MUMMY LABEL DATABASE (MLD)

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The editors of the Mummy Label Database, namely, Sofía Torallas Tovar, the instigator of the project, Raquel Martín Hernández, and François Gaudard, have continued the laborious job of completing the database, including the task of revising existing editions, as well as publishing still-unpublished labels. For details on this joint project of the Instituto de Lenguas y Culturas del Mediterráneo y Oriente Próximo, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales – CSIC, Madrid, and of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, readers can consult the 2008–2009 Annual Report.

The MLD has now been integrated into a greater project named DVCTVS: La Memoria escrita: Recuperacion de los fondos papirologicos nacionales (FFI2009-11288), subsidized by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, which judged it excellent in its latest evaluation report. Thanks to this association the MLD will be able to hire a part-time new staff member, namely, Sergio Carro, whose role will be to arrange the photos and the fields of the database so that it can be launched online faster. The editors of the MLD would like to thank the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation for its generosity.

In March 2011, Sofía and François met at the Oriental Institute to discuss various aspects of the project. Sofía and Raquel visited the collection of the Abbey of Montserrat from September 18 to 22, 2010, and again from April 6 to 10, 2011, in order to identify new material for publication. Among others, they found an interesting mummy label that is currently being published by François in an article entitled “A Demotic-Hieratic Mummy Label in the Museu de Montserrat.” Raquel wrote the two following articles: “Viajar por el Nilo en época greco-romana: El testimonio de los papiros,” in El viaje y sus riesgos: Los peligros de viajar en el mundo greco-romano, edited by A. Alvar Nuño, pp. 115–29 (Madrid: Liceus, 2011), and “El transporte de momias a través del Nilo: El testimonio de las etiquetas de momia,” which is in press and will be published in Actas del V Congreso Español de Antiguo Oriente Próximo, Toledo 26–30 octubre de 2009, edited by J. Oliva (Toledo: UCLM, 2011). She also delivered a paper entitled “El precio de la muerte en el Egipto Ptolemaico,” at the III Jornadas de Papirología, held in Barcelona, from March 24 to 26, 2011. As for Sofía, she published “Linguistic Identity in Graeco-Roman Egypt,” in The Multilingual Experience in Egypt, from the Ptolemies to the ʿAbbāsids, edited by A. Papaconstantinou, pp. 17–43 (Farnham and Burlington: Ashgate, 2010).