



# CENTER for DEMOCRACY & ELECTION MANAGEMENT

SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS ★ AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

## Agenda Election Management Training Institute June 16-26, 2008

*This agenda is provided for informational purposes only and attendance to events is limited to Institute participants and approved guests. Please contact the Center for Democracy and Election Management if you have any questions about any of the days' events.*

### DAY 1, MONDAY, JUNE 16: COMPARATIVE ELECTION MANAGEMENT

*The day focuses on the foundations of democratic election management and utilizes case studies in critical elections to demonstrate how the successes and failures in elections depend upon these foundations.*

<b>Time:</b>	<b>Topic/Activity:</b>	<b>Presenter:</b>
9-10:30am	<b>Introductory Session: Welcome and Overview</b> American University/School of Public Affairs Middle East Partnership Initiative, U.S. State Dept. Center for Democracy and Election Management Women & Politics Institute Individual Participant Introductions	Dean LeoGrande Dr. Charles Kiamie Dr. George Guess Dr. Karen O'Connor
	<b>Break</b>	
10:40-12:15pm	<b>Components of a Democratic Electoral System</b> Global Perspective Comparative Perspective on Elections in the Gulf	Chair: Tihana B. Blanc Dr. Daniel Calingaert Dr. Michael Herb
12:15-1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:30-3pm	<b>Critical Elections: Applied Electoral Decision Making</b> Case Study: United States 2000 Presidential Election Case Study: Transitional Elections Case Study: Nigeria 2004 and 2007	Chair: Dr. George Guess Alison Prevost Jarrett Blanc Dr. Peter Lewis
	<b>Break</b>	
3:15-5:30pm	<b>Group Work</b>	Facilitator: Dr. Michael Herb
6pm	<b>Reception with Embassy Officials</b>	Host: Dr. George Guess

**DAY 2, TUESDAY, JUNE 17:  
INCREASING VOTING PARTICIPATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

*The day focuses on increasing the participation of vulnerable populations such as women, youth and minorities through the work of NGOs and other stakeholders in the electoral process. It also focuses on utilizing existing and devising innovative strategies for their participation.*

9-10:30am      **Advancing Women in Politics in the Middle East**      Chair: Sarah Brewer  
Eleana Gordon  
Shireen Zaman

**Break**

10:45-12:30pm **Women as Voters and Candidates**      Chair: Dr. Sarah Brewer  
Judy Van Rest  
Joan Libby-Hawk  
Kristin Haffert

12:30-1:30pm **Lunch**

1:30-3pm      **Youth and Minority Participation**      Chair: Alison Prevost  
Minority Participation      Ammar Dwaik  
Youth Participation      Michael Minks

**Break**

3:30-5pm      **Voter Mobilization and Participation in the U.S.**      Chair: Alison Prevost  
Overview/History of Voter Participation in the U.S.      Curtis Gans  
Strategies for Effective Voter Mobilization      Heather Smith  
Tools and Resources to Increase Participation      Dr. Clyde Wilcox

5pm      **Snack**

6-7:30pm      **Montgomery County Polling Observation**      Facilitator:  
Alison Prevost

8pm      **Dinner**

**DAY 3, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2008:  
REDISTRICTING AND POLL ACCESS/OPERATIONS**

*The day focuses on redistricting as a critical concern in the region. The construction of election districts plays a significant role in determining representation in a national legislature or assembly.*

9-10:30am	<b>Districts and Representation</b> Overview and Regional Perspective U.S. Perspective	Chair: Tihana B. Blanc Dr. Lisa Handley Dr. Allan Lichtman
	<b>Break</b>	
10:45-12:15pm	<b>Redistricting Exercises</b> Demonstration of GIS System for Redistricting	Dr. Toby Moore
1-2pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
2-5pm	<b>Site Visit to Arlington County</b>  Local Election Administrators and Poll Workers	Facilitator: Alison Prevost Linda Lindberg
5:30pm	<b>Dinner Panel: U.S. Election Administrators</b>  State Board of Elections Federal Perspective: Election Assistance Commission	Chair: Tihana B. Blanc  Barbara Cockrell Rosemary Rodriguez

