Understanding Wahhabism
April 7-8, 2006
Club Spartan, Case Hall, 3rd Floor
Michigan State University
Organized by the Muslim Studies Program, MSU

Conference organizers would like to thank the following for their generous contributions to this conference:
Office of the Provost, International Studies and Programs
James Madison College, College of Social Science
College of Arts and Letters, Le Frak Forum
Center for European and Russian/Eurasian Studies
Center for International Business Education and Research

Friday, April 7

8:45-9:15am – Complimentary shuttle service from Kellogg Center to Case Hall

9:30-10am – Conference Opening
Welcome: Mohammed Ayoob, Coordinator, Muslim Studies Program, Michigan State University
Opening address: Kim Wilcox, Provost, Michigan State University

10:00-10:30am – Coffee/Tea Break

10:30am-12:30pm – Session 1: Ibn Abd al-Wahhab and the Wahhabi Ideology
Chair: David Robinson, MSU
David Commins, Dickinson College
Natana Delong-Bas, Boston College and Brandeis University
Andrew March, Michigan State University

12:45-2:15pm – Lunch (by invitation only) – 1961 Room, Case Hall

2:30-4:30pm – Session 2: Wahhabism and the Founding of the Modern Saudi State

4:45-5:15pm – Complimentary shuttle service from Case Hall to Kellogg Center

Saturday, April 8

8:45-9:15am - Complimentary shuttle service from Kellogg Center to Case Hall

9:30-11:30am – Session 3: Wahhabism and the Saudi Regime
Chair: Brian Silver, MSU
Khalid al-Dakhil, King Saud University
Bernard Haykel, New York University
Gwenn Okruhlik, University of Texas

11:45am-1:15pm – Lunch (by invitation only) – 1961 Room, Case Hall
Speaker: Toby Craig Jones, International Crisis Group
Topic: The Sahwa (Awakening Ulama) and Their Role in Contemporary Saudi Politics

1:30-3:30pm – Session 4: Wahhabism and US-Saudi Relations
Chair: Mohammed Ayoob, MSU
Rachel Bronson, Council on Foreign Relations
Gregory Gause, University of Vermont
Thomas Lippman, Middle East Institute

3:30-3:45pm – Coffee/Tea Break

3:45-5:45pm – Session 5: Wahhabism Abroad
Chair: Norman Graham, MSU
Greg Barton, Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies
Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Husain Haqqani, Boston University

6-6:15pm – Complimentary shuttle service from Case Hall to Kellogg Center