"

Saziye Gazioglu, Louisiana State University and **David McCausland**, University of Aberdeen
"Financial Markets, International Debt and Debt Crisis"

Moez Hababou, Wade D. Cook and **Gordon F. Roberts**, York University
"The Effects of Financial Liberalization on the Tunisian Banking Industry"

Discussants

Mine Cinar, Loyola University Chicago
Ali F. Darrat, Louisiana Technical University
Moez Hababou, York University
Shailender Swaminathan, University of Michigan
Vincenzo Capizzi, Bocconi University, Milan

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Along with other smaller economics associations which hold their meetings under the umbrella 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

January 7, 2001

8:00 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez

Trade and Integration Issues in the Middle East

Presiding
Suleyman Ozmucur, University of Pennsylvania

Ali H. Bayar, Free University of Brussels and Economic Research Forum, "The Impacts of a New Round of Multilateral Trade Liberalization of the MENA Region"

Ali F. Darrat, Louisiana Technical University "Economic Integration in the Arab Maghreb Region: An Empirical Analysis"

Guzin Eriat, Middle East Technical University and Oguzhan Akyuz, ASMAKINSAN Ltd. "Country Concentration of Turkish Exports and Imports over Time"

Nozar Hashemzadeh, Radford University "An Empirical Test of the Twin Deficit Hypothesis for the Export Driven Economies of the Middle East"

Mustapha Sawani, Truman State University "Fluctuation in Oil Prices and the Libyan Economy"

Discussants

Hans Lofgren, International Food Policy Research Institute

Edward Sayre, Kenyon College

Mark J. Perry, University of Michigan-Flint

Nake Kamrany, University of Southern California

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10:15 a.m.
Marriott-Galvez

Money in Turkey

Presiding
Erol Balkan, Hamilton College

Sabit Khakimzhanov and Erinc Yelden, Bilkent University "A Political Economy Approach to the Turkish Disinflation Program"

Nurhan Yenturk, Istanbul Technical University "Real Sector Under the Threat of Global Financial Capital: the Turkish Experience"

Sukru Binay, Central Bank of Turkey "Turkey's Disinflation Program, Evolution and the Prospects in the Context of the Exchange Rate System"

Hasan Ersel, Yapi Kredi Bank "Turkish Banking Under Economic Stabilization Programs"

Discussants

Umit Erol, Bahcesehir University
Hasan Ersel, Yapi Kredi Bank
Erinc Yelden, Bilkent University

New Members 2000

Channing Arndt
Purdue University

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

Evren Ceritoglu
Central Bank of Turkey

Ali F. Darrat
Louisiana Tech University

Florence Eid
American University of Beirut

Alaa El Shazly
Cairo University and World Bank

Jeremy Foltz
University of Connecticut

Ira Gang
Rutgers University

Saziye Gazioglu
Louisiana State University and University of Aberdeen

Joey Ghaleb
Lebanese Center for Policy Studies

Moez Hababou
York University

Sam Hakim
Energetix

Shawkat Hammoudeh
Drexel University

Nozar Hashemzadeh
Radford University

Nake M. Kamrany
University of Southern California

Michael Kevane
Santa Clara University

Alif Kubursi
McMaster University

Rania M.S. Miniesy
University of Southern California

Nicholas W. Minot
International Food Policy Research Institute

Fariborz Mokhtari
Norwich University

Benan Z. Orbay
Istanbul Technical University

Mark J. Perry
University of Michigan-Flint

Mustafa Sawani
Truman State University

Yochanan Shaemurove
City College of the City University of New York

Khairy Tourk
Illinois Institute of Technology

Gamze Ugur
Undersecretariat of the Treasury, Turkey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEEA CONFERENCE IN EUROPE— JULY 2001

The Middle East Economic Association (MEEA) is organising 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 & Middle East Studies at the School of Oriental and African 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**.

