



# THE SOCIETY FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES

NEWSLETTER VOLUME XLI, No. 1 (82), SUMMER 2017



## Member Activity

**Gregory Aftandilian** (*Boston University*) presented a paper, “The Diminishing Importance of Armenia in U.S. Foreign Policy” at the USC conference, “Armenia, 25 years on. Now What?” (Los Angeles, CA, April 9-10, 2017). His recent article, “The Impact of the Armenian Genocide on the Offspring of Ottoman Armenian Survivors,” appeared in the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, vol. 25 (2016): 201-212. In addition, he has published numerous articles on Middle East politics and U.S. foreign policy in the online journal, *The Arab Weekly*.

**Jesse Siragan Arlen** (*UCLA*) received a Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education (2016-2017). He presented “Armenian Manuscripts at the Vatican Library: Respectus, Conspectus, Prospectus” at “The Promise of the Vatican Library,” an international academic conference at the University of Notre Dame in May 2016 (<http://vaticanlibrary.nd.edu/>). He also presented, “What Then of the Letter of Macarius of Jerusalem to the Armenians?” at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the North American Patristics Society. His book contribution, “Psalms” appeared in *Discovering the Septuagint: A Guided Reader*, ed. Karen H. Jobes, Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2016, pp. 175-197, 200-203.

**Margaret Lavinia Anderson** (*University of California, Berkeley, emerita*) presented a paper, “The Ambassador’s Story: Henry Morgenthau, the Armenian Genocide, and the Problem of Humanitarian Intervention,” at Vanderbilt University in December. In January she attended a conference on the Armenian

Genocide at the University of Zurich, from which a book that she is co-editing with H.-L. Kieser, Seyhan Bayraktar, and Thomas Schmütz will be published by I.B. Tauris. She also gave a paper at the Deutsche Historikertag (Germany’s equivalent of the AHA) last September.

**Hasmig Baran** (*California State University, Northridge*) presented a paper, “Women’s Leadership and Cultural Identity” at the Armenian International Women’s Association “Leadership Conference” (Boston, MA, October 1-2, 2016). She was the MC at the community-wide Armenian Genocide Commemoration event (Montebello, CA, April 23, 2016). She delivered a lecture, “Is Maintaining Armenianness in the Diaspora Possible?” (La Crescenta, CA, April 2, 2017). She moderated at the “Hadjin: Remembering a Historic Armenian Community in Cilicia” conference (Mission Hills, CA, February 11, 2017), and at the “Armenian Genocide Reparations Post Genocide Centennial” conference (Glendale, CA, April 9, 2016).

**Carel Bertram** (*San Francisco State University*) presented three papers in 2016: 1) “Armenian-Americans and Anatolian Identity: the Encounter with Home,” at the conference, “Critical Approaches to Armenian Identity in the 21st Century: Vulnerability, Resilience, and Transformation,” hosted by the Hrant Dink Society in Istanbul in October. This paper may be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLbqvjos-ZiLiTR2Mk0ZhzoywYrB5DGaiT&v=iuZ9nnW9gjc>; 2) “Coming to Terms with Home and Homeland” in the panel, “Armenian Diaspora in the United States: Communities, Politics, Culture,” Society for Armenian Studies, (Boston, November; and 3) “New Concepts of Historical Identity,” in the roundtable, “Knowledge

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## Newsletter Credits:

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## Submission Policy:

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All contributions to the SAS newsletter must be submitted according to the guidelines on our submission form. Please spellcheck and proofread all submissions. Due to space restrictions and editorial policies, we do not publish most press releases. In an effort to keep news timely, this newsletter covers Summer 2016 - Summer 2017.

For further information, please email the editors:  
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Production, Exclusion, Inclusion: The Repositioning of Armenians in Ottoman and Turkish Historiography,” Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association, MESA, in November.

**George Bournoutian** (*Iona College*) submitted an article, “Prelude to War: The Russian Siege and Storming of the Fortress of Ganjeh, 1803-1804,” *Iranian Studies*, Vol. 50 (no.1, January 2017), 107-124.

**Asya Darbinyan** (*Clark University*) received a NAASR grant to travel and work in the Georgian Archives in Tbilisi, April 2017. She was selected to participate in the Global Humanitarianism Research Academy to be held at the Leibniz Institute of European History in Mainz and at the Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, July 2017. She presented a paper, “Imperial Russia’s Humanitarianism and the Armenian Refugees,” at the “131st Annual Meeting of American Historical Association,” January 2017, and a paper, “New Research Perspectives on Armenian Refugees in Imperial Russia (1914-1917),” at the “15th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium in Armenian Studies,” UCLA, February 2017.

**Seta B. Dadoyan** (*Independent Scholar*) gave lectures titled “The ‘2015’ and a Discourse on the Armenian Condition” – N.E. Studies, UCLA, Nov. 10, 2016, “2015 – The Armenian Condition in Hindsight and Foresight (in Armenian) – April, LA, Nov. 11, 2016, and “Talking Things Armenian Beyond the Pillars of Hercules: *Plus Ultra*” – ARPA, LA, Nov. 12, 2016.

**Gohar Grigoryan** (*Ph.D. student at the University of Fribourg*) received grants from the Zeno Karl Schindler Foundation (Geneva) and National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR). Her article, “On the Interpretation of the Crosses Carved on the External Walls of the Armenian Church in Famagusta,” appeared in *The Armenian Church of Famagusta and the Complexity of Cypriot Heritage*, edited by Michael J. K. Walsh (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017).

