

OI NEWSLETTER - FIRST MONDAY - OCTOBER 2003

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NEWS / The Editor
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This is the fifty-first issue of the Oriental Institute Newsletter to appear since February 1998. With the release of this issue, the Newsletter is taking advantage of the University of Chicago's listhost software to simplify the mailing list and the archiving of back issues:
<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/oi-newsletter>
The core group of subscribers to the Newsletter is the Faculty and Staff of the OI. Many members of the faculty and student body of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations as well as other departments in the University also receive the Newsletter as do a select group of alumni and friends.

All of the back issues of the Newsletter are archived on-line. Access to the archive is limited to subscribers to the list. This means that subscribers will have to enter their e-mail address and password to gain access. If you wish to know your password (and to change it to something more memorable than the initial machine generated text string), please send a request to:
oi-newsletter-admin@listhost.uchicago.edu
If you prefer a different address from the one at which you received this issue, please send the correction to: oi-newsletter-admin@listhost.uchicago.edu

approach that uses in-depth examination of artifacts to help students develop literacy and critical thinking skills. She also introduced the teachers to the Oriental Institute website, its Teacher Resource Center, and invited them to take part in and critique a prototype on-line teacher training unit that will soon become part of a pilot project funded by a National Leadership Grant that Museum Education has received from the Institute of Museum of and Library Services in Washington, D.C.

Also in July, the Oriental Institute joined with The Field Museum and The Art Institute of Chicago to present "Eternal Egypt," a three-day teacher-training seminar highlighting the ancient Egyptian collections at all three museums, as well as the special "Eternal Egypt" exhibit on view this past summer at The Field Museum. The Oriental Institute segment of the seminar featured a lecture on the development of writing in ancient Egypt presented by Emily Teeter, along with an Egyptian gallery activity designed to introduce the educators to ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs as they appear on artifacts in the museum's collection. All participants received copies of the Oriental Institute's award-winning "Life in Ancient Egypt" curriculum guide and were introduced to resources for the classroom that are available on the Oriental Institute website.

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MUSEUM - REGISTRATION / Ray Tindel

Currently the major effort in Museum Registration is to complete the final inventories following the installation of the new Mesopotamian gallery. Other projects include the registration of the material from Robert McC. Adams' Warka Survey and the initial survey of the Chogha Mish material preparatory to registration.

Mac Gibson is using material from the sherd collections for his Mesopotamian archaeology course, and Steve Harvey is introducing his students to the wonderful world of Egyptian flints.

Earlier in the summer we got out the Hittite hieroglyphic material for review by Aslihan Yener and Theo van den Hout, which resulted in the registration of some seventy additional Hittite hieroglyphic inscription fragments from the Amuq excavations.

Recent visitors included Ernst Czerny and Wolfgang Muller of the University of Vienna, working on a definitive handbook of Egyptian Middle Kingdom pottery.

Other users of the collections over the summer included John Landgraf, Toby Hartnell, Chris Woods, and Gabriella Novacek.

I will be away Oct. 23-24, so anyone needing anything from collections during these two days should make arrangements beforehand.

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PUBLICATIONS / Tom Urban

Over the summer the Publications Office was buzzing with activity. Ali Witsell was hired as the fifth student worker and joined Leslie Schramer, Katherine Strange Burke, Katie Johnson, and Emily Napolitano, who together accomplished quite an amount of work during the summer. Six people (counting me) were able to work on five computers because Katie returned to work just after Katherine left for the excavations in Turkey. With the fall quarter, Lindsay DeCarlo has returned to work, and Katherine should return soon.

OIP 120: *Chogha Bonut*, by Abbas Alizadeh. We have submitted the paperwork for its printing and binding and the volume should go to press within the week.

OIP 122: *Neo-Babylonian Tablets in the Oriental Institute Collection*, by David B. Weisberg. The author visited twice to go over corrections, and the volume is essentially finished except for the final formatting of the pages and the preparing of a few halftones for printing. This volume should go to press before the end of the year.

OIP 123: *Graffiti on the Khonsu Temple Rooftop*, by Helen Jacquet-Gordon. All of the artwork is prepared for printing and the purchase order for its printing has been issued. Edits are being entered, after which final page proofs will be sent to the author. This volume should also go to press before the end of the year, the fifth OIP for 2003.

OIC 29: *Catalog of Demotic Texts in the Brooklyn Museum*, by George R. Hughes. The completion of this volume has moved to the top of the list. It is possible that this volume will also go to press this year.

OIAS 1: *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeology and Texts*, edited by Donald Whitcomb. We are still on track for a December publication date.

Tell es-Sweyhat 1: *Landscape Studies*, by Tony J. Wilkinson. Preliminary page proofs for all but one chapter and the appendices were sent to the author and have been returned to us. We're inching closer to final page proofs.

