

Thomas A. Holland

Thomas A. Holland continued to assist the graduate work-study students who worked towards the completion of the Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria archaeological report for final publication. He is happy to report that Tony Wilkinson's landscape volume on the site and its environs was completed at the end of the last fiscal year and that volume, *Excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 1, On the Margin of the Euphrates: Settlement and Land Use at Tell Es-Sweyhat and in the Upper Lake Tabqa Area, Syria* (Oriental Institute Publications 124; Chicago, 2005) went on sale at the beginning of this fiscal year. Two volumes (text and plates), *Excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2, Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains from an Ancient Town on the Euphrates River*. (2 volumes, text and plates), by T. A. Holland, with contributions by Martha Goodway and Michael Roaf (Oriental Institute Publications 125; Chicago, forthcoming) reached the final formatting stage at the end of the fiscal year and the plan is that this concluding report on the Sweyhat excavations in Syria will be published early in the forthcoming fiscal year.

Holland volunteered in November 2004 to organize the book exhibits for the Fifty-first Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, which was held at the Oriental Institute from July 18 to 22, 2005. After hundreds of telephone calls, e-mails, and faxes, the planning for the exhibition was completed in June. The exhibition was held in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Special Exhibits Gallery of the museum where eight-foot tall blue drapes hanging from horizontal and vertical metal poles created three twenty-foot dividers. The booths for the eleven exhibitors were set up around the drapes, using twenty-five tables covered with white vinyl and skirted in blue cloth. The participating book exhibitors are all prominent in the field of Near Eastern Archaeology and their display of volumes complemented the theme of the conference, "Classifications of Knowledge in the Ancient Near East: Lexicography, Iconography, Stratigraphy." The largest exhibitor is the present external distributor for all Oriental Institute publications, The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow Books, which displayed its volumes on five tables at the north end of the gallery, to the left of the main gallery entrance. The next largest exhibitor was Eisenbrauns, with four tables, which was appropriate for this conference as this company is now completing the typesetting of the four remaining *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* volumes: Vol. 12, P; Vol. 18, T; Vol. 19, T; and Vol. 20, U/W. The other nine exhibitors displayed their volumes on from one to three tables. They were: Agade Bis Publishing House, Poland; Brill Academic Publishers, The Netherlands/Boston; Gorgias Press, New Jersey; Peeters Publishers, Belgium; Powell's Bookstore, Chicago; The Scholar's Choice, Rochester, New York (this company represented a considerable number of other book publishers, including The University of Chicago Press); Ugarit-Verlag, Münster, Germany; and Walter de Gruyter, Germany/Ossining, New York.
