

Summer STARTALK 2009 Persian Teachers' Workshop for Professional Curriculum and Materials Development at the University of Pennsylvania

Co-sponsored by the Penn Language Center, The Middle East Center, the Multi-Media Services, the Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Department at Penn, the National Middle Eastern Language Resource Center (NMEELRC) at BYU and the American Association of Teachers of Persian

Schedule of Events

June 4th-7th

David B. Weigle Information Commons, 1st Floor, Van Pelt Library, 3600 Locust Walk and Jaffe Building 113, 3405 Woodland Walk (corner of Walnut)

Thursday, June 4th:

“Methodologies of Teaching Persian and National Standards of Foreign Language Study in the U.S.”

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| 1:00PM-2:00PM | Welcome Lunch, Jaffe Building, Room 113, 3405 Woodland Walk (corner of Walnut) |
| 2:00-2:30 | Welcoming remarks, Weigle Information Commons, , 1 st Floor, Van Pelt Library
Pardis Minuchehr, Persian Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Lada Vassilieva, Administrative Director, Penn Language Center
Ed Dixon, Director of Technology for the Penn Language Center |
| 2:30-3:30 | Surendra Gambhir, University of Pennsylvania
National Standards of Foreign Language and the Hindi Language
Materials Development |
| 3:30-4:00 | Coffee Break |
| 4:00-5:00 | Discussion of Various Methodologies of Teaching Persian in the U.S., Weigle Information Commons

Maryam Borjian, Columbia University
“Methods of Second Language Teaching”

Anousha Shahsavari, University of Texas, Austin
“Persian Language Teaching Methodologies” |

Friday, June 5th:

“Curriculum Development and Design for Persian Language Learners; Heritage and Non-Heritage Students”

Jaffe Building, Room 104

9:00AM-9:30AM Breakfast, Jaffe Building, Room 113

9:30-12:00 **Curriculum and Materials Development; Traditional and Online**, Weigle Information Commons

Dwight Stephens, Duke University
“New Online Persian Materials”

12:00PM-1:00PM Lunch, Jaffe Building, Room 113

1:00PM-2:30 **Persian Heritage vs. Non-Heritage Students**, Weigle Information Commons

Karine Megerdooian, Senior Artificial Intelligence Engineer in the Human Language Technology Group at MITRE
“Persian Heritage Speakers’ Characteristics and Needs”

2:30-3:00 Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 Session Chair: Sussan Moinfar-Yazdi, Princeton University
Roundtable Discussion on Issues of Persian Curriculum Development: Practical Solutions, Weigle Information Commons

8:00 p.m. Shabahang Meeting: Iranian American Cultural Center of Philadelphia
Lawrence Hall, **Rosemont College**, 1400 Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA
Theme: “Bridging Cultures,” with a lecture from Marguerite Del Giudice, author of **Ancient Iran: Inside a Nation's Persian Soul**, followed by a screening of the film **BAM 6.6: Humanity Has No Borders**

Saturday, June 6th:

“ Multi-Media Materials Development and Computer Assisted Learning”

9:00AM-9:30AM Breakfast, Jaffe Building, Room 113

Notice change of venue to Language Labs in Multi-Media Services, 209 South 33rd Street

10:00-12:00 **The Language Lab**

Ed Dixon, University of Pennsylvania

“Technology and Language Teaching, Hot-Potatoes and other Language Learning Software”

12:00PM-1:00PM Lunch, Jaffe Building, Room 113

1:00-3:00 **Hands on sessions at Multi-Media Services**
with Ed Dixon, Ben Sykora and Chris Sabella

3:00-3:30 Coffee Break, Jaffe Building, Room 113

3:30-5:00 Roundtable Discussion on Issues of Digital Materials Development; Ideas for Collaboration; Online open source, Jaffe Building, Room 104

Sunday, June 7th:

“Assessment of Persian Language Learners; Reading, Writing, Listening and Oral Proficiency Testing”

9:30-10:00 Breakfast, Jaffe Building, Room 113

10:00-12:00 **Oral Proficiency Assessment: The ILR and ACTFL Rating Systems**, Jaffe Building, Room 104

Kamran Talatoff, University of Arizona

“Proficiency Assessment in Persian: The NMELRC Test Development Project”

12:00-1:00 Lunch, Jaffe Building, Room 113

1:00-3:00 **Oral Proficiency Assessment, cont.**, Jaffe Building, Room 104

Simin Mohajer, American University

“Questions of Rating in Oral Proficiency Interviews”

3:00-4:00 Session on establishing best methods of future collaboration for developing and submitting Persian teaching materials

Concluding Remarks

Workshop Adjourned!