

MUMMY LABEL DATABASE (MLD)

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Following the launch of the Mummy Label Database CSIC¹ website and Oriental Institute webpage last year,² the editors and collaborators of the project continued to work on expanding and improving the functionality and comprehensiveness of the database.

This year, the staff of the project consisted of the editors of the Mummy Label Database, namely, Sofía Torallas Tovar (CSIC, Madrid/University of Chicago), Raquel Martín Hernández (Universidad Eclesiástica San Dámasco), Klaas A. Worp (Leiden University), and François Gaudard (University of Chicago), as well as our collaborators, Sergio Carro (CSIC, Madrid), Alberto Nodar Domínguez (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona), Alba de Frutos García (CSIC, Madrid), Marina Escolano Poveda (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore), María Jesús Albarrán Martínez (Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes and Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris), and Irene Pajón Leyra (CSIC, Madrid).

The most important development this year involved completing the final technical adjustments to the MLD, which could be accomplished thanks to our collaboration with Inèrcia bcn. Our main challenge was to create a text field in XML, which ultimately will allow the text of the mummy labels to be searchable, both in Greek and in transliterated Demotic. We aim to get this function working by the end of 2014. Also, Alberto Nodar Domínguez has recently applied for funding from the program Recercaixa (Catalunya) in order to develop this aspect of the project further.

Sofía, Raquel, and François met several times throughout the year to discuss various aspects of the project. On May 30, Sofía participated in the conference *Transposición de modelos paganos en el Cristianismo primitivo: religión, rituales y magia* at the Fundación Pastor in Madrid, presenting a paper called “Costumbres funerarias egipcias en transición: momificación y Cristianismo,” and on June 4, she gave a lecture titled “Muerte en el Nilo: Textos y contextos funerarios en el Egipto grecorromano,” at the Museo Arqueológico Nacional, in Madrid. François contacted several museum collections in order to investigate and identify new mummy labels to include in the database. He would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Geoffrey T. Martin very much for having the kindness to make inquiries on behalf of the MLD at the various museums he visited and for taking the time to help us in our search. Special thanks also go to Jean-Luc Chappaz, chief curator of the Archaeology Department of the Musée d'Art et d'Histoire in Geneva, as well as to Imogen Gunn, collections manager of the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge, for their helpfulness and time.

The following publications by team members, which are related to the project “Death on the Nile” and to the MLD, have been published, or are in press, forthcoming, or in preparation:

- François Gaudard, “On a Disputed Aspect of the God Seth,” to be published in a festschrift honoring a colleague (forthcoming).
- François Gaudard, “A Demotic-Hieratic Mummy Label in the Museu de Montserrat.” In *Mélanges offerts à Ola el-Aguizy*, edited by Fayza Haikal. Bibliothèque d'Étude. Cairo: Institut français d'archéologie orientale, 2014 (in press).

MUMMY LABEL DATABASE

- Raquel Martín Hernández and K. A. Worp, “‘Goldfinger’ on a Leiden Mummy Label?,” *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* 50 (2013): 255–60.
- Raquel Martín Hernández and Sofía Torallas Tovar, “Unpublished Greek Mummy Labels from the British Museum,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* (in preparation).
- Sofía Torallas Tovar, “Egyptian Burial Practice in a Period of Transition: On Embalming in Christian Times.” In *Mapping Knowledge: Cross-Pollination in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages*, edited by Charles Burnett and Pedro Mantas-España, pp. 129–40. Series Arabica Veritas 1. Córdoba: Oriens Academic-CNRRU-The Warburg Institute, 2014.
- Sofía Torallas Tovar and K. A. Worp, “An Interesting Mummy Label in Leiden,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 187 (2013): 230–32.

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Notes

* For details on this joint project of the Instituto de Lenguas y Culturas del Mediterráneo y Oriente Próximo, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales - CSIC, Madrid, and of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, readers can consult the *Oriental Institute 2008–2009 Annual Report*, also available online in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) [<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/mummy-label-database-mlld>].

¹ Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid.

² For details, see the *Oriental Institute 2012–2013 Annual Report*, also available online in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) [<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/mummy-label-database-mlld>].

³ Grant ACI-PRO-2011-1132.
