In honor of Professor Wadie Jwaideh’s remarkable service to Indiana University as founder, Professor and Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC), and Professor of History, we are pleased to present the first

Wadie Jwaideh Memorial Lecture
In Arabic and Islamic Studies

Seeing the Origins of Islam in Historical Perspective

Presented by
Professor Fred Donner

Chairman
Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
The University of Chicago

7:30 p.m. November 4, 2002
President’s Room, University Club
Reception will follow

Funded by the College of Arts and Sciences
We would like offer our sincere thanks to the generous people who have already contributed to the Wadie Jwaideh Memorial fund:

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Thank you!
*Professor Fred Donner’s* lecture, titled "Seeing the Rise of Islam in Historical Perspective," treats the various approaches to the study of Islam's origins that have been pursued in the West from medieval polemics to the present. He asserts that the rise of Islam often has not been viewed in a proper historical context, but rather that various factors have impeded an historical view of Islam's beginnings.

Professor Donner, an accomplished scholar of Islamic history, is the chair of the department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at The University of Chicago.

His research interests include studies of pastoral nomads, early Islamic scholarship, and the causes of early Islamic expansion. He is currently working on a general study of Islamic origins that will attempt to sketch the outlines of this epochal historical process.

His teaching interests at The University of Chicago include early Islamic history, Islamic social history, and aspects of Islamic law.
Professor Wadie Elias Jwaideh, had a long and distinguished career both within and outside of Indiana University. He received the degree of Licentiate in Law from the University of Baghdad in 1942. In 1960 he received his PhD from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. During this time he also held a lecturer position in Arabic at Johns Hopkins University.

His 900 page doctoral dissertation entitled “A History of the Kurdist Nationalist Movement” is the most comprehensive study ever made into the Kurdish question. This work established him as one of the world’s leading experts on the Kurds and was translated into Turkish and published in Istanbul in 1999.

Dr. Jwaideh joined the faculty of Indiana University in 1960 and became the founder and chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature and Professor of History until his retirement. He also taught several courses in the Department of Political Science and Comparative Literature. Under his leadership, IU became a nationally and internationally known center for the study of Arabic and Islamic studies.

In 1972, Professor Jwaideh was given the Lieber Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching. A number of his colleagues and former students contributed articles for a Festschrift in his honor. Dr Robert Olsen edited this book, entitled Islamic and Middle Eastern Society (Amana Books, 1987).

After his retirement from IU in 1985, Dr. Jwaideh accepted an appointment as Adjunct Professor of history at the University of California at San Diego, where he taught until 1990.