Clemens Reichel

The academic year 2007–2008 was one of those that saw Clemens Reichel collect a lot of frequent-flyer mileage. In July 2007 he hosted a meeting of the Central Mesopotamia Group of ARCANE (Associated Regional Chronologies for the Ancient Near East and Eastern Mediterranean) in Blaubeuren, southern Germany. September and October saw him back at Hamoukar for a study and survey season (see separate report). Following a trip to Syria with Gil Stein in March 2008, he enjoyed the hospitality of Chicago House during a trip to Luxor, Egypt. In April/May Reichel was study leader on the Oriental Institute Travel Program On the Path of the Umayyads to Jordan, Syria, and Spain — a job he enjoyed immensely.

During the academic year Reichel presented two papers at national and international meetings and conferences: “Propaganda versus Realpolitik — Ruler Seals of Eshnunna from the Ur III and Isin-Larsa Period in Their Historical/Political Context,” held at the 218th meeting of the American Oriental Society (AOS) in Chicago (March 2008); and “Urbanism, Administrative Complexity and Warfare in Northeastern Syria during the Late Chalcolithic Period — The 2005 and 2006 Excavations at Tell Hamoukar in Northeastern Syria,” held at the 6th International Conference for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE) in Rome (May 2008). In June 2008 he participated at a workshop on the Late Chalcolithic period in Cambridge, U.K., held in honor of Joan Oates’s eightieth birthday, and presented a paper titled “City and Conflict in Late Chalcolithic Hamoukar.”

After seventeen years in Chicago — ten as a student, seven as a Research Associate — Reichel will be leaving the Oriental Institute in November 2008 to accept an Assistant Professorship in Mesopotamian Archaeology at the University of Toronto, Canada. He would like to thank his teachers and colleagues for their support and friendship and hopes to see them again on frequent trips back.