**Sona Haroutyunian** (*Ca’Foscari University of Venice*) received Honorable Mention by the SAS and a fellowship from *Ca’Foscari* for the project “Migratory Flows: From Language contact to Cultural translation.” She joined the editorial board of *Trans-*



*lating Wor(l)ds*. She is co-coordinating the European Erasmus project between Venice and Yerevan State Universities. As a visiting professor, she lectured on Genocide literature at City College of New York. She presented “Focus in modern Eastern Armenian,” (with Alessandra Giorgi) at the University of Geneva; “From Natural Equivalence to Cultural Translation,” “Dalla traduzione alla creazione: questioni intralinguistiche in armeno” at Ca’ Foscari and “Dante nel mondo armeno,” at Societa’ Dante Alighieri in Rome. She published “Women of the Armenian Genocide,” in *Women And Genocide*. JoAnn DiGeorgio – Lutz, Donna Gosbee, (eds.), (Women’s Press 2016), 13-35; “Word Order and Information Structure in Modern Eastern Armenian,” (with A. Giorgi) *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, vol. 25 (2016), pp. 185-200; and “Narrating the Armenian Genocide: an Italian Perspective,” *LEA*, n. 5 (2016), pp. 125-138 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.13128/LEA-1824-484x-20028>.

**Piruza Hayrapetyan** (*Doctoral Candidate, 2nd year in Comparative History: Interdisciplinary Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest*) participated in the London Summer School in Classics (King’s College London and University College London, July 5-14, 2016) and International Byzantine Greek Summer School (Trinity College Dublin, August 1-12, 2016). During Summer 2017 she will deliver conference papers at the “International Medieval Congress 2017,” University of Leeds, July 3-6 (paper: “The Armenian Word ‘Ganj’: A Lost and Found Piece of Middle Persian Treasury?”), and the “Seventh International Conference on Iranian Linguistics,” Lomonosov Moscow State University and the “Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences,” August 28–30 (the paper title is not determined yet).

**Richard Hovannisian** (*Professor Emeritus, UCLA; Adjunct Professor, University of Southern California; and Chancellor’s Fellow, Chapman University*) has completed his supervision of the translations of the Armenian Film Foundation’s survivor interviews entrusted to the Shoah Foundation. This milestone was marked by a celebration on the USC campus in March. During the first trimester of 2017, he made a number of presentations, primarily on the development and current state of Armenian Studies and on his last three volumes in the UCLA Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces publication series: *Armenia Ke-*

*saria/Kayseri; Armenian Communities of Asia Minor; and Armenian Communities of the Northeastern Mediterranean*, with film segments by his daughter Ani. These included Fresno State; University of South Florida and St. Hagop Church, Tampa; Tekeyan Cultural Association and Haigazian University, Beirut; Municipality and Hamazkayin of Anjar, Lebanon; Armenian Prelacy of Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt; Krouzian-Zakarian School, Hamazkayin, and Musa Dagh Association, San Francisco; St. Andrew Church with cosponsors, Cupertino; Armenian Institute and AGBU Young Professionals, London; Hamazkayin with co-sponsors, Boston and Providence; AGBU and Horizon Television, Toronto; Forty Martyrs Church, Anaheim; Immanuel Church, Downey; Chapman University, Orange; St. Gregory Church, Pasadena; and AGBU Asbeds and Veterans, Canoga Park, California. In Lebanon, he was received by His Holiness Aram I, gave several television and newspaper interviews, and offered illustrated talks for the students and faculty of the AGBU Demirdjian, M. & H. Arslanian Jemaran, and Sourp Khatch Harboyan Catholic schools. His recent publications include: *Armenian Communities of the Northeastern Mediterranean: Musa Dagh—Dort Yol—Kessab* (Mazda Publishers, 2016) and “The Armenian Genocide and the Ruse of Protective Dispossession,” *Southwestern Journal of International Law*, vol. 23, no. 1 (2017), pp. 193-222.

**Armine Ishkanian** (*Associate Professor Department of Social Policy London School of Economics and Political Science*) presented a lecture titled “Armenia’s Current Political and Social Situation in Global Context” at the University of Irvine, organized by the Armenian Studies Department Chair and at the University of California, Los Angeles, organized by the Center for Near Eastern Studies and the Richard Hovannisian Chair of Modern Armenian History. She published an article titled, “From civil disobedience to armed violence: political developments in Armenia” in *Open Democracy* <https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/armine-ishkanian/from-civil-disobedience-to-armed-violence-political-developments-in-armen> (also available in Spanish and Portuguese).

**Matthew Ari Jendian** (*California State University, Fresno*) was re-elected to his third four-year term as Chair of the Sociology Department in 2017. He presented a paper, "Evaluating the Changes within the Armenian Family: An Examination of Assimilation Patterns" at the "11th Annual International Conference of the AGBU Hye Geen" (Pasadena, CA April 1, 2017) and spoke on the topic of "To Be or Not To Be: The Social Construction of Armenian Ethnic Identity" at St. Peter Armenian Orthodox Church (Van Nuys, CA, April 2, 2017). He was one of three Fresno State Faculty chosen for the 2017 Fresno State Talks and spoke on the University value of "Diversity": "Forward Together: Valuing Differences & Mobilizing Similarities to Achieve Common Goals." He was the keynote speaker for the Downtown Fresno Rotary on February 13: "Is Valentine's Day hazardous to your relationship?" He also was the keynote for the Kickoff Banquet for the establishment of The Armenian Cultural Conservancy in Fresno, CA on October 29, 2016. In 2016, Dr. Jendian was presented with the "Together We Win Award" by the Fresno County Democratic Party, in recognition of civic engagement work in Fresno County. His second book, *#Think: Critical Thinking about Social Problems*, co-authored with Vera Kennedy and Romney Norwood, (Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2017).

**Lucine Kasbarian** (*Independent Journalist*) was interviewed in April 2016 for ArtistsAtWar.net about her Armenian editorial cartoons and her interview with filmmaker David Ritter in December 2016 regarding his documentary film about the Armenians of Havresc, Iraq, appeared in more than 10 media outlets. She served as Mistress of Ceremonies on January 15, 2017 at a Celebration of Independent Armenian Media and KEGHART.COM in New Jersey. She also served as a panelist on May 6, 2017 discussing "The Armenian Writer and the Armenian Reality" at the 50th anniversary of the NY chapter of the Hamazkayin Cultural Association.