**DAY 4, THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008:  
ELECTION INSTITUTIONS/ADMINISTRATION**

*The day focuses on Election Management Bodies (EMBs) as the institutions responsible for administering elections or different aspects of elections. The composition, role, power, status, and functioning of EMBs varies internationally and regionally, with consequences for their performance and for democracy.*

9:30-10:15am	<b>Election Management Bodies: Part 1</b> Composition, Roles and Types of EMBs International Technical Assistance	Tihana B. Blanc Linda Maguire (via VC)
	<b>Break</b>	
10:30-12pm	<b>Election Management Bodies: Part 2</b> Electoral Administration in Democratic Transitions Regional Perspective: EMBs in MENA	Chair: Tihana B. Blanc Dr. Robert Pastor Ammar Dwaik
12-3pm	<b>Site Visit to IFES with Lunch</b>  Tour of IFES with emphasis on voting technology	Facilitator: Tihana B. Blanc Jean-Pierre Kingsley
3:30-5:30pm	<b>Group Work</b>	Facilitator: Ammar Dwaik
6pm	<b>Dinner</b>	Amb. Clovis Maksoud

**DAY 5, FRIDAY, JUNE 20:  
ELECTION OBSERVATION/ADDRESSING FRAUD AND MANIPULATION**

*The day focuses on election observation as one of the mechanisms available to promote fairness in the conduct of elections. Observing the electoral process before, during and after Election Day has been advocated by many domestic and international organizations as a critical aspect of fraud identification and prevention. The panels will discuss the importance of election observation and how to conduct it as well as how to identify and address election fraud.*

9-10:30am      **Standards in Election Observation**      Chair: Dr. George Guess  
Election Observation: History and Tools      Steven Griner  
Election Standards: Outline      Avery Davis-Roberts

**Break**

10:45-12:30pm **Election Fraud: Identifying and Avoiding It**      Chair: Alison Prevost  
Election Fraud in the U.S.      Craig Donsanto  
Election Fraud: Comparative Perspective      Dr. Marcin Walecki

12:30-2pm      **Lunch**

2-3pm      **Transparency through Observation**      Chair: Tihana B. Blanc  
Eric Bjornlund  
Dr. Daniel Calingaert

**Break**

3:10-5pm      **Group Work**      Facilitator:  
Avery Davis-Roberts

5:30pm      **Reception with NDI**      Facilitator:  
Matt Mulling

**DAY 6, SATURDAY, JUNE 21:  
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS**

*The day will consist of interaction with Democratic and Republican Presidential Campaigns and free afternoon.*

10-11am	<b>Obama Campaign</b>	Nicole Derse
11am-12pm	<b>McCain Campaign</b>	Sarah Simmons Joe Black
12:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:30pm	<b>Shuttle to Hotel and Free afternoon</b>	
6:30pm	<b>Shuttle to Dinner</b>	
7pm	<b>Dinner</b>	

**DAY 7, SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2008:  
REGISTRATION, PARTICIPATION AND CIVIC EDUCATION**

*The day focuses on developing strong institutional practices by EMBs and other electoral stakeholders (government agencies and institutions) in order to facilitate access to elections by all eligible voters.*

9-10:30am	<b>Voter Registration and Voter Eligibility</b>	Chair: Tihana B. Blanc Jarrett Blanc Vassia Gueorguieva Marcia Johnson-Blanco
	<b>Break</b>	
10:45am-12pm	<b>Promoting Civic Education and Participation</b> State Initiatives to Promote Access Regional Perspective	Chair: Alison Prevost Rachel Becker Thomas Garrett
12-1pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1-2:30pm	<b>Group Work</b>	Facilitator: Ammar Dwaik
2:45pm	<b>Shuttle to Hotel and Free Afternoon</b>	
5:30pm	<b>Shuttle to Dinner</b>	
6pm	<b>Dinner</b>	

