

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Richard H. Beal

Richard H. Beal spent his time working on the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary*: first transliterating Hittite text fragments into Latin script, working from cuneiform hand copies produced by our German colleagues; then checking to see if anyone has worked on the fragment; and finally producing a dictionary card to be duplicated and filed by our student assistants. He is also revising the entries in the L volume (published in 1979) for inclusion in the electronic eCHD. This involves looking for newly found or newly published references, as well as new studies on the works we have already cited, adding new or differently understood meanings, adding dates to texts not previously dated, and rearranging the articles in accordance with the way we did things in later volumes.

This year also saw the publication in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* of his entry on the Hittite port city of Ura, to be found somewhere along the Cilician coast. One does not normally think of the Hittites as seafarers and merchants, but we know that the merchant sailors of this city were making so much money that the king of Ugarit begged his overlord, the Hittite Great King, to prevent the Urans from buying up all the real-estate in the kingdom of Ugarit. In volume 135 of the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* appeared his review of the book *Rêves hittites: contribution à une histoire et une anthropologie du rêve en Anatolie ancienne* by Alice Mouton, who had been a guest of the OI and the Hittite Dictionary for one year and has now become France's most learned and productive Hittitologist. His review of Christel Rüster and Gernot Wilhelm's *Landschenkungsurkunden hethitischer Könige* appeared in the first part of volume 136 of the same journal. The legal texts published in this volume document the Hittite king's conveyance of a number of plots of land (in many cases with people attached) from one owner to another. Generally the new owner is a man, but one plot of land goes to the wet-nurse of another female. He also completed a review for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* of *Saeculum*, the Gedenkschrift (memorial volume) for the late German Hittitologist Heinrich Otten. Finally, he has been helping his wife, JoAnn Scurlock, edit Akkadian medicinal plant texts as part of the European Union's Floriental project.

Robert Biggs

Robert Biggs continued to serve as co-editor of the series *Die babylonisch-assyrische Medizin in Texten und Untersuchungen* in which Markham Geller's *Healing Magic and Evil Demons: Canonical Udug-Hul Incantations* was published in spring 2016. He updated his chapter in the forthcoming publication of the Inanna Temple at Nippur as new information became available. He also worked on contributions to volumes honoring several colleagues.

Fred M. Donner






Returned from a blissful year of leave in 2014–2015, **Fred Donner** was again engaged full-time in teaching and the regular activities of university life. Besides his regular four courses, he taught an additional intensive course in the study-abroad program for Chicago undergraduate students in Rabat, Morocco, in January, which was a pleasant change and quite satisfying, if a certain amount of extra preparation. Donner served on fourteen dissertation committees and saw four of these students satisfactorily defend their dissertations.

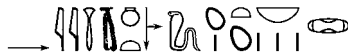
During the year, Donner presented lectures on various topics in early Islamic history. These were “An Enigmatic Arabic Papyrus from Early Islam” at Washington University in St. Louis and at the University of Helsinki; “The Concept of umma (community) in Early Islam” (keynote address) at a conference on “Chosen Peoples” at the University of Oxford; “Dīn, Islām, und Muslim im Koran,” (keynote address) at a conference on “Kritische Koranhermeneutik” at the University of Erlangen, Germany; “The Jews of Khaybar” at a workshop on early Islamic historiography at the University of Göttingen, Germany; “Western Studies of the Qur’an, from about 1900 to the Present,” at a conference on Qur’anic studies held at the National Islamic University of Indonesia in Yogyakarta, Indonesia; and “Early Islamic Studies since W. Montgomery Watt’s Publications” at the University of Edinburgh.

Donner revised and submitted for eventual publication the texts of the Erlangen, Göttingen, Yogyakarta, and Edinburgh talks noted above. He also submitted a review of Robert Hoyland’s *In God’s Path: The Arab Conquests and the Beginnings of Islam*, for *al-‘Usur al-Wusta: The Journal of Middle East Medievalists* (appeared online in November, 2015); an article entitled “Living Together: Early Muslims and Peoples of the Book,” for a Handbook on the Umayyads, to be published by Routledge; a brief analysis of a verse in the Qur’an (Q. 2:62), which he was invited to submit to the German radio station “Deutschlandfunk”; and an appreciation of two recently-deceased colleagues, his former teacher Günter Lüling (1928–2014) and Patricia Crone (1945–2015), perhaps the leading figure in early Islamic history of the 20th century. His article “Fragments of three Umayyad official documents,” an edition of three Arabic papyri, appeared in *The Heritage of Arabo-Islamic Learning. Studies presented to Wadad al-Qadi*, Maurice Pomerantz and Aram Shanin, eds. (Leiden: Brill, 2016), pp. 28–41.

Last but certainly not least: this year saw the appearance of the first volume in a new Oriental Institute publications series, entitled “Late Antique and Medieval Islamic Near East” (LAMINE). The first volume, edited and with an Introduction by Donner and his colleague Antoine Borrut of the University of Maryland, is a collection of essays originally read at a conference the two organized at Chicago several years ago. The new volume — LAMINE 1 — is entitled *Christians and Others in the Umayyad State*, and deals with the rule of the Umayyad dynasty (660–750) and their frequent employment of non-Muslims, especially Christians, in their army and government administration. It is hoped that the new series will attract other scholarly studies of the Near East between about 200 and 1000 C.E. Donner and Borrut wish to express their admiration and gratitude to the Oriental Institute Director, Gil Stein, for encouraging this new venture, and to the Publications office and staff, especially Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer, for their invaluable assistance and wise counsel in launching this new series.





François Gaudard

François Gaudard completed his twenty-second year as part of the Oriental Institute scholarly community. Besides his personal research, he continued to work on his new project focusing on the publication of several Oriental Institute Museum funerary shrouds from the Graeco-Roman period (see the *2014–2015 Annual Report*). While studying shroud OIM E4786, Gaudard identified, among others things, an apparently unique writing of the toponym *Dp* “Dep” as  (X4A) instead of, for example,  or , as well as the strange hieroglyphic sign  used in the group , which he takes to be a writing of the word *hnw.t* “mistress” in the following passage:



W3dy.(t) hnw.t ntr.(w)t nb.(t) Dp

“Wadjet, the mistress of the goddess(es), the lady of Dep.”

The sign  could be a poorly drawn *heset*-vessel  (W14), reading *h* and used here instead of  (V28) (for the value *h* of the sign , see François Daumas et al., *Valeurs phonétiques des signes hiéroglyphiques d'époque gréco-romaine*, Volume 4 [Montpellier, 1995], p. 795, no. 375; Dieter Kurth, *Einführung ins Ptolemäische: Eine Grammatik mit Zeichenliste und Übungsstücken*, Teil 1 [Hützel, 2007], p. 427, no. 27; id., *A Ptolemaic Sign-List: Hieroglyphs Used in the Temples of the Graeco-Roman Period of Egypt and their Meanings* [Hützel, 2010], p. 202, no. 27). A damaged passage of the same shroud also seems to include a rare Egyptian attestation of Nephthys as the mother of Anubis.

Gaudard also continued to work as a co-editor of the Mummy Label Database (MLD) (see separate report) and of the Death on the Nile Project, and to serve as an editorial consultant for Egyptology articles published in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (JNES) and the *Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities* (JSSEA).

At the request of Professor Janet Johnson and W. Ray Johnson, Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey, Gaudard, as a former epigrapher for this project, prepared and gave a lecture entitled “The Epigraphic Survey, Chicago House, and the Chicago Method” in honor of Professor Friedhelm Hoffmann, as well as his colleagues and students from the Institut für Ägyptologie und Koptologie of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, who visited the Oriental Institute during their tour of the foremost American universities (February 22).

Four of Gaudard’s articles have been submitted this past year or are in press:

- “The Camel as a Sethian Creature.” In *Essays for the Library of Seshat: Studies Presented to Janet H. Johnson on the Occasion of Her 70th Birthday*, edited by Robert K. Ritner, pp. 39–51. *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization* 70. Chicago: The Oriental Institute (in press).
- “On the Immortality of the God Seth.” In *Illuminating Osiris: Egyptological Studies in Honor of Mark Smith*, edited by Richard Jasnow and Ghislaine Widmer, pp. 93–98. *Material and Visual Culture of Ancient Egypt* 2. Atlanta: Lockwood Press, 2017.
- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, Part I: OIM E4786,” to be published in a Festschrift honoring a colleague (submitted).

- “A Greek-Demotic Mummy Label in the University of Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology,” to be published in a Festschrift honoring a colleague (submitted).

In addition, Gaudard has been working on the following articles:

- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, Part II: OIM E4788 (= OIM E42046)” (forthcoming).
- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, Part III: OIM E4789” (forthcoming).

