

Charles E. Jones

In August 2003, **Charles E. Jones** traveled to Tehran as a part of the Scientific Committee of The First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. He acted as respondent in one session, and a joint paper written with Matthew W. Stolper, was ultimately submitted and accepted for inclusion in the proceedings, *A Survey of Scattered Achaemenid Elamite Administrative Tablets*. The conference was a resounding success. Following the papers the delegates traveled as a group to Shiraz, Persepolis, Naqsh-e Rostam, Pasargadae, and Isfahan. The hospitality of Iranian colleagues was extraordinary. A delegation from the Oriental Institute (Abbas Alizadeh, Charles Jones, Gil J. Stein, Matthew Stolper) took the opportunity to have a series of conversations with officers of both the National Museum of Iran and the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization. As a consequence, the Oriental Institute has developed a continuing dialogue with our counterparts in Iran, and a bright future of collaborative research seems inevitable.

Jones remains focused on the evolving crisis in Iraq. The focus of his activity in response to the events has solidified in two places: The Iraq Working Group of the Oriental Institute and the Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries. He remains the moderator of IraqCrisis, a moderated list for communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from libraries and museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis: <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>. Traffic on the list is steady and relentlessly reports bad news. At the present the list has 675 subscribers.

As a part of this effort, Jones also authored the following: "Iraq Bibliographies," *Oriental Institute Research Archives Online* (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html>; "Iraqi Library Stamps" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryStamps/LibraryStamps.htm>; "Online Presence of the Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq>; "Pictures of Damaged Libraries in Iraq" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryPix/LibraryPix.htm>; "Preliminary Bibliography of Publications Documenting the Cylinder and Stamp Seals and Seal Impressions in the Collections of the Iraq Museum Baghdad, and an Index by Museum Number of Objects Published in the Preliminary Bibliography," *Oriental Institute Research Archives Online* (Chicago, 2004), in Association with Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraq Libraries: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/SealBib1.htm> and <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/SealBibInx1.htm>.

For other contributions to this effort, edited online by Jones and others, follow the links at the Web-presence of the MELA Committee cited above.

In November, Jones chaired a third-annual session at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, with solicited papers on The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, The Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary, APIS: The Advanced Papyrological Information System, and TopicMaps.

Early in 2004, he established a new mailing list as a part of the suite of resources under the aegis of ETANA, called ETANA-Abzu-news, which provides occasional reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu: <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news>.

Some contributions posted on this new list are also available online in fully hyper-text formats: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewFeb04.html>, and <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewMar04.htm>.

As the year came to a close, the article coauthored with Wouter F. M. Henkelman and Matthew W. Stolper, “Clay Tags with Achaemenid Seal Impressions in the Dutch Institute of the Near East (NINO) and Elsewhere,” *ARTA: Achaemenid Research on Texts and Archaeology*, 2004: 001, finally appeared online at: <http://www.achemenet.com/ressources/enligne/arta/pdf/2004.001/2004.001.pdf>.
