



to increase funding for continued archaeological and textual research, museum programs and helps preserve our endowments, which have scheduled payout reductions of 4% for the upcoming year due to the markets poor conditions over the past 3 years. Kudos need to go out to those that have recently met with success in receiving external support, such as Theo van den Hout, Ray Johnson, Wendy Ennis and Carole Krucoff, Mac Gibson, Laura D'Allesandro, Abbas Alizadeh, Aslihan Yener and David Schloen. Apologies to anyone I've failed to add to this incomplete list. Please note that your efforts will not go unnoticed nor unrewarded. Another way in which we can all help our bottom line is in the purchase and use of general supplies. From telephones, to pens and paper, finding ways to utilize these tools and supplies efficiently can significantly reduce our operating costs. For example, if one of us were to use our printer to make multiple copies of a document, as opposed to using one of the copy machines, our toner cartridge costs increase and the more cost effective copier's usage does not get recharged to an appropriate account. When viewed in light of the significant number of printers and our annual expenditures on paper and cartridges, this can provide significant savings. From a major multimillion dollar grant to the purchase of daily supplies, we all have a direct impact on the financial well-being of the Institute.

#### Museum

##### Director Search

The museum director search committee members have performed an initial review of the 17 applicants who applied for the opening. All but 5 candidates were excluded from further consideration. The next committee meeting (early February) will be used by the committee members to determine which of the 5 potential candidates will be asked to come to the OI for on-site interviews and meetings. We'll keep you informed as the committee progresses through the selection process.

##### City Street Parking

Due to the recent snow fall, and the many parking spaces around the OI that could be affected by the requirement that parked cars be removed when there is two or more inches of snow, Nicole contacted the City of Chicago Snow Commission to get some clarification on how this ordinance goes into effect. Here's what she found out.

1. The "2 inch" rule rarely goes into effect. When it does go into effect, it usually is a result of a huge blizzard (e.g. 10-12 inches). So, anyone who parks along the Midway in the morning is going to be fine parking-wise.
2. If there is an expectation of a huge blizzard, those who drive in should listen to the radio or TV to see if the 2 inch parking rule is in effect.
3. What every one should be more concerned about is the "overnight rule," which does not allow parking between 3am and 7am - that's where the majority of towed cars come from.
4. For our friends at Chicago House, Luxor, please blissfully disregard all of the rules above. By the way, the low in Chicago this Friday was -20c.

##### CAMEL Remote Sensing Lab Director Search

As many of you may already know, the OI was close to bringing on board a new Research Associate to lead the CAMEL lab of the OI. Unfortunately, last minute issues arose in our negotiations and we were forced to end our relationship with the candidate. Therefore, I'm pleased to announce that we have reopened the search for a new CAMEL Lab Director. A committee is currently being formed, the position is still posted on the University's web site and national ads are soon

to be placed. We are hopeful that our efforts will draw a number of qualified candidates from which to choose. The CAMEL Lab remains an important and indispensable component of the OI's ongoing research capabilities.

Welcome to New Student Staff

You may have seen a number of new student staff in the administrative offices lately. Christina Abraham began with us in October and has been doing a wonderful job of keeping the membership office running while Rebecca Laharia is away on maternity leave. Christina is currently enrolled in the MAPPS Program (MA Social Sciences). Kirk Schmink is an undergraduate at the University and has been working with Debora Donato on Development issues since January. Kirk helps Debora with gift processing and tracking.

Upcoming Meetings to Remember

OI Staff/Faculty Meeting - Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 3:30 PM - LaSalle Room  
Programming Meeting - Thursday, Feb 12 at 2 PM - LaSalle Room (Contact Nicole Torres to suggest potential events)

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UNITS

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COMPUTER LAB / John Sanders

Two additional wireless stations were installed in the OI in January, to ensure complete wireless coverage in the two classrooms as well as in the Museum Registration area in the basement. We are in the process of obtaining the necessary permissions to acquire Guest Access usernames and passwords for visitors to use in such locations as the Research Archives or the Museum Registration area mentioned above. We should have that up and running by the end of February.

GIS software (Manifold version 5.5) for use in the Computer Lab on its newest Dell computer has been ordered, and we hope to have it up and running by the end of February as well. This software will be available for use by students, in order to lessen the demands placed on the use of GIS in the CAMEL Lab.

I will mention here for the first time that we are going to stop running our local email server, babylon-orinst.uchicago.edu, by the end of this coming June. All those faculty and staff who use their babylon account will have the choice of moving their actual mailbox to their university account, or some other mailbox of their choice. For practically everyone in the building still using their babylon account, all this switch will mean is the pointing of their current email program from one mailbox to another - and possibly changing their email password, as the university security system is more complex than the regime I have been running on our OI server. I will of course see each of you in turn during the next few months as we start this process.

