Dear Colleagues:

Below is the program for the inaugural session of the Western Ottomanists’ Workshop (WOW), to be held on Saturday, October 30, at Portland State University. If you are interested in attending, and have not yet confirmed your plans, please respond to this message as soon as possible.

REIMBURSEMENTS: We should have sufficient funds to cover all travel expenses incurred by graduate students. Please remember to bring your receipts to the workshop.

LODGING: Those of you who are coming from out of town may choose your own accommodations or stay at University Place, the hotel operated by Portland State University. The workshop has reserved a small block of rooms for Friday and Saturday nights. For those participants who choose to stay here, WOW will pick up the bill. If you are interested, please respond as soon as possible so that your room can be held.

DIRECTIONS: From the airport, you have two main options. The first is to hail a cab and take the ride to the downtown area, on the west side of the Willamette River, where the campus of PSU is located. Depending on traffic, your ride should last approximately 20-30 minutes and cost in the range of $40. The second option, which is cheaper and more leisurely, is to take the MAX light rail (Red Line) from the airport to Pioneer Square in downtown Portland (approximately 40 minutes). You should then board the Green Line heading south (approximately 5 minutes) and get off at the last stop (SW 5th Ave. and Mill St.). Cross the tracks and walk east one block (to SW 4th Ave.). Turn south (to the right) five blocks until you come to Lincoln Ave. Turn east (left) onto Lincoln. You should be able to see University Place (310 SW Lincoln Ave.) a little off to your right.

WORKSHOP SITE: Our meeting will be held at the School of Urban Affairs Building, located on the corner of SW Mill St. and 6th Ave. Those of you who will be staying at University Place will receive an escort to the building at 8:35AM.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

FIRST SESSION
9AM-10:45AM — TOPICS IN OTTOMAN POLITICAL HISTORY

Patrick Adamiak, UC-San Diego
"The Shaping of National Memory in Turkey and the Balkans: the 1914 Carnegie Report"

Lela Gibson, UCLA
"Ottoman Diplomatic Missions in Vienna, 1790-1810"
Ryan Gingeras, Naval Postgraduate School
"Beyond Istanbul's Laz Underworld: Ottoman Paramilitarism and the Origins of the Turkish Mafia"

SECOND SESSION
11AM-1PM — WOW BUSINESS MEETING
Chair: Resat Kasaba

1PM-2PM — LUNCH BREAK

THIRD SESSION
2PM-3:45PM — TOPICS IN OTTOMAN CULTURAL HISTORY

John Curry, University of Nevada-Las Vegas
"China or Cathay? The Ottoman Geographer Katib Celebi’s Interpretation of the Ming Dynasty"

Malissa Taylor, UC-Berkeley
"The Warrior Poets of Seventeenth-Century Damascus"