

**Under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi,
Supreme Council Member, Ruler of Sharjah, President of AUS**

**Conference on American Government, Politics and Policy
(Monday, January 25, 2010)**

Co-sponsored by: The American University at Sharjah and American University Washington, DC

Program Organizers

American University, Washington, D.C.
Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies

American University of Sharjah
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
& Department of International Studies

Monday, January 25, 2010

9:30 to 9:45 Coffee/Tea – AUS, Main Building, Rotunda

9:45 to 10:00 Welcoming remarks – Professor Nada Mourtada-Sabbah - AUS, Main Building, Auditorium

10:00 to 10:15 Inaugural comments (AUS) -- **Chancellor Peter Heath – AUS, Main Building, Auditorium**

10:15 to 10:30 Inaugural comments (AU) – **Professor James Thurber -- AUS, Main Building, Auditorium**

Coffee Break

10:40 to 11:30 **Panel 1** (AUS, Main Building, Main Auditorium)

Moderator AUS Chancellor Peter Heath

"President Obama's Administration: Prospects for the Middle East"

Professor Gilles Kepel, Director of Doctoral Studies on the Arab/Muslim World, Institute of Political Studies, Paris

"Barak Obama's Presidency: A Perspective from the Gulf region"

Professor Abdulkhaliq Abdallah, Professor of Political Science, UAE University

"President Obama, Congress and the Battle with Interest Groups and Lobbyists"

Professor James A. Thurber, Distinguished Professor and Director, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies and Department of Government, American University

11:30 to 12:45 **Panel 2** (AUS, Main Building, Lecture Hall "A")

"What Do Americans Want: The Many Meanings of Change in Obama's Victory?"
Professor Richard Boyd, Professor Emeritus, Department of Government, Wesleyan University

"Barack Obama: The Impact of Personality on Decision-Making",
Professor Stephen Wayne, Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University

"Obama's Presidency and US – KSA Relations" [tentative title]
Professor Abdulkarim Aldekhayel, Professor of Political Science, King Saud University

"Obamastan: Loss of a Nation's Moral Compass"
Professor Thomas Simon, Professor, Department of International Studies, AUS

12:30 to 2:00 (AUS, Main Building, 1st Floor)

Lunch and Keynote speech

2:00 to 3:15 **Panel 3** (AUS, Main Building, Hall "A")

"When Things Break Down: Myth and Reality in International Politics"
Professor Jonathan Wilkenfeld, Professor, Department of Government and Politics and Director, Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM), University of Maryland at College Park.

"U.S. Policy toward Terrorism"
Professor Martha Crenshaw, Senior Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation and Freeman Spogli Institute, and Professor of Political Science by courtesy, Stanford University.

"Congressional Leadership in President Obama's First Year"
Professor Barbara Sinclair, Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, UCLA

"The Economy in President Obama's First Year"
Professor Adulrazzaq Al Fares, Professor of Economic, UAE University, Chief Economist, Dubai Economic Council

3:15 to 3:30 Coffee Break

3:30 to 5:00 **Panel 4** (AUS, Main Building, Lecture Hall "A")

"The Politics of Regulation in the Obama Administration"
Professor Claudia Hartley Thurber, Esq., Consultant in Occupational Safety and Health Policy, former Counsel for Health Standards, Occupational and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

"The Forces Now Shaping Internet Development and Use in the United States"
Professor Douglas Van Houweling, Professor, School of Information, University of Michigan and President of Internet2

"U.S. Foreign Policy, International Human Rights, and the 'Global War on Terror'."
Professor Robert Stewart-Ingersoll, Assistant Professor, Department of International Studies

American University of Sharjah

5:00 to 5:15 (AUS, Main Building, Lecture Hall "A")

Conclusions and Closing
Professor James Thurber
Chancellor Heath

8:00 **Closing Dinner** (AUS Main Plaza)

Dr. Michael Hudson, Saif Ghobash Professor of International Relations, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies Georgetown University (Venue to be announced)