

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Paula Sanders**  
31 December 2019

Office

Rice University – MS42  
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**Academic appointments**

2008–            Professor of History  
1992–2008      Associate Professor of History, Rice University  
1987–1992      Assistant Professor of History, Rice University  
1984–1987      Assistant Professor of History, Harvard University

**Administrative appointments**

2015–            Director, Boniuk Institute for the Study and Advancement of Religious  
                         Tolerance  
2011–2017      Vice Provost for Academic Affairs  
2007–2013      Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies  
1997–2000      Director, Program for the Study of Women and Gender

**Education**

1984    Ph.D.    History, Princeton University  
1981    M.A.    History, Princeton University  
1977    B.A.    History, Northwestern University

**Honors, awards, and prizes,**

Professeuse invitée, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Université de Paris,  
France (March 2001)  
Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award 1995 (for Ritual, politics, and the city in  
Fatimid Cairo)  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Grace Johnston Prize in History, Northwestern University, 1977  
Northwestern University History Departmental Honors

B.A. Northwestern University, with highest honors

### **Fellowships and grants**

Houston Arts Alliance Grant (\$10,000), 2019

Association for Jewish Studies Arts & Culture Community Grant (\$5,000), 2019

Co-PI, Institute for Museum and Library Services grant for Travelers in the Middle East  
Archive (\$249,000) <http://timea.rice.edu>

John E. Sawyer Fellow, National Humanities Center, 2002–2003

NEH Research Fellowship, 2002

American Philosophical Society Sabbatical Fellowship 2002 (declined)

NEH Scholar-in-Residence, American Research Center in Egypt, 1995–96

ACLS Grant-in-aid, 1991–92

NEH Summer Stipend, 1991

American Research Center in Egypt NEH Fellowship, 1987–88

American Research Center in Egypt NEH Fellowship, 1984–85 (declined)

Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, 1982–83

National Resource Fellowship (NRF, formerly FLAS), 1981–82

Foreign-Language-Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS), 1979–80, 1980–81

Center for Arabic Studies Abroad Fellow, 1978–79

Princeton University History Department Fellowship, 1977–78

### **Rice University service**

Humanities divisional advisor, Will Rice College, January 2018 – May 2019

Co-chair, Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee, 2018–19, 2019–20

Undergraduate committee, History department, 2018–19

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books**

*Creating Medieval Cairo: Empire, Religion, and Architectural Preservation in 19<sup>th</sup>  
century Egypt* (The American University in Cairo Press, 2008)

*Ritual, politics, and the city in Fatimid Cairo* (State University of New York Press, 1994)

*A Mediterranean Society*, vol. 6, with S.D. Goitein (University of California Press, 1993)

**Website:** *Travelers in the Middle East Archive* (co-PI, with Dr. Lisa Spiro, of Rice's Digital Media Center, of \$249,000 IMLS grant) [responsible for all content]  
<http://timea.rice.edu>

### **Edited works**

*Oral-scribal dimensions of scripture, piety and practice: Judaism, Christianity, Islam* (revised and expanded edition of *Oral Tradition* special issue), co-edited with Werner Kelber (Cascade Books, 2016).

*Communities of the Qur'an* (Oneworld Publications, 2019), co-edited with Emran El-Badawi (includes co-authored Introduction)

*Communities of the Qur'an* is dedicated to intellectual inquiry as well as religious dialogue. At its heart this project asks the question, what is the dialectical relationship between the Qur'an and its "communities of interpretation?" How is the relationship between community and scripture mediated? Can a better understanding of each community's reception, hermeneutics and cultural assumptions bring about a better understanding of the Qur'an for the 21st century?

Special issue "Oral-Scribal Dimensions of Scripture, Piety and Practice in Judaism, Christianity and Islam" of *Oral Tradition* (March 2010), co-edited with Werner Kelber (includes co-authored Introduction)

<http://journal.oraltradition.org/>.

Special issue "France and Islam" of *French Historical Studies* (June 2007), co-edited with Patricia Lorcin (includes co-authored Introduction).

### **Recent conference papers**

Invited paper, Spring 2019 Byzantine Symposium ("Processions and Strategies of Civic Control"), Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C. Paper entitled, "Negotiating power in the Islamic Mediterranean: Urban Processions in Egypt, North Africa, and Iberia."