Tell es-Sweyhat 2: *Excavation Report*, by Thomas A. Holland. All of the scanning is complete, the plate volume is formatted, the bibliography has been gone through, and the text volume is being worked on.

Tax Receipts on Demotic Ostraca in the Oriental Institute Collection, by Brian P. Muhs. With all of the artwork having been scanned earlier in the year, we've turned our attention to the text. The Greek and Coptic fonts used by the author are not postscript, so we are re-entering these. The author's transliteration font is postscript, but it seemed to me best to re-enter the Egyptian transliterations, which has already been done. The bibliography is being compiled and checked.

CAD: Nine volumes of the CAD have gone out-of-stock, and we hope to have five reprinted as soon as possible.

CDD: The letter ayin was posted to the CDD website.

OIMP 23: *Ancient Egypt: Treasures in the Collection of the Oriental Institute*, by Emily Teeter, was printed.

Issues of News&Notes and the Annual Report were prepared for the Membership Office and sent to press.

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RESEARCH ARCHIVES / Chuck Jones

The Pamphlet Collection of the Research Archives has been moved from the upper level to the new stacks. This will make it easier to use and will provide us with necessary secure storage and work space.

All members of the Research Archives staff have contributed to the Preliminary Bibliography of books documenting the contents of the Iraq Museum, the National Library and Archives, and the manuscript collection of the Ministry of Religious Endowments - all in Baghdad - as well as of other damaged or destroyed collections in Baghdad or elsewhere in Iraq including Mosul, Basrah, Suleimaniyeh, etc.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq_bibliography.html

Version 25 is available on-line at present and contains 220 titles.

Indexing of these volumes by Iraq Museum [IM] number is underway and continuing. In this version of the bibliography, 12,423 IM numbers of published objects are listed following the volume in which they appear. [Note however, that many published objects -- especially well-known objects -- will appear repeatedly in the published record. Therefore this number does not indicate the number of discrete objects included in the publications listed here]. In addition many of these volumes include publications of objects in the collections of the Iraq Museum which either did not have IM numbers assigned at the time of publication, or for which the IM numbers are not indicated in the publication.)

We are also working towards the completion of a comprehensive index of the two journals of the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities: Sumer and al-Maskukat. Both of these will have indexes of museum numbers.

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>

IraqCrisis remains a medium for communication on this issue. At present the list has about six hundred subscribers. All are welcome to subscribe. Follow the instructions at the URL cited above. The archives is freely accessible at: <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/pipermail/iraqcrisis/>

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PROJECTS

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CAD / Martha Roth

The CAD progresses and the end is clearly in sight. Jennie Myers and I have finished collating all our colleagues' comments to the P volume's galleys, and that volume is now off my desk (for now). The first 100+ galleys for the Tet volume have been arriving, and have been distributed to the editorial board

members who will begin returning them with corrections and additions in October. Professor Hermann Hunger visited again this summer, and almost finished writing all the draft for the final volume, covering words beginning with U/W. Jennie Myers will finish the few remaining "real" words and will spend many hours this year tracking down "ghosts and hoaxes" and cleaning up the volume; I am editing the U/W manuscript now. Erica Reiner has been giving the final once-over to the T volume, which we turned over to Eisenbrauns after retrieving it a few years ago from Augustin. It is still my hope that both P and T will appear during this 2003/04 academic year.

We are very pleased to have received funds from an anonymous donor to help support the final stage of the CAD. We hope to use the funds to bring Hermann Hunger back to help with editing the U/W volume, to bring Joan Goodnick Westenholz back to help check that volume, to have Gertrud Farber check the lexical and bilingual materials (as she has for every volume for two decades now), and to hire a part-time (student) proofreader and editorial assistant.

We are planning for the 2005 Rencontre which will be held here in Chicago. More news as this enormous event takes shape.

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CHD / Theo van den Hout

Work on the next fascicle S/2 is proceeding well. We have almost reached the end of words starting in sa- and we will need relatively little of se- to fill another fascicle. Work on the next volume T is done on a faster pace now thanks to the extra "force" of Alice Mouton. Meanwhile we are working on the application for the NEH Challenge Grant, the deadline of which is November 3. I want to thank here several colleagues in the building who offered very valuable suggestions for improving the first draft of the main narrative. Over the summer we also reorganized our photo and slide collection of tablets and fragments. The photos were put into binders or drawers for better preservation and easier consultation as well as systematized. A database was made with references to edition, excavation, and CTH-numbers and the drawer or binder where they can be found. So now one look on the server and we can see whether we have a photo of a particular fragment. We also know now how many photos we actually have: over 8500!

