

Spring 2007 Brownbag Presentations

Dysfunctional Politics in the Middle East and Their Corrosive Consequences (VC)

In this brown bag session we will discuss the current problems of the Middle East, paying particular attention to the situation in Iraq and to its potential short term and long term consequences for the people there. International consequences will also be examined. Suggested readings include: George Packer: "Knowing the Enemy" in the Dec. 18, 2006 New Yorker Magazine (not on Line), and Samir al Khalil: "Republic of Fear" 1989 paperback, Pantheon. Additional material will be suggested later.

Presenter: *Fuad Safwat*

Fuad Safwat is a Professor emeritus of Biology, born in Irbil, Iraq (the capital of the northern Kurdish region of Iraq). Over a long period of time he has accumulated a great deal of material on the Middle East, and in general has studied the area intensively. He has offered two different OLLI courses: "Why are things the way they are in the Middle East: and Iraq and its Future.

Date: Tuesday, April 17

Time: Noon-2:00 pm

Locations: UMass Boston, specific room to be announced and Cordage Park (via video conference)