Membership

The Membership Office has purchased advertisements for our new travel programs: Egypt and the East, departing March 2009, and Splendors of the Nile, departing November 2009. By the end of 2008 we will have been featured in two issues of *Archaeology Magazine*, with a targeted, global readership of over 600,000 both in paper and Internet subscriptions. We will explore text/classified ads during this year to experiment with money-saving advertising methods, as well as frequency and repetition of advertising.

Many thanks are owed to Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer in the Oriental Institute Publications Office for their enduring patience, diligence, and kindness in coordinating design and publication projects for members and supporters over the past year. With the recent increase in postage, we are exploring ways to consolidate more information into less frequent but more graphically appealing, high quality event notices that we hope members and donors will not only use to learn about our events, but also enjoy as visual representations of our institution.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the entire Oriental Institute research and administrative staff for their support over the past year. Special thanks go to Emily Teeter, Norman Golb, Robert Ritner, and Clemens Reichel for their kindness and leadership for our travel program and other programming. A thank you to Geoff Emberling, McGuire Gibson, Katharyn Hanson, Erik Lindahl, and Adam Lubin for their patience and help with organizing Museum events in our galleries for members and supporters. A special thank you also to Carole Krucoff, Jessica Caracci, Wendy Ennes, Cathy Dueñas, and Terry Friedman for their kindness and support of membership and our programming.

Finally, a very big thank you to Gil Stein, Steve Camp, Monica Witczak, Kaye Oberhausen, Marianna Perlinac, D’Ann Condes, and Carla Hosein for their patience, support, and enthusiasm for the Membership Program and its future. Over the next year, members can look forward to increased Members’ benefits and a wider variety of event formats and locations. Additionally, we will be working on new graphic advertising and announcements for our events, increased public and media outreach, and more opportunities for families to enjoy both programming and membership at the Oriental Institute. I look forward to a great year ahead.

 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
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

- **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

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)
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

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

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

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

- The Trust Estate of Alwin C. Carus
- Misty & Lewis Gruber
- Robert & Janet Helman
- Roger & Marjorie Nelson
- O. J. & Angeline Sopranos

**Bronze Level ($25,000 to $49,999)**

- James & Margaret Foorman
- Joan Fortune
- Richard & Mary Gray
- Howard G. Haas
- Thomas & Linda Heagy
- Joseph Lach
- Lois Schwartz
- Toni Sandor Smith

**$10,000 to $24,999**

- Alan Brodie
- Isak & Nancy Gerson
- Neil King & Diana Hunt King
- David & Carlotta Maher
- Ann Roberts
- Francis & Lorna Straus
- Marjorie Webster

**Below $10,000**

- Charles M. Adelman
- Mary & Stanley Allan
- Thomas W. Andrews
- Miriam Reitz Baer
- Cynthia Bates
- Mark & Nancy Bergman
- Charles & Helen Bidwell
- Catherine Novotny Brehm
- John Alden
- Robert Andersen
- Julie Antelman
- John J. Barbie
- Thomas & Francesca Bennett
- Julia Beringer
- Gretel Braidwood & Raymond Tindel
- Bruce & Joyce Chelberg
Below $10,000 (cont.)

Johna S. Compton   Helen M. Cunningham
Andrea Dudek       Ann R. Esse
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Frederick & Patricia Graboske  Robert & Margaret Grant
David & Marsha Gratner   Eleanor Guralnick
M. Hill & Cheryl Hammock   H. Lawrence & Joanne S. Helfer
David C. & Betty Hess     Christy Hoberecht
Ruth Horwich          Roger David Isaacs
Sandra Jacobsohn    Lise Jacobson
Nicholas & Maruchi Kotcherha  Gary B. Lyall
Frank & Linda Mayer   William Bryce MacDonald
Harriet McKay        Mila Meeker
Robert & Lois Moeller  Mariateresa Montanari
Catherine Moore      Shirley A. Morningstar
Michael Nabholz      Debra Navarre
Phil & Linda Neal    Muriel Kallis Newman
Joan Hunt Parks      Rita T. Picken
Crennan & David Ray  Agnes Ann Roach
Harvey Plotnick      Elizabeth Postell
Paul Benjamin Schechter  Kirk Lee Schmink
Albert & Jane Schwuchow  Vincent F. Seyfried
Michael Sha          Henry & Miriam Shapiro
Patrick J. Shaugnessy  Matthew Sideman
Gil J. Stein         Jerome & Hadassah Stein
Herbert A. Storck    Kathleelen J. Sumner
George R. Sundell    Gerald Sufrin
Robert M. Taras      Patricia Tuchman
Marlene & Russell Tuttle  Dorothy Anne Wedner
Willard E. White     Vic Whitmore
Robert I. Wilson     Wendall W. Wilson
Elizabeth Wissler    Lowell T. Wynn
Mary Young

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