**DAY 8, MONDAY, JUNE 23:  
POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS AND POLITICAL MOBILIZATION IN U.S.**

*Participants will have an opportunity to meet with leading party officials to discuss how the U.S. political process works, the roles parties play in the U.S. political process, how they plan for critical election year events, and how they work to mobilize volunteers and voters.*

9:30-10:30am	<b>Visit to Republican National Committee</b>	Alison Prevost
11am- 12pm	<b>Visit to Democratic National Committee</b>	Alison Prevost
12:30-2pm	<b>Lunch with Congressional Staff</b> <b>Location:</b> Capitol Hill	Facilitator: Dr. Sarah Brewer
3-5:30pm	<b>Group Work</b>	Facilitator: Stephenie Foster
6pm	<b>Dinner: Political Parties and Campaigns</b>	Dr. James Thurber

**DAY 9, TUESDAY, JUNE 24:  
FUNDING AND MONITORING POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS**

*The day will provide participants with an overview of systems of political finance and the role EMBs, NGOs, and the media can play in monitoring political campaigns.*

9:30-11am     **Money and Politics: Comparative Systems**  
Overview  
Campaign Finance in the U.S.  
Global and Regional Perspective

Chair: Dr. George Guess  
Amy Loprest  
Dr. Candice Nelson  
Dr. Denise Baer

**Break**

11:10-12:40pm **Campaigns: Institutional and NGO Monitoring**

Chair: Alison Prevost  
Massie Ritsch  
Brooks Jackson  
Commissioner Weintraub

12:40-1:30pm **Lunch**

1:30-3pm     **Media and Transparency**  
Electoral Transparency Issues in the Region  
Role of the Media in U.S. Elections  
Using the Media to Advance Transparency

Chair: Tihana B. Blanc  
Rafiah Salman al-Talei  
Dr. Leonard Steinhorn  
Maggie Salem

**Break**

3:10-5pm     **Group Work**

Facilitator:  
Tihana B. Blanc

6pm           **Dinner Panel: Journalists and Political Pundits**

Moderator:  
Dr. Karen O'Connor  
Panelists:  
Donna Brazile  
Eleanor Clift  
Daoud Kuttub  
James Oliphant

**DAY 10, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25:  
INTENSIVE GROUP WORK**

*The day provides participants with an opportunity to discuss and develop country plans in Arabic.*

9am-12:30pm	<b>Country Plan Development</b>	Facilitators: Dr. Rafael Lopez-Pintor Ammar Dwaik
12:30pm	<b>Shuttle to American University</b>	
1-2pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
2-5pm	<b>Country Plan Development</b>	Dr. Rafael Lopez-Pintor Ammar Dwaik
5:15pm	<b>Dinner</b>	
6:30pm	<b>HBO Movie “Recount”</b> Panel Discussion Movie Screening	Facilitator: Dr. George Guess Dr. Leonard Steinhorn Curtis Gans

**DAY 11, THURSDAY, JUNE 26:  
GROUP PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

*The day focuses on final group presentations, evaluations and closing activities.*

9am-12pm	<b>Group Presentations</b>	Panel: Dr. George Guess Tihana B. Blanc Alison Prevost Ammar Dwaik Dr. Rafael Lopez-Pintor
12-1pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1-3pm	<b>Group Presentations Continued</b>	
3-3:30pm	<b>Overall Feedback on Presentations</b>	
	<b>Break</b>	
3:45-4:30pm	<b>Institute Survey and Evaluations by Participants</b>	
4:30-5:30pm	<b>Closing Ceremony and Certificates</b>	
7-10pm	<b>Potomac Dinner Cruise</b>	