

Rebecca Hasselbach

In the past academic year, **Rebecca Hasselbach** continued to work on her book project on the case system of the Semitic languages, which investigates the expression of grammatical roles and relations and their connection to parameters such as head- and dependent-marking and word order in Semitic. In this study, Hasselbach suggests an alternative reconstruction of both early Semitic case and alignment based on a typological approach. The manuscript of the book has been completed this spring and submitted to a publisher for review. Closely connected to the topic of her book manuscript is an article she is working on at the moment, which describes the connection of certain verbal markers, specifically markers expressing subordination and modal functions, and case markers. In this article she claims that the verbal endings *-u* and *-a* that are attested across Semitic can be etymologically and functionally derived from the nominative ending *-u* and the accusative in *-a*. In addition to these projects, Hasselbach wrote two entries for the *Encyclopedia of Hebrew Language and Linguistics*, including an article on “Canaanite and Hebrew” and one on “Demonstratives in Hebrew.” Both have been accepted for publication and are now in press.

This year also saw the publication of an article on Old South Arabian by Hasselbach: “Altsüdarabisch,” in *Sprachen aus der Welt des Alten Testaments*, edited by Holger Gzella, pp. 132–59 (Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 2009). In addition, several review articles written by Hasselbach appeared, including review of *Current Issues in the Analysis of Semitic Grammar and Lexicon I*, edited by Lutz Edzard and Jan Retsö, in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 159 (2009): 157–60; review of *Current Issues in the Analysis of Semitic Grammar and Lexicon II*, by the same editors, in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 159 (2009): 405–09; and review of *La formation des mots dans les langues sémitiques*, edited by Philippe Cassuto and Pierre Larcher, in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 160 (2010): 165–68.

Hasselbach further presented several papers at academic conferences in the past academic year. She talked about “The Function of Case Markers in Semitic” at the Annual Meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics in Austin, Texas, February 2010; on “Akkadian Demonstratives from a Comparative Perspective” at the meeting of the American Oriental Society in St. Louis, March; and on “The Application of Linguistic Typology to Semitic” at the conference on Linguistic Theory at the Oriental Institute, April 2010.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Hasselbach also continued her work as book-review editor for the departmental journal *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* throughout the academic year and served on various committees.
