Holland wishes to thank all of the Oriental Institute and NELC faculty, staff, graduate students, and members who made his twenty-two years working in the Publications Office such a memorable experience.

Janet H. Johnson

During the 2006/2007 academic year, Janet H. Johnson divided her efforts between the Demotic Dictionary Project (see separate report) and a series of lectures which she was invited to give for various venues. Here at the Oriental Institute, she gave a lecture entitled “Women in the Time of Tutankhamun” for the Museum Education Summer Seminar on “The World in the Time of Tutankhamun,” an Oriental Institute Museum “docent training” lecture on “Post-New Kingdom Egypt,” and the March Oriental Institute Members’ Lecture entitled “Cleopatra as CEO: Bureau-cracy and Scandal in the Hostile Takeover of a First-Century (BCE) Multinational.” She also gave a presentation on the Chicago Demotic Dictionary for a panel entitled “Online Dictionaries for Historic and Lesser Known Languages: An Update” at the 16th Annual Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America, held here at the Oriental Institute in June.

Further afield, she presented a lecture on “(Women and) Sexuality in Ancient Egypt” in the Ancient Studies Colloquium “Women’s Pleasure in Ancient Literature and Art” held at Johns Hopkins University in April in honor of Assyriologist Jerry Cooper on the occasion of his retirement. And in February she was in Würzburg, Germany, to present a lecture on “Gender and Marriage in Ancient Egypt” for the conference “Ehe als Ernstfall der Geschlechterdifferenz, Herausforderungen für Frau und Mann in kulturellen Symbolsystemen” sponsored by “Wahrnehmung des Geschlechterdifferenz in religiösen Symbolsystemen” of the Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Julius-Maximilians-Universität in Würzburg. She also attended the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, held this year in Toledo, where she represented the Oriental Institute at the meeting of the Board of Governors and accepted appointment as co-chairman of an ad hoc committee that will evaluate governance structures for the organization.

W. Raymond Johnson

This year, W. Raymond Johnson completed his twenty-eighth year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his tenth season as Field Director. On May 20th, Ray inaugurated the Barbara W. Herman Memorial Lecture series at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts with a lecture entitled “Recent Discoveries in Luxor Lead to a Reassessment of Tutankhamun’s Reign.” He inaugurated the Oriental Institute’s dinner-lecture series, “The Oriental Institute Presents…” on July 19th with a lecture highlighting material from Luxor Temple and its blockyards, shedding new light on Tutankhamun’s building activities in Luxor and fragmentary wall reliefs — including battle scenes — which may offer clues about the young king’s untimely death. He has contributed an article, co-written with J. Brett McClain, “A Fragmentary Scene of Ptolemy XII Worshipping the Goddess Mut and her Divine Entourage,” to be published in the forthcoming volume, Servant of Mut: Studies in Honor of Richard A. Fazzini, Sue D’Aurea, editor.

This spring and summer, Ray helped coordinate a multinational salvage mapping and restoration expedition to the site of Amenhotep III’s palace complex of Malkata and environs on the west bank of Luxor seriously threatened by agricultural expansion, population pressures, and
changing climate. This exciting project will be in collaboration with the SCA and sponsored by the American University in Cairo and includes the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Emory University, Waseda University, as well as the University of Chicago.

Charles Ellwood Jones continued his association with the Oriental Institute's Persepolis Fortification Archive Project. For that project he completed and published a paper with Wouter Henkelman and Matthew W. Stolper, "Achaemenid Elamite Administrative Tablets, 2: The Qasr-i Abu Nasr Tablet," ARTA: Achaemenid Researches on Texts and Archaeology (2006) (http://www.achemenet.com/ressources/enligne/arta/pdf/2006.003-Stolper-Jones-Henkelman.pdf). In October 2006, he launched a Web site devoted to the project "The Persepolis Fortification Archives Project" (http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com), which seeks to present reliable information on the project to the wide public reading and searching the Web. To date he has made fifty-three entries in the project, republishing some existing print-based materials, linking to publications available online, and collecting news on the project. As of mid-July, 8,703 unique visitors have made 13,901 visits to the site. In November Jones attended, along with other members of the Chicago Persepolis group, a conference on "Archives des Persépolis" at the Collège de France in Paris. He traveled again to Paris in June to consult with the Achemenet on revisions to their Web site. Jones continued work on Abzu (http://www.etana.org/abzu), cataloging more than a thousand items into the database this year. In addition the core texts corpus continues to grow, as did the Archaeological Digital Library under development at ETANA with a grant from the National Science Foundation. For all these projects see http://www.etana.org.

Jones continued in his role as moderator of the Iraq Crisis List (http://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman.listinfo.iraqcrisis), and as co-moderator of ANE-2 (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ANE-2).