**Helen Makhdoumian** (*University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*) presented a paper, "Towards a Postmemory and Multidirectional Memory Nexus: Traumatic Memories, Exile, and Home in Patricia Sarrafian Ward's *The Bullet Collection*," at the 70th Annual Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention and a paper, "Inheritance of Exile: Negotiating Memory, Home, and Belonging in

Armenian American Literature about the Lebanese Civil War," at the 42nd Annual Society for Armenian Studies Meeting. Her recent article, "Rewriting Billie and Asserting Rhetorical Sovereignty in Linda Hogan's Power" appeared in *Studies in American Indian Literatures* 28, no. 4 (2016): 80-110.

**Marc A. Mamigonian** (*Director of Academic Affairs, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, NAASR*) presented a paper "The War on Lemkin: A New Aspect of Denial of the Armenian Genocide," at the "47th Annual Scholars' Conference on the Holocaust & the Churches," Temple University, (Philadelphia, March 12, 2017).

**Jennifer Manoukian** (*Ph.D. student at UCLA*) translated, with Ishkhan Jinbashian, Zareh Vorpouni's, *The Candidate: A Novel* (Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2016).

**Armen T. Marsoobian** (*Department of Philosophy, Southern Connecticut State University*) presented a paper, "The Presence of Absence: Photography in the Ottoman Armenian Migrant Experience," at the History Department of Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. His chapter, "The Armenian Genocide in Film: Overcoming Denial and Loss," appeared in *The History of Genocide in Film: Atrocities on Screen*, William Hewitt and Jonathan Friedman, editors (London: I. B. Tauris, 2016). His exhibition, "Reimagining a Lost Homeland: Ottoman-era Photographs from the Dildilian Studio," at the Armenian Museum of America ran from January through April 2017, culminating in a symposium, "New Perspectives on Photography in the Ottoman Empire" in March.

**Arda Melkonian** (*UCLA*) presented a paper, "Not Armenian? Armenian Evangelical (Protestant) Clergy Challenging Definitions of Armenian Identity," at the conference "Critical Approaches to Armenian Identity in the 21st Century: Vulnerability, Resilience and Transformation," organized by the Hrant Dink Foundation, (Istanbul, October 2016). She also presented a paper, "Forced Separations and Unlikely Reunions," at the 47th Annual Scholars' Conference on the Holocaust and the Church, (Philadelphia, March 2017). Arda Melkonian & Doris Melkonian co-presented "Women Resisting Islamization during the Genocide,"

at the United Women Luncheon, United Armenian Congregational Church, (Los Angeles, November 2016).

**Doris Melkonian** (*UCLA*) presented a paper, “The Aftermath of Genocide: Armenian Women Rebuilding Their Lives,” at the “47th Annual Scholars’ Conference on the Holocaust and the Church,” (Philadelphia, March 2017). She also gave a pre-concert lecture, “Benjamin Britten’s *War Requiem*,” A Requiem Concert presented by the Lark Musical Society, United Methodist Church, (Pasadena, March 2017). Doris Melkonian & Arda Melkonian co-presented “Women Resisting Islamization during the Genocide,” at the United Women Luncheon, United Armenian Congregational Church, (Los Angeles, November 2016).

**Sylvie L. Merian** (*The Morgan Library & Museum*) delivered a public lecture at the Morgan Library on Feb. 24, 2017, titled “‘Made by These Unworthy Hands’: The Armenian Silversmiths of Kayseri.”

**Daniel Ohanian** (*MA in history at Istanbul Bilgi University and a Ph.D. student in history at UCLA*) completed his thesis titled “The c. 1907 Ottoman Census and the Demography of Armenians in Southern Istanbul.” Among his conference presentations was a paper called “Population Data, Sultanate, and Patriarchate: Using a New Source to Complicate Our View of Ottoman and Armenian History” (Rutgers University), and a piece he had co-authored with Varak Ketsemanian about the Armenian Revolutionary Federation’s first public headquarters in the Ottoman Empire was published in English (*Armenian Weekly*), Armenian (Ազդակ օրաթերթ), and Turkish (*Toplumsal Tarih*).

**Mary A. Papazian** (*San Jose State University*) was inaugurated as the 30th President of San Jose State University on May 4, 2017.

**Rubina Peroomian** (*UCLA*) published the following articles «Մէկ քայլ Հայոց Ցեղասպանութեան ճանաչման եւ ազգային պահանջատիրութեան ամրակայման ճամբին» *Asbarez*, April 24, 2017, «Ռուբէն Զարդարեանի աղէտի կանչը», *Literary Horizon*, 10 (386), 2016, «Ցեղասպանութեան ազդեցութիւնը Վազգէն Շուշանեանի կեանքի ու գրականութեան վրայ», *Literary Horizon*, 8 (384), 2016, Review of *Mourning Philology: Art and Religion at the Margins of the Ottoman Empire*, Marc Nichanian, (New York: Fordham University Press,

2014), *Modern Philology*, 114, 1, 2016. “The Symbiotic Relationship between Turks and Armenians, A Macabre Outcome Obstructing Healing and Reconciliation,” 15-39, *Remembering for the Future, Armenia, Auschwitz, and Beyond*, Michael Berenbaum, ed. (St. Paul, Minnesota: Paragone House, 2016). «Յիշում էնք եւ պահանջում», *Asbarez*, April 24, 2016. She gave a lecture at the RR Academy of Sciences, Institute of Literature on July 14, 2016. She also gave a book presentation at the Genocide Museum Institute, Yerevan, July 1, 2016, and Abril Bookstore in Glendale on May 11, 2016. In addition, she conducted three teacher-training sessions on teaching the Armenian Genocide to students of all grades on (March 1, 2, 10, 2017, Yerevan). She presented a paper titled “Armenian-American or American with Armenian Roots? The Post-Genocide Conditions and Circumstances in America and the Dynamics of Identity” at the conference “Critical Approaches to Armenian Identity in the 21st Century: Vulnerability, Resilience and Transformation,” Hrant Dink Foundation, (Istanbul, October 7-8, 2016). She also chaired the panel “Identity Representations in Literature” in the same conference.

**Stephen B. Riegg** (*Texas A&M University*) has published “Imperial Challengers: Tsarist Responses to Armenian Raids into Anatolia, 1875-90,” in *The Russian Review* 76, no. 2 (2017): 253-71.