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INDIVIDUALS

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ROBERT BIGGS

Robert Biggs and McGuire Gibson both have articles in the current IFAR Journal (the journal of the International Foundation for Art Research, which often has information on stolen art), entitled respectively "Cuneiform Inscriptions in the Looted Iraq Museum" and "Cultural Tragedy in Iraq: A Report on the Looting of Museums, Archives, and Sites."

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PETER DORMAN

Peter Dorman, together with colleague Betsy Bryan, co-hosted the 5th annual Chicago-Johns Hopkins Theban Workshop, held this year on September 15 and 16 at the British Museum. For the first time, the workshop was on the other side of the Atlantic rather than in Chicago or Baltimore, in response to growing interest by scholars in Europe, and fourteen participants gave papers, including our own Harold Hays and Brett McClain. Attendance by the "general public" was impressive, despite limited publicity, and we were able to make use of the latest facilities of the BM, which are part of the recent Great Court renovation. We hope to get the workshop proceedings edited and submitted for publication by the OI as quickly as possible.

Together with Terry Wilfong of the University of Michigan, Dorman also has signed a book contract with Cambridge University Press for a two-volume History of Egypt, to be completed (keep those fingers crossed) by 2006, and which is intended to include coverage of Egyptian history through to the advent of Islam.

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FRANCOIS GAUDARD

For the fourth time, I taught the intensive three-week survey course "Ancient Egyptian Language, Culture and History" (June 23 to July 11, 2003), which was taken by sixteen motivated students. This course was taught for credit. It integrated classroom instruction with introduction to Egyptological resources, museum experience and the preparation of a research paper.

The students had the opportunity to explore the archaeology, history, geography, religion and literature of the ancient Egyptians. They also began the study of Middle Egyptian and were able to read basic hieroglyphic inscriptions by the conclusion of the class. We also viewed the Field Museum's "Eternal Egypt: Masterworks of Ancient Art from the British Museum" exhibition.

I took advantage of the resources of the Oriental Institute and I am grateful to Professor Janet Johnson, Emily Teeter, Karen Wilson, Ray Johnson and John Sanders.

They all contributed to the success of the course.

I am glad that several of my former students intend to study at the University of Chicago.

I also regret the departure of my good friend and colleague Tom Dousa, who has worked with me for many years on the Chicago Demotic Dictionary. I wish him success in his new life.

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GENE GRAGG

Gene Gragg is happy to be back in faculty harness after having a year off to work on the NSF-funded Cushitic-Afroasiatic Index (CAAI), an electronic reference database of comparative lexical and grammatical information relating the 70-odd Cushitic languages of the Horn of Africa among themselves and with their Afroasiatic cousins (Egyptian, Berber, Semitic, Chadic). For obvious reasons the project had been on a back burner (or rather, taken off the stove) during the previous five years, and there was a lot of catching up to do. As is the case with a number of other OI electronic reference and data collections (CHD, Persepolis, various archaeological), the project is, and has been since its inception in 1989, XML-based (it was called SGML at the time). It will come under the aegis of David Schloen's XSTAR initiative, and probably make use of the University's Tamino server. The ultimate goal of the project is to help in the reconstruction, in as far as this data permits, of the linguistic (and indirectly ethnic/population) prehistory of the ANE.

In addition to hours of data-entry, data correction, and bringing 1997-era routines up to 2003 standards, Gragg gave a demo of the project at an international Cushitic-Omotc symposium in Leiden in April (and signed up data donors), and gave project-based papers at the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics (held in conjunction with the American Oriental Society in Nashville in April), and at the 15th International Congress of Ethiopian Studies in Hamburg in July. He is preparing for publication an article on "*p/f in Cushitic".

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CHUCK JONES

With a delegation of others from the Institute (See Gil Stein's report below), I traveled to Iran in August to attend the First International Conference on Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia (<http://www.ficiwa.org/>). By any accounting this was an extraordinary event. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet old and new friends and to reaffirm the bonds of international scholarship. We were treated with great courtesy and hospitality by the officials of the sponsoring ministry, and particularly so by our colleagues at the National Museum, in the Iranian Cultural Heritage organization and at the sites in Shiraz, Isfahan and in between. The trip was a particular pleasure for me since I had lived for two years in Iran as a child and had not been back until now.

Hardly anyone will be surprised to hear of continuing activity on the web-based resources of the Iraq Working Group. In addition to these activities, I have been working with the Middle East Librarians Association [MELA] Committee on Iraqi Libraries, which is coordinating response to the crisis in the US as well as with other national and international library organizations. The OI is the host to the web-presence of this organization. Two documents published there are of particular interest:

Iraqi Library Stamps [<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryStamps/LibraryStamps.htm>]: The aim of this project is to collect images (scanned photographs or photocopies) of library

stamps and other ownership marks used by various libraries and manuscript collections in Iraq and make these images available on the Internet.

