

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

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 – 11:45 am

Symposia: Electoral Politics & Democratization in Afghanistan and Iraq

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"

Ambassador Feisal Istrabadi

Former Iraqi Ambassador to the United States

Title: "Law and Politics in Iraq"

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 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.

Moderated by Dr. Mohsen M. Milani

Thursday, November 4th

9:00 – 9:30 am

Opening Remarks

Dr. Mohsen Milani

*Professor & Chair, Department of Government & International Affairs
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 Iran and Iraq

Chair: **Dr. Hiba Hechiche**, *Professor, University of South Florida*

Speakers:

Dr. Marina Ottaway

Director, Middle East Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

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

Dr. Babak Rahimi

Assistant Professor, University of California – San Diego

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

Dr. Mohsen Milani

Professor & Chair, University of South Florida

Title: "Iran's Policy Towards Afghanistan and It's Parliamentary Elections"

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. The lecture will be given on the 31st anniversary of the Tehran Hostage Crisis.

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Symposia: Electoral Politics & Democratization in Pakistan and Afghanistan

Chair: **Dr. Amin Tarzi**, *Professor, Marine Corp University*

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"