

Nadine Moeller

In October and November 2009, **Nadine Moeller** directed the annual field season at Tell Edfu in southern Egypt (see separate report). In March she participated at the international conference on Radiocarbon Dating and Egyptian Chronology, which was held in the University of Oxford. The main objective of this colloquium was to advance the synchronization of absolute scientific dating and Egyptian historical chronology. In this regard, the great potential for acquiring new and reliable radiocarbon dates by analyzing samples from Tell Edfu was outlined. The stratified layers at the site extensively cover the transitional and much-disputed periods from the late Middle Kingdom to the Second Intermediate Period, which was the focus of Nadine Moeller's paper. It will be published as part of the forthcoming conference proceedings. The latest discoveries at Tell Edfu were presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, which was held in Oakland, California, at the end of April.

In May, she was invited to give a talk about Tell Edfu to the Visiting Committee, which was well received. At the end of May, the much awaited results of her National Endowment for the Humanities collaborative grant proposal were announced: the Tell Edfu Project was awarded \$250,000 for three years, which will allow the pursuit of several research objectives at the site. Meanwhile, the first volume of the Tell Edfu Reports is currently being prepared for publication as well as an article that focuses on the analysis of the data from the 2009 season. These field-work results will be contextualized within the wider perspective of settlement archaeology and will be submitted by September 2010 to the peer-reviewed *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*. Moeller published two articles during the past year, one in the festschrift for Barry Kemp edited by Salima Ikram and Aidan Dodson, entitled “The Archaeological Evidence for Town Administration,” and one in the French journal *Cahiers de Recherches de l’Institut de Papyrologie et d’Égyptologie de Lille* 28, with the title “The Influence of Royal Power on Ancient Egyptian Settlements from an Archaeological Perspective.” Moeller also started new research for her book project entitled *The Settlements of Ancient Egypt*, whose aim is to bring together all the available archeological evidence for towns and cities in ancient Egypt and to provide a wide-ranging analysis of different types of settlements, offering a viable model for urbanism that will explain the role of towns and cities in ancient Egyptian civilization.

Further work also continues on the Mendes archives, which was given to the Oriental Institute last year. The entire collection of site plans and drawings was scanned and is now stored in the archives of the Oriental Institute. The scanning of the numerous slides from the excavation was also started and continues with the help of Jessica Henderson, a graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.
