

Invitation
Roundtable ‘Digital Demotic’
Wednesday, August 29, 2012
at the Franke Institute of the University of Chicago

The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago will host the Demotic Summer School on 27-29 August 2012. At the end of the Summer School, on 29 August 2012, the Franke Institute of the University of Chicago will host a public roundtable on ‘Digital Demotic’.

This roundtable will bring together the editors of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (CDD) and some of its users, including the Demotists participating in the Summer School, and Classicists and others who will or may use the dictionary and its files, as well as editors of other digital humanities projects at the University of Chicago, to discuss the future of the CDD.

The first phase of the CDD is nearing completion, and it is therefore an appropriate moment for the editors of the CDD to assess what can and should be done with it in the next phase, in consultation with its users and potential users. This assessment is crucial, because digitization and the internet are fundamentally changing the ways that the humanities deal with their source materials and resources. The next iteration of the CDD should allow its users to access, manipulate and analyze its data in these new ways. This could include interaction with the text and image corpus upon which the CDD is based, interaction with other Demotic online projects, including but not limited to links, and interaction with online projects involving other scripts and languages with which Demotic was in contact.

As a senior scholar and long-time user of the CDD, the editors of the CDD would like to invite you to participate in this roundtable on ‘Digital Demotic’. We understand that it may not be possible for you to physically attend the roundtable. If it is possible for you to attend in person, we would be delighted. However, if not we would appreciate it greatly if you would be willing to send comments and suggestions that could be circulated among those present, and thereby participate ‘virtually’ in the roundtable.

Sincerely,

The editors of the CDD

Jan H. Johnson
Oriental Institute
University of Chicago
1155 E. 58th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
j-johnson@uchicago.edu