**Ara Sanjian** (*University of Michigan-Dearborn*) was appointed to the Governor’s Council on Genocide and Holocaust Education in the state of Michigan. He presented a paper analyzing the 2012 Armenian History College Textbook, issued by the Armenian History Department at Yerevan State University, at the conference “End of Transition – Shifting Focus a Quarter Century after the Soviet Collapse,” organized by the USC Institute of Armenian Studies (Los Angeles, CA, April 9-10, 2017). He also delivered a public lecture titled “Four Capital Cities of Armenian Printing, 1512-2012: Venice, Constantinople/Istanbul, Tiflis/Tbilisi and Yerevan,” at Clark University (Worcester, MA January 26, 2017).



**Lusine Sargsyan** (*Yerevan State University*) received grants from the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library (Collegeville, Minnesota) and New Europe College (Institute for Advanced Study, Bucharest). She presented a paper, “The Transformation of Image and Its Meaning in Medieval Period” (Nicosia, Cyprus) this year. Her recent article, co-authored with Davit Ghazaryan, “Some Armenian Amulets in Scroll from the Romanian Collections,” appeared in the *Revue des Etudes Sud - Est Européennes* Nos 1-4 (2016): 13-42.

**Konrad Siekierski** (*Department of Theology and Religious Studies King's College London*) received the Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian Studies Scholarship. He presented a paper “Armenians in Romania Today: Diasporic Interventions and Institutions” at the conference “Within and Beyond Ethnicity: Negotiating Identities in Modern Armenian Diaspora” (University of Leipzig, May 9-10) and “Armenians in Romania Today: Diasporic Interventions and Institutions in the Making of Community” at the conference “Critical Approaches to Armenian Identity in the 21st Century: Vulnerability, Resilience, and Transformation” (Hrant Dink Foundation, Istanbul, October 7-8). His article “The Church In-Between: Armenian Catholics in Post-Soviet Armenia and Georgia” (in Russian) appeared in *Gosudarstvo, religia, tserkov v Rossii i za rubezhom*, 34 (2) 2016; 310-330.

**Harold Takooshian** (*Professor of Psychology & Urban Studies; Director of the Organizational Leadership Program, Fordham University*) presented on the “Armenians in New York City: A Fascinating History” (UC Berkeley, Armenian Studies Program, May 1, 2017).

**Hratch Tchilingirian** (*Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford*) published a number of articles, including “The ‘Other Citizens: Armenians in Turkey Between Isolation and (Dis)integration” in *JSAS* 25 (2016); “L’Eglise arménienne pendant la guerre froide: la crise Etchmiadzine-Antelias,” in *NH Hebdo*, June (2016); and “Armenian Communities in the Middle East” in *YSU Centre Civilisation and Cultural Studies Analytical Journal*, 7 (2015). He delivered a series of lectures on Middle East Christianity, diaspora, identity, culture and religion at Pembroke College, University of Oxford; London School of Economics; Yerevan

State University, Cultural Studies Dept.; American University of Armenia; The Matenadaran; the Diaspora Research Centre, Yerevan Pedagogical University; Artsakh State University; Hrant Dink Foundation, Istanbul; and Heythrop College, University of London.

**Alison Vacca** (*University of Tennessee*) published an article, “The Fires of Naxčawan: in Search of Intercultural Transmission in Arabic, Armenian, Greek, and Syriac” in *Le Muséon* 129, n. 2-3 (2016): 323-362. She also presented on Khurāsānī governors in ‘Abbāsīd Armenia at a conference on interregional élite in the early Islamic empire (Hamburg); on the politics of trade in Armenia and Albania at a conference on trade in the Islamic world, 800-1000 (St. Andrews); and on the ostikanate (MESA). Her book, *Non-Muslim Provinces under Early Islam: Islamic Rule and Iranian Legitimacy in Armenia and Caucasian Albania*, will be published this summer.

Visit the  
**Society for Armenian Studies Website**  
[societyforarmenianstudies.com](http://societyforarmenianstudies.com)



## Call for Papers

Workshop: **From Oriens Christianus to the Muslim Near East**, Freie Universität Berlin, December 4, 2017. For more information, see: <https://networks.hnet.org/node/8330/discussions/166985/workshop-oriens-christianus-muslim-near-east>.

**Summer school in manuscript studies manuSciences '17**: Manuscripts: From Fragments to Books – from Identification to Interpretation, Côte d’Azur, September 10-15, 2017.

Information: <https://www.bam.de/Content/EN/Events/2017/1115-manuscience-17-summer-school.html>.

**The Morgan Library & Museum (New York)** will present an exhibition “Magnificent Gems: Medieval Treasure Bindings” from Sept. 8, 2017 to Jan. 7, 2018. Among the approximately two dozen objects displayed, all from the Morgan Library’s collection will be three Armenian silver and enameled bindings from seventeenth- to early-eighteenth-century Kayseri. For further information see: <http://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/magnificent-gems>

**“Cultural Diplomacy and the Armenian Condition”** – Conference on Armenian Identity and Persistence –Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia, Antelias, July 11-12, 2017.

**Zarmanazan:** new summer language camp, with training internship program for teachers of Western Armenian. <http://zarmanazan.com/>.

### **Association for Iranian Studies 12th Biennial Conference**

UC Irvine, at the Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture

August 14th-17th-2018

The submission deadline for the conference is **September 15th, 2017**. Paper and panel proposals should be submitted via the Association for Iranian Studies website (<http://associationforiranianstudies.org>). Your membership dues must be up-to-date and your pre-registration fee paid in order to submit a proposal. Your membership can be activated/updated at any time and “My Conference Submissions” portal for the 2018 conference should be available by mid-July (an announcement will be sent out when it is).

In addition to individual paper proposals, the AIS website will be able to accommodate three types of pre-organized group submissions: Panels, Roundtables and Special Sessions (e.g. plenary session, exhibit, performance, film screening and discussion).

UCI Armenian Studies will provide financial assis-

tance (form of such assistance and details to be determined) to SAS members for accepted papers and pre-organized panels on topics related to Armenians and Iran or the Persianate world.

Here is a preview of the different requirements for each type of pre-organized group submission.