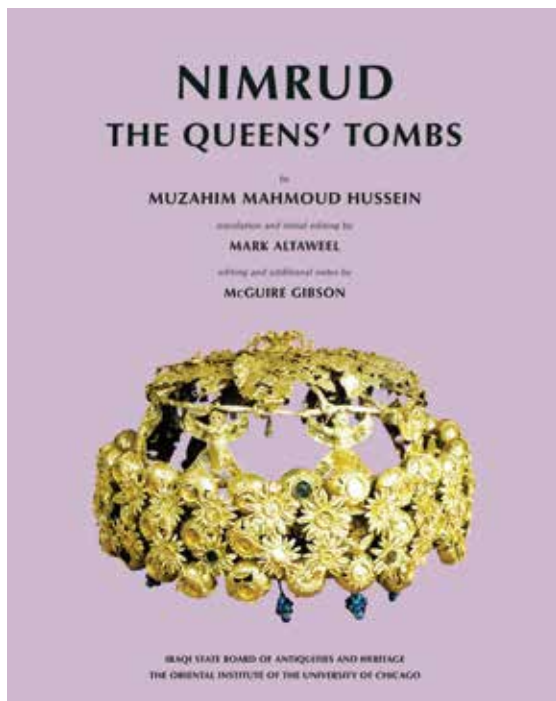
Moreover, he also progressed with his long-term publication projects cited in previous Annual Reports.

McGuire Gibson

McGuire Gibson has finally witnessed the publication of Muzahim Mahmoud Hussein’s *Nimrud: The Queens’ Tombs*. Gibson edited and added significant information to a new English translation by Mark Altaweel of Muzahim’s Arabic manuscript. The book, with many color illustrations, was a joint publication of the Oriental Institute and the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage, as a project of The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARI), which received funding for the book from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.S. Department of State. The book gives details on the finding of each of the royal tombs that were constructed of baked bricks under rooms of the Palace of Assurnasirpal, the Neo-

Assyrian king (883–859 BC). It also shows as much as possible where each item was located in each tomb or coffin, and provides an annotated catalog of the finds. The jewelry in these tombs is astonishing, with objects in styles that derived not only from Assyria but also from other kingdoms, presumably as part of the dowries of these royal wives. As we can see from recent satellite images, ISIS appears to have put extra explosives in each of the four main tombs when it totally destroyed the palace. Until someone, in future, can examine all the objects from the tombs and re-photograph them, do precise measurements, and analyze them in detail, this book will serve as the best source on these royal tombs, which brought into focus Assyrian queens whose names had been unknown before this.

The Nimrud book was the most time-consuming part of a project to publish re-



constructed Iraqi archaeological reports (nine articles and two books), on which Gibson and Altaweel have worked since 2003. The final publication, another book, relates to the Oriental Institute's own pioneering excavations in the Diyala region of Iraq in the 1930s. A joint volume is comprised of Salah Rmeidh's account of excavations at Tell Asmar (Eshnunna) in private houses very close to some trenches cut by Chicago in 1936, and a report by Hussein Ali Hamza of a site called Muqdadiya, west of Tell Asmar. The volume is being presented as *Iraqi Excavations in the Diyala Region*, and, like the *Nimrud Tombs* book, will be a joint publication of the Oriental Institute and the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage, with funding from the U.S. Department of State through TAARII.

Gibson still serves on the governing boards of TAARII and the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. Both institutions are struggling to foster research on their respective countries of interest, even though they cannot operate fully in either country for now. The magnificent traditional house of AIYS in Sana'a is still intact, and a Yemeni scholar carries on limited programs there. Both institutions give out fellowships to U.S. scholars for research done outside the host countries, but look forward to the day when peace comes and they can establish full programs.

Petra M. Goedegebuure

Petra Goedegebuure continued her work on linguistic methods for extinct languages with relatively large text corpora. The linguist working with very extinct languages such as Hittite, Hurrian, or Hattian can be compared with the field linguist exploring a newly discovered or barely described language: both have to try to uncover the grammar of a language that they have no native competence in, that has no tradition of scholarship, and that perhaps does not have any known relatives to aid the linguistic description. Field linguists rely on the following four methods to explore their language: translation, elicitation to invite the grammatical judgment of native speakers, the staging of communicative events, and natural events. Only the first (sometimes) and the last (always) are available for text corpora. Petra explored these methods in a presentation and an article. The article described in-depth how to deal with topic and focus, relying on typology and semantic-functional approaches ("Pronouns in Narrow Focus — A Case Study in Hittite"). The presentation, on the other hand, focused on establishing the presence of split-ergativity and how to find the meaning of Hittite demonstratives ("Linguistic Methods for Extinct Languages. How to Elicit Data when Your Informants are All Dead," Connections Seminar, Oriental Institute).

Split-ergativity is also one of the topics of Petra's second book (*The Anatolian Core Cases*, in progress.) Whether or not split-ergativity is present in the Anatolian languages is currently one of the most debated topics of Anatolian syntax. Resolving the issue has consequences for the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European. Petra shows how the New Hittite ergatives developed out of individualization markers in attested Middle Hittite. As a result, Hittite can no longer be used to reconstruct ergativity for Proto-Anatolian and certainly not for Proto-Indo-European.

Another area of Petra's research is Luwian, a sister language of Hittite. Hieroglyphic Luwian signs were the topic of a presentation and an article. The submitted article proposed readings for two hitherto undeciphered hieroglyphs, adding four new lexemes to the Luwian

lexicon (“The Hieroglyphic Luwian Signs *128 (AVIS ‘bird’) = wa and *30 = HAPA,” in *Acts of the IXth International Congress of Hittitology*, 2014). The lecture, “Luwian Hieroglyphs: An Indigenous Anatolian Syllabic Script From 3500 Years Ago,” was an introduction to the decipherment, function and origins of the hieroglyphs from Anatolia (Members Lecture Series, Oriental Institute, February 2016).

Aspects of the Luwian language itself were discussed in yet another presentation and a review. In the presentation Petra proposed a new analysis for a sequence of signs misunderstood as a river name, identifying yet another new Luwian lexeme. This new lexeme is a loan translation of the Akkadian geographical name *eber nāri* ‘Beyond-the-River’ (“Waraika, king of not only Hiyawa, but also of the lands west of the Euphrates?” 226th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, March 2016).

Petra furthermore participated in the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project, (see project reports) and, together with Theo van den Hout, started the preparations for the Xth International Congress of Hittitology, to be held in Chicago, August 28–September 1, 2017.

Gene Gragg

Gene Gragg’s work on the AAMA (Afroasiatic Morphological Archive) continues. At this point the AAMA project data and application software are being put through their paces in the context of a forthcoming chapter on “Afroasiatic and Semitic,” and a project, with the working title “Morphology, Red in Tooth and Claw,” whose data is the disappearance of the “prefix conjugation” in Cushitic, and which examines some recently proposed Darwinian takes on cultural (and hence perhaps also linguistic) evolution.

The core of the archive is the available data on verbal and pronominal morphology for 39 Cushitic and Omotic languages (Afar, Alaaba, Arbore, Awngi, Bayso, Beja [5 varieties], Bilin, Boni [3 varieties], Burji, Burunge, Dahalo, Dhaasanac, Dizi, Elmolo, Gawwada, Gedeo, Hadiyya, Iraqw, Kambaata, Kemant, Khamtanga, Koorete, Maale, Oromo, Rendille, Saho, Shinassha, Sidaama, Somali, Tsamakko, Wolaytta, Yaaku, and Yemsa). In addition less complete data is included for five Semitic languages (Old Babylonian Akkadian, Arabic, Geez, Hebrew, and Syriac), as well as for Sahidic Coptic and Middle Egyptian — Berber and Chadic data will be added. All of the language data files, in a fairly intuitive EDN (Extensible Data Notation) readable-text format, are available for downloading from the project site: <https://github.com/aama>.

The language data is designed to be loaded into a RDF (“Resource Description Framework”) database, where the paradigm data can be queried, manipulated, and compared. The project site contains an application for searching and manipulating data (<https://github.com/aama/webapp>) which will run from a jar file on any Java-capable computer. An explanation of the data format, and instructions for downloading existing data files, creating new data files, setting up the database, and installing the application can be found at <http://aama.github.io>.

Although AAMA currently runs as a single-user application, we are looking into the possibility of making it available as an on-line application.

Emily Hammer

Emily Hammer completed her second year as Director of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL). Much of her research effort was directed towards projects detailed in CAMEL's section of the Annual Report. A major goal of CAMEL's programs has been to encourage student publication. To this end, Emily jointly authored a paper for the journal *Antiquity* with graduate students Anthony Lauricella and Joshua Cannon, as well as former CAMEL Director Scott Branting, on the development of a method to automatically detect looters' pits on the surfaces of sites in Afghanistan.

Emily continued working on three personal projects concerning the history of pastoral land-use, political landscapes and land-use in Bronze and Iron Age Naxçivan, Azerbaijan, and southern Mesopotamian urbanism. In addition to the previously mentioned article, she submitted three other publications to appear in 2016–2017: a review of the history of pastoralism in southwest Asia from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age (coauthored with Benjamin Arbuckle for *Journal of Archaeological Research*); an overview of textual and landscape archaeology evidence for the political and economic role of irrigation systems in the Iron Age kingdom of Urartu (for the volume *Irrigation in Early States: New Directions*); and a survey of past approaches and fruitful future directions for landscape archaeology in Iran (for *Proceedings of the Young Archaeologists' Conference at Tehran University 2015*). In March, Emily and several graduate students traveled to Naxçivan to carry out magnetometry and ground-penetrating radar surveys of hilltop fortresses. In collaboration with geophysics expert Jason Herrmann, they were able to trace the subsurface remains of a huge wall that formerly surrounded two Iron Age fortresses and a lower town between them. They also identified a number of Middle Bronze Age kurgan burials. Emily has additionally been laying the groundwork for a new site-based survey project at Ur in southern Iraq. Newly acquired historical satellite imagery suggests that the site might be much larger than previously thought. The Ur survey beginning in winter 2017 will investigate the maximum size of the site at the height of its urban development and will also examine evidence for functional differences in neighborhoods of the city.