Invited paper, "Bernard Lewis: Historian of the Middle East," AHA/Association for Israel Studies Panel: The Middle East in the Academy: Examining the Legacy of Bernard Lewis, January 3, 2019, Chicago, IL

Invited paper, "A *Mediterranean Society* at the crossroads of Jewish and Islamic History," Panel—The Fiftieth Anniversary of S. D. Goitein's *A Mediterranean Society*, at The Seventeenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, Israel, August 8, 2017.

Invited paper, "Islamic history: remembered, recovered, invented," Panel—In Honor of Bernard Lewis on the Occasion of his 100th Birthday, American Oriental Society, Boston, March 18, 2016.

### Articles & book chapters

- "Introduction," co-authored with Emran El-Badawi, in *Communities of the Qur'an: Dialogue, Debate and Diversity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, ed. Emran El-Badawi and Paula Sanders (London: Oneworld Publications, 2019): 1–24.
- "Jewish books in Fatimid Egypt," in *The World of the Fatimids*, ed. Dr. Assadullah Souren Melikian-Chirvani (Toronto: Aga Khan Museum, 2018): 218–227.
- "Court dress, Fatimid" in *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Josef Meri (London: Routledge, 2005)
- "Geniza" in *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Josef Meri (London: Routledge, 2005).
- "Fatimid Egypt, Women in" in *Women in the Middle Ages: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Katharina Wilson and Nadia Margolis (Greenwood Press, 2004): 338–340.
- "Dhimmis," in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages: Supplement I*, ed. William Chester Jordan (New York: Scribners, 2004): 158–59.
- "Eunuchs," in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages: Supplement I*, ed. William Chester Jordan (New York: Scribners, 2004): 188–190.
- "The Victorian Invention of Medieval Cairo: A Case Study of Medievalism and the Construction of the East" in *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin 37/2* (Dec. 2003): 179–198.
- "The contest over context: Fatimid Cairo in the twentieth century," in *Text and Context in Islamic Societies: Sixteenth Giorgio Levi Della Vida Conference Papers*, ed. Irene A. Bierman (Reading, UK: Ithaca Press, 2003): 131–154.
- "Robes of honor in Fatimid Egypt, 969–1171" in *Robes and Honor: the medieval world of investiture*, ed. Gavin Hambly and Stewart Gordon (St. Martin's Press, 2000): 225–239.
- "Bohra Architecture and the Restoration of Fatimid Culture" in *L'Egypte Fatimide, son art et son histoire*, ed. Marianne Barrucand (Paris: Presses de l'Université de Paris-Sorbonne, 1999), pp. 159–65.
- "Les Fatimides sont-ils devenus égyptiens? Culture et identité dans le Caire médiéval," in *Valeur et distance: Identités et sociétés en Égypte*, ed. Christian Décobert (Paris: Maisonneuve et Larose, 2000): 265–77.
- "Tiraz," with Y. K. Stillman, in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, New Edition (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1999).
- "The Fatimid State" in *Cambridge History of Egypt*, vol. 1, ed. Carl Petry (Cambridge University Press, 1998)
- "Mohamed El Hawary" in *al-'Usur al-Wusta* 8/1 (1996): 7
- "Writing identity in medieval Cairo" in *Writing identity in medieval Cairo*, ed. Irene A. Bierman (UCLA Near East Center Colloquium Series, 1995)

- "Clitorectomy" in *Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World* (Oxford University Press, 1994)
- "Claiming the past: Ghadir Khumm and the rise of Hafizi historiography in late Fatimid Egypt," *Studia Islamica* 75 (1992): 81–104
- "Nasi [Judaean–Arabic title]" in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, New Edition, vol. VII (1992)
- "Gendering the ungendered body: hermaphrodites in medieval Islamic law," *Shifting Boundaries: Women and Gender in Middle Eastern History*, ed. Nikki Keddie and Beth Baron (Yale University Press, 1991): 74–95
- "A new text for the history of Fatimid processions from the *Rasa'il al-'Amidi* (text and translation)," *Annales Islamologiques*, vol. XXV (1991) [A version of this short text based on my transcription also appears in an appendix to the *Nuzhat al-muqalatayn fi akhbar al-dawlatayn* of Ibn al-Tuwayr, ed. Ayman Fu'ad Sayyid, Beirut, 1992, p. 227]
- "Marasim [Ceremonial]" in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, New Edition, vol. VI (1991)
- "Mawakib [Processions]" in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, New Edition, vol. VI (1991)
- "From court ceremony to urban language: Fatimid processions in 11th and 12th century Cairo and Fustat," *The Islamic World from classical to modern times*, ed. C. E. Bosworth (Princeton, NJ: Darwin Press, 1989), pp. 311–321
- "Yemen" in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (1989)
- "al-Qa'im," "al-Qahir," "San'a," in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (1988)
- "Mu'izz al-dawla" in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (1987)
- "Fatimids," "Islamic feasts and festivals," "Imam," in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (1985)