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MUSEUM / Raymond Tindel

The major and overriding priority for the Museum staff is the reinstallation of the East Wing, which includes the Khorsabad Exhibit, The Syro-Anatolian Exhibit, and the Megiddo Exhibit. These three separate but interrelated sections incorporate Institute excavations and reseach ranging from the "heroic age" of the 1920s and 1930s to the latest technical and analytical work on the origins of metallurgy, which altogether make this one of the most complex and challenging phases of the Museum reinstallation. We press on toward the completion date November 1 - stay tuned. Most other projects are on hold.

In tandem, the level of activity in the Museum Archives and Registry downstairs has reached a frenetic pace, the likes of which I have not seen since we were packing up everything for the renovation. Aslihan Yener and Theo van den Hout have incorporated their work on the Syro-Anatolian section into a museum reinstallation class with - at last count, if I have not missed anyone - eight students plus themselves researching various groups of objects. In addition, we have Karen Wilson preparing the Bismaya corpus for final publication, Gabriella Novacek and Eudora Bernsen working on the Khirbet Kerak and Nahal Tabor corpora respectively, plus Erin Unverferth researching Egyptian tool models for her 2-year paper, and Royal Ghazal working his way through the Chogha Mish sherd collections in preparation for excavation in Iran.

All told, we have about reached capacity and scheduling is getting rather complicated. For the present, please check with John Larson and me before assigning student papers or undertaking any other projects involving access to the Museum archives or collections.

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MUSEUM EDUCATIION / Carole Krucoff

Even a blizzard didn't keep some very hardy people away on Sunday, January 4th, when the Education Office presented a special program for families in conjunction with the Chicago Office of Tourism's program called Winter Delights. The city-wide publicity this event received brought us close to 150 visitors, even while the rest of the city was hibernating during one of the biggest snowstorms of the season.. Called "Mysteries, Magic, and Mummies," our event featured hands-on activities, films, and tours of the Egyptian and Mesopotamian Galleries. A highlight of the day was a reproduction mummy loaned to us by the Field Museum. Developed in consultation with Robert Ritner, the reproduction mummy and the programming that accompanies it, are based on an activity called "Prepare a Mummy for Burial" that appears in the Kids Corner of the Museum Education section of the Oriental Institute website. Take a look at this activity at <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/mummy.html> and let us know what you think!

Winter adult education courses also began in January, with this quarter's courses giving members and friends the special opportunity to explore the Near East from a cross-cultural perspective. Many thanks to the instructors who developed and are presenting this quarter's courses. They include: --Aaron Burke, who is teaching an eight-session course on "Warfare and Empire in the Ancient World"

--Malayna Evans-Williams, who is teaching an eight-session course on "Goddesses and Queens, Warriors and Wives: Women in the Ancient Times"  
--Asa Eger, who is teaching an eight-session course entitled "From the Dome of the Rock to the Cairo Citadel: Great Monuments in Islamic Art and Archaeology."  
All of these courses are being presented in partnership with the University of Chicago's Graham School of General Studies.

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MUSEUM VOLUNTEER DAY / Terry Friedman and Cathy Duenas

VOLUNTEER DAY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

AT 10:00 A.M., Emily Teeter will be speaking on "Women in Ancient Egypt" IN BREASTED HALL.

AT 1:00 P.M., Clemens Reichel will lead an informal workshop in the MESOPOTAMIAN GALLERY for the Docents and the Volunteers. This workshop will concentrate on the kingship case, seals, sealings, the writing section and the Khorsabad Court.

If you would like to join us for either one of these events, please come to either BREASTED HALL in the morning or the MESOPOTAMIAN GALLERY in the afternoon.

Terry Friedman and Cathy Duenas

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PUBLICATIONS / Tom Urban

Work continued on George Hughes's \_Catalog of Demotic Texts in the Brooklyn Museum of Art\_ (OIC 29), Brian Muhs's \_Demotic Texts in the Oriental Institute Collection\_, Tony Wilkinson's \_Tell es-Sweyhat 1\_ (OIP 124), Tom Holland's \_Tell es-Sweyhat 2\_, and Tim Harrison's \_Megiddo 3\_.

Nicole Torres, Emily Teeter, and Leslie Schramer sent the Spring issue of News & Notes to press. Nicole was the editor, Emily gathered the materials, and Leslie put the issue together. The materials went to press one day ahead of schedule and in doing so the printer is able to shave several days off the production time. Nicole, Emily, and Leslie are to be congratulated for a job well done. From the Publications Office's point of view, Leslie deserves special mention for stepping up and performing every task that I normally do for an issue, becoming the second person in the office besides myself capable of completing a publication and sending it to press.

During the last week of January, I spent three days at Chicago Press doing press okays for the printing of Helen Jacquet-Gordon's Temple of Khonsu, Volume 3. One morning, I was joined by Leslie Schramer, Katie Johnson, Ali Witsell, and Carla Hosein, who came to the printing plant for a tour. One afternoon, WTTW spent about one hour filming the printing process.

