

**Academia in the Public Sphere: Islam and Muslims in World Contexts Grantees - 2009/10**

University	Applicant Center/s	Project Description	Amount Awarded
Duke University	Center for International Studies, Islamic Studies Center, DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy	"Contexts and Connections: Islam, Scholarship, and Media" - Funds establish three five-week fellowships in 2009/10 for journalists who cover Islam and the Muslim world. The fellows, who will be part of the DeWitt Wallace Media Fellows program, will attend courses and symposia and participate on panel discussions bringing together journalism faculty/students and Islamic studies scholars. Fellows might include high profile bloggers, bookers for national cable channels, and journalists from traditional media outlets.	\$50,000
Florida International University	Latin American and Caribbean Center	"Islam in Latin America" - Funds will support basic research by FSU faculty and scholars in Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, and Mexico on the increasing presence of Muslims in Latin America, a result of both conversion and migration. The researchers will determine the historical development of Islam in Latin America, explore whether one can speak of a "creole" Islam, and highlight the experience of Muslims in Latin America post-September 11. The researchers will also engage journalists and policy makers located in Latin America and the U.S.	\$53,147
Georgetown University	Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies	"Islam and Muslims in World Contexts: Eurasian Web Resources" - Funds will support online archiving of Eurasian web resources such as blogs to allow a richer understanding of the relationship between Islam and central Asian political systems formed after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The goal is to enable informed policymaking, scholarship, and advocacy and to grant voices from the region a greater influence on these activities than is possible to date. This project will be undertaken in partnership with the Library of Congress and will offer open access for researchers across the globe. 600 active seeds will operate in 6 collections and capture over 20 million documents in Russian, Turkish, and English. A public event involving scholars and policymakers will be held to feature the resource.	\$34,524
Indiana University	Center for the Study of Global Change, African Studies Center, East Asian Studies Center, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, Russian and East European Institute, West European Studies Center	"Beyond Voices and Visions: Islam and Muslims from a Global Perspective" - Funds allow continued support for creation of 3-5 minute podcasts broadcast on local public radio station WFIU and will enable a new feature, the creation of 3-5 minute videocasts, which will appear on public television affiliate WTIU throughout the month of Ramadan. The award-winning podcasts will continue to include the series Muslim Voices, which presents issues through diverse and often opposing viewpoints cited by Muslims, and the series Crash Course in Islam, which will continue to be dedicated to correcting common misperceptions about Islam that frequently appear in U.S. public discourse. In addition, the funds will allow for the further development of the website as a go-to resource, featuring blogs, podcasts, digital publications, and monthly conversations with relevant experts from within and outside the academic community.	\$99,697

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Michigan State University	African Studies Center	"Reporting about Muslim Peoples and Islam: An Online Resource for Professional Journalism Education" - Funds support development of online professional journalism curricular material addressing the portrayal of Islam and Muslims in American and international print, digital, broadcast, and photographic news media. The project will produce accessible material for use by faculty teaching prospective journalists, particularly in master's and Ph.D. programs. The material will be developed by Islamic studies scholars and journalism faculty, used and tested in classrooms by the MSU journalism program, and subsequently disseminated to accredited journalism programs throughout the U.S.	\$88,880
Princeton University, Syracuse University	Near Eastern Studies Program (Princeton), NRC for South Asia (Syracuse)	"Iran Social Science Information Project" - Funds support development of the Iran Social Science Information Project, an online resource for advocacy groups, policymakers and academics. The resource will include a regularly updated roadmap to English language information on Iranian political and economic data from government sites, censuses, and income surveys; translation of legislation as it is being passed and synopses of the parliamentary gazette; an extensive collection of electoral data down to the provincial level for the last 30 years and a list of political parties, personnel, platforms and disqualifications of candidates; English language synopses of major social science studies published within Iran; and contact information for governmental organizations, NGOs, research institutes and centers. Additionally the site is intended as a hub for the sharing of research among scholars working on the region.	\$100,000
University of Arizona	Center for Middle East Studies	"Understanding Islam: Bridging the Worlds of Academia and Journalism" - Funds enhance collaborations between journalists and Islamic studies scholars by supporting a newly created dual master's degree in Journalism and Near Eastern Studies. The funds will support the development of panels bringing together Islamic studies scholars and journalists at both the Arizona Newspaper Association and the New Mexico Press Association. In addition, the grant will fund roundtable sessions bringing together faculty and journalists on campus, support visiting speakers, and permit the development of a cross-listed Journalism/Near Eastern Studies class on international opinion writing. Finally, faculty will receive strategic communications training and the center will develop an online media guide listing faculty expertise.	\$50,000
University of California - Berkeley	Center for South Asia Studies, Center for Middle East Studies, Center for Southeast Asia Studies	"Islam in Circulation: New Media and Youth Culture in the Middle East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia" - Funds will support public events to be held in San Francisco and Silicon Valley which are centered on the topic of youth culture and new media. Additional events will be held online using virtual worlds. The forums will permit exploration of the ways in which youth are using new media -- ranging from blogs to social networking to virtual worlds -- to explore, engage, and reshape identity, politics, and popular culture in the Middle East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. The various events are intended for a range of constituencies such as corporate audiences (and will take place on Google Campus among other sites) and will involve community partners such as alt.muslim.com and halalfire.com. The grant also supports a public festival in the East Bay exploring youth, Islam, and the arts that will include prominent musicians, comedians, and filmmakers.	\$94,620