In the realm of teaching, Emily and Richard Payne received a Center for Disciplinary Innovation Grant from the Franke Institute for their jointly taught graduate seminar “Nomads, Networks, and Political Complexity in the Ancient Near East.” This course drew on both archaeological and historical approaches to examine the central role that pastoralists have played in the development of cities, states, and empires in the Near East and Central Asia. A second new course Emily offered in the winter quarter, “Water in the Middle East: Past and Present,” was an undergraduate seminar on the archaeology and anthropology of water exploitation and management over the last 9,000 years.

During the course of the year, Emily gave fourteen public lectures, including three invited lectures, nine conference presentations, and two campus talks. In February, she gave the opening lecture for the exhibit “Herzfeld's Pasargadae” at the Smithsonian Freer-Sackler Galleries. This lecture detailed continuity and changes in archaeological practice between early twentieth century Iran and today, and showcased CAMEL's modeling work using Erich Schmidt's 1936 aerial photos of Persepolis. In April, The Ohio State University's Anthropology Department invited Emily to give two lectures on the future of landscape archaeology in the Middle East and on her recent fieldwork in Azerbaijan. Emily gave conference papers at meetings organized by Tehran University, the LandCover6K Project, ASOR, ICAANE, ISAW/ARISC, and RAI on a variety of topics including new sources of declassified aerial imagery for archaeology, methods for mapping ancient land-use patterns, spatial relationships between

sites and mineral deposits in Afghanistan, local resistance at the edge of the Urartian empire, Urartian irrigation, and a reanalysis of settlement patterns surrounding Ur.

Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee

Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee has worked on various projects during the last academic year. In terms of smaller projects that resulted in presentations at conferences and a few articles, her focus was on Akkadian and Akkadian grammar. She gave a presentation on the character of Akkadian as both being an archaic and at the same time highly innovative language at the meeting of the International Association of Comparative Semitics in Madrid. In this talk, which will now be reworked into an article to be published in the conference proceedings, Hasselbach-Andee looked at grammatical features in the phonology, morphology, and syntax of Akkadian that are innovative in the language, and tried to determine whether or not these features represent Proto-Akkadian features. This type of investigation is important in order to determine if Akkadian was innovative already at its earliest stage, or if its innovative character is a later, language internal development. Gaining these insights is crucial for understanding the position of Akkadian within the Semitic language family. Hasselbach-Andee further worked on a grammatical feature attested in Akkadian, the terminative-adverbial ending *-iš*. This ending has been interpreted as an original dative case marker by various influential scholars. The interpretation of the morpheme as a case marker has often uncritically been taken over and cited by subsequent scholars. In her talk that she presented at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in Boston, Hasselbach-Andee argued that *-iš* is not a case but simply an adverbial marker indicating direction toward an entity. Evidence for this interpretation comes from within Akkadian itself, the use of a related morpheme **-a(h)* in Hebrew and Ugaritic, and, most importantly, from non-Semitic Afroasiatic language families such as Berber, Cushitic, and Omotic, which attest to the same morpheme. This talk is likewise being reworked into an article at the moment.

In addition, Hasselbach-Andee wrote an article that is an overview of Akkadian, including its socio-linguistic role in the ancient Near East, for a volume that she is editing for Wiley Blackwell, a *Guide to Ancient Near Eastern Languages*. This volume is one of her ongoing book projects. It will contain thirty chapters on all sorts of aspects of ancient Near Eastern languages and writing. In particular, it will focus on socio-linguistic aspects such as language contact, *bi-* and multilingualism, and function of language — such as literary versus non-literary language, use as lingua franca, etc. Finally, Hasselbach-Andee continued to work on the translation and revision of Josef Tropper's grammar of Classical Ethiopic, a project that is scheduled to be finished by the end of the summer. Lastly, this year she published an article and a book review, the article being "Explicit Performative Utterances in Semitic" in *Arabic and Semitic Linguistics Contextualized: A Festschrift for Jan Retsö*, L Edzard, ed. (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz), pp. 448–85, and the book review being on Amalia Catagnoti's *La grammatica della lingua di Ebla* (*JNES* 75:169–72).

Janet H. Johnson

During the 2015–2016 academic year, **Jan Johnson** gave a lecture on “Identity, Some Preliminary Remarks” at the annual December OI Museum Docents Awards ceremony and talked about “Identity” for the OI Voting Members Connections Seminar in the spring. She also gave a talk on “Egypt during the Persian Empire” to the Chicago Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt. She chaired one panel of presentations at the annual meeting of ARCE, held this year in Atlanta. In addition to teaching several of the core ancient Egyptian language classes, she taught a seminar on “Gender in Ancient Egypt(ian Texts)” and gave a lecture on “Gender Studies, from an Egyptian Perspective” for the “Approaches to the Study of the Ancient Near East” course for entering M.A. students. She was delighted that one student who was working with her completed her M.A. and that four students with whom she had been working completed their Ph.D. dissertations and graduated in the spring. Her articles “The Range of Private Property Envisioned in Demotic Documents Pertaining to Marriage and Inheritance” and “Women, Property, and Legal Documents: A Case Study from the Persian Period” appeared in *Festschriften* compiled in honor of Professors Ola el-Aguizy and Betsy M. Bryan, respectively. She submitted an article on “Compound Nouns, especially Abstracts, in Demotic” for a *Festschrift* honoring another colleague. She served on one OI/NELC tenure committee and wrote evaluations for three colleagues at other universities being considered for tenure. She also enjoyed her annual Skype discussion of things (ancient) Egyptian with 5th graders at the Science and Art Academy in Des Plaines, Illinois. She continued to oversee the activity of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (see separate report).

W. Raymond Johnson

This year **W. Raymond Johnson** completed his thirty-eighth year working in Egypt, his thirty seventh full year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his nineteenth season as Chicago House Field Director. This summer Ray was pleased to see the results of his identification of two joining Hadrianic Roman statue fragments reunited in a special exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago entitled “A Portrait of Antinous in Two Parts.” This discovery and exhibition were the lead story of the University of Chicago website for the week of August 16 (http://www.uchicago.edu/features/egyptologist_uncovers_ancient_puzzle/) as well as the cover story of *The University of Chicago Magazine*, Fall 2016.

In addition to reuniting ancient Roman sculpture fragments, Ray has continued to work with his Amarna Talatat Project with excellent results. This winter he was asked by the Egyptian antiquities ministry to coordinate and plan the joined Amarna talatat display galleries for the Akhenaten Museum in Minya, which gives an exciting, practical focus for the project. He is now working with the Egyptian antiquities ministry, the Berlin Egyptian Museum (Friederike Seyfried), and the Hildesheim Roemer-Pelizaeus Museum (Regine Schulz) on the development, completion, and exhibitions of the Minya museum. Publications that have come out in the last year include “Sexual Duality and Goddess Iconography on the Amenhotep IV Sandstone Colossi at Karnak,” in *The Art and Culture of Ancient Egypt: Studies in Honor of Dorothea Arnold*, edited by Adela Oppenheim and Ogden Goelet, *Bulletin of the Egyptological Seminar* 19 (2015), pp. 415–22; “Horemheb’s Saqqara Tomb: A New Discovery,” and entry VI.76, “Relief

Head of Amenhotep III from the Tomb of Kheruef,” in *Egypt: Millenary Splendour, The Leiden Collection in Bologna*, edited by Paola Giovetti and Daniela Picchi (SKIRA 2016), pp. 228–33 and pp. 370 and 552–53, respectively. In addition he has co-authored a study with Zahi Hawass entitled: “The Abusir Tutankhamun Relief Blocks — Origin and Context,” in *Another Mouthful of Dust: Egyptological Studies in Honour of Geoffrey Thorndike Martin*, Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta 246 (2016), pp. 323–34.

Charles E. Jones

The Ancient World Online (ancientworldonline.blogspot.com) continues to thrive. During the past year, **Charles Jones** has added or updated more than fifteen hundred entries. Direct e-mail subscribership has increased to 7,694 addresses as of today, with about fifteen hundred of them added in the past year. More than fourteen hundred readers each are also subscribed to AWOL on Facebook and Twitter. AWOL now records in excess of a million page views each year. On the heels of receiving the Archaeological Institute of America’s Award for Outstanding Work in Digital Archaeology in early 2015, AWOL was nominated in the fall 2015 for the Digital Humanities Awards in the category of Best Blog Post or Series of Posts and was announced as the winner in February 2016.

