**ZahraA Zawawi**

**PhD in Urban Studies**

Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Centre for Urban Research COSMOPOLIS - City, Culture & Society, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

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**Professional Summary**

A motivated architect and urban planner with more than 17 years of experience in fields of architecture, urban planning and urban studies, extensive experience in cultural heritage conservation planning and public spaces related researches. Skilled in tracking details, communicating and following‐ups especially within team work.

**work Experience**

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| **16th August 2015-now** | **An Najah National University** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| **Full time contract: Assistant Professor**  ***Fall 2015 semester :***  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Urban design  Introduction to Planning  Teaching at the Department of Urban Planning (Bachelor): teaching  Site planning  Housing Planning  Special areas  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Master): teaching  Urban design | | |
| **31st August 2013- 15th August 2015** | **Bard Honors college- Al Quds University** | **Abu Deis, Palestine** |
| **Part time contract:**  ***Fall 2013 semester :***  Assistant professor at the Department of Urban studies (Bachelor): teaching  Special topic in urban studies: World heritage sites: nomination, conservation and management  **Spring 2014 semester:**  Assistant professor at at the Department of Urban studies (Bachelor): teaching  Spatial practices  Transporting cities  Senior seminar (1 student)  ***Summer 2014 semester:***  Assistant professor at at the Department of Urban studies (Bachelor): teaching and supervising  Internship in urban studies  Senior seminar (1 student)  **Full time contract:**  ***Fall 2014 semester:***  Head of the urban studies department- Assistant professor: teaching and supervising  Urbanism  Urban heritage  Introduction to urban studies  Senior seminar (4 students)  ***Spring 2015 semester:***  Head of the urban studies department- Assistant professor: teaching and supervising  Colonial and Post colonial cities  Gender and spatial practices  Transforming cities  Senior seminar (4 students) | | |
| **4th Feb 2013- 5th May 2015** | **An Najah National University** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| **Part time contract:**  ***Spring 2013 semester:***  Assistant professor at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Urban design: theoretical and practical: lectures and studio  ***Fall 2013 semester:***  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Site planning  Architectural conservation: theory, technical, and practice  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Master): teaching  Housing policies and issues: theory and cases  ***Spring 2014 semester:***  Assistant professor at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Urban design: theoretical and practical: lectures and studio  ***Fall 2014 semester:***  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Site planning  Teaching at the Department of Urban Planning (Bachelor): teaching  Site planning  Housing Planning  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Master): teaching  Urban design  ***Spring 2015 semester:***  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Bachelor): teaching  Introduction to planning  Teaching at the Department of Urban Planning (Bachelor): teaching  Urban sociology  Teaching at the Department of Architecture (Master): teaching  Basics of Site planning  Housing issues and policies | | |
| **1st May 2013- 31st January 2014** | **USAID Compete Project – DAI** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| Site rehabilitation and urban planning consultant :   * Implementation of activities to develop the infrastructure for the tourism sector in Palestine. The activities focused on historic sites and traditional cultural heritage assets to be preserved and promoted as tourists’ attractions. The activities included historic renovation, urban regeneration, and museums, productions of maps and interpretations Signs, and documents as well as constructing new facilities. In addition to management and procurement experiences that were needed to run over the projects. | | |
| **10th March, 2013- 1st March 2014** | **ARABTECH Jardaneh Palestine** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Urban planner:**  Physical planning project for Ar Ram and Beit Jala | | |
| **26th , February, 2008-28th November, 2012** | **Vrije Universteit Brussel** | **Brussels, Belgium** |
| **PhD Student in urban studies**   * Part of the research group (24 researchers) COSMOPOLIS\_city, culture and society * Participating in COSMOPOLIS research workshops: migration and integration (17 June 2009) * Research topic: Production of the public spaces in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The case of Dawar in Nablus and Manara in Ramallah * COSMO stories:   Attended COSMO stories; a series of meetings to clarify, improve and strengthen the shared framework COSMOPOLIS is working within. The focus of this series is mainly on the rationale behind the positions COSMOPOLIS takes in public realm, the sessions are:  Platform Kanal meeting (4 June 2009)  Can the city save the world? (19 June 2009)  World systems (16 September 2009)  City hierarchies ( 3 December 2009)  Analysis of culture (26 February 2010)  What about identity (with a bit of Lacan) (5 March 2010)  Brussels as capital of Europe (5 November 2010) | | |