#### I. Panels

If you wish to organize a panel, please select the Panel option. Each of your presenters needs to submit their own paper proposals for this panel. After submitting this form, please contact your presenters and give them the panel title. They will log in through their own AIS “My Conference Submissions” page, and will submit their paper proposals, choosing from a drop-down menu the title of your panel. In order to ensure blind peer-review, please **DO NOT** mention the names of panel participants in the panel abstract (otherwise, the panel may be subject to disqualification from the review process). Panels are limited to 1 chair, 1 discussant, and four (4) presenters.

#### II. Roundtables

If you wish to organize a Roundtable, please select the Roundtable option. Each of your participants needs to submit their own title and short abstract (100 words) for the Roundtable. After submitting this form, please contact your presenters and give them the panel title. They will log in through their own AIS “My Conference Submissions” page, and will submit their proposals, choosing from a drop-down menu the title of your panel. In order to ensure blind peer-review, please **DO NOT** mention the names of panel participants in the panel abstract (otherwise, the Roundtable may be subject to disqualification from the review process).

In addition to describing the professional and/or academic content and purpose of the Roundtable, the Roundtable abstract should address how audience participation in the discussion will be facilitated.

Roundtables are limited to 1 chair and no more than eight (8) additional participants. If you have more participants than this in mind, please consider an additional, linked Roundtable proposal.

III. Special Sessions (e.g. plenary session, exhibit, performance, film screening and discussion)

If you wish to organize a special session, please use this form to submit your special session proposal. Each of your presenters needs to submit their own description of their contributions to this special session. After submitting this form, please contact your presenters and give them the special session. They will log in through their own AIS “My Conference Submissions” page, and will submit their descriptions, choosing from a drop-down menu the title of your panel. Special Sessions are limited to 1 chair, 1 discussant, and four additional (4) participants.

Please describe any special resources or accommodations required to by your special session (e.g. equipment, exhibit space, and so on).

For questions about this Call for Papers, please contact the Program Chair, Camron Michael Amin (camin@umich.edu).

For questions about membership, please contact Executive Director, Rivanne Sandler (r.sandler@rogers.com).

### **Transmitting Western Armenian to the Next Generation**

Washington, D.C. - November 18, 2017

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) will hold its annual conference in Washington, D.C. on November 18, 2017. The conference, sponsored by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, will take place in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA), at the Washington, D.C. Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, November 18-21, 2017.

The theme of the SAS conference will be “Transmitting Western Armenian to the Next Generation.”

The conference will be composed of two panels:

- 1) “Teaching Armenian in a Diasporan Context”
- 2) “Western Armenian in the Digital Age”

Panel 1) “Teaching Armenian in a Diasporan Context”

During the last several years teachers of Armenian, particularly in the United States, have confronted the

challenges in teaching the modern language. Concrete theoretical and practical problems need to be formulated and explored and innovative methodology needs to be developed. A study of the efficacy in teaching Armenian in schools and/or at the college level would also be beneficial to determine the status of Armenian in those settings and steps to be followed.

Panel 2) “Western Armenian in the Digital Age”

The presence of Western Armenian on the Internet and on digital formats has grown over the past few years. The first applications and software have also been produced. Fact-based assessments of the quality and quantity of that work and the relation to actual needs of the “market,” including a correlation with Western Armenian teaching, are imperative. Papers on the best ways to incorporate technology into teaching Western Armenian would be beneficial.

It is important to emphasize the fact that SAS is not only interested in an exchange of ideas regarding these vital issues and the challenges facing Western Armenian, but is also interested in making concrete recommendations about these two themes.

The outcomes of these papers will be published in an edited volume either in the peer-reviewed Journal of Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) or in a relevant press.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words along with a short bio should be submitted to Bedross Der Matossian, bdermatossian2@unl.edu, by 31 July 2017. Draft papers will be required to be submitted no later than October 18, 2017.

Travel expenses and two days hotel stay in Washington, D.C., will be provided to the selected speakers.

A committee selected by the Society for Armenian Studies and the Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation will make final decisions on the papers accepted.





## Published Books

**Sona Haroutyunian**, *Mšo girk 'e*, [A.Arslan, Il libro di Mush], translation from Italian into Eastern Armenian, afterword and notes, Zangak: Yerevan, p. 160.

**Vera Kennedy, Romney Norwood, and Matthew Ari Jendian**, *#Think: Critical Thinking about Social Problems*, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2017.

**Armen T. Marsoobian**, *Reimagining a Lost Armenian Homeland: The Dildilian Photography Collection*, London: I. B. Tauris, 2017.

(2016) *Dildilian Brothers – Memories of a Lost Armenian Home: Photography and the Story of an Armenian Family in Anatolia, 1888-1923*, [Dildilyan Kardeşler – Kayıp Bir Ermeni Evin Hatıraları: Anadolu'da Ermeni Bir Ailenin Fotoğrafları ve Öyküsü, 1888-1923] Istanbul: *Birzamanlar* Yayıncılık. Bi-lingual English - Turkish.

**Rubina Peroomian** «Հայոց Յեղասպանության Դասավանդումը պատմվածքների, հեքիաթների, գրոյցների, բանաստեղծությունների միջոցով» (A teachers' guidebook), Yerevan, Published by the RR Ministry of Science and Education, Zangak printing, 2016.

**Konrad Siekierski and Stefan Troebst** (ed.) *Armenians in Post-Socialist Europe*, Cologne: Boehlau Verlag, 2016.

**Zareh Vorpouni**, *The Candidate: A Novel*, translated by Jennifer Manoukian with Ishkhan Jinbashian, Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2016.

MA, and was the brainchild of Professor Armen Marsoobian, who also curated the photograph exhibition *REIMAGINING A LOST HOMELAND: Ottoman-Era Photographs from the Dildilian Studio*, presented at the same institution. The event was co-sponsored by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), and Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives. Marsoobian served as moderator. The panelists have worked extensively with original photographs from the Ottoman period, and have used oral histories and documentation to understand the context in which photographs were taken.