Last summer Jones was invited to submit an article in a forum on Investing in the Future of the Past: Alternative Careers for Mediterranean Archaeologists, reflecting on his thirty years in an alt-ac career:

- “... or equivalent combination of experience and education.” *Journal of Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies* 3/3: 286–92, 2015. Invited. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/jeasmedarcherstu.3.3.issue-3>

Working with a team at ISAW-NYU he produced a publication systematically describing ancient-world information resources on the world wide web. The bibliographic data presented there has been programmatically extracted from the content of AWOL — The Ancient World Online (ISSN 2156-2253) — and formatted in accordance with a structured data model. The AWOL Index is an experimental project, developed jointly by Jones and Tom Elliott, the Associate Director for Digital Programs at New York University’s Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), with the assistance of Pavan Atri, Roger Bagnall, Dawn Gross, Sebastian Heath, Gabriel McKee, Ronak Parpani, David Ratzan, and Kristen Soule:

- *The AWOL Index*. New York, New York: Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University, 2015. (Co-author.) Invited. <http://isaw.nyu.edu/publications/awol-index/>

In September 2015 he participated in a program organized by Edward Silver at Wellesley College, Erasing the Past: Da’esh and the Crisis of Antiquities Destruction. His contribution was a talk on “Iraq Crisis Twelve Years On (http://networks.h-net.org/node/GROUP_NID/discussions/82529/conference-erasing-past-daesh-and-crisis-antiquities-destruction).

In fall 2015 he initiated a new project, The History of the Study of Antiquity through the Lens of Autobiography. The blog of this project presents a working bibliography of the project, and provides a platform for comment and discussion of autobiographical writing by students and scholars of the ancient world: <http://antiqauto.blogspot.com/>.

He hopes also to develop a venue for the publication of new autobiographical essays in the form of an online open access periodical. He has been invited to deliver a talk on the project in the History of Archaeology session at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research in San Antonio in November 2016.

Walter Kaegi

Cambridge University Press published a very slightly revised paperback (late summer 2015) edition of **Walter Kaegi's** *Muslim Expansion and Byzantine Collapse in North Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2010). He contributed an essay entitled "The Islamic Conquest and the Defense of Byzantine Africa. Reconsiderations on Campaigns, Conquests and Contexts," in the collective volume *North Africa under Byzantium and Early Islam*, Susan T. Stevens and Jonathan P. Conant, eds. (Washington: Dumbarton Oaks, 2016), pp. 65–86. He revised and expanded his updated contribution "Seventh-Century North Africa: Military and Political Convergences and Divergences" for the German Archaeological Society in Rome (DAIRome) collective volume, edited by Ralf Bockmann and Philipp von Rummel. He published a review of *Approaches to the Byzantine Family*, L. Brubaker and S. Tougher, eds., in the journal *Historian*. He completed several other book reviews, among which: (1) J. Harris, *The Lost World of Byzantium*, for publication in the journal *Sixteenth Century*, (2) A. Kaldellis, *The Byzantine Republic*, for *The American Historical Review*, and (3) *The Long Seventh Century: Continuity and Discontinuity in an Age of Transition*, Alessandro Gnasso, Emanuele E. Intagliata, Thomas J. MacMaster and Bethan N. Morris, eds. (Oxford, Bern, Frankfurt, New York: Peter Lang), which will be published in the journal *The Historian*. He lectured on Late Antique and Byzantine History at Fu-Jen Catholic University, New Taipei, Taiwan in summer 2015. He delivered an invited lecture at the Academic Sinica, Institute of History and Philology, Taipei City, on August 6, 2015, on "Reassessing Arnold J. Toynbee the Byzantine Historian." He participated in the Byzantine Studies Conference in New York, October 22–25 2015. He co-directed the University of Chicago Workshop on Late Antiquity and Byzantium. He continued to serve ex officio on the U.S. National Committee for Byzantine studies. He remained a member ex officio of the board of the University of Chicago Phi Beta Kappa Chapter. He reported a bibliography to *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* and edited the journal *Byzantinische Forschungen*. The *Chicago Journal of History* (undergraduate journal, University of Chicago) published an interview with him concerning the development of his own original interests in Byzantine history and his career as a Byzantinist, spring 2016, pp. 5-7. He developed a two-quarter seminar course on the "Late Antique Mediterranean," Autumn Quarter 2015 and Winter Quarter 2016. He performed editorial work for several presses and external fellowship selection committees. He continues to investigate Byzantine logistics in Syria in the late sixth and early seventh centuries C.E. and comparative historical notes on Byzantine and Tang Chinese military strategies and expenses, as well as preparing a study of Emperor Julian's unsuccessful campaign against Sasanian Persia in 363 C.E. He is also extending his research on Byzantine-Muslim military and political relations from the seventh through eleventh centuries; he is planning a book on the subject.

Morag M. Kersel



Figure 1. Overview of Fifa 2016

During the 2015–2016 academic year **Morag Kersel** was appointed as a Visiting Fellow with the “The Past for Sale: New Approaches to the Study of Archaeological Looting” at the Neubauer Collegium at the University of Chicago. “The Past for Sale” brings together archaeologists, anthropologists, art historians, social scientists, public policy experts, and legal scholars in hopes of finding better answers to one of the most intractable problems facing those who care about culture: how to stem the worldwide epidemic of looting of archaeological sites and shrines (http://neubauercollegium.uchicago.edu/faculty/past_for_sale/). During her time

as a Neubauer Fellow, Kersel participated in a number of workshops and conferences related to the topics of cultural heritage protection, looting, and the antiquities trade. As part of this fellowship Kersel co-organized a conference, “Dealing with Heritage: New Policy Approaches” at the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society.

Kersel’s main project while a Neubauer fellow was to work on a manuscript, *License to Sell: The Trade in Holy Land Antiquities*, which addresses the core question of whether a legal market for antiquities contributes to archaeological site destruction or mitigates it. In March 2016, Kersel carried out ethnographic research in Jordan and Jerusalem where she interviewed collectors, dealers, government employees, looters, and tourists about the movement of archaeological materials. In June 2016, Kersel (with OI Research Associate Austin “Chad” Hill) carried out the fourth year of drone flyovers to monitor the change over time at the looted Early Bronze Age (3600–2000 BCE) site of Fifa on the Dead Sea Plain in Jordan (see fig. 1). Ceramic vessels, almost certainly from this site in Jordan, are on sale in the legal antiquities market in Israel; following these pots (<https://followthepotsproject.org>) is an element of this manuscript research. Her volume will bring together a suite of data (archaeological and ethnographic) from Israel, Jordan, and Palestine in order to examine artifact pathways — how artifacts get from the ground to the consumer (individual or institutional).

Morag continued to track Early Bronze Age grave goods from Jordan to the antiquities market in Israel and then on to collectors (museums, private individuals, and educational institutions) in Europe and North America, spending some time tracking tomb groups to various museums and educational institutions throughout North America. During the winter and spring Kersel documented the Bab adh Dhra’ tomb groups in the Oriental Institute collection. These groups are the focus of an upcoming (April–May 2017) exhibition at the Neubauer Collegium tentatively entitled “The Past Sold. Case Studies in the Movement of Archaeological Objects.” Case studies in this exhibit examine and assess the positive (legal) and the negative (illegal) movement of archaeological objects from the Middle East.

In summer 2015 the small crew, including two Metcalf interns from the University of Chicago, walked numerous transects and dug shovel test pits in order to determine site viability and extent. Geophysicist and remote sensing expert Thomas M. Urban of Cornell University joined the project, where he conducted Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and other subsurface

technologies in order to see what's below the ground, which aided in assessing future site excavation potential.

With the generous support of the Oriental Institute, the Galilee Prehistory Project hosted a workshop for most of the contributors to the Marj Rabba publication in November 2015–16. In the public part of the meeting participants presented their analyses and results of the six seasons of research. In closed door sessions project members worked together on phasing, stratigraphy, and related issues. The team met with Thomas Urban and Leslie Schramer of OI Publications to discuss a timeline for publication.

During 2015–2016 Austin “Chad” Hill, Yorke Rowan, and Morag Kersel presented the results of this field season at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research. Project participants (undergraduate and graduate students) also produced a number of posters for the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research on various aspects of the Galilee Prehistory Project.

Gregory Marouard

This year, and after many seasons devoted to multiple projects in Egypt, **Gregory Marouard** focused his fieldwork activities essentially on Oriental Institute projects, and particularly two new programs in Egypt that he brings to Chicago this year, the survey at Kom ed-Dahab (Eastern Nile Delta) and the excavation at Dendara (Upper Egypt).

During summer 2015 he focused his research on the completion and editing of several articles and on the processing of archaeological data from the previous 2014 season at Tell Edfu; he also organized the fieldwork operations for his two projects. He submitted in particular two articles: “Approches de l’espace « domestique » dans l’Égypte gréco-romaine et de son mobilier,” for the proceedings of the international colloquium “Les mobiliers archéologiques dans leur contexte, de la Gaule à l’Orient méditerranéen” (Poitiers: Laboratory HeRMA – IFAO, October 2014), co-authored with Pascale Ballet (U. of Poitiers) and Sylvie Marchand (IFAO); and “The Context of the Khayan Sealings from Tell Edfu and Further Implications for the Second Intermediate Period in Upper Egypt,” proceedings of the international colloquium “The Hyksos King Khayan – New Insights on the Chronology of the 13th and 15th Dynasties” (Vienna: The Oriental Institute and Österreichisches Archäologisches Institut, July 2014), co-authored with Nadine Moeller (Oriental Institute, University of Chicago). Last October, his article “New Evidence for a Harbor Basin at Dahshur,” (*Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts Abteilung Kairo* 69 [2013]: 171–78) was finally published in the German Institute journal.

