INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.


Hoffner took three important trips during the year for academic purposes. In September 2002, he flew to Turkey and spent eleven days there, where he spoke at the International Congress of Hittitology (Sept. 2–6) on the meaning of the Hittite modal particle a-as-ma. The manuscript of which lecture is in the hands of the editor for publication in the journal Die Sprache. He flew back to the United States on September 11th! In February and March of 2003, he taught in Costa Rica for one month, and, at the end, he and his wife toured some of the lovely countryside and rain forests of Costa Rica. From April 3–5, he flew together with Theo van den Hout to Los Angeles to attend the world premiere of the new film The Hittites, produced and directed by Tolga Örnek, in which he and Theo, together with other Hittitologists, appear as scholarly commentators.

Most of Hoffner’s research during the year was spent on preparation of the lectures given in Corum and Costa Rica, on revising CHD articles together with Theo van den Hout, and on finishing the manuscript of a new grammar of Hittite being written with Craig Melchert.

Despite his busy schedule, Hoffner was also active in guiding University of Chicago graduate students in their dissertation research. He was on the dissertation committee of Mary Bachvarova who submitted and successfully defended her dissertation, and of Robert Hawley whose dissertation on Ugaritic Epistolography was successfully defended on May 16, 2003. Both of these students were awarded Honors for their dissertations, and both now have academic positions.

Off and on during the year, together with Theo van den Hout, he consulted with and advised Sandra Schloen in technical matters relating to publishing Chicago Hittite Dictionary volumes online as the “eCHD.”

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