| **13th February, 2008- 4th, April, 2008** | **UNESCO** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Consultant: Rehabilitation of Crypt museums and Khan el Wakaleh**   * Prepare and finalize the international tender document for the rehabilitation works of the Crypt museum in Bethlehem in coordination with local consultant * Ensure the technical and administrative adherence of the tendering documents to UNESCO’s guidelines and regulations; * Coordinate the overall project Nablus Revitalization Plan including the liaison with the project various stakeholders; coordinate the detailed design phase and follow up the design process for the selected sites. | | |
| **26th , November, 2006-31th , January, 2008** | **UNESCO** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Consultant " National Project Coordinator":**Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan   * Coordinate the work between UNESCO, CCHP and international team of Experts * Coordinating a local team of 8 architects and one sociologist * Coordinating all the activities of the project with the international and local team and UNESCO | | |
| **1st ,September- 15th, October, 2006** | **UNESCO** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Consultant:**Cultural route in Palestine: on the Footsteps of the Prophet, Project document   * Review the Project Document, mapping the trail, budget | | |
| **August,2004 – September,2006** | **Palestinian Ministry of Planning (MOP)** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Planner & Coordinator:** responsibilities include:   * Task Leader for “Gaza and West Bank Disengagement Plan” * Eco-tourism Project: member of the inter-ministerial and institutional committee working on forming a National Committee for Eco-tourism in Palestine * Cultural Trail Project: representative of MOP in the cultural trail project led by Ministry of Tourism and Antiquates, and initiated and funded by UNESCO * Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Project: member of the Ministry’s team working on the Jordan valley development (tourism sector and spatial development) * Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP), participated in writing the tourism sector section * Task Leader for “Polices for Integration of Colonies in West Bank 1967 Borders”, in updating the Regional Plan for West Bank. * Ministry representative in cultural heritage issues | | |
| **2005** | **UNESCO** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Consultant:**Maintenance of Ramallah Museum for Archeology   * Prepared the tender document (Specifications and BOQ’s) | | |
| **Sep. – June, 2004** | **UNESCO** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Consultant**   * Member of the Palestinian experts team worked on and prepared the Palestinian Tentative List for Cultural and Natural site. | | |
| **2003-2004** | **Riwaq, Center for Architecture Conservation** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Conservator**   * Conserved Al Qasem Palace in the village of Beit Wazan in Nablus governorate, including: Inventory, tender document, management and supervision | | |
| **2004** | **An-Najah National University** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| **Teacher**   * Taught Conservation and Palestinian Local Architecture courses | | |
| **1992-2002** | **Palestinian Ministry of Culture, IMED-Italy & European Commission** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Researcher: P.I.S.A Project “**Integrated Planning in Archaeological Sites”   * Participated in the pilot phase of the project * Member of the Palestinian research team worked on Management of Cultural Heritage Resources in Palestine taking Jericho as pilot study | | |
| **June1997-July, 2003** | **Municipality of Sabastiya** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| **Architect and Planner:** responsibilities included:   * Participated in the process of making a comprehensive master plan for the city including old city and archaeological remains. * Coordination between the Municipality of Sabastiya and Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) regarding planning projects. * Working on the Rehabilitation of the old town of Sabastiya (pavement, retaining wall, rehabilitation of historical and tourist sites). | | |
| **1996-1997** | **Architectural office ”ARABISC”** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| **Architect and Designer**   * Design residential building, villas, commercial building, and exhibitions besides supervising the implementation of some projects. | | |
| **1993-1996** | **Riwaq, Center for Architecture Conservation** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| **Inventory: National Registry project**   * Worked on the inventory and survey of the cultural heritage buildings in Ramallah and Nablus governorates. | | |

