**Bahar Davary, (University of San Diego)**

LUCE FOUNDATION GRANT ACTIVITIES 2013-2014

EWIC Luce-related Activities, 2013-14:

1. Activities with student organizations/Classroom Presentations

* Guest lecture in Dr, Louis Komjathy’s World Religions class: Topic: “Muslim Women and Political Engagement: Egypt and the Arab Spring.” The lecture made reference to the prominent and prolific Egyptian feminist Dr. Nawal El-Saadawi and to Asma Mahfouz, comparing their approaches to women’s role in political dissent. University of San Diego, October 4, 2013.
* Lecture: “Women in the eyes of the Prophet”, Muslim Student Association at USD on the occasion of Eid ul- Adha, October 15, 2013
* Talk and Discussion: “Women and Dialogue” Theology on Tap, A forum for Graduate and Law students, University of San Diego, October 17, 2013.
* Guest lecture in Dr. Espin’s Religion Café: “Women in the Discipline of Islamic Studies,” University of San Diego, November 14, 2013
* Guest Lecture in Evelyn Diaz Cruz’ Theatre class in preparation for their viewing of Ayad Akhtar’s play “The Who and the What” at La Jolla Play House. The play questions certain readings of the tradition and depicts the complexity of the understandings of the Prophet and of the Qur’an and Islamic textual tradition at large. The topic of my talk was “Women in Islamic Textual Traditions,” University of San Diego, February 27, 2014.
* Film and Discussion: “Persepolis.” Discussed Women and Revolution: The Case of Iran. The political, social, and legal change within the Iranian society after the revolution of 1978-79 and the role of women in the Green Movement was discussed. A collaborative campus program between Theology and Religious Studies and Muslim Student Association. University of San Diego, March 19, 2014.

2. Activities with Media

* Persian BBC TV (Pargar): A Talk show program on Women in Islam and in Judaism. I was one of three panelists in the 55 minutes program discussing women in Islam and in Judaism, what the two textual traditions share and how they differ. June 2014.
* Interview with the San Diego Union Tribune: “Water Manager wore Burqa as Prank” by Ashly McGlone, August 20, 2014.

3. Activities with local community, religious/ethnic organizations

* Panel Discussion on the film “Honor Diaries” at the Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. A multi-faith panel of experts commented on the strong Islamophobic components of the film. San Diego community as well as the campus community was in attendance. The Institute of Peace and Justice Theatre, University of San Diego, March 4, 2014.
* Panel Presentation: “Women in Shari’a Law in Kadivar’s Perspective”. Mohsen Kadivar, a contemporary Iranian theologian calls for reform within shari’a law, promoting egalitarian justice vs. desert-based justice for women. University of California, San Diego, department of Literature and Religion. Students, faculty, and community members were present. April 25, 2014.
* “The life and work of poet laureate Simin Behbahani,” poetry reading and discussion of her work with the Iranian community of San Diego. She passed away on August 19, 2014. Nicknamed “the lioness of Iran” because of her courage to speak out despite repression. She could never be silenced and never gave in to the harassments that she faced, and stayed in Iran and spoke up against social and political atrocities. Association of Iranian-American Professionals. September 24, 2014.