The Orien
tali
Tute
guire, Traci Lombre, and Alexander Barna). A number of CMES’s events were co-sponsored
by the Oriental Institute.
Of special interest to Donner was a two-day conference held in mid-June on Christians,
Jews, and Zoroastrians in the Umayyad State that he and Professor Antoine Borrut (University
of Maryland, College Park) organized. Ten invited participants and ten commentators, along
with many visitors, convened for stimulating discussions focused on the role members of
these non-Muslim communities played in the operation of the Umayyad state (660–750
ce).
This event received major funding from the Franke Institute for Humanities and CMES, as well
as greatly appreciated co-sponsorship and funding from the Oriental Institute, Department
of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, the Divinity
School, and the University of Maryland Department of History. It is hoped that the papers
will be published as a collected volume sometime in 2012.
Donner gave many lectures during the year. In July 2010 he participated in the third
World Conference of Middle Eastern Studies, held in Barcelona, Spain, as part of a series of
panels on ancient empires, presenting a paper on “An Empire in Crystallization: The Umay-
ads.” At the Middle East Studies Association conference in November, he presented a paper
entitled “Was Marwan ibn al-Hakam the First Real Muslim?” He also gave numerous presen-
tations related to the theme of his recent book, 
Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of
Islam, published in spring 2010 by Harvard University Press; this included talks at the Chicago
Humanities Festival and at Chicago Alumni Day, and at York University in Toronto, the Noor
Foundation in Toronto, Georgetown University, George Mason University, the University of
Maryland, Ohio State University, and the University of Southern California. Less directly re-
lated to his own research, he was asked to deliver a plenary address at the annual conference
of the American Oriental Society, on its theme of “Heritage.” His talk was entitled “Heritage,
Legacies, and Collectibles” and discussed how these concepts relate to the development of
Islamic tradition.
Publications submitted during the year include the full version of his paper “Was Marwan
ibn al-Hakam the First Real Muslim?, ” for a volume to be edited by Sarah Savant (Aga Khan
University) on Genealogies and History, and “A Typology of Eschatological Concepts,” sub-
mitted for a volume entitled 
Roads to Paradise: Eschatology in the Islamic Tradition,
to be edited
by Sebastian Günther (University of Göttingen) and Todd Lawson (University of Toronto).
He is now at work on a very early Islamic papyrus found in the Oriental Institute collection.
François Gaudard
During the past year, François Gaudard continued working for the Chicago Demotic Diction-
ary (CDD; see separate report) and collaborating with Sofía Torallas Tovar and Raquel Martín
Hernández as an editor of the Mummy Label Database (MLD; see separate report).
Two of François’ articles, namely, “Ptolemaic Hieroglyphs” and “Fragment of a Funerary
Shroud” (OIM E42046) both appeared in Visible Language: Inventions of Writing in the Ancient
Middle East and Beyond, edited by Christopher Woods, with Emily Teeter and Geoff Emberling,
pp. 173–75 and 176–77, cat. no. 86 (Oriental Institute Museum Publications 32). Despite their
fragmentary condition, the texts of shroud OIM E42046, consisting mainly of offering formu-
lae, are of particular interest, since they provide us with both unusual epithets of Osiris and
some good examples of cryptography, the most interesting and innovative one being by far the sportive writing of the word ἰmntyw “westerners” as ἰmn instead of ἰmnty or ἰmntyw, occurring in the famous Osirian epithet ἰnty imntyw “foremost of the westerners.” In this group, the sign ἰmntyw, which usually stands for the letter $n$, reads ἰmn, while the signs ἰmntyw represent number fifty, which was pronounced ἰntyw.

François was also asked to contribute two articles, namely, “P. Berlin 8278 and Its Fragments: Testimony of the Khoiak Festival Celebration during the Ptolemaic Period,” which is in press and will be published in a Festschrift for the Neues Museum in Berlin, and “A Demotic-Hieratic Mummy Label in the Museu de Montserrat,” which will appear in a Festschrift honoring a colleague.

In addition, François is currently working on several articles, including the publication of the following texts: a major copy of The Book of the Dead from the Ptolemaic period, a Demotic priestly taxation list, a still unknown Late Ramesside letter (for details on this project, readers can consult the 2008–2009 Annual Report), various Coptic texts and mummy labels, and, together with Sofía Torallas Tovar and Raquel Martín Hernández, a bilingual sale of a house in Soknopaiu Nesos from the Roman period.

In November, he was contacted by the Salt Lake Tribune to give his opinion on the discoveries made by Brigham Young University researchers on the edge of the Fayyum oasis.

François also attended the 62nd Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, held in Chicago, from April 1 to 3, 2011.