**Research**

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| * Planning Tourism in Jericho. For the Palestinian Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation (MOPIC) * Developing and Planning Refugee Camps in Nablus Area: Proposals and Facts * Master thesis research: Management of the Cultural Heritage Resources in Palestine * Nablus Cultural Heritage After Invasion |

**Pblications**

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| * Zawawi, Zahraa; Corijn, Eric; Van Heur, Bas( 2012). Public spaces in the occupied Palestinian territories. GeoJournal. * Zawawi, Zahraa, Leclercq, Els (on progress). Politics of (re)designing public space: a case study of Mechelen (Belgium) * Hamdan, Osama; Zawawi, Zahraa; Zaina, Samar (2002) P.I.S.A final report: Research Action, Jericho Study Case. http://www.imednet.it/pisanet/home.html.. * Technical and Administrative Methods in building licenses and their relation with conservation of cultural and natural heritage sites, Polices for protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage. For Bethlehem 2000 project, in Arabic * Inventory of Cultural and Natural sites of Potential outstanding universal value in Palestine, 3 sites: Sebastia, Mount Gerzim, Old Town of Nablus and its environs. |

**Education**

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| **2008-2012** | **Vrije Universiteit Brussel** | **Brussels, Belgium** |
| 1. **PhD in urban studies/ Faculty of Science**   ***Thesis Title:*** Production of public spaces in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The case of Dawar in Nablus and Manara in Ramallah | | |
| **1997-2000** | **An-Najah University** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| 1. **Master of Urban and Regional Planning**   ***Thesis Title:*** Management of Cultural Heritage Resources, Sabastia case study | | |
| **1990-1996** | **Birzeit University** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| 1. **Bachelors in Architecture**   ***Graduation Project Title:*** Rehabilitation of Qaser Toqan in Nablus | | |

**Training Courses**

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| **4-17 Dec, 2006** | **JICA-MTA**  **THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM (TCTP)** | **Ankara, Turkey** |
|  | 1. Capacity Building on Remote Sensing & Geographical Information Systems for Palestinians |  |
| **17/May-3/Agu, 2006** | **GIS and Remote Sensing Course** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
|  | 1. GIS and Remote Sensing Course   Organized by JICA- Japan - videoconferencing Seminar |  |
| **April, 2006** | **Negotiation Affairs Department and Harvard University** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
|  | 1. Negotiation Training Workshop 3 |  |
| **March, 2006** | **Negotiation Affairs Department and Harvard University** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
|  | 1. Negotiation Training Workshop 2 |  |
| **January, 2006** | **Negotiation Affairs Department and Harvard University** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
|  | 1. Negotiation Training Workshop 1 | |
| **July, 2004** | **ICCROM, UNESCO, and Department of Antiquity** | **Bethlehem, Palestine** |
|  | 1. World Heritage Nomination and Management Plans | |
| **September, 2003** | **ICCROM** | **Rome, Italy** |
|  | 1. Information on the World Heritage Convention for Palestinian Experts | |
| **1995** | **Palestinian Ministry of Planning and International Affairs, Norwegian Government and Birzeit University** | **Birzeit University** |
|  | 1. Planning on Developing the Cities of Ramallah and Jericho | |
| **1994** | **Palestinian Department of Antiquities** | **Birzeit University** |
|  | 1. Conservation of the site of Al-Qtrawani shrine – Attarah | |