Proposals for complete sessions (three to four papers each) are also invited. Organisers of proposed sessions should submit abstracts of papers by **31 January 2001**. Abstracts submitted for the organised sessions will be considered on an individual basis unless the proposal specifies that the session be considered in its entirety. See flyer enclosed with this newsletter for a complete description of the conference themes. The conference fee is \$25 for MEEA members and \$70 for non-members.

Please submit abstracts by mail, fax, or e-mail as word attachment to: Hassan Hakimian, Conference Chair
Department of Economics
SOAS, University of London
Thornhaugh Street
London WC1H 0XG, UK

Email H.Hakimian@soas.ac.uk Fax +44-20-7898 4559Tel +44-20-7898 4537

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. Salpie Djoandourian, Conference Chair, Lebanese American University, School of Business, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 1845, New York, NY 10115 USA. E-mail confhew@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 Alnasrawi, or Sohrab Behdad. Professor Alnasrawi may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont 05405 USA (telephone 802-656-3064, fax 802-656-8405, email alnasra@moose.uvm.edu). Professor Behdad is at Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, Ohio, 43023 USA (phone 740-587-6404, fax 740-587-6348, email behdad@denison.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 no later than December 10, 2000 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253, 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 and human resources, money and finance, and trade.

Next year's conference will be held in Bahrain. Further information about ERF including submission deadlines for the 2001 conference can be found at their website www.erf.org.eg or can be obtained by writing ERF at 7 Boulos Hanna St., Dokki, Cairo, Egypt. Fax 202-361-6042; Email erf@idsc.gov.eg

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 with emphases in macroeconomics and economic development 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 consideration.

Applicants should send a CV and writing samples to: UNSCO, c/o Government House, P.O. Box 490, Jerusalem 91004 or contact UNSCO by e-mail at: unscoc@un.org, by telephone at +972-7-2860 074 or by fax at +972-7-2820 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.

