Peter F. Dorman

On research leave during this past academic year, Peter F. Dorman spent much of the time researching and writing on a book project aimed at producing a two-volume introductory history of Egyptian civilization, undertaken in cooperation with Terry Wilfong of the University of Michigan and the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. As author of the first volume, covering the period down to the end of the New Kingdom, Dorman spent three months in Lebanon during the spring quarter as an Associate of the Center for Middle Eastern and Arab Studies of the American University of Beirut. The history is to be published by Cambridge University Press.

With colleague Betsy Bryan of Johns Hopkins University, he co-hosted the Theban Workshop in Berkeley, held on October 22, 2005, in conjunction with the American opening of the Hatshepsut: From Queen to Pharaoh exhibit at the deYoung Museum in San Francisco. Dorman delivered a paper “Tuthmoside Alterations in the Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu: Intentions and Agendas,” examining the distribution of methods by which Hatshepsut’s images were revised or removed in the Amun temple and concluding that the alterations were effected according to a pre-existing ritual program reflecting the division of the interior chapels into two distinct cultic axes. Later in January 2006, he led a tour for Oriental Institute members to San Francisco for a close look at the loan show, having been one of the contributors to the exhibit catalog.

Dorman also made two trips to Cairo in conjunction with a conservation project on the funerary papyri of Hatnofer, funded by the Antiquities Endowment Fund administered by the American Research Center in Egypt. One trip, in September, was made with papyrus conservator Ted Stanley of Princeton University to make complete photography of the papyri and determine the parameters of the work. Plans for the preservation and mounting of the papyri will be carried out during the coming winter. On June 18, 2006, Dorman also lectured at a public symposium marking the opening of the exhibit Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs at The Field Museum of Natural History.