Ruth Thomasian, Founder & CEO, Project SAVE Archives: *READING PHOTOGRAPHS: Finding Meaning in the Details*; stressed the importance of working with original photographs, listening to photo donors talk about their photographs, and asking follow-up questions. She cautioned about making assumptions from our present realities about the motivations of people in the past.

Edhem Eldem, Professor of History, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul: *Staging, Posing, Self-fashioning: Ottoman Subjects Before the Camera*; argued that there is very little information about the “vernacular” uses of Ottoman photography, beyond the predictably Orientalist images of mainstream studios, due to a lack of concern for consistent and serial documentation. A more critical analysis helps understanding the sitters' agency and the importance of local cultural preferences. Suzanne Adams, Archivist, Project SAVE Archives: *In and Out of Context: Preserving Stories and Creating Access in Photograph Collections*; spoke of ways in which context is established and by which it may be lost or preserved. She emphasized the added value of interviewing donors as part of the collection process, and the contributions of researchers to cataloging efforts.

David Low, Manoogian Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Michigan: *A Keepsake of Those You Love and Those Who Love You: the Soursourians, Kharpert, and the Shifting World*; focused on photographs as gifts of remembrance, noting that families often engaged a photographer to take a photo before a member left to travel outside the empire. (Low's PhD dissertation featured the Soursourian Frères photographers, with much of his research done



## Recent Conferences

### New Perspectives on Photography in the Ottoman Empire

A symposium, was held March 25, 2017, at the Armenian Museum of America, Watertown,

at Project SAVE Archives.) To view a video of the event, go to <https://youtu.be/5hUmpv77ftU>

## **Spaces of Remembering the Armenian Genocide: Conference and Film Screening**

On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, The Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies and the Future of Trauma and Memory Studies Reading Group at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign hosted a one day conference titled “Spaces of Remembering the Armenian Genocide,” featuring presentations by Myrna Douzjian, Talar Chahinian, Nancy Kricorian, Scout Tufankjian, Helen Makhdomian and Dilara Çalişkan. The conference closed with a screening of *Armenoscope: constructing belonging*, which was followed by a conversation with the documentary essay’s director, Silvina Der-Meguerditchian.

This event fostered interdisciplinary and transnational discussions on remembering the Armenian Genocide across time, space, and place. It addressed how memories of this genocide travel across media and form (film, literature, art, and photography) and how they are referenced across intersectional and crosscultural lines to also bring to the fore other histories of collective violence.



*Photo Symposium participants, left to right: Suzanne Adams, David Low, Armen Marsoobian, Ruth Thomasian; photo by Anna Kaczmarek.*

Schedule, including presentation titles, and bios of the speakers and introducers can be found on the HGMS blog here: <http://hgmsblog.weebly.com/>

The event was co-sponsored by: Beckman Institute, Center for Advanced Study, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of English, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Department of History, European Union Center, Graduate College, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Program in Comparative and World Literatures, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center, and School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics.

## **Western Armenian in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: issues and problems of ‘thinking’ and ‘creating’ in Western Armenian.**

Armenian Studies at University of Oxford (Faculty of the Oriental Studies) organized a conference/workshop in January 2016 on “Western Armenian in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: issues and problems of ‘thinking’ and ‘creating’ in Western Armenian.” The workshop, supported by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, brought together writers, intellectuals, experts, publishers and newspaper editors and journalists, who write and publish in Western Armenian. The workshop, conducted entirely in Western Armenian, consisted of five sessions of short presentations, discussions and suggestions for solutions. A full report about the workshop and recommendations could be downloaded from this link: <http://goo.gl/MFjfh1>.

# Bedross Der Matossian's Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire Chosen as Society for Armenian Studies Outstanding Book Award

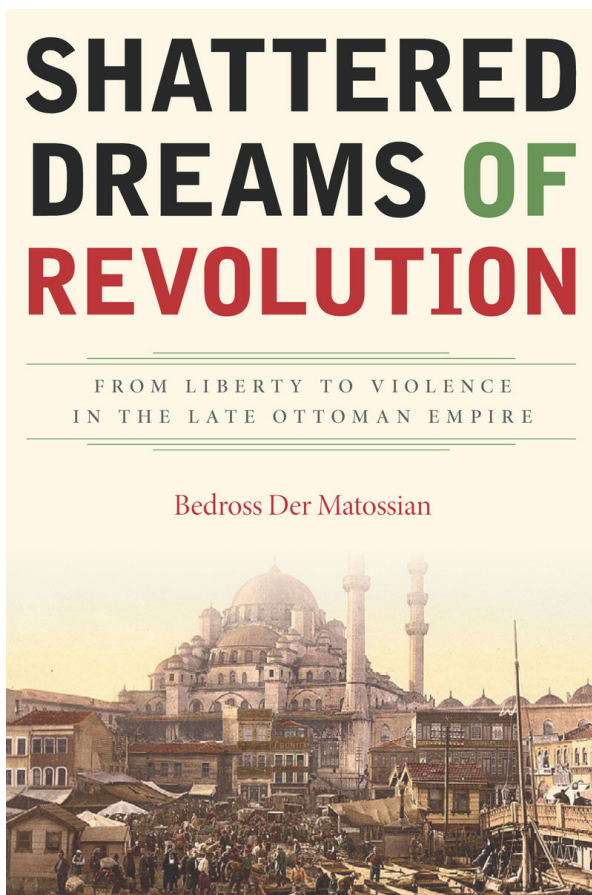
The Society for Armenian Studies announced that Bedross Der Matossian's *Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire* (Stanford University Press, 2014) has been chosen as the recipient of the SAS Outstanding Book Award.

Established in 2015, the SAS Outstanding Award accepted nominations for works that advanced knowledge and scholarship on Armenian society, culture, and history from ancient times to the present. According to the selection committee, *Shattered Dreams* demonstrated substantive knowledge and overall high level of scholarship. This is the first time that the Book Award was made and covered works published in the period of April 1, 2013 to April 30, 2015.

Dr. Der Matossian will receive a \$1,000 monetary award from SAS and a certificate of recognition.

*Shattered Dreams of Revolution* focuses on the Young Turk revolution of 1908 and examines the stories of three important groups: Arabs, Armenians, and Jews.

