François Gaudard

François Gaudard completed his fifteenth year in the Oriental Institute scholarly community, and he continued to work on the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (CDD; see separate report). He spent a very productive year, which included his participation in conferences and various publication projects.

On behalf of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary, François attended the sixth Demotic Summer School, held in Heidelberg, from August 23 to 26, 2009, where he gave three presentations about the CDD “Problematic Entries” files, in order to get input from international colleagues. François also continued to collaborate with Sofía Torallas Tovar and Raquel Martín Hernández as an editor of the Mummy Label Database (MLD; see separate report).


In the spring, François was asked to contribute two articles for the catalog of the next Oriental Institute’s exhibition, curated by Christopher Woods, and whose theme deals with the origins of writing. The first article, entitled “Ptolemaic Hieroglyphs,” describes the specificity and peculiarities of this script. The second consists of the edition of a still unpublished fragment of a funerary shroud from the Greco-Roman period, whose provenance has been identified by François as being Dendera. François will also publish two other related shroud fragments from the Oriental Institute’s collections.
In addition, François is currently preparing an article to be published in a festschrift honoring a colleague. He also continued to work on several other publication projects such as a still unknown Late Ramesside letter (for details on this project, readers can consult the 2008–2009 Annual Report), a Demotic priestly taxation list, a major copy of The Book of the Dead from the Ptolemaic period, and two fragments of The Book of the Dead from the Late Period, as well as various Coptic texts and mummy labels.

-------------------