Pictures of Damaged Libraries in Iraq [<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryPix/LibraryPix.htm>]: The photographs presented here document damage to libraries in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003. Photographs courtesy of Mac Gibson and Nabil al-Tikriti.

Matt Stolper and I completed yet another editorial pass through the first three hundred Persepolis Fortification texts to be included in the Persepolis component of the XSTAR project. This process was enlightening with respect to editorial control of ancient textual data in a database environment.

Also with Matt Stolper, our biographical sketch of Richard T. Hallock appeared in: Yarshater, Ehsan [Editor]. *Encyclopaedia Iranica*. Volume XI, Fascicle 6: Hajj Sayyah - Harem. (New York; Bibliotheca Persica Press; 2003), pages 592-594.

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WALTER KAEGI

Walter Kaegi published an article entitled "The Earliest Muslim Penetrations of Anatolia," In: *Byzantine State and Society in Memory of Nikos Oikonomides*, ed. A. Avramea, A. Laiou, E. Chrysos (Athens: National Hellenic Foundation, Center for Byzantine Studies, 2003) 269-282. Walter Kaegi read a paper "Byzantium and Early Muslim Penetrations of Anatolia." at the University of Erfurt, Germany, on 6 June 2003. The professional meeting was the International Workshop on: "The Encounter of Oriental Christianity with Islam in the 7th and 8th centuries." He corrected proofs for the French translation of "Yarmuk, [Battle]" *Encyclopedia of Islam* [2nd ed.], with revisions. He completed two broad contributions entitled "Religious Elements in Muslim Conquests," "North Africa," [to be translated into French for the popular journal] *Le Monde de la Bible* (November 2003, forthcoming). He returned to research for a book on the Muslim conquest of Byzantine North Africa (seventh century CE).

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ROBERT RITNER

Robert Ritner is on leave for the Fall, serving as visiting professor and Egyptologist in Residence at the University of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology. While there, he and his former student, Dr. Jennifer Wegner, are preparing an edition of an archive of 11 unpublished Demotic texts containing rosters and expenditures of a temple cult guild in the Faiyum. In addition, he is teaching Introductory Middle Egyptian and, by popular request, "Religion and Magic in Ancient Egypt."

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MARTHA ROTH

In July, I went to London to participate in the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale. There were many fine and interesting papers, but the best work was between sessions, when I made contacts with some of our Iraqi colleagues who attended. In particular, there was productive dialogue with Professor Ali Yaseen Ahmed of the University of Mosul, with whom the OI will try to set up some exchange programs for students and faculty. We have sent a complimentary set of the CAD to the University of Mosul; no word yet on whether it has reached its destination.

In September, I sent off the final version of an article for a volume on courtesans and prostitutes in the ancient world, the proceedings of a conference organized by Chris Faraone and Laura McClure; the volume will be published by University of Wisconsin Press. I continue to tinker with my volume on law cases, but my research is taking a back seat to the final push on the CAD.

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GIL STEIN

In mid-August, Abbas Alizadeh, Chuck Jones, Matt Stolper, Nick Kouchoukos from the Anthropology Department, and I went to Tehran to participate in the "First International Conference on Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia". This conference was sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, with former OI denizen Majid Arfaee and Abbas playing a key organizational role.

After the conference, the delegates were flown to Shiraz to visit Persepolis and other sites, with another stop in Isfahan.

This conference is extremely significant because it gives a clear sign of official approval and encouragement to foreign researchers to resume their work in Iran. Americans were made welcome - in fact, 12 out of the 52 papers presented were by American researchers. The assistant minister of culture explicitly stated that foreign researchers would be welcomed.

After the conference and travel, we spent three days in detailed negotiations with the head of the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization (ICHO) and his main assistant directors. ICHO has asked the OI to develop a formal agreement of scientific cooperation. Under this umbrella, we will be encouraged to submit permit proposals for research (excavations, surveys, museum work). The agreement will also allow for OI publications to be translated into Persian and issued as joint OI-ICHO publications in Iran. We also plan to develop cooperative training programs in the field of archaeological conservation and will strongly encourage well qualified Iranian students to apply to our graduate program at NELC.

One particularly exciting development was the ICHO's enthusiastic encouragement of a new archaeological project at the Sasanian/early Islamic city of Jundi Shapur. Don Whitcomb, Abbas Alizadeh, and Nick Kouchoukos are developing an NEH proposal for this project, to be submitted this fall.

The upshot of all these developments is that Oriental Institute research in Iran has started up again and will (inshallah) develop much further in coming years,

