# Research Day Program - Day 1

**Thursday - May 19, 2022 - Furno Hall**

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<td>Keynote Address</td>
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<td>The Frequency of ICA Autoantibodies among Healthy Young Adults from the Bethlehem District as a Predictive Biomarker for Latent Autoimmune Diabetes: A Pilot Study</td>
<td>Mr. Nader Hazboun and Ms. Sherin Sayyed Ahmad</td>
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**Research Day Program - Day 2**

**Thursday - May 26, 2022**

- Dr. Juhaina Bandak and Julian Nissan
- Ms. Narmeen Qumsieh
- Dr. Zein Al Abideen Al-Awawdeh

**Research Day Program - Day 3**

**Thursday - June 2, 2022**

- Dr. Hanan Hazboun, Dr. Ahmad Fasfous, and Dr. Fadel Alaswayfa
- Ms. Miral Hamad, Ms. Nadine Nassar, and Dr. Michel Hanania
- Dr. Raed Abdul Masih
- Mr. Layth Awwad
Keynote address

A Holistic Approach to E-learning in the Palestinian Higher Education Sector

Dr. Mohammad Tamimi

This talk examines the conditions needed for holistic approaches to e-learning in higher education (HE), through an empirical investigation of factors informing e-learning in Palestine. Existing research has highlighted the need for more holistic approaches to the development of e-learning. The talk addresses the challenges and enablers for developing e-learning in the Palestinian HE (PHE) sector and examines how a holistic approach to e-learning can be conceptualized and developed.

This talk is based on a collaborative research project titled, “Equip Palestine with E-Learning (E-Pal),” a six-year long project funded by NORAD and carried out by two Palestinian and two Norwegian HEIs. In the project, the researchers present results from a comprehensive needs analysis, consisting of qualitative and quantitative data from a range of stakeholders, where they examine multiple factors informing e-learning, including pedagogical, organizational and policy contexts.

Bio

Mohammed Tamimi is an Assistant Professor of English at Palestine Polytechnic University-Hebron, Palestine. He is the project manager and the lead for Palestine in the NORAD six-year funded project titled: “Equip Palestine with E-Learning (E-Pal)”. He holds a PhD in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching majoring in Pedagogy and minoring in Instructional Technology from the University of Arizona, Tucson-USA. He is a certified trainer in e-moderation, integrating technology in education, life skills, entrepreneurship, and communication skills. He is also a pedagogy specialist, teacher trainer, alternative assessment and instructional technology specialist, curriculum developer and designer, ICT specialist. His research interest is in blended learning, flipped classroom, online learning, pedagogy, instructional technology, language and culture, Enterprising Teaching Methods, learning style, alternative assessment, and teaching and learning.
The Frequency of ICA Autoantibodies among Healthy Young Adults from the Bethlehem District as a Predictive Biomarker for Latent Autoimmune Diabetes: A Pilot Study

Nader Hazboun¹, Sherin Sayyed Ahmad²

¹Lecturer, Biology Department, Bethlehem University, Bethlehem, Palestine.
²Postgraduate Student, MSc Biotech Program, Bethlehem University, Bethlehem, Palestine.

Abstract

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a common disorder in the Palestinian population. It causes economic burden on the society due to costs of management of the disease. Therefore, the ability to predict the development of type 1 DM in young adults by screening for islet cell (ICA) antibodies before its onset by many years and reverse the process by instituting proper measures will have a tremendous impact on the individual and population levels. This pilot study involved screening 99 healthy young adults with no history of DM and a mean age of 28.9 years (age range between 19-40) for ICA autoantibodies in the Bethlehem District. All samples were normoglycemic. Of the 99 samples screened, 5.1% tested positive for ICA antibodies. This 5.1% frequency of ICA antibodies among healthy adults in the Bethlehem District indicates that type 1 DM might be on *the rise so that larger studies are recommended. High risk patients who tested positive for ICA antibodies are recommended to regularly monitor their blood sugar levels in the coming years for earlier detection of type 1 DM.

MLA

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Neoliberal Contradictions in Ahmad Sa’dawi’s Frankenstein in Baghdad

Jamil Khader

Professor of English and Dean of Research, Bethlehem University, Bethlehem, Palestine

Abstract

This paper interrogates the “geo/political unconscious” of Ahmad Sa’dawi’s novel, Frankenstein in Baghdad, the much-celebrated winner of the 2014 “Arabic Booker” or the International Prize for Arabic Fiction. While critics have examined the novel’s major fantastic trope, the Whatsisname or the Shesma in Iraqi dialect, as an allegory for the same American imperial occupation it personifies, I argue that the Shesma functions as an allegory for the structural violence of the global necrocapitalist system, into which the American invasion aimed to integrate Iraq. Unable to offer any utopian or imaginary resolution for the violence of the global necrocapitalist system it allegorizes, furthermore, Sa’dawi’s novel shifts from the gothic fantastic to postmodern techniques and neoliberal discourses and ideologemes (liberal individualism) that further obfuscate this repressed level of violence. As such, the novel blames the condition in Iraq on people’s actions, individual choice, personal greed, corruptibility, local war profiteering, tribal traditions and sectarian identity politics, instead of American imperialism and necrocapitalist exploitation and accumulation.

Drawing on Hannah Arendt’s theorization of the social, I argue that these neoliberal ideologemes and postmodern tendencies paradoxically attribute the human condition and the consequences of human actions to larger monstrous life forms that ultimately undermine human agency and freedom. While on the surface Sa’dawi’s novel seems to suggest that people are to blame for their actions, at the deeper level it expresses, but represses, the complexities and inconsistencies of the conditions of freedom and human agency in the context of inef fable, inexorable, and invisible powers that preclude the actualization of spontaneous freedom and human agency. I will examine the ways in which this paradox is articulated in the novel at the national, sexual, and political levels.