Janet Johnson

Janet Johnson spent much of the year working on the Demotic Dictionary (see separate report). She enjoyed the wonderful publicity for the Dictionary which came with the coverage in the Chicago Tribune and New York Times of the completion of the (letter files of the) Dictionary and the Internet, radio, and television coverage which followed. Having a chance to talk with school groups and other members of the general public about the Dictionary
and about life in Egypt in “Demotic” times was fun and made a wider public aware of the Oriental Institute’s commitment to long-term basic research. Subsequent participation in the University’s “Knowledge Fair” brought visits from some old friends and again spread the word about our work and the work of the Oriental Institute in general. She gave a lecture on the Dictionary for a local church group, lectured on the legal and social status of women for the intensive three-week summer program for high-school students which is offered by one of our graduate students in Egyptology each summer through the Graham School of Continuing Studies, discussed Demotic texts as a source for the study of religion in Late Period Egypt for the Summer Papyrology Institute, and gave a tour of the Egyptian gallery of the Oriental Institute Museum to a class on “Greco-Roman Egypt in the Imagination” from Valparaiso University taught by a former student. She participated in this year’s annual meeting, held in Cincinnati, of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), where she serves as the Oriental Institute’s representative to the council of (Research) Supporting Institutions and just finished a three-year term as a representative of the council to the ARCE Board of Governors. Administratively, she served on the Council of the University Senate, served on several faculty hiring and review committees, served as a reviewer for the Journal of Near Eastern Studies (the journal of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), and participated in tenure reviews for faculty at other universities.