- Abdullah, Wagdy M. *Managing Multinationals in the Middle East: Accounting and Tax Issues*. New York: Quorum Books, 2000.
- Amuzegar, Jahangir. *Managing Oil Wealth: OPEC's Windfalls and Pitfalls*. London: I.B. Tauris, 1999.
- Batatu, Hanna. *Syria Peasantry, the Descendants of Its Lesser Notables, and Their Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Bernstein, Deborah S. *Constructing Boundaries: Jewish and Arab Workers in Mandatory Palestine*. Ithaca, NY: SUNY Press, 2000.
- Brezis, E.S. and P. Temin (Eds.). *Elites, Minorities, and Economic Growth*. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 1999.
- Bryan, Rex. *A Very Political Economy: Peacebuilding and Foreign Aid in the West Bank and Gaza*. Washington D.C.: United States Institute for Peace, 2000.
- Boyle, Susan Silsby. *Betrayal of Palestine: The Story of George Antonius*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000.
- Bush, Ray. *Economic Crisis and the Politics of Reform in Egypt*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1999.
- Celasun, Merih. *State Owned Enterprises in the Middle East and North Africa: Privatization, Performance and Reform*. NY: Routledge, 2000.
- Dillman, Bradford L. *State and Private Sector in Algeria: The Politics of Rent-seeking and Failed Development*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000.
- Emirates Center for Strategic Studies (Ed.) *Privatization and Deregulation in the Gulf Energy Sector*. London: I.B. Tauris, 1999.
- Fawzy, Samiha and Ahmed Galal. *Partners for Development: New Roles for Government and Private Sector in Middle East and North Africa*. Washington D.C.: World Bank, 1999.
- Fischbach, Michael R. *State, Society and Land in Jordan*. London: Brill Academic, 2000.
- Glasser, Bradley Louis. *Economic Development and Political Reform: the Impact of External Capital on the Middle East*. London: Edward Elgar, 2001.
- Hakimian, Hassan and Ziba Moshaver (Eds.) *State and Global Change: The Political Economy of Transition in the Middle East and North Africa*. Curzon Press Ltd, 2000.
- Hess, Andrew C. *Oil and Money: A Global Study of the Middle East in the Oil Era*. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2000.
- Heydemann, Steven (Ed.) *War, Institutions, and Social Change in the Middle East*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2000.
- Al-Kawaz, A. (Ed.) *New Economic Developments and Their Impact on the Arab Economies*. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 1999.
- Kavoosi, Masoud. *The Globalization of Business in the Middle East: Opportunities and Constraints*. Westport, CT: Quorum Books, 2000.
- Kostiner, Joseph. *Middle East Monarchies: The Challenge of Modernity*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2000.
- Kupferschmidt, Uri. *Henri Naus Bey: Retrieving the Biography of a Belgian Industrialist in Egypt*. Brussels: Royal Academy of Overseas Sciences, 2000.
- Mattar, Philip. *Encyclopedia of the Palestinians*. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2000.
- Murphy, Emma C. *Economic and Political Change in Tunisia from Bourguiba to Ben Ali*. New York: St. Martin's, 1999.
- Niblock, Tim and Rodney J. Wilson (Ed.) *The Political Economy of the Middle East--Volumes 1-6*. London: Edward Elgar, 2000.
- Ozyegin, Gul. *Untidy Gender: Domestic Service in Turkey*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2000.
- Pamuk, Sevet. *A Monetary History of the Ottoman Empire*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.
- Rouey, Alwyn R. *Turning Water into Politics: The Water Issue in the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*. New York: St. Martin's, 2000.
- Shadid, Anthony. *Legacy of the Prophet: Despots, Democrats and the New Politics of Islam*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000.
- Shafir, Gershon and Yoav Peled. *The New Israel: Peacemaking & Liberalization*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000.
- Shahin, Wassim and Ghassan Dibeh (Eds.). *Earnings Inequality, Unemployment and Poverty in the Middle East and North Africa*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2000.
- Togan, S. and U.N. Balasubramanyam. *Turkey and Central and Eastern European Countries in Transition towards Membership in the EU*. New York: St. Martin's, 2000.
- Torstrick, Rebecca. *The Limits of Coexistence: Identity Politics in Israel*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2001.
- Warde, Ibrahim. *Islamic Finance in the Global Economy*. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press, 2000.
- Wolkinson, Benjamin. *Arab Employment in Israel: The Quest for Equal Employment Opportunity*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999.
- Zarrouk, Jamal and Bernard M. Hockman (Eds.). *Catching Up with Competing Trade Policy Challenges and Options for the Middle East and North Africa*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2000.

Letter continued from page 1

Compared to four years ago, we are doing most of our correspondence and information dissemination by email and through our web site. An issue which the Board worked on this year is concerning the smooth transitions of the electronic web site, which Loyola University Chicago has graciously hosted for the last four years. The Board of MEEA has accepted the guidelines document with which the future transitions of the maintenance of the web site will be made with changes in the Executive Secretary. The current website at www.gsb.luc.edu/depts/economics/meea.htm will have links to the future web site by next year.

Questions I am frequently asked are about acceptance of papers into the ASSA program and also into selected electronic proceedings. The Program Chair for ASSA is the Executive Secretary and he/she works together with the Program Committee to make the final sessions. Our emphasis is always on the academic quality of the submissions. Yet very good papers are unfortunately rejected each year because they either do not fit into the topical areas of the sessions or they focus on one country on which there are numerous submissions. Selection into the Topics in MENA proceedings journal are based on the advice of session discussants, chairs and various members of the journal Advisory Board.

MEEA has established itself as a professional association and is reaching world wide audiences. I would like to express my gratitude to all MEEA ex-Presidents, our Treasurer Bulent Uyar (and our ex-Treasurer Hamid Zangeneh), our Board and Program Committee members, and our publication editors who have selflessly put in enormous time and energy into MEEA over the years. I am confident that we will see the continuation of this service in the coming years. I wish all of you a very productive year.

E. Mine Cinar
Loyola University Chicago

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

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Kenyon College
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