For two weeks at the end of last September, Gregory conducted his first season of survey at Kom ed-Dahab, a newly discovered Roman harbor settlement located on an island in the Menzaleh Lake, in the Eastern Nile Delta (see separate report). With the support of ceramist Aude Simony, they surveyed the surface of the site for pottery sherds, coins, and glass evidence in order to better define the chronology of the occupation. A Polish team covered four hectares of geomagnetic survey on the main monuments detected at the site according to the satellite images.

Gregory presented an overview of his work in a brown bag lecture in early May 2016. The Kom ed-Dahab Survey, mostly funded by the Oriental Institute, was also supported by

the Egypt Exploration Society, London, and Gregory sent a poster for the session at the EES annual meeting in London in early July. A short notice about the results of the kite aerial pictures and geo-magnetic survey is also presented in the coming issue of the *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 231 (fall 2016).

From early October until mid-November 2015, Gregory supervised, as co-director together with Nadine Moeller, the latest season at Tell Edfu (see separate report). He was specifically in charge of Zone 2, focusing on the Old Kingdom settlement remains,

and he focused the investigation here on the very first phases of occupation, which can be dated now to the second part of the Fourth Dynasty.

From mid-November until the end of December, Gregory conducted his second campaign at the temple of Dendara in Upper Egypt, and for the first time as director of a new Oriental Institute project (see separate report). This project, which focuses on settlement archaeology, is conducted on the IFAO (French Archeological Institute in Cairo) archaeological concession, in close collaboration with the IFAO team (architectural study of the temples, directed by Pierre Zignani, CNRS) and the team of the Macquarie University in Sydney (archaeology of the necropolis, directed by Yann Tristant). This first OI season focused on the early phases of the settlement, in the intra-mural area next to the temples of Hathor and Isis. Nadine Moeller joined the mission as well as three graduate students from the NELC department.

Gregory published a short overview of this first season in the main article in the last spring issue of the *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 229.

Last February, Gregory joined the Epigraphic Survey at Chicago House (Luxor) in conducting a short archaeological evaluation of the “House of Butehamon” at Medinet Habu (see separate report), as a part of the Western Gate Project recently launched by Jennifer Kimpton, and the extensive site management project engaged in the southern and western parts of Ramesses III’s funerary complex. Over a dozen days he opened several trenches around the building and investigated the stratigraphic and architectural remains of this late and post-Ramesside construction, which was to a very large extent reconstructed after Uvo Hölscher’s excavations ca. 1930.

In March and early April, he joined the sixth season of excavations at Wadi al-Jarf (CNRS, Ifao project), the harbor of King Khufu on the Red Sea Coast. As Senior Archaeologist he supervised the fieldwork operation with a special focus in Zone 5 (fig. 1), characterized by an extensive construction, which measures 60 × 35 m, the largest building from the Pharaonic period ever discovered on the Red Coast. Last May, this project, engaged in 2011 with his colleague Pierre Tallet (Paris Sorbonne), was granted the prestigious Archaeological Prize



Figure 1. The building on Zone 5 at Wadi al-Jarf, Red Sea Coast, excavated by Gregory Marouard in April 2016. (photo: G. Marouard)

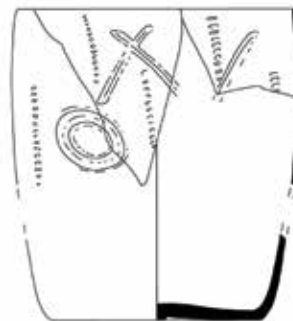
of the Simone and Cino Del Duca foundation, awarded yearly by the Institut de France, the French Academy.

Gregory was invited to Yale University last April to present the recent results of his work at Wadi el-Jarf. He then gave a lecture series about the past fifteen years of research on the Red Sea for the SSEA (Society for the Study of Ancient Egypt) in Canada, at the University of Toronto, then at the University of Quebec in Montréal.

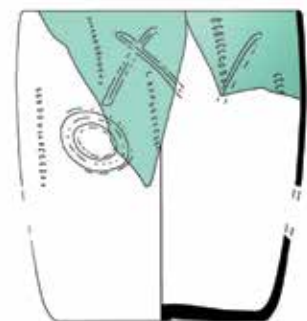
He devoted the rest of spring and early summer to preparing various fieldwork reports and articles as an overview of the harbor installations at Wadi al-Jarf for the coming 2016 issue of *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*.

Carol Meyer

Carol Meyer spent the bulk of the year working on Serra East for the publication of Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition volume 13, mostly on the pottery but also the glass corpus. With the discovery of another box of glass sherds that nearly tripled the size of the corpus, the “Glass” section in the “Objects” chapter had to be rewritten as a separate chapter. Meyer also received an invitation to present a summary of the work at Bir Umm Fawakhir at a colloquium on the last thirty years of archaeological research in the Egyptian Eastern Desert, held at the Collège de France in Paris at the end of March. The reformatted paper is scheduled for e-publication, to appear at the end of 2016. Meyer continued research on the massive glass corpus from Aqaba. This is a multi-year project that requires inspection of every sherd, tabulation on FileMaker Pro tables, key linked to files with drawings or photographs of the sherds or vessels. This is the first chance to study a very large early Islamic glass corpus from Jordan in its totality, rather than picking out intact vessels or special groups of decorated glass. One time-consuming feature of any glass corpus is that so much has to be drawn; photographs seldom show much, especially if the surface is devitrified to an iridescent sheen. See for example the deep bowl illustrated above. It shows the very distinctive pincer decoration (squeezed on with tongs) and was reconstructed from the sherds on the left (base not photographed). Under the yellow devitrification layer, the vessel is actually light blue-green.



14-01113 SQ-1-16 141104 L.L. blue-green; pitted; yellowish, spat. weath. Pincer'd; design restored from 3 sherds.



14-01113 SQ-1-16 141104 L.L. blue-green; pitted; yellowish, spat. weath. Pincer'd; design restored from 3 sherds.

Nadine Moeller

Nadine Moeller was granted a one-year leave for the 2015–2016 academic year with the additional support of a fellowship awarded to her by the American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS).

She spent the autumn doing fieldwork and research in Egypt, first at the site of Tell Edfu and then, together with Gregory Marouard, at Dendara, which is a new project of the Oriental Institute (see separate reports). In January, she presented a paper with the title “The End of the Middle Kingdom in Upper Egypt: A View from Tell Edfu,” in conjunction with the exhibit “Ancient Egypt Transformed: The Middle Kingdom” held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. She also led a discussion in the scholars’ workshop that followed the symposium, presenting the current problems and priorities for future research on the history and chronology of the end of the Middle Kingdom. She spent the majority of her time during the winter and spring quarters working on two book projects in the Regenstein library, one of which is the second volume of her book *The Archaeology of Urbanism* and focuses on the towns and cities dating from the late Second Intermediate Period until the end of the Late Period. The other book deals with the New Kingdom Empire and is a textbook for Moeller’s College Core class, to be published by Cognella Academic Publishing. Since June she has also been involved in editing together with Irene Forstner-Müller the proceedings for the workshop on the Hyksos Ruler Khayan, which had been co-organized by the Oriental Institute and the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Cairo back in July 2014.



Nadine (at front left) and students

Her book entitled *The Archaeology of Urbanism in Ancient Egypt: The Settlements from the Predynastic Period to the End of the Middle Kingdom* finally appeared in April at Cambridge University Press, after some delay related to the re-structuring of this publishing house. Also in April, Moeller participated in the annual meeting at the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), held in Atlanta, where she presented a paper on Old Kingdom house layouts and participated in the Board of Governors meetings. In June she was invited to give a talk at the ARCE North Texas Chapter in Dallas.

Brian Muhs

Brian Muhs corrected a sample copy-edited chapter of his book manuscript, *The Ancient Egyptian Economy, 3000–30 BCE*, in September 2015, then the art proofs in October, the copy-edited proofs in November, the index proofs in December, and the final page proofs in January 2016. Cambridge University Press sent the book to the press early in July 2016, and it is expected to appear later in the same month.

Two articles that Brian submitted in previous years appeared, namely “Transaction Costs and Institutional Change in Egypt, ca. 1070–525 BCE,” in *Law and Transaction Costs in the Ancient Economy*, Dennis P. Kehoe, David M. Ratzan, Uri Yiftach, eds. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2015), pp. 80–98 (Chapter 3), based on a paper presented in July 2009; and “Money, Taxes, and Maritime Trade in Late Period Egypt,” in *Thonis-Heracleion in Context*, Damian Robinson and Franck Goddio, eds. Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology Monograph 8. (Oxford: Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology, 2015), pp. 91–99 (Chapter 4), based on a paper presented in March 2013.

Brian traveled to London and Cambridge in September 2015 to check readings of ostraca in the British Museum and Cambridge University Library in preparation for a book project on accounting in ancient Egypt and the Nag’ el-Mesheikh ostraca. While in Cambridge, he was invited to give a paper for the Egyptian World Seminar Series at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research about the book project on “Ptolemaic Temple Accounting and Transaction Costs.”

Brian was invited to give a lecture on “Cartonnage from Papyri and Papyri from Cartonnage: Discovery and Destruction” for the 41st Annual Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities (SSEA) Symposium in Toronto in November 2015, and he gave another paper for the SSEA Scholar’s Colloquium about the book project on “An Egyptian Temple on the Eve of the Great Theban Revolt (205 BCE).”

Also in November, Jan Johnson and Brian presented the Chicago Demotic Dictionary Project at a James Henry Breasted Society event at the Oriental Institute, and with Tasha Vorderstrasse he gave a paper on “Economy, Documentation, and Coinage in Achaemenid and Hellenistic Bactria” at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in Atlanta, comparing economic texts and coin finds from Bactria and Egypt in the Achaemenid and Hellenistic periods.

Brian also gave a paper on ancient Egyptian legal scholarship titled “Egyptian Scholars, Priests and temples between autonomy and state authority” at the conference “Scholars, Priests and Temples — Babylonian and Egyptian Science in Context,” in Berlin in May 2016, and a lecture on “Crime and Punishment in Ancient Egypt” for the Consulate General of the Arab Republic of Egypt’s monthly ‘Learning Luncheon’ in June 2016.

Kiersten Neumann

Kiersten Neumann’s research over the past year has continued to be grounded in theoretical approaches to ancient art. A recent peer-reviewed publication, “In the Eyes of the Other: The Mythological Wall Reliefs in the Southwest Palace at Nineveh,” published in the *Archaeological Review from Cambridge 30.1: Seen and Unseen Spaces*, considers the role of the gaze and visibility of figures in Mesopotamian visual culture. She is currently working on a book project that explores the degrees of ritualization and socially valued multisensory phenomena of the Neo-Assyrian temple. This project is a revision of her dissertation, “Resurrected and Reevaluated: The Neo-Assyrian Temple as a Ritualized and Ritualizing Built Environment,” which was awarded The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII) Donny George Youkhana Dissertation Prize for the best US doctoral dissertation on ancient Iraq in 2015. She is also preparing an article on the visual culture and experiential qualities of the Nabu temple within

the sensory landscape of the Neo-Assyrian royal citadel. In May she published a review of David Kertai's book, *The Architecture of Late Assyrian Royal Palaces* (OUP 2015) in the College Art Association's *caa.reviews* (caareviews.org).

Neumann continues to research and prepare for publication collections of the Oriental Institute, including materials from Khorsabad and archival photographs from the Achaemenid Persian center of Persepolis. The latter collection is the focus of the current special exhibit at the Museum, entitled "Persepolis: Images of an Empire," which Neumann curated. This exhibit explores the role of architecture and art as visual manifestations of imperial ideologies and cross-cultural interactions through a selection of archival photographs taken during the Oriental Institute Persian Expedition in Iran (1931–1939). Neumann contributed to the Museum's forthcoming collections highlights publications with entries for objects from Mesopotamia and continues to provide artifact highlights for the *Oriental Institute News & Notes*, a quarterly magazine. Four such features appeared over the past year: "Pazuzu: Friend or Foe," "What's in a Name? The Speckled-Lion Stone of Mesopotamia," "Eye of the Lion — A Stone Bowl from Chatal Höyük," and "Pearly White and Precious: A Duck-Shaped Vessel from Megiddo."

Neumann has presented several papers at academic conferences over the past year, including "Sensing the Divine in the Neo-Assyrian Temple: The Sights, Sounds, and Smells of the Divine Meal," at the 61st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Bern, Switzerland (June 24), a revised version of which will be published by Eisenbrauns under the title "Sensing the Sacred in the Neo-Assyrian Temple: The Presentation of Offerings to the Gods" in the volume, *Senses in the Ancient Near East*; and "Dressed to the Divine Nines: Clothing the Gods of Assyria in the First-Millennium BCE," at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in Atlanta (November 21), to be published under the title "Gods Among Men: Fashioning the Diving Image in Assyria" in volume three of the Archaeological Institute of America's Selected Papers in Ancient Art and Architecture series, entitled *What Shall I Say of Clothes? Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to Dress in Antiquity*. Neumann continued as co-organizer of the ASOR-sponsored session "Art Historical Approaches to the Near East" and had a new member-organized session accepted for the 2016 meeting in San Antonio, "Senses and Sensibility in the Near East." In addition, Neumann taught an Oriental Institute course, "Art of Empires: Assyrian and Roman Monumental Relief Sculpture," and gave a number of public talks on the sensory experience of the Assyrian temple, German excavations in Mesopotamia, the Oriental Institute's Persepolis archival photograph collection, and cultural heritage in the Middle East.

James Osborne

James Osborne was thrilled to have been hired this year at the Oriental Institute as Assistant Professor of Anatolian Archaeology. The OI has long been a major center of Anatolian studies — including archaeology but also art history and especially Hittitology — as witnessed, for example, by the institute's former excavation projects at, among other sites, Kerkenes Dağ, Alişar Höyük, and Tell Tayinat. The latter is particularly relevant to James, since the site was one of the capital cities of the Neo-Hittite city-states, the



Satellite image of Tell Tayinat taken in the late 1960s. The excavation scar from the OI's 1930s Syrian-Hittite Expedition is visible in the left-center of the tell. The dark lower town and fortification wall investigated by TLTP are visible around the east side of the tell

Iron Age culture that is his current specialty. In addition, the site, which was excavated by the OI in the 1930s as part of the Syrian-Hittite Expedition, is coincidentally also the archaeological site at which he currently conducts fieldwork. James is Director of the Tayinat Lower Town Project (TLTP), and in the summer of 2015 he completed a high-resolution intensive surface survey of the site's 16 ha lower settlement, which was occupied by the ancient city's non-elite residents. The results of this survey, which collected over 30,000 artifacts from the site's surface alone, will be published in forthcoming issues of the journals *Antiquity* and *Anatolica*.

One of TLTP's primary research questions surrounds the Neo-Assyrian forced migration event, in which up to four million people were deported and resettled across the ancient Near East; according to Assyrian inscriptions, Tayinat was one of the sites whose populations was treated this way. As part of this larger research project, James presented his TLTP results along with results from his survey in Kurdistan, the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey, for which he was until 2015 the Associate Director, at the Annual Meetings of the American Schools of Oriental Research and the International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East. A more substantive version of this paper was presented as an invited lecture in Jerusalem's Yad Ben-Zvi Institute,

where Israeli archaeologists organized a workshop on the provincial archaeology of the Neo-Assyrians empire. In recent years James has also become interested in the cross-cultural phenomenon of monumentality. He gave a broad introduction to how this topic intersects with urban planning, using the Neo-Hittite capital cities as a case-study, as an invited lecturer to the Free University of Berlin. Related lectures were also presented at the University of Chicago, including a lecture to the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, a university-wide initiative that seeks to provide an intellectual space to the campus's many archaeologists, and one introducing his research to the hardworking and devoted volunteers of the Oriental Institute.

In addition to the articles described above, James devoted much of his writing time to completing various commitments to edited volumes, including a festschrift for Near Eastern archaeologist Sam Paley, a volume on the Greek Iron Age, and an article on Hittite and Assyrian monuments for a volume on the topic of ancient communications. He also began writing his monograph, tentatively titled *The Syro-Anatolian City-States: Portraits of an Iron Age Culture*.

Hratch Papazian

Hratch Papazian continues work at the Old Kingdom step pyramid of Sinki in South Abydos. A conservation and stability assessment of the structure was conducted in March 2016, and

future conservation work, intended to insure the long-term physical stability of the monument, will be carried out on the basis of that evaluation. A site preservation proposal was also prepared at the same time, which is intended to deal with the continued pressure of expanding agricultural fields on antiquities zones in Abydos, a major concern in its own right prevalent in many other parts of Egypt as well. Several steps have already been taken by the project in previous years to safeguard the pyramid zone from the illegal encroachment of fields onto the site. In November 2015, Papazian was invited to the Geography and Economy of the Ancient Nile Delta symposium organized by the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, where he presented a paper on the governors of the Delta in the Old Kingdom, which he is now preparing for publication. His article on Old Egyptian converters is set to appear in *Essays for the Library of Seshat* (SAOC 70), a volume in honor of Janet Johnson. He is currently also preparing a study of the Old Kingdom Gebelein papyri.

Susanne Paulus

Susanne Paulus joined the Oriental Institute in September 2015. She is an Assyriologist specializing in the legal, social, and economic history of Mesopotamia, especially that of the Middle Babylonian period, which spans the second half of the second millennium BCE. Despite the wealth of surviving documentation, this period is one of the least studied of Babylonian history, even though scholars have acknowledged its importance in bridging the epochs of the better understood Old and Late Babylonian periods. Although more than 12,000 texts have been recovered from cities such as Nippur, only 10–15 percent of these documents have been made accessible through publication. Her current book project, *Comparative Studies in Kassite Archives: Contributions to the Legal and Economic History of Babylonia*, aims to fill this gap of knowledge. For this project, she has translated and analyzed more than 100 legal and economic documents from Nippur in 2015 and has given two connected presentations, one at the American Oriental Society in Boston on the legal and administrative terminology of Kassite Nippur, and another at the Franke Institute for the Humanities on wealth in Babylonia. Furthermore, she is currently working on two additional articles. The first focuses on the transition between the Old Babylonian and Middle Babylonian Periods, while the second discusses the problems with the sources used to reconstruct early Kassite history.

To bring together scholars interested in the Kassite period, she is organizing a workshop at the *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale* in Philadelphia in cooperation with Timothy Clayden (Oxford). Nine scholars from Europe and the USA will present papers on the archaeology, history, economy, art, and paleography of the Middle Babylonian period. Her own contribution, “Redistribution Revisited,” provides a new perspective on the practice of barley storage in Nippur. The workshop is funded by the prestigious Heinz Maier-Leibnitz-Prize that she was awarded in 2015.

She successfully completed an interdisciplinary project at the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences that focused on the problems of an aging society. Her results were published in an article, “Alte Menschen im Alten Orient” (Old people in Mesopotamia), which appears in the anthology *Old Age and Society*. This peer-reviewed essay-volume reflects on the problems of modern society from the viewpoint of neurology, medicine, ethics, history, and law.

She has continued to cooperate with legal historians and was invited to present her work at the Institute of Legal History in Münster. She contributed two articles to a conference volume from Innsbruck. The first, “Ordal statt Eid — Das Beweisverfahren in mittelbabylonischer Zeit,” deals with the transition from oath to ordeal in the procedure of taking evidence in the Middle Babylonian period, while the second, “Die babylonischen Kudurru-Inschriften von der kassitischen bis zur frühneubabylonischen Zeit — Die wichtigsten Ergebnisse aus rechts-historischer Sicht,” highlights the most important legal-historical results of her research on the Babylonian *kudurrus*.

In June 2016, she was appointed Tablet Collection Curator, succeeding Walter Farber.

Richard Payne

During the 2015–2016 academic year, **Richard Payne** continued to develop ongoing projects on the role of religion in Iranian imperialism and the interaction of the Near East with Central Asia. With the final appearance of *A State of Mixture: Christians, Zoroastrians, and Iranian Political Culture in Late Antiquity* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2015), a book focused on the late Sasanian period, he returned to the first two centuries of Iranian rule, the era of empire formation, with special attention to the Zoroastrian institutions and normative frameworks the early Sasanian kings of kings introduced. The book in progress, *Cosmological Politics: The Zoroastrian Institutions of Iranian Imperialism*, argues that the so-called Good Religion facilitated the consolidation of the aristocratic networks through which the Iranian court ruled its provinces. In sidelining religion, previous studies have ignored the incentives to participation in empire that the Iranian court — which included Zoroastrian priest-scholars — granted Parthian aristocratic houses. In an article that appeared in *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, “Sex, Death, and Aristocratic Empire: Iranian Jurisprudence in Late Antiquity,” Payne developed one aspect of the argument in a comparative direction, showing how aristocratic houses depended on Zoroastrian juridical institutions innovated in the early Sasanian period to reproduce themselves and to maintain power across generations. In demonstrating how Zoroastrian cosmological principles and rituals animated juridical institutions that maximized elite male access to female reproductive capacities, the article insists on the potential complementarity of bio-historical and bio-archaeological scholarship with cultural history. It also insists that sexual exploitation be considered alongside more conventionally economic forms of exploitation in the study of ancient imperial regimes. In terms of content and analytical framework, the article captures the state of the larger book project in progress.

At the same time, Payne has been working on the post-Iranian regimes of the Huns and the Turks in Central Asia. In “The Making of Turan: The Fall and Transformation of the Iranian East,” published in the *Journal of Late Antiquity*, he demonstrated the extent to which Hun and Turk conquerors adapted Iranian institutions to their own imperial projects, combining them with their own institutions of nomadic imperialism. He has also been actively working on the importance of trans-Eurasian commerce — the so-called “Silk Road” — crucial for the political economies not only of nomadic states, but also of the Iranian empire. An article on the topic, “The Silk Road and the Iranian Political Economy,” is currently being translated into Chinese for publication. Payne also finished editing a book, *Cosmopolitanism and Empire: Universal Rulers, Local Elites, and Cultural Integration in the Ancient Near East and Mediterranean*, which appeared in

September 2016. His book, *A State of Mixture*, received awards from the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Religion, the International Society for Iranian Studies, and the Middle East Studies Association.

Payne presented his work in Buenos Aires, Paris, Princeton, Mumbai, Abu Dhabi, Oxford, and Tübingen, as well as at various venues on campus.

Hervé Reculeau

Hervé Reculeau joined the Oriental Institute in August 2015 as an Assistant Professor of Assyriology, in a joint appointment with the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the College. In the course of academic year 2015–2016, Hervé gave two lectures at the Oriental Institute: The first one was a Volunteer Day lecture entitled “‘I opened canals and got rid of the bucket.’ Water Management in Second Millennium BCE Northern Mesopotamia,” in fall 2015. The second one, “‘Opener of Canals, Provider of Abundance and Plenty.’ Royal Investment in Large-Scale Irrigation in Second Millennium BCE Upper Mesopotamia,” was presented in winter 2016 at the Twelfth Annual Oriental Institute Seminar on “Irrigation in Early States: New Perspectives, organized by Oriental Institute Postdoctoral Fellow Stephanie Rost. Another on-campus lecture was offered in spring 2016 as one of the Every Wednesday Luncheon Presentations at the The Franke Institute for the Humanities, and focused on “Mesopotamian Agriculture and Climate Change.” Outside of the University, Hervé gave a lecture on “Irrigation in the Middle Euphrates Valley: A View from the 18th c. BCE Mari Letters” at the 226th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Boston.

As can be inferred from these lectures, Hervé's research focuses on irrigation and agriculture in ancient Mesopotamia. Part of this year's activity was devoted to a long-term study on irrigation and water management in the kingdom of Mari (Syria), partly based on unpublished material that he is editing. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the terminology and uses of canals and other waterworks on the middle Euphrates valley in the early second millennium BCE, to appear in a forthcoming monograph, *Florilegium Marianum XVI. Irrigation et contrôle de l'eau au royaume de Mari* (Mémoires de NABU 20, Paris: Sepoa). He also submitted an article on the economic aspects of Northern Mesopotamian irrigation agriculture as his contribution to the *Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Oriental Institute Seminar*, edited by Stephanie Rost.

Another aspect of Hervé's research focuses on ancient Mesopotamian notions of political space, which are the topic of an article finalized this year, “Claiming Land and People: Conceptions of Power in Syria and Upper Mesopotamia during the 2nd Millennium BCE,” in *Raum-Ordnung. Raum und soziopolitische Ordnungen im Altertum*, Sebastian Schmidt-Hofner, ed. (Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag, 2016). Finally, as an epigrapher and a specialist of the Old Babylonian period (early nineteenth century BCE), Hervé was invited by McGuire Gibson to publish the cuneiform tablets discovered at the Iraqi site of Tell Muqdadiya, in his forthcoming article “Twelve Early Old Babylonian Tablets From Tell Muqdadiya,” in *Tell Muqdadiya, Iraqi Excavations in the Diyala Region I*, by H. A. Hamzi, translated by Mark Altaweel, edited and annotated by McGuire Gibson (Chicago: Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and the Oriental Institute). He also pursued his long-term collaboration with French colleagues by joining Antoine Jacquet

(Collège de France, Paris) in a series of collations on Old Babylonian tablets in the Oriental Institute's collection, now available online at: <http://www.archibab.fr>.

Robert K. Ritner

Robert Ritner was on sabbatical for the academic year. During this time he produced several articles now in press on topics ranging from religion and technology to philological studies of Semitic and Libyan tribal names. The study "Oriental Institute Museum Notes 16: Two Egyptian Clepsydrae (OIM E16875 and A7125)" represents the first scholarly examination of the large Oriental Institute water clock on display in the museum and corrects numerous errors in previous catalog entries and on the museum label. The correct date proves to be centuries later than the reign of Ptolemy II, as formerly assumed, and the object may be one of the last surviving examples of these temple instruments. In contrast, an unpublished fragment from another clock acquired in Mosul by H. Frankfort does date from that reign but is a direct copy of an Eighteenth Dynasty clock of Amenhotep III, produced over one thousand years earlier. The copy proves the use of textual "pattern books" in ancient Egypt. The use of a textual model complements further examples in his study "'King Petemenekh': New Kingdom Royal Sarcophagi Texts on a Private Coffin," published this year in Copenhagen.

For a *Festschrift* to be co-published in New York and Jerusalem, Ritner analyzed Egyptian topographical lists to produce "The Supposed Earliest Hieroglyphic Mention of Israel (Berlin ÄM 21687): A Refutation." The questionable place name proves to be Assyria and perhaps reflects a conflation with the tribe of Asher. "The Libyan Mahasun Tribe," to be published in *Göttinger Miszellen* 250 (2016), confirms the name of this Libyan group, mentioned only once in Egyptian texts but securely attested in the classical geography of Strabo. Two of his *Festschrift* articles were published; for Betsy Bryan he offered "Osiris-Canopus and Bes at Herculanium," and for Günter Vittmann he wrote "The Hound of Horus," a study of names and mythology. Regarding current events, he contributed "Ben Carson and the Myth of Joseph's Barns" to *News & Notes* 228 (Winter 2016), p. 20. Ritner's work as editor of Jan Johnson's *Festschrift, Essays for the Library of Seshat*, is completed, and the volume will appear as OIP 70. He is now working together with Foy Scalf on a Roman-era Demotic magical papyrus at the University of Michigan.

Ritner worked with the Membership Department to provide a unique format for this year's lecture series, adopting his idea of a formal debate from two scholarly viewpoints on the famous battle of Kadesh. On January 6, he represented Ramesses II in "The Battle of Kadesh: A Debate Between the Egyptian and Hittite Perspectives," together with Theo van den Hout speaking for the forces of Muwatalli II (full debate available for viewing online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1AGe2V0qHo&feature=youtu.be>). This first pairing of two Institute scholars in a contest of interpretation filled Breasted Hall with one of the highest attendance records for an evening lecture, particularly notable in the midst of winter. Online comments describe the event as fascinating and brilliant, with great performances and "lots of enthusiasm" by both speakers.

