

Danish students Schmidt Hansen and Becker-Jostes seek out LERC for information on Lebanese migration

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Reported by Elie Nabhan

Mr. Jonas Schmidt Hansen and Mr. Petter Becker-Jostes, Danish students of journalism studying at the Danish School of Journalism (DSJ), both on an exchange semester at the American University of Beirut while undergoing internships and work experience in newspaper journalism, radio and communications.

The two students are currently working on their graduating bachelor project at the DSJ with a series of articles about Lebanese migration and Lebanese society, and the purpose of their visit to Lebanese Emigration Research Center at NDU was to interview LERC's Director Ms. Guita Hourani and NDU's Professor Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous on migration and insecurity.

Their questions were based on Lebanese migration in general but also on insecurity and its role in perpetuating migration. The students were keen to focus on different aspects of Lebanese political system and society.



Danish students Mr. P. Becker-Jostes (left) and Mr. J. Schmidt Hansen pictured at the Lebanon Migration Museum at NDU (Feb 2011).

Prior to coming to LERC the students had already examined Ms. Hourani's book *The Impact of the Summer 2006 War on Migration in Lebanon: Emigration, Re-Migration, Evacuation, and Returning*, as well as LERC's study *Insecurity, Migration and Return: The Case of Lebanon Following the Summer 2006 War*, co-authored by Guita Hourani and Dr. Eugene Sensenig-

Dabbous, which was commissioned and published by the Euro-Mediterranean Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM) and published on CARIM's website in early 2007.

After the interview both students were given a presentation of materials collected by LERC in its electronic archives and taken on a tour of the Lebanon Migration Museum at NDU.