Najm A. Bezirgan, associate professor of middle eastern languages and cultures, died on December 25, 1979. He was 48.

Professor Bezirgan was born on April 12, 1931, in Iraq. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Baghdad in 1956. He was awarded his PhD from the University of Manchester in 1965.

Prior to joining the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin in 1967, Dr. Bezirgan taught at the University of Baghdad and worked as an assistant editor of the Oxford English-Arabic Dictionary. Professor Bezirgan was coauthor of Elementary Standard Arabic and Modern Standard Arabic: Intermediate Level. Both books have been used in public schools throughout the United States and abroad.

Professor Bezirgan was a nationally recognized authority in Arabic and Islamic philosophy. He was also a regular contributor to International Bibliography, a publication of the Modern Language Association of America.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty