Electoral Politics and Democratization in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and Iran

University of South Florida
Embassy Suites
3705 Spectrum Boulevard,
Tampa, Florida 33612

November 3-4, 2010
Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, November 3rd

9:00 – 9:30am  
Opening Remarks  

Dr. Mohsen Milani  
Professor & Chair, Department of Government & International Affairs  
University of South Florida  

Dr. Ralph Wilcox  
Executive Vice President & Provost, University of South Florida  

9:30 – 11:30 am  
Symposia: Electoral Politics & Democratization in Afghanistan  
Chair: Dr. Randy Borum, Professor, University of South Florida  
Speakers:  

Dr. M. Nazif Shahrani  
Chair & Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University  
Title: “Afghanistan’s Choice of Super Presidency and SNTV Electoral System: Impediments to Democratization”  

Dr. Amin Tarzi  
Professor, Marine Corp University  
Title: "Beyond Façades: Democratization in Afghanistan"  

Dr. Mohsen Milani  
Professor & Chair, University of South Florida  
Title: “Iran’s Policy Towards Afghanistan and It’s Parliamentary Elections”  

1:00 – 2:30 pm  
Keynote Lecture by Mr. Roger Cohen  
With introduction by Dr. Ralph Wilcox, Executive Vice President & Provost, USF  
Title: “The U.S.-Iranian Psychosis: An Incurable Condition?”  
Mr. Roger Cohen is a columnist for the The New York Times and the International Herald Tribune and served as foreign editor for The New York Times.  

3:00 – 4:30pm  
Conference Keynote Lecture by Lt. General John Allen  
With introduction by the University of South Florida’s President, Dr. Judy Genshaft  
Lt General John R. Allen is Deputy Commander, United States Central Command.
Thursday, November 4th

9:00 – 9:30 am  Opening Remarks

Dr. Mohsen Milani  
Professor & Chair, University of South Florida

Dr. Eric Eisenberg  
Dean, College of Arts & Science, University of South Florida

9:30 – 11:45 am  Symposia: Electoral Politics & Democratization in Iraq and Iran

Chair: Professor Hiba Hechiche, University of South Florida

Speakers:

Ambassador Feisal Istrabadi  
Former Iraqi Ambassador to the United States

Title: TBD

Dr. Marina Ottaway  
Director, Middle East Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Title: “Elections in Iraq: Embedding Pluralism or recreating a dominant regime model?”

Mr. Karim Sadjadpour  
Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Title: "The Disputed Presidential Election of 2009 and the Contemporary Iranian political culture: Is the Green Movement Really Different?"

Dr. Babak Rahimi  
Assistant Professor, University of California – San Diego

Title: "Qum and the 2009 Iranian election: A year after the unrest."

1:00 – 2:15 pm  Keynote Lecture by Ambassador John Limbert on the 31st anniversary of the Tehran Hostage Crisis

With introduction by Dr. Eric Eisenberg, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, USF

Title: “Iran and the U.S.: Endless Enemies?”

Ambassador John Limbert is the Former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran in the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and captive during the Iran Hostage Crisis. His lecture will be given on the 31st anniversary of the Tehran Hostage Crisis.

2:30 – 4:30 pm  Symposia: Electoral Politics & Democratization in Pakistan

Chair: TBD

Speakers:

Mr. Shuja Nawaz  
Senior Fellow, The Atlantic Council

Title: “Civil-Military relations in a time of External and Internal Challenges”

Mr. Simon Shercliff  
First Secretary Foreign Security and Policy for the British Embassy

Title: “British Perspective on Afghanistan and Pakistan”