On July 31, the third fascicle of the Š-volume rolled off the press: close to two hundred densely printed pages covering the entire stretch of Hittite words starting in šî-, from šîa- “one” to šizišalla-, a word of unknown meaning, possibly denoting some kind of profession. As usual, we are deeply grateful to Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer of our Publications Office for shepherding it so professionally through the several phases toward the final printed version. Much of last year was spent on proofreading all the material. It is quite amazing how many very small and bigger errors there are in the proofs, and one always dreads the very first look in the freshly printed product: one glance and you might spot a period in the wrong place, a misspelling (or something worse!), and there is no longer anything you can do about it! On the other hand, it is encouraging to see how every reader sees different errors, so we are fairly confident that between the four proofreaders (Richard Beal, Petra Goedegebuure, Oğuz Soysal, and Theo van den Hout) we have caught most of them. Having this fascicle out we are all the more determined to resume work on the final installment of the current volume.

Meanwhile, Sandra Schloen and Dennis Campbell have continued their work to convert the completed articles of the Š-volume into a format appropriate for the electronic version (eCHD) delivered via the Online Cultural and Historical Research Environment (OCHRE). The techniques used for converting the original volumes L, M, N, and P are no longer valid, given the progression of technology. The Dictionary articles, now being written, edited, and formatted in newer versions of Microsoft Word and Adobe InDesign, are much more complex documents than previously and pose a number of challenges that complicate the task of parsing the structure of the documents for appropriate representation in database format. Nonetheless, the technology is stabilizing around newer XML-based document formats and we are moving forward in such a way that we will also be poised to handle new content being produced for future volumes. The first step is to convert all existing CHD content not yet in the online version from representation in the non-Unicode Hittite Dictionary font, to representation in a new Unicode-based font. We have developed a utility to batch-convert folders full of documents, appropriately substituting character code points and fonts while retaining all document formatting. We are also creating a powerful document transformation (XSLT) that exploits the XML-based formats of Word and InDesign, identifies the inherent structure in the documents — the hierarchy of sub-meanings within meanings, links to textual sources, cross-references to bibliography and other articles, etc. — and creates appropriate database content for the electronic version.

Another important step in our electronic efforts was the creation by Campbell of a User Manual with lots of illustrations in the form of screenshots, diagrams, etc. that explain the intricate and very powerful query system. This will eventually be posted online and hopefully help our “consumers.” Finally, continuing coverage of our Turkish-language online dictionary, Soysal prepared the Turkish version of the words šapatamenzu- to -šî- that were already published in CHD Volume Š, fascicle 2 (Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2005).
This year our efforts to keep the lexical file database of the Dictionary up-to-date continued with work on *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköi* (KBo) volume 47 under the supervision of graduate student Oya Topçuoğlu. We have benefited greatly from Groddek’s transliterations in DBH 33 (Detlev Groddek, *Hethitische Texte in Transkription KBo 47*. Dresdner Beiträge zur Hethitologie 33. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2011) and our senior research associate Oğuz Soysal’s extensive review of the publication. Soysal also spent much of his time preparing the transliterations of the recent cuneiform editions, *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköy* volumes 51, 55, 56, 58, and 60 for the CHD files. Van den Hout has started transliterating KBo 61 for inclusion in our files.

In spring we went through a change in our staff, where Joanna Derman, our graduating student, left her post at the CHD and her duties were taken over by Joshua Cannon, a graduate student specializing in Anatolian studies. Oya and Josh expect to finalize work on KBo 47 and proceed with new volumes by this winter. Besides Josh, we also gratefully welcomed Shirlee Hoffman, who will help us systematize our numerous offprints and xeroxes. Shirlee comes to us as a volunteer from the Oriental Institute’s Public Education Office, and we very much hope to keep her busy in the CHD office!

On a sadder note, we had to say good-bye to Joanna and Dennis. Joanna graduated from the College and has been awarded a Fulbright to teach English in Turkey. While doing so, she will consider her options for grad school; her interests go in the direction of international studies/law and the modern Middle East with a focus perhaps on Turkey. We are all grateful for the work she did for the Dictionary and we will miss the enthusiasm and passion with which she approached everything. Dennis has finally obtained what he deserves: he will start the new academic year as an assistant professor of ancient Near Eastern history at San Francisco State University. Dennis defended his dissertation several years ago now and all that time he has been our go-to person for anything eCHD related. In those same years he has become one of the world’s leading experts on Hurrian and we are very happy he has agreed to remain one of our consultants on Hurrian texts and entries. We will miss his cheerfulness in the Dictionary room and his everlasting willingness to help out and step in where needed. We wish both Dennis and Joanna the very best in their careers!

We had several visitors to our Dictionary room on the third floor. First of all, there was Dr. Matteo Vigo, a PhD in Hittitology from the University of Pavia in northern Italy. He came to us through an Ambassadorial Rotary Fellowship. He worked on transforming his dissertation into several articles, as well as on some research projects, but he also helped out with the Dictionary, writing some articles for the future T-volume. It was wonderful to have Matteo and his wife Benedetta around. She is also a PhD from Pavia, but in ancient Near Eastern art history. She spent a lot of time in the Research Archives and in the Museum basement working on a specific collection that, among other things, includes some seals from Anatolia. At the end of the year Dr. Fatma Sevinç Erbası came to us for a month. She is assistant professor for ancient Near Eastern history at Eskişehir Osmangazi University in Turkey and does a lot of work on Hittite. Prof. Herrman Genz from the American University of Beirut paid us a brief visit. He was here as a committee member for a dissertation defense dealing with the archaeology of Lebanon, but Dr. Genz used to be involved in the excavations at Boğazköy, the site of the former Hittite capital, and he still publishes on the topic. Finally, Mr. Tayfun Bilgin, a student of Prof. Gary Beckman at Ann Arbor, used our files for his dissertation on Hittite bureaucracy.
A final and more permanent visitor you can see on the west wall of our Dictionary room: the Hittite king Tudhaliya IV in the warm embrace of his patron deity Sarruma. In the 1970s or 1980s, Prof. Hans Güterbock with Harry Hoffner, one of the two founders of the CHD, was able to buy from the Pergamon Museum in Berlin a cast of one of the reliefs of the rock sanctuary called in Turkish Yazılıkaya, just outside the Hittite capital Hattusa. This was made possible through a generous gift of Visiting Committee member Mr. Albert (“Bud”) Haas. The originals were made in 1882(!) by Karl Humann. He was on a mission from the Prussian Academy to make casts of the Monumentum An- cypuranum, the temple of the Roman emperor Augustus in Ankara. At the request of the Berlin Museums, however, he traveled on to Boğazköy to make squeezes of the Yazılıkaya reliefs. Having been made so early our cast has actual historical value preserving a very early state of the relief, less than sixty years after its discovery. Güterbock had hoped to display it in the Oriental Institute Museum but casts did not fit the philosophy of the Museum at the time and so it stayed in the basement. At some point it was even moved to off-site storage, where it simply gathered dust. After several years of lobbying, however, and thanks to the support of Jack Green, the Oriental Institute’s new chief curator, we were able to get it upstairs. Museum preparators Erik Lindahl and Brian Zimerle made a beautiful plinth and installed it, as you can see in figure 1 (see also fig. 3 in Erik Lindahl’s Prep Shop report).