



DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

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Mr. Mohamed Baghdadi, Director
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7 July 2014

Dear Mohamed,

This letter is to express my profound appreciation for your contribution to the Dartmouth Foreign Study Program (FSP) in Fès during our Spring quarter (March – May) 2014.

In the Fall of 2013 you worked closely with me to revise and restructure one of our regularly taught courses in the FSP, “Discovering an Islamic City: Fès,” so that it incorporated not only conventional social historical, art history, and urban studies readings on Fès, but also significant “experiential learning,” including visits to NGOs, urban planners, mosques and monuments in Fès and its surroundings, and visits to many places in Fès itself, including the Mellah and the Jewish community center.

Any course involving an “Islamic city” must look not only at traditional and heritage, but also to the realities of contemporary urban life, including the now-completed out-migration of the urban *élite* from the old *madina* and the influx of migrants from the surrounding countryside, and the rebalancing of language use within both the *madina* and the *ville nouvelle*, including various dialects of Amazighiyya, Arabic, French, and other European languages. Your classes were highly interactive, and you turned the seven-day visit to Morocco’s pre-Sahara into an extension of both the “Discovering” course and my own. Our student evaluations indicate that

they regarded the final paper presentation for your course, involving an element of field research and interviewing, as a high point of their academic experience in Fès.

Similarly, our use of the CCLT facilities in Rabat allowed us significantly to enhance our program. Your extensive personal contacts within both the academic community and the travel industry worked significantly to the benefit of our students and the academic program.

I look forward to working with you in the future and recommend you and CCLT without reservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale F. Eickelman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Dale F. Eickelman