Nine volumes of the CAD have been prepared for reprinting: Volumes 1 (A/2). 3 (D), 4 (E), 7 (I/J), 10 (M/1-2), 16 (S), and 17 (S/1-2).

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RESEARCH ARCHIVES / Chuck Jones

During January, the staff of the Research Archives worked towards the completion of a number of projects.

Michael Beetley transferred a large number of books to the oversize section of the general stacks (designated "f" - following A-Z in the new stacks). Michael has also been checking the cataloguing for all the titles in this category, and completing the retrospective conversion of records to the on-line catalogues for these titles.

Foy Scalf has been working hard to complete the unified abbreviations list. This list, including several thousand entries, collates all the major and most of the minor lists of abbreviations in use in ancient Near Eastern studies. It also includes many of those annoying items which don't actually seem to appear in published lists. This is a project I have been meaning to produce for more than a decade, I am happy that it is finally coming to fruition. In the first instance, the list will be available on paper. Eventually it will also be accessible and searchable on-line.

Thanks to Michael and Foy for their work on these projects, and for filling in for me while I am away.

Work continues apace on routine matters in the Research Archives. Despite being home for a while (see CHUCK JONES below), I still manage to get through a thousand or so e-mails each day and keep the lists running smoothly.

On other fronts:

ETANA has announced a grant from the American Theological Library Association's Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative (CDRI) to expand the Core-Texts collection of ETANA  
<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/pipermail/etana-abzu-news/2004/000004.html>

In collaboration with the Middle East Librarians Committee on Iraqi Libraries, we published The Iraqi Jewish Archive Preservation Report. This document is published with the kind permission of the authors and The National Archives & Records Administration  
<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/IraqiJewishArchiveReport.htm>

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PROJECTS  
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CAD / Martha Roth

The CAD will once again welcome Professor Hermann Hunger, University of Vienna, for four months, March through June 2004. Hermann will work on editing manuscript for the final CAD volume U/W.



With occasional consultations with Brett she is teasing out details which to the casual viewer (and normal light conditions) are totally invisible, and we are finding that the offering scenes depicted are really quite beautiful as well. Her drawings are going to be a revelation.

As mentioned above, the conservation team headed by Lotfi Hassan has just finished cleaning the northern Naos room, with spectacular results. There is far more paint preserved than we had expected, and the painted northern wall surface in particular, where two figures of Hatshepsut were turned into elaborate piles of offerings by Thutmosius III, is breathtaking. Lotfi, Adel Azziz, Nahed Samir and their assistants Mohamed, Saber, and Hamada have also been working in the northern King's chamber, the last of the sanctuaries to be cleaned, and the wall cleaning there is in its final stages. Sadly, the bases of the walls in this chamber have suffered extensive decay due to water and salt damage, and will require some serious patching next season. One block on the northern wall has so much salt oozing out of it, the surface looks like white marble (!); I have never seen anything quite like it. While the cleaning of the painted walls of the sanctuary will be finished this month, we have applied for additional funding to continue the cleaning of the ceilings of the sanctuaries starting next year. Cleaning of the ceiling in the southern Vestibule chamber showed us that the ceilings, now largely covered with thick, black soot, were originally painted star pattern against a dark blue background.

We have also made good progress in the Luxor Temple blockyard. During the first half of the season we constructed 140 meters of new protected, mastaba platforms for the storage of the fragmentary wall material in the northeastern, southeastern, and western parts of the precinct. Emily Napolitano and Jamie Riley have both supervised the block moving in all areas (our blockyard is now almost half a mile long!), and it is sweet to realize that we are in the final phases of the protective part of our program there. Stone cutter Dany Roy and his workmen this season have helped us raise the big blocks in the precinct off the ground onto the new platforms in the southern and western areas, including gigantic column drums from the Roman tetrastyle at the Nile entryway. Jamie and our workmen, when not assisting Dany, have been stacking wall, architectural, and Nectanebo sphinx fragments in the northeastern area. Emily has painted identification numbers on all the big blocks in the south, and is continuing that time consuming but essential process throughout the blockyard; she and Jamie have also created new site maps of the new mastabas. Yarko Kobylecky and Ellie Smith have almost finished the large-block photography in the south, and will start the documentation of our Thutmoside wall fragments this week. Conservator Hiroko Kariya is due to arrive this evening, and will be here for the rest of the season, continuing the treatment of decaying fragments in our core blockyard, and developing a treatment strategy for the rest of the material. Nan Ray arrived last week to assist in that process, and to help us develop and expand our tracking system for the enormous volume of material we must document, treat, and analyze.

It has been a particular pleasure having our dear Carlotta Maher back with us for a month for development activities, after an absence of several years. Since it is high season in Egypt now it is a busy time, and we are very grateful for her presence!

Finally, it was with great delight that we learned that OIP 123, Helen Jacquet - Gordon's 'Khonsu Temple, Volume 3: The Graffiti on the Khonsu Temple Roof at Karnak: A Manifestation of Personal Piety' has been printed and will be