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University of Colorado at Boulder	Center for Asian Studies	"Understanding Muslim Community Resources in the Rocky Mountain Region" - Funds allow project participants to gather data about Muslim communities of the mountain west, map key constituencies and resources, and develop an online regional gazetteer. In addition, the funds support media training sessions for faculty and create roundtable forums bringing together media and scholars in the region to discuss media needs and faculty resources.	\$44,000
University of Florida	Center for African Studies	"Bringing Africa into the Discussion: Enhancing Public Engagement on Islam in Sub-Saharan Africa" - Funds permit creation of a documentary exploring Eid-al-Fitr as celebrated along the Swahili Coast and the Hausa-speaking region of northern Nigeria in order to explore both continuities produced through ritual and the ways that practices are transformed through engagement with local dynamics. In particular the documentary will examine ways that the celebrations are caught up in local politics about the place of Islam within the larger society and debates over who speaks for Islam in these communities. The project will also create written material supplementing this documentary. This project will promote collaborative work between the Center for African Studies and the Documentary Film Institute. Screenings and expert panels will be undertaken with the World Affairs Council, the United Nations Association, and public libraries.	\$50,000
University of Michigan	Center for Middle East and North African Studies, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Center for South Asian Studies, Center for African Studies, Islamic Studies Initiative	"Understanding Muslims and Islam in Michigan and Beyond" - Funds permit development of five one-hour programs exploring Muslim communities in Michigan which will be broadcast on local public radio affiliates during Morning Edition and All Things Considered, thus reaching a weekly audience of 451,000 listeners. The project will also produce this programming as a series of public television interstitials to be broadcast between prime time programming on WFUM, serving southeast and central Michigan. In addition, the project will yield a town-hall meeting featuring scholars, key representatives from local constituencies, and the general public.	\$100,000
University of Pennsylvania	African Studies Center	"Building Muslim Spaces in a Secular Society" - Funds support forums bringing together faculty in Islamic and African studies and local representatives of African Muslim communities in Philadelphia. Forums will include public meetings at the Free Library of Pennsylvania and radio programming that features researchers and representatives of advocacy groups. In addition, the project participants will collaborate with the Annenberg School of Communication to produce videos demonstrating the ways in which Muslims in Philadelphia invest spaces with religious meaning. Finally, funds will go toward providing faculty with strategic communications training and toward curriculum development, allowing faculty to develop a course that introduces Penn students to local African and Islamic communities in Philadelphia.	\$43,921
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Global Studies, African Studies Program, Center for South Asia, Center for South East Asian Studies, Center for European Studies, Center for East Asian Studies, Center for Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies	"Inside Islam: Dialogues and Debates" - Funds permit the renewal of a project that develops one-hour public radio programs for WFIU. Due to their length and reliance on researchers with expert knowledge of the topics under discussion, these programs bring sustained attention to issues relating to Islam/Muslims in world contexts. The grant will also permit the further development of a website, intended as an information hub addressing Islam in a variety of world regions. The website will feature podcasts, a blog that speaks to both local and global issues, an interactive discussion thread which permits radio program listeners to ask follow-up questions with direct responses from faculty and participating journalists, and other forms of digital storytelling.	\$99,724
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$908,513</b>