Charles E. Jones

In August 2003, Charles E. Jones traveled to Tehran as a part of the Scientific Committee of The First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. He acted as respondent in one session, and a joint paper written with Matthew W. Stolper, was ultimately submitted and accepted for inclusion in the proceedings, *A Survey of Scattered Achaemenid Elamite Administrative Tablets*. The conference was a resounding success. Following the papers the delegates traveled as a group to Shiraz, Persepolis, Naqsh-i Rustam, Pasargadææ, and Isfahan. The hospitality of Iranian colleagues was extraordinary. A delegation from the Oriental Institute (Abbas Alizadeh, Charles Jones, Gil J. Stein, Matthew Stolper) took the opportunity to have a series of conversations with officers of both the National Museum of Iran and the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization. As a consequence, the Oriental Institute has developed a continuing dialogue with our counterparts in Iran, and a bright future of collaborative research seems inevitable.

Jones remains focused on the evolving crisis in Iraq. The focus of his activity in response to the events has solidified in two places: The Iraq Working Group of the Oriental Institute and the Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries. He remains the moderator of 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. Traffic on the list is steady and relentlessly reports bad news. At the present the list has 675 subscribers.


For other contributions to this effort, edited online by Jones and others, follow the links at the Web-presence of the MELA Committee cited above.


Early in 2004, he established a new mailing list as a part of the suite of resources under the aegis of ETANA, called ETANA-Abzu-news, which provides occasional reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu: https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news.

Some contributions posted on this new list are also available online in fully hyper-text formats: http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewFeb04.html, and http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewMar04.htm.