Towards Engaged and Responsible Research: The Case of the Palestinian Refugee Camps of Lebanon

Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, Lebanon

Workshop program

Day 1: Thursday May 5th, 2016

8:30am – 9am: Welcome and opening remarks

9am - 10:30am: Panel 1: Researchers Examined
Moderator: Ismael Sheikh Hassan, Independent Researcher
- Mahmoud Zeidan – Blunders and suspicious behavior in researching the Palestinian camps
- Mohamad-Ali Nayel - The invisible hands in knowledge production
- Alaa Moustapha: ‘They called me a refugee, they called me a researcher’

10:30 - 11: Break

11am – 1pm: Panel 2: Researchers’ Responsibility, Impact, and Effect
Moderator: Livia Wick, American University of Beirut
- Mayssoun Sukarieh - On the Politics of Fieldwork with Palestinians: The Researched Speak Back
- Anne Irfan - Research with/out Responsibility: The Role of Academics in the Palestinian Refugee Camps of Lebanon
- Anaheed Al-Hardan - Decolonizing Research on Palestinians: Towards Critical Epistemologies and Research Practices
- Perla Issa – ‘You want to solve our problems?’ Reflections on conducting fieldwork in Nahr el-Bared camp

1pm – 2:30pm: Lunch

2:30pm – 3:30pm: Panel 3: Research Impact: Technical Brokers and Digital Maps
Moderator: Sawsan Abdulrahim, American University of Beirut
- Alex Mahoudeau - How Palestinian activists use research on the Palestinian camps: Technical resources, vocabularies of motives and politicisation in the Beirut camps
- Monika Halkort - Liquifying Social Capital. On the political affordances of digital mediation in a Palestinian refugee camp

3:30pm – 4pm: Break

4pm – 5pm: Keynote speaker: Rosemary Sayigh

“Towards Economic Ethnographies of Palestinian Refugee Camps.”
Day 2: Friday May 6th, 2016

9am – 10:30am: Consultation: Research Ethics and Vulnerable Populations: Responsibilities of Individual Researchers, Research Institutions and Universities

- Seteney Shami, Founding director of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS),
- Mudar Kassis, Chair of the Birzeit University - Research Ethics Committee

10:30am – 11am: Break

11am – 1pm: Panel 4: Engaging the Community? Potentials, Challenges, and Limitations

Moderator: Mayssoun Sukarieh, Kings College, London.

- Hana Suleiman, Kaoukab Chebaro: The Palestinian Oral History Archive
- Ismael Sheikh Hassan: Negotiating Academic Research, Political Activism and Professional Practice in Palestinian Camps.
- Claudia Martinez Mansell: The Ties that Bind: Research and Mapping in Bourj Al Shamali Refugee Camp
- Azadeh Sobout: Reflection in Practice: Collaborative ethnography in Post Conflict Nahr el Bared

1pm – 2:30pm – Lunch

2:30pm – 4:30pm: Roundtable Discussion: Towards Engaged and Responsible research

Moderator: Perla Issa, IPS