

## **SCHOLARS AT RISK PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVE DIGEST**

*The SAR Primary Representative Weekly Digest is compiled and distributed every Monday to network members' primary representatives. If you would like to change your institution's primary representative or adjust your email preferences, please contact [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu).*

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### **Contents**

- [Announcements](#)
- [Opportunities](#)
- [Scholars of the Week](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Academic Freedom Media Review](#)

### **Announcements**

- The SAR network is pleased to welcome its newest members, [IAU College](#) in Aix-en-Provence, France, [Emerson College](#) in Boston, Massachusetts, and the [American Historical Association](#) in Washington, DC.
- Member copies of the [Free to Think](#) report are in the mail! Contact us at [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu) if there are any issues or to request more copies.

### **Opportunities**

- **Service-learning opportunity for students:** The SAR Student Advocacy Seminar provides students with the opportunity to learn about academic freedom and human rights and then put that knowledge into practice as advocates for imprisoned SAR scholars. [Read more](#) about this unique opportunity for SAR member institutions.

### **Scholars of the Week**

This week, SAR is highlighting the cases of four Iraqi scholars, all still in country and seeking placement assistance as soon as possible. We ask for your help in reviewing the information and encourage you to share it with your institution and other colleagues who may be able to help. More information is available from the SAR network office at [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu) and +1 212 998 2179. Thank you for your help.

### **IRAQ-775**

Field: International Relations

Risk: Threat to life/person

Language: Arabic; English (Intermediate)

Education: PhD

This scholar is a leading expert in Iraqi foreign affairs with significant higher education experience. He received his PhD in international relations from a university in Iraq, and worked for over 25 years at the same university, including as a professor, head of department,

dean, and chancellor. He has a leading role in an association for Iraqi intellectuals, and has held leadership positions at several academic institutions in Iraq. In addition to his academic experience, this scholar has served in an ambassadorial position. He has also authored five academic books and dozens of published articles. An active reporter of human rights violations against Iraqi academics, he has contributed to governmental human rights reports in recent years. This scholar is seeking research and/or teaching opportunities in a safe location beginning **immediately**.

### **IRAQ-771**

Field: Archaeology; Anthropology

Risk: Threat to life/person

Language: Arabic; English (Fluent)

Education: MA (US)

This promising junior scholar is an archaeologist with several years of experience as a university lecturer and field researcher. He received his MA in anthropology from an American university and his BA in archaeology from an Iraqi university. He has participated in several training programs and workshops organized by the US Embassy in Iraq, and has conducted field research in Yemen, Iraq, Colorado, and Nevada. He was previously a lecturer at a university in Iraq, where he also held leadership positions. He is a promising researcher with three published academic articles and three articles in preparation for publication. His research interests include Paleoanthropology, Paleolithic archaeology, lithic (stone tool) analysis, and Southwest Asia. Currently in Iraq, this scholar seeks research, teaching, and/or study opportunities in a safe location beginning **immediately**.

### **IRAN-656**

Field: Political satire; Journalism

Risk: Harassment/Intimidation; Loss of position/profession (Displaced)

Language: Persian, English (Fluent)

Education: PhD (ABD) (Malaysia)

This scholar is an experienced and widely published political satirist. He holds an MA in Philosophy from an Iranian university and is currently completing his PhD on political satire's role in press freedom at a university in Malaysia. He has covered Middle Eastern political satire for Arabic news outlets in his home country and was a frequent contributor to online news outlets, publishing hundreds of articles, essays and cartoons. The scholar has published several popular satirical novels, and has also written several novels for which he was not granted a printing license. Recently the recipient of an award recognizing his demonstrated research excellence and promise in the field of humor studies, his current research interests include contemporary Middle Eastern satire and satirists, English satire of the 18th century, and 19th century Iranian satire. Currently a visiting fellow at a European university, this scholar seeks opportunities to continue his research and writing in any safe environment beginning **Fall 2015**.

### **Upcoming Events**

- **September 15-18, Glasgow, Scotland:** SAR European Director Sinead O’Gorman and Membership Assistant Margaret Coons will represent SAR at the 2015 European Association of International Education (EAIE) annual conference. Those interested in

arranging meetings with SAR during the event are encouraged to get in touch in advance at [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu).

- **November 13, Oslo, Norway:** The SAR Norway Section will host a conference on academic freedom at the Nobel Peace Centre entitled "International partnership in academia - an ethical challenge?" SAR Executive Director Robert Quinn and Magna Charta Observatory President Dr. Sijbolt Noorda will give keynote speeches, and SAR European Director Sinead O'Gorman will chair the conference.
- **June 7-10, 2016, Montreal Canada:** Save the date! Scholars at Risk and the McGill University Centre for Human Rights & Legal Pluralism are pleased to announce the scheduling of the 2016 Scholars at Risk Network Global Congress for June 7-10, 2016 in Montreal. The 2016 event will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Scholars at Risk Network and the collective efforts of network members and partners protecting scholars and promoting academic freedom worldwide. For more information and to express interest in attending, go to [www.scholarsatrisk.org/Montreal2016](http://www.scholarsatrisk.org/Montreal2016).



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**SCHOLARS AT RISK**  
NETWORK

## **Academic Freedom Media Review**

Each week, SAR compiles articles pertaining to academic freedom and higher education communities worldwide. The most read Media Review articles this week were:

### **China Signals a Growing Unease With the Influence of American Universities**

Karin Fischer, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, 07/08

With its growing global clout, China has become the place to be for American colleges, with the number of academic partnerships and programs there increasing each year. But a law proposed by the Chinese government to regulate foreign universities and nonprofit organizations could put those warming relations on ice. [Read more.](#)

### **Nearly a Year Later, Fallout From Salaita Case Lingers on Campuses**

Beth McMurtrie, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, 07/06

Steven Salaita, the controversial scholar whose job offer was revoked last year at the U. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has finally secured another job. But recent events show that colleges are still wrestling with how to protect academic freedom when outrage goes viral. [Read more.](#)

### **Ethiopia releases journalists and bloggers ahead of Obama visit**

*Agence France-Press*, 07/09

Charges against five bloggers and journalists held in Ethiopia for more than a year have been dropped, weeks before Barack Obama's planned visit to the country. Five others also arrested in April 2014 remain in jail, accused of planning terrorist attacks and collaborating with the US-based opposition group Ginbot 7, labelled a terrorist organisation by Ethiopia. [Read more.](#)

This week's full Media Review can be found [on the SAR website.](#)