The Revolution raised these groups' expectations for new opportunities of inclusion and citizenship. But as post-revolutionary festivities ended, these euphoric feelings soon turned to pessimism and a dramatic rise in ethnic tensions. Today as the Middle



East experiences another set of revolutions, these early lessons of the Ottoman Empire, of unfulfilled expectations and ensuing discontent, still provide important insights into the contradictions of hope and disillusion seemingly inherent in revolution.

M. Şükrü Hanioglu (Princeton University) said in *Perspectives of Politics* "In this well-researched, tightly argued, and sophisticated book, Bedross Der Matossian maintains that the enormous chasm between the Weltanschauungen of the Ottoman Committee of Union and Progress and of the major Armenian, Jewish, and Arab political organizations and intellectuals made any agreement on the basic tenets of the new constitutional regime impossible . . . [S]tudents of Ottoman, Armenian, Arab, and modern Jewish history will be indebted to Der Matossian for



his extremely valuable contribution to the field.”

Benjamin C. Fortna (The University of Arizona) said in the Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies “... Perhaps the greatest achievement of Der Matossian’s fine study is that it brings to life the multiple voices of some of the most important of these ethnic groups where others have tended to lump them together en bloc.”

*Shattered Dreams* has been translated into Turkish in 2016 as *Hüsrana Uğrayan Devrim: Geç Dönem Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda Hürriyet ve Şiddet* (Istanbul: İletişim Publications, 2016).

Dr. Der Matossian is an Associate Professor of Modern Middle East History in the Department of History at the University of Nebraska. Born and raised in Jerusalem, he is a graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he began his graduate studies in the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies. He completed his Ph.D. in Middle East History in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University in 2008. From 2008 to 2010, he was a Lecturer of Middle East History in the Faculty of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). In Spring 2014 he was the Dumanian Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago. His areas of interest include ethnic politics in the Middle East, inter-ethnic violence in the Ottoman Empire, the history of the Armenian Genocide and modern Armenian history. He is also the co-editor with Suleiman A. Mourad and Naomi Koltun-Fromm of the forthcoming book *Routledge Handbook on Jerusalem* (2017).



## SAS Annual Meeting

**Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel, Boston,  
Massachusetts**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, November 17, 2016 • 4:05PM(Eastern  
Time)**

The SAS Annual Membership Meeting was called to order at 4:05PM by SAS President Barlow Der Mugrdechian.

Twenty-five members of SAS were present at the meeting.

Executive Council members Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Sergio La Porta, Vartan Matiossian, and Vahe Sahakyan were also present.

Excused-SAS Executive Council members: Bedross Der Matossian, Lilit Keshishyan, Arpi Siyahian.

### **I. Approval of Agenda**

The proposed agenda was approved.

### **II. Approval of minutes of previous meeting-**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **III. Treasurer’s Report**

It was reported that there is \$34,589 in the SAS checking account, \$35,282.60 in one CD and \$15,942.64 in another CD as of November 1, 2016. In the period January 1-October 31, 2016, there was a deficit of \$6,684.77. More work must be done to get dues paid.

### **IV-Reports:**

#### **a) SAS Newsletter-**

Michael Pifer and Hagop Ohanessian continue editing the newsletter. One issue per year. In the past there has been two issues per year, and sometime three. The Newsletter has been redesigned to be digital. The Council discussed having one issue per year, with the issue being a report of the SAS, with financial reports, other reports, and SAS activities.

Members’ activities, currently reported in the Journal, would be self-managed on the website: “My activity” would replace “Member activity.”

#### **b) JSAS 24 and 25 report-Sergio La Porta, Editor**

Vol. 24 of JSAS (2015) had a change in format. Now the E-journal is being disseminated by EBSCO. Vol. 25 (2016) should be out by the end of the year, and Vol. 26 (2017) for the fall of 2017. There are no plans for a thematic issue. The journal is moving forward to an electronic format. Executive Council members worked on cleaning up the address lists of JSAS issues sent

here and abroad.

**c) Membership report-**Der Mugerdechian reported on changes in SAS membership over the year. Four regular and seven students members joined SAS in 2016. A free year membership is given to student members. There will be a renewed effort to gain Institutional Members, by asking Armenian organization to provide an annual donation.

## **V. Old Business**

### **a) SAS Best Conference paper**

The prize for the SAS Best Conference Paper of 2015 was shared between Khatchig Mouradian “Genocide and Humanitarian Resistance in Ottoman Syria, 1915-1916” and Gohar Grigoryan “Manifestations of Mongol-Armenian Relations in the Royal Art of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia.” Each will receive an award of \$250, sharing the \$500 prize.

### **b) SAS Best Book Award**

The book award will be finished later in the year. The award for best 2015-2016 dissertation will be given next year.

### **c) NAASR 60th anniversary**

Per the decision of the SAS Executive Council, SAS made a donation of \$500 to NAASR on the occasion of NAASR’s 60th anniversary. Der Mugerdechian sent a congratulatory note to NAASR on behalf of SAS that was printed in the Banquet booklet

## **VI. New Business:**

### **a) SAS Executive Council elections report-**

Bedross Der Matossian and Vahe Sahakyan terms on the Executive Council concluded as of 2016. Three members were nominated to run. Khatchig Mouradian and Vahe Sahakyan were elected. Der Mugerdechian reported that seventy members voted in the online elections.

### **b) Formation of Nominations Committee**

Lilit Keshishyan and Sergio La Porta terms on the

Executive Council conclude at the end of 2017. A Nominations Committee should be formed to work to solicit nominations.

Ani Kasparian was nominated to the Nominations Committee from the floor.

### **c) Gulbenkian Foundation cooperation-**

It was suggested to organize a conference next year in MESA. Barlow Der Mugerdechian proposed to make it about Western Armenian language; Vahe Sahakyan suggested language and translation. The idea was also floated about organizing a biannual conference outside MESA.