### **Current project**

Translation of al-Musabbihi's *Akhbar Misr* with historical introduction. This translation of a key 11th century Arabic chronicle makes full use of Judeo–Arabic documentary materials from the Cairo Geniza and also makes extensive use of archaeological evidence. There are no translations of texts from the Fatimid period dealing with material culture that make full use of these two sources in addition to the comparative literary material.

### **Editorial positions**

Editorial board, *The Middle Ages: An Encyclopedia for Students*, 4 vols., William Chester Jordan, Editor in Chief for the ACLS (Charles Scribner's Sons, 1996) [selecting entry list for Islamic topics, content editing all entries on Islamic topics as well as a group of other entries, rewriting and writing entries on Islamic topics]

**Book reviews**

- Moshe Gil, *Jews in Islamic Countries in the Middle Ages* in *Speculum* 82/2 (2007): 437–38
- Mark R. Cohen, *Poverty and charity in the Jewish community of Medieval Egypt and The voice of the poor in medieval Egypt* in *American Historical Review* 112/1 (2007): 312–13
- Michael Brett, *The Rise of the Fatimids* in *Speculum* 79/2 (2004): 458–59
- Elinoar Bareket, *Fustat on the Nile: The Jewish elite in Medieval Egypt* in *Speculum* 77/4 (2002): 1232–33
- Ayman Fuad Sayyid, *La capitale de l’Egypte jusqu’a l’epoque Fatimide, al-qahira et al-fustat. Essai de reconstitution topographique* in *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 43/4 (2000): 581–82
- Christopher Melchert, *The formation of the Sunni Schools of law, 9th–10th centuries CE* in *The American Journal of Legal History* 43/1 (1999): 98–99
- Suliman Bashear, *Arabs and others in early Islam* in *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 33/2 (1999): 184–85
- Michael Chamberlain, *Knowledge and social practice in medieval Damascus, 1190–1350* in *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 30/1 (1998): 119–21
- Jonathan Berkey, *The transmission of knowledge in medieval Cairo: a social history of Islamic education* in *Speculum* 70/3 (1995): 579–81
- Moshe Gil, *A history of Palestine, 634–1099* in *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 27/1 (1995): 110–12
- P. M. Holt, *The age of the Crusades: the Near East from the eleventh century to 1517* in *Speculum* 65/1 (1990): 175–76

**Professional service**

- Program committee, Middle East Studies Association, 2018
- Chair, Review Committee on Promotions and Tenure Policies, American University in Cairo, May 2018
- Chair, External review, Humanities doctoral programs, Tulane University, 2014
- External review of the History Department, American University in Cairo, 2010
- Strategic Planning Committee, American Research Center in Egypt, 2006–2007
- American Historical Association, Research Division 2005–2008 (elected position)
- External review of the Core Curriculum, Colgate University, 2004
- Program committee, Middle East Studies Association, 2004

American Historical Association, Committee on Women Historians 2000–2003  
(appointed position)

Albert Hourani Book Prize Committee, Middle East Studies Association, 1997

Program committee, Middle East Studies Association, 1994

Board of Governors, American Research Center in Egypt, 1992–1994

Editorial Board, The Middle Ages: An Encyclopedia for Students (ACLS)

Member, World History Pacesetters Task Force (ACLS and College Board)

Program committee, Middle East Studies Association, 1990

### **Professional societies**

American Historical Association (life member)

Amerian Oriental Society

American Research Center in Egypt

Association for the Study of the Middle East and North Africa (life member)

International Qur'anic Studies Association

International Society for Arabic Papyrology

Middle East Librarians Association

Middle East Medievalists

Middle East Studies Association of North America

Society for Judeo–Arabic Studies

Association of Jewish Studies

American Association of University Professors (life member)