**Linguistic, Literary, and Thematic Perspectives on the Qur’anic Corpus**

**Chairs:** Anne-Sylvie Boisliveau and Sarra Tlili (Contact: asboisliveau@gmail.com; satlili@ufl.edu)

**Description:** This unit provides a forum for the study of the Qur’an from a literary standpoint. We welcome papers that examine the structure of passages or entire surahs; analyze the plot, characterization, themes, and voice in Qur’anic narrative; study the interplay between sound and meaning; explore literary motifs specific to each type of Qur’anic discourse; compare and contrast recurrent narratives and other repeated elements or passages; and investigate the Qur’an’s use of literary devices such as imagery, metaphor, foreshadowing, flashback, irony, chiasmus, caesura, alliteration, assonance, and so forth.

**Call for Papers:** This unit will host two panels at the 2014 IQSA meeting. The first panel will be dedicated to the emerging field of Semitic Rhetoric/Ring Composition theory. We invite proposals for papers that study the Qur’an as an oral text, highlight the ring structure of Qur’anic passages or surahs, and consider if/how this structure imparts meaning or creates any type of impact. Proposals that evaluate the usefulness and applicability of this theory to the Qur’an are also welcome. The second panel seeks proposals on all other aspects of the linguistic, literary, argumentative, and thematic approaches of the Qur’an mentioned above.

Proposals should include a title and an abstract of approximately 400 words. They can be submitted here from late January onwards. Informal queries in advance of submission can be addressed to the unit chairs.