

DEVELOPMENT

Monica Witczak

Overview

In fiscal year 2007–2008, the Oriental Institute raised \$3,192,612 in gifts and grants. Among the notable gifts received were a bequest of \$867,500 from the Trust Estate of Erica Reiner, a bequest of \$514,950 from the Trust Estate of Marion Cowan, a grant of \$200,000 from the Getty Foundation for the Persepolis Fortification Archive, and a grant from the Packard Humanities Institute in the amount of \$158,923 to fund the final season of a salvage excavation in Sudan. Additionally, the following foundations and corporations provided support for our programs: The Dellenback Family Foundation, Hyde Park Bank, The National Geographic Society, PARSA Community Foundation, Treasure Island Foods, The World Monument Fund, and the University

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of Chicago's Women's Board. We thank all our generous supporters who made this financial success possible.

The Research Endowment Campaign

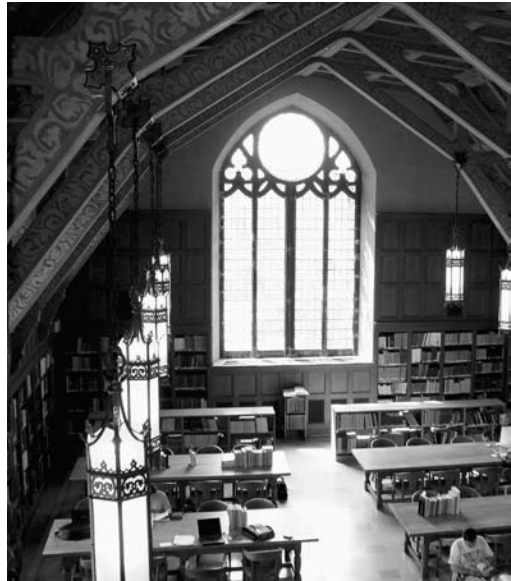
The Research Endowment Campaign, launched in the fall of 2006, is a five-year campaign to increase funding for the core research areas of the Oriental Institute providing a stable and predictable level of support for this work.

The Research Endowment Campaign targets five crucial areas that require long-term financial resources:

- **Research Archives**

This endowment will support the Oriental Institute's research archives. Containing more than 45,000 volumes, it is the foremost library on the Ancient Near East in the Western hemisphere. This endowment will fund:

1. The purchase of new collection
2. The transition to digital holdings (in parallel to print holdings)
3. The construction of new stacks and other infrastructure to house collections and address growing space restrictions due to the natural growth of collections
4. The completion of the online catalog to cover all acquisitions made prior to 1990



The collections of the Oriental Institute Research Archives span the history of the Near East from prehistoric times through the rise of Islam



Digitizing the Oriental Institute's vast collection of historic and modern maps is one of the many projects of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL)

- **Technology**

This endowment will support the technological needs of all areas of the Institute by funding:

1. Computers
2. Programming support
3. Satellite imagery
4. Remote sensing equipment

• Ancient Languages

This endowment will support the writing of dictionaries such as the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, the Chicago Demotic Dictionary and the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. It will also support text-based research in Egyptology, Assyriology, Iranian languages, ancient Hebrew and Northwest Semitic by funding:

1. Research travel costs
2. Programming support
3. Editing support



The Oriental Institute is home to the most comprehensive program for the study of Hittitology in the world



The over 150,000 registered objects in the Oriental Institute Museum hold extraordinary importance for researchers

• Museum Holdings and Special Collections

The Oriental Institute's museum holds a position of extraordinary importance for researchers. Many of these collections form the primary or only stratigraphic record for key regions of the Fertile Crescent. The goal is to make these collections more accessible for study and publication by Institute scholars as well as those from other institutions. Museum exhibits are also a key part of the Oriental Institute's mission to communicate the results of its research to the public. We plan a regularized program of mounting two rotating special exhibits each year, to be displayed in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Gallery for Special Exhibits. This endowment will fund:

1. Grants to researchers
2. Curatorial fees
3. Exhibit installation
4. Loan fees
5. Special exhibit development

• Archaeological Fieldwork

This endowment will support current excavations in Egypt, Syria, and Turkey and provide resources for future fieldwork throughout the Middle East by funding:

1. Field project start-up costs
2. Building infrastructure and security to protect the excavation sites
3. Student travel costs
4. Laboratory work such as radiocarbon dating



Archaeologists at the site of Hamoukar, Syria, investigate the origins of cities and warfare in ancient Mesopotamia

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I am pleased to report that after two years, we have reached the halfway point in this campaign, raising \$1,595,956 in cash, pledges, and bequests. Many thanks to all those whose contributions helped us to reach this important phase in the campaign:

Research Endowment Campaign Donors

Platinum Level (\$100,000 or more)

The Trust Estate of Marion Cowan
Arthur & Lee Herbst
John & Jeanne Rowe

Gold Level (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

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Robert & Janet Helman
Roger & Marjorie Nelson
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Joan Fortune
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Howard G. Haas
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Joseph Lach
Lois Schwartz
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\$10,000 to \$24,999

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Planned Gifts

We are most grateful to those individuals who have made a gift by designating the Oriental Institute as the beneficiary of a life income gift or bequest. Gifts such as these provide expendable and endowed support for a wide variety of projects across all areas of the Institute. In the past year, we have received planned gifts from the following donors:

The Trust Estate of Alwin C. Carus
 The Alwin Carus Mineral Trust
 The Trust Estate of Marion Cowan
 The Trust Estate of Erica Reiner
 Arthur & Lee Herbst