Karen L. Wilson

Karen L. Wilson has nearly completed her manuscript of the final publication of the University of Chicago’s 1903–05 excavations at Bismaya (ancient Adab) thanks to the generous grant she received from The Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications. In March she presented a paper about her work at the American Oriental Society Annual Meeting in Seattle.

She would like to thank two volunteers who are making important contributions to the project. Jacob Lauinger, a graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago, is working on a catalog of the approximately 150 Old Babylonian tablets from Adab, which will be included as a chapter in the final publication. Artist Angela Altenhofen is producing beautiful scale drawings of stone vessels, inlays, sealings, and other objects to illustrate the final report.

In addition, Karen continued as part-time Kish Project Coordinator at The Field Museum. There she is working with other museum staff to put the finishing touches on material for an interactive Kish Web site. The site, which will be in both English and Arabic, fully documents archival and artifactual material that resulted from the joint excavations of The Field Museum and Oxford University at Kish from 1923 to 1933. Thanks to a recent grant from the Department of Defense, she will continue as a staff member at The Field Museum for the next three years to coordinate the production of a final site report for Kish.

Figure 1a–b. Two views of a carved stone vessel dedicated in the Emah, temple of the goddess Ninḫursag, at Adab. Third Dynasty of Ur, ca. 2112–2004 B.C. A236. Drawings by Angela Altenhofen

Christopher Woods

Christopher Woods devoted most of the year to finishing his book on grammatical voice in Sumerian, *The Grammar of Perspective: The Prefixes mu-, imma-, and ba- as a System of Grammatical Voice in Sumerian*. He plans to submit the manuscript to the publisher Brill (to be published in their Cuneiform Monograph series) this fall. He has also put the finishing touches on two articles that will hopefully come out this year: “The Paleography and Values of the Sign KIB,” for the Robert Biggs festschrift, and “At the Edge of the World — Cosmological Conceptions of the Eastern Horizon in Mesopotamia,” the last of a three-part study centered upon the Sun-god (*Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 56 [2004]: 23–103; *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 95 [2005]: 7–45). Since last year’s submission, “Bilingualism, Scribal Learning, and the Death of Sumerian,” his contribution