### **d) Endowment-decision on establishing an Endowment Fund**

President Der Mugerdechian reported about the Executive Council discussion on establishing an Endowment Fund. There is currently \$37,950, invested in a CD, earmarked for the Endowment. A campaign should be developed to grow the fund. The principal should be invested in a competitive way. Money invested in the stock market looks promising (4% to 7% income). There is the need to develop a long-term plan for donations. It was suggested to form an outside group specifically to do fundraising. The main goal of the endowment fund should be to cover the expenses of SAS with its income. The minimum capital to generate a usable income should be \$100,000. After the discussion, Gregory Aftandilian moved that the Executive Council be directed to establish the endowment fund. The motion was unanimously accepted.

### **e) Survey of membership-questions regarding goals, ideas, etc.**

It was proposed to send a survey to the membership with open-ended questions. A suggestion was made to present 4 or 5 projects that SAs was considering and let people respond.

**f)** The MESA Annual Conference in 2017 will be held Washington, D.C., Saturday, November 18-Tuesday, November 21. The meetings in conjunction day is Saturday, November 18.

It was suggested to cooperate with the Gulbenkian Foundation and discuss the possibility of co-sponsoring a conference organized around the theme of the “Armenian Language.” The conference format would be similar to what was held this year in Boston.

Other ideas for panels were also discussed.

g) In the past year, SAS has funded the Armenian Genocide panel at MESA Denver (November 2015), the Graduate Colloquium at UCLA, and co-sponsored the conference on “Empire, Politics, and War: The Armenian Genocide within the Context of the Ottoman Empire,” at Fresno State (March 2016) and the Mediterranean Seminar on “Politics, Identity, and Religion” (April 2016). The SAS made a donation of \$500 in support of the 60th anniversary of NAASR.

## VI. Other

Kevork Bardakjian presented the idea of recognizing retired members in a sort of dialogue that could create archival material. Barlow Der Mugrdachian suggested organizing this through a podcast. Possible candidates for such an event should be identified, and the logistics to organize it should be created.

Marc Mamigonian referred to the importance of oral histories for the study of the development of Armenian Studies in the country.

Aram Arkun referred to the digitization of archival collections everywhere. Concern was raised about the situation in some Armenian chairs.

All presents were invited to the joint reception by NAASR and SAS to be held on Friday, November 18, 2016, at the NAASR headquarters in Belmont (Massachusetts).

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Vartan Matiossian,**

**SAS Secretary**

## SAS Recognizes “Best Conference Paper Award” Recipients



The Society for Armenian Studies announced the recipients of its 2015 “Best Conference Paper Award” at its Annual Membership Meeting on November 17, 2016 in Boston. Recognized were co-winners Gohar Grigoryan for her paper “Manifestations of Mongol-Armenian Relations in the Royal Art of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia” and Khatchig Mouradian for his paper “Genocide and Humanitarian Resistance in Ottoman Syria, 1915-1916.”

The SAS Executive Council annually awards a \$500.00 prize for the best paper presented by a graduate student at a conference in a calendar year. A committee appointed by the Executive Council judged the papers.

Gohar Grigoryan’s paper discusses Mongol-Armenian relations in the 13th century through the lens of a study of the depiction of the robe of Prince Levon in manuscript No. 8321 in the Matenadaran, attributed to



the artist Toros Roslin. She argues in her study that one of the major motifs found in the miniature painting, “The Lion and the Sun,” was “borrowed from Persian culture not through the Byzantine, or Seljukid arts or through the revival of old Armenian royal traditions, but rather through the Mongols.” Her paper was presented at the conference “Élites chrétiennes et formes du pouvoir en Méditerranée centrale et orientale (XIIIe-XVe siècle),” held at the Université de Nîmes, Université Paul-Valéry-Montpellier, in June 1915

Grigoryan is a graduate of the Yerevan State University Department of Art History, where she received both her B.A. and Master’s Degree. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Medieval Art History at the University of Fribourg. Her doctoral dissertation is on “Royal Images of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia (1198-1375).”

Khatchig Mouradian’s paper was presented at the conference “The Genocide of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire in the Great War,” organized by the International Scientific Council (CSI), 25-27, in March 2015.



Mouradian provides a reassessment of what is referred to as the “second phase of the Armenian

genocide,” emphasizing the role of an Armenian-led humanitarian network in saving thousands of lives. The scholarship (and the popular discourse) on humanitarian efforts during the Genocide focuses on western missionaries and consuls, but Mouradian argues that it was the Ottoman Armenians who “led the resistance effort and shouldered the larger share of the burden, distributing humanitarian aid and funds to deportees.”

Mouradian is a graduate of the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University and completed his PhD in January of 2016. Since 2014, Mouradian has taught courses History and Sociology departments at Rutgers and at Worcester

State University. In the fall of 2016, he was the Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor at California State University, Fresno.

The Society of Armenian Studies is an international body, composed of scholars and students, whose aims are to promote the study of Armenian culture and society, including history, language, literature, and social, political, and economic questions; to facilitate the exchange of scholarly information pertaining to Armenian studies around the world; and to sponsor panels and conferences on Armenian studies.



## New Members

### Regular:

Margaret Manoogian, Western Oregon University  
 Syuzanna Petrosyan, Institute of Armenian Studies, USC  
 Julien Zarifian, University of Cergy-Pontoise

### Student:

Serouj Aprahamian, York University, Canada  
 Areg Galstyan, American Studies Centre  
 Piruza Hayrapetyan, Central European University  
 Ara Karamanian, Macquarie University  
 Dickrank Khodanian, Boston University  
 Helen Makhdoumian, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

### Supporting:

Anahid Asadorian, Foothill Ranch, CA

**California State University,  
Fresno  
Armenian Studies Program  
5245 N Backer Ave M/S PB 4  
Fresno CA 93740-8001**

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**The SAS Executive Council wishes you all  
a safe and productive summer.**

**2017 SAS Executive Officers:**

**President - Barlow Der Mugerdechian  
(barlowd@csufresno.edu)**

**Vice President - Vartan Matiossian**

**Treasurer - Sergio La Porta  
Secretary - Khatchig Mouradian**

**Advisors:  
Lilit Keshishyan  
Vahe Sahakyan  
Arpi Siyahian**