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Announcements

- The SAR network is pleased to welcome its newest member, [Liverpool John Moores University](#) in Liverpool, UK, which joins as part of the Cara Scholars at Risk UK Universities Network.
- **New network hosts for at-risk scholars:**
 - **UiT The Arctic University of Norway** has offered a one-year position to a *Cameroonian scholar*.
 - An *Iranian scholar* arrived at **Ghent University**, Belgium to take up a three-month visiting scholar position. Ghent University has also offered a one-year position to a *Rwandan scholar* beginning fall 2015 and a one-year position to a *Syrian scholar*. These placements were organized in cooperation with SAR's partner in the Netherlands, the Foundation for Refugee Students/University Assistance Fund.
 - **Freie Universitat Berlin in Germany** offered year-long visiting scholar position extensions to a *Syrian scholar* and an *Iranian scholar*.
 - **McGill University**, Canada, invited an *Iranian scholar* to campus for spring and summer 2016.
 - **The Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (NIAS)** offered an *Iranian scholar* a 10 month position. This placement was organized in cooperation with SAR's partner in the Netherlands, the Foundation for Refugee Students/University Assistance Fund.
 - In June, an *Iranian scholar* arrived at **University of Agder** in Norway to begin a one-year visiting professor position.
 - **University of Gothenburg** in Sweden offered one-year positions to a *Syrian scholar* and a *Pakistani scholar*, beginning fall 2015.
 - **Harvard University** has offered a one-year visiting scholar position to an *Ethiopian scholar* beginning August 1. This position was arranged by Harvard-SAR.
 - *Two Iraqi scholars* of law received grants of £5,060 each from the Prisoner's Conscience Fund to cover the tuition of their Master's program at **Queen's University Belfast**. SAR acted as the scholars' nominating agency.
 - The **Cara** Allocation Committee met on 30th June 2015 to consider applications to the UK Programme. The Committee agreed to support *16 scholars* from countries including *Syria, Eritrea and Ethiopia*.

Opportunities

- **Hold a Free to Think Event:** The release of [Free to Think](#), the report of the SAR Academic Freedom Monitoring Report, presents a wonderful opportunity to hold a

campus event to raise awareness both about the report and your institution's involvement in the SAR network. If you would be interested in working together to plan an event for the coming semester, please email scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.

- **Join the SAR online community:** If you have not already, please click the buttons below to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (make sure to click "like" and "follow" on the pages). We would also like to publicize the good work you're doing, so feel free to tag us or tweet at us and we'll be sure to share your institution's SAR-related news.



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 and +1 212 998 2179. Thank you for your help.

IRAQ-782

Field: Anatomy; Surgery

Risk: Threat to life/person

Language: Arabic, English (Fluent)

Education: MBChB

This scholar is a medical doctor with significant higher education experience. He holds a medical bachelor's degree (MBChB) from a university in Iraq and several specialized diplomas in surgery. The scholar taught for nearly 25 years at a university in Iraq, including courses on surgery and anatomy, and supervised students' surgical theses. In recent years, he was a visiting scholar at a university in the United States. The scholar has been published in international journals, and his recent research focuses on obesity management and Islets cell transplantation. Currently in Iraq, this medical scholar seeks teaching and/or research opportunities in North America or Europe beginning **immediately**.

IRAQ-784

Field: Cardiovascular Medicine

Risk: Threat to life/person

Language: Arabic, English (Fluent)

Education: PhD

This scholar is a senior medical doctor and professor of cardiovascular medicine. He has a PhD in clinical pharmacology and cardiovascular pharmacology from an Iraqi university, and conducted a post-doctorate fellowship in the United States. He received his DM in internal medicine, his MSc in clinical pharmacology, and his MBChB in medicine from Iraqi universities. A senior academic with two decades of teaching experience, he has taught

numerous courses in internal medicine, cardiovascular pharmacology, and clinical pharmacology at universities in Iraq. He has authored and co-authored over 100 articles on pharmacology and internal and cardiovascular medicine in international and regional medical journals, and has also co-authored a book on treatment options for atherosclerosis. This scholar is currently in Iraq and is seeking research and/or teaching opportunities in a safe location beginning **immediately**.

IRAQ-011

Field: Public Health

Risk: Threat to life/person

Language: Arabic, English (Fluent)

Education: PhD

This scholar is a senior academic and a professor of public health with a specialty in community medicine. He has a PhD in public health from a university in Iraq and an MSc in epidemiology and biostatistics from a university in Lebanon. This scholar is an accomplished professor with over 20 years of teaching experience, and has delivered courses on epidemiology, biostatistics, and community medicine at several universities and institutions in Iraq. He has published his research in public health journals regionally and internationally. His recent research has included studies of tobacco use, physical activity levels, cancer prevalence, intimate partner violence, and workplace noise as they relate to public health in Iraq and regionally. Currently in Iraq, this scholar is seeking research and/or teaching opportunities in the United States or Europe beginning **immediately**.

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.
- **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, go to www.scholarsatrisk.org/Montreal2016.



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:

- **Campus ban on extremist speakers delayed**
Alan Travis, *The Guardian*, 06/30
New counter-terror rules stipulating stringent checks on all external speakers at universities and further education colleges have been delayed and are now unlikely to come into force until the autumn. [Read more.](#)
- **Interview: NYU Shanghai Chancellor Discusses His University's Place in China's Current Political Atmosphere**
Eric Fish, *Asia Society*, 06/29
When the school began, Yu Lizhong moved from his job as president of ECNU to become NYU Shanghai's first chancellor, where he's been serving since. At the National Chinese Language Conference in April, he sat down with Asia Blog to discuss how his university came about and where it falls in the current political atmosphere of China's higher education system. [Read more.](#)
- **New law could hit research collaboration, exchanges**
Yojana Sharma, *University World News*, 07/02
China's new draft law on 'managing foreign NGOs' has sparked alarm in academic circles with many overseas universities fearing it could have a severe affect on collaboration with Chinese institutions and research organisations by bringing their activities under the remit of China's national security authorities. [Read more.](#)

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

Academic Freedom Monitoring Project

The SAR Academic Freedom MONITOR focuses on developing greater understanding of the volume and nature of attacks on higher education communities in order to develop more effective protection responses. The MONITOR aims to identify, assess and track incidents involving conduct which may constitute violations of academic freedom and/or the human rights of members of higher education communities.

On June 26, 2015, Thai authorities arrested and detained fourteen university students in Bangkok, reportedly in connection to their participation in a nonviolent protest on June 25, 2015, when the fourteen students led a peaceful demonstration against continued military rule in Thailand. The demonstration culminated at the Democracy Monument in Bangkok and then dispersed. Following the students' decision to disperse the protest, they were reportedly followed by plainclothes police and military officers. The following day, officials arrested all fourteen students. Reports indicate that the students have been accused of violating Order No. 3/2558 issued by the National Council for Peace and Order under the authority of Article 44 of the 2014 Interim Constitution, which prohibits political demonstrations, and Article 116 of

the Criminal Code, which prohibits incitement and agitation. If the students are charged, they are reportedly subject to prosecution within the military court system, in which there is no appeal. The charges against the students carry a maximum sentence of up to seven years in jail.

To read more about this incident and for other incidents recently reported, please see <http://monitoring.academicfreedom.info/>.