**Workshops and CONFERENCES**

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| **February 4th 2011** | **CAMPUSTALKS # 08 took place in RITS café on at the occasion of Meet, Match & Create: Onderzoeksevent 2011** | **Brussels, Belguim** |
|  | Presentation for my PhD |  |
| **Sep, 2010** | **Ordnance: War, Architecture and Space conference** | **Cork, Ireland** |
|  | Paper: transformation of public spaces in conflict |  |
| **Sep, 2010** | **Pecha Kucha Night Brussels Europe {creativity \* conversation}** | **Brussels, Belgium** |
|  | Public spaces urban development |  |
| **March,2009** | **PhD seminar on Public Space** | **Delft, Holland** |
|  | Paper: transformation of public spaces in conflict. theory |  |
| **October, 2007** | **Municipality of Beit Sahour** | **Beit Sahour, Palestine** |
|  | Awareness campaign  *- Presenting a paper on “Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan”* | |
| **November, 2007** | **Municipality of Bethlehem** | **Bethlehem, Palestine** |
|  | Awareness campaign  *- Presenting a paper on “Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan”* | |
| **November, 2007** | **Municipality of Beit Jala** | **Beit Jala, Palestine** |
|  | Awareness campaign  *- Presenting a paper on “Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan”* | |
| **March, 2007** | **Hebron Rehabilitation Committee** | **Hebron, Palestine** |
|  | 1. Importance to Preserve the Cultural Heritage and its relation with National Economy   *- Presenting a paper on “Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan”* | |
| **December, 2005** | **Department of Antiquities, Queen Rania Institute of Tourism and Heritage, The Hashemite University** | **Amman, Jordan** |
|  | 1. The Fourth Conference on Science and Technology in Archaeology and Conservation   *- Presenting a paper on “Integrated Approach for Archaeological Sites”* | |
| **May, 2005** | **U.S Sate Department of State** | **U.S.A** |
|  | 1. International Visitor Leadership Program in Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Heritage | |
| **February, 2005** | **Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquates & UNESCO** | **Jericho,Palestine** |
|  | 1. Tell Es-Sultan in the context of the Jordan Valley: Management, conservation and sustainable development in Jericho   *- Presented a paper on “Integrated Program for Archaeological Sites case study Jericho”* | |
| **January, 2002** | **University of Technology** | **Amman, Jordan** |
|  | 1. First international conference on: Conservation and Regeneration of Traditional Urban Centers in the Islamic World   *- Presented a paper on “Management of the Cultural Heritage Resources”* | |
| **December, 2002** | **Forum UNESCO-University & Heritage- UNESCO and Yarmouk University.** | **Irbid,Jordan** |
|  | 1. Seventh International Seminar "The Protection of World Heritage & Cultural Tourism"   *- Presented a paper on the “Management of the old city of Nablus after invasion”* | |
| **May, 2001** | **IMED** | **Salonika, Greece** |
|  | 1. Problems and Methods of Presentation and Interpretation of Archaeological Sites | |
| **May, 2000** | **IMED** | **Rabat, Morocco** |
|  | 1. Analysis of the Management Analysis Data | |
| **February, 2000** | **IMED** | **Naples, Italy** |
|  | 1. The Planned Maintenance in the Management of the Archaeological Sites | |
| **November, 1999** | **IMED** | **Sardinia, Italy** |
|  | 1. Vulnerability of Archaeological Sites | |
| **February, 1995** | **UNESCO, An-Najah & Berzeit University, and Ecole d’Architecture de Paris-Belleville.** | **Bethlehem, Palestine** |
|  | 1. Bethlehem Workshop in Survey and Inventory | |

**VOLUNTARY WORK**

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| **3rd July, 2006** | **UNESCO** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| Member of the Juri for Architectural Competition for the Design of Public Spaces and Urban Facilities in the Old City of Nablus.   * National open competition for “Palestinian Architects Under 40” and “Students in Architecture and Urban Planning”.   This competition is in conformity with the UNESCO/UIA regulations for competitions. | | |
| **February, 2006** | **Association of Architects** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| Member of the organizing committee for the First Palestinian Conference in Conservation of Culture Heritage in Palestine. The conference took place in February 2006 in Jericho. | | |
| **2004-Present** | **ICOMOS** | **Paris, France** |
| Member | | |
| **2003-May/2006** | **Association of Architects** | **Ramallah, Palestine** |
| Board Member | | |
| **1998-Present** | **Nablus Old City Rehabilitation Committee** | **Nablus, Palestine** |
| Founder and Board Member | | |

**Other**

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| **Languages**: Fluent in Arabic and English, little Dutch  **Computer knowledge**: Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint. |