On January 25, Ritner served as lecturer for the Volunteers' field trip to "The Discovery of King Tut," an exhibit of replicas of Tut's tomb and his artifacts at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Faultlessly organized by Sue Geshwender, the bus trip included good food, relaxed discussions on board and in the galleries, and even a concluding carousel ride. He served as a

reviewer for Egyptology grants by The Israel Science Foundation, and as manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* and the *Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities*. He also began new duties as the Oriental Institute Representative for the American Research Center in Egypt.

Stephanie Rost

Stephanie Rost started her position as the 2016–2017 postdoctoral fellow of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago in September 2015. She was in charge of organizing the twelfth annual postdoctoral conference of 2016, titled “Irrigation in Early States: New Directions,” which took place on March 3rd and 4th. The goal of the conference was to re-investigate the role of irrigation in early states by bringing together experts in the field of irrigation studies from a wide regional and temporal scope. The conference is discussed in greater detail in “Irrigation in Early States: New Directions,” by S. Rost, *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 230 (Summer 2016): 16–19.

Beyond organizing the conference Stephanie was in charge of organizing the Oriental Institute Connection Seminar, has completed three publication manuscripts, and received the 2016–2017 Mesopotamian Fellowship of the American School of Oriental Research to conduct a settlement survey in the Umma region of southern Iraq in 2017. Moreover, she was invited to present at the Topoi Research Group Workshop “Water Management in Ancient Civilisations” at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, February 11–12, 2016, and the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop of the University of Chicago, May 19, 2016. Stephanie has also presented at the 10th International Congress of Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Vienna, April 25–29, 2016. In addition she has given two guest lectures in seminars held by Emily Hammer and Brian Muhs.

Yorke Rowan

During the 2015–2016 academic year, the next stage of the Galilee Prehistory Project (GPP) was initiated with a season of survey and test excavation along Wadi al-Ashert, a small wadi in the lower Galilee with remains dated to the Neolithic and Chalcolithic. With Oriental Institute Research Associates Chad Hill and Morag Kersel, the results were presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) meetings in Atlanta in November; three posters were also presented by GPP project participants. Also in November, **Yorke Rowan** organized a workshop hosted by the OI for the key members of the GPP in order to present and discuss the results of their studies from the six seasons of excavation and survey at Marj Rabba. The team met with Thomas Urban and Leslie Schramer to discuss the schedule and publication guidelines. In early July 2015, Yorke, with co-organizers Danny Rosenberg (Haifa University) and Tatjana Gluhak (Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz), presided over Ground Stone & Society, the first international workshop for the newly formed Association for Ground Stone Research held at Haifa University, Israel. In addition to his role as conference organizer Yorke presented “Prestige, Ritual Practice, and Ground Stone: Late Prehistoric Stone Vessels,” as well as a poster (with former GPP intern and excavation crew member Blair Heidkamp) on spindle whorls

from Tel Yaqush. Many of the papers from the conference will appear in a special issue of the *Journal of Lithic Studies*, including the introductory paper by Rosenberg, Rowan, and Gluhak.

The Eastern Badia Archaeological Project (EBAP) selected a new excavation site on the slope of Mesa 7 along the Wadi al-Qattafi. During the 2015 field season a collapsed structure of basalt was sectioned and excavated, exposing half of a well-preserved Late Neolithic building. The results of that season were also presented at the ASOR meetings in Atlanta. Also related to EBAP, the article “Optically Stimulated luminescence (OSL) Dating and Spatial Analysis of Geometric Lines in the Northern Arabian Desert” which dated large “wheel” structures in Jordan’s Black Desert to late prehistory (one wheel is Late Neolithic, the other Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age), was published in the *Journal of Archaeological Science* 64: 1–11. With colleagues, Yorke also published “Late Neolithic Architectural Complexity at Wisad Pools, Black Desert” in *Neo-Lithics* 1/15: 3–100, concerning W-80, the large Late Neolithic building at Wisad Pools. He also delivered a lecture, “Explorations in the ‘Black Desert’ of Jordan” to the Archeological Institute of America Rockford Society in November. With funding from the Brennan Foundation and through the crowdsourcing site experiment.com, Yorke and Austin “Chad” Hill began their mapping project of the Wadi Qattafi using fixed wing and multi-rotor drones.

Other publications by Rowan included “The Judean Desert as a Chalcolithic Necropolis” with David Ilan, which was published in the *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 28.2: 171–94, and “Feasting at Marj Rabba, an Early Chalcolithic Site in the Galilee” in the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 35: 127–41, co-authored with Max Price and Chad Hill. In October, Yorke gave an invited lecture to the Archeological Institute of America of Albany Society on “New Rituals, New Religion? Death’s Dominion during the Copper Age of the Southern Levant.”

Foy Scalf

Foy Scalf continued to focus on the Research Archives and the Integrated Database Project (IDB) in 2015–2016. His leadership on the IDB was recognized by the Society of American Archivists who chose him to receive the Archival Innovator award for 2016. The award acknowledges the success and innovation of the project as it moves toward the end of its third consecutive grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Further details can be found in the report for the Integrated Database Project.

In the autumn quarter, Foy co-taught a class with Brian Muhs and Janet Johnson on the history of ancient Egypt for NELC. As Robert Ritner was on sabbatical, Foy filled in for the lectures on New Kingdom, Third Intermediate Period, and Ptolemaic Egypt. With the help of OI IT Analyst Knut Boehmer, Foy ran one of the most popular Oriental Institute education classes to date. “Egyptian Hieroglyphs for Museum Goers” was taught in the spring as a hybrid course with both on-site and online content. Each week on-site classes were recorded and uploaded to the Chalk website for online access. Over thirty students registered for the class and ten students, some of whom flew in from as far as western Canada, attended post-class tours of the Egyptian collections on display in the Field Museum of Natural History and the Oriental Institute.

Foy returned to epigraphic work on behalf of the Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA) excavations at Giza. Having worked for a season in 2007 at the site, he was invited

to collaborate on an incredible corpus of Old Kingdom sealings by AERA sealing specialist Ali Witsell. The material is currently being analyzed in preparation for several final reports as well as for future publication. He ushered the Oriental Institute Demotic Ostraca Online (OIDOO) project through its relaunch via the Online Cultural Heritage Research Environment (OCHRE), which is now available through the project webpage. In addition, he recruited the help of several NELC Graduate students — Ariel Singer, Theresa Tilliakos, and Sunwoo Lee — to help process photos and perform data entry. At this time, nearly half (~430) of the 900 Demotic ostraca in the Oriental Institute collections are now available online through the project's database.

Preparation began in earnest on a special exhibit currently scheduled for October 2017 about the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. Foy will edit a catalog of essays from leading specialists and curate the exhibit. Researching items for the exhibit led directly to two publications now in press. A papyrus formerly in the Newberry Library, but whose location is now unknown, was discovered among the digital archival files of the OI. The papyrus belonged to a man named Iry-iry and contained a Memphite hymn to Osiris and the beginning of BD 168, a composition otherwise known as the Book of Caves. An article publishing the papyrus and analyzing the texts was submitted to the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*. A kind invitation from colleague and Book of the Dead exhibit catalog contributor Rita Lucarelli led to a publication covering “The Funerary Literature Related to the Book of the Dead,” which is set to appear in *The Oxford Handbook to the Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead*.

In addition to these publications, Foy's article mentioned in last year's report on Demotic funerary texts appeared in *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 15/2 (2015): 194–215, and a short highlight on the IDB project called “Managing Our Past for the Future,” co-written with Anne Flannery, appeared in the *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 228 (2016): 10–13. He gave several talks over the year, including a paper at the 41st Annual Symposium of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities and an information session on the IDB for the University of Cincinnati Department of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning at the OI.

Gil J. Stein

As Principal Investigator of the Oriental Institute's Partnership with the National Museum of Afghanistan (see separate report), **Gil Stein** made three trips to Afghanistan in 2015–2016 to assess project progress, coordinate with the National Museum staff, and to work with Field Director Alejandro Gallego-Lopez and the Kabul team of registrars, conservators, and consultants. Alejandro and his team have now inventoried over 109,000 objects in the bilingual database — constituting 99% of the holdings of the National Museum of Afghanistan in Kabul.

Gil continued working with Belinda Monahan on the final publication of the Late Chalcolithic ceramics from his 1992–97 excavations at the fourth millennium BCE Uruk Mesopotamian colony site of Hacinebi.

Gil presented four academic papers during the 2015–2016 academic year:

- “The Complex Origins of Complex Societies: Alternative Pathways to the Emergence of Social Inequality and Political Centralization across the Near East in the 6th–5th millennia BC,” at the 5th International Congress of Young Iranian Archaeologists, Tehran University, Tehran (October 11, 2015)

- “The Origins of Social Complexity in Chalcolithic Northern Mesopotamia: Excavations at Surezha,” at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida (April 7, 2016)
- “Cultural Heritage Work in Afghanistan,” at the ASOR-Smithsonian World Heritage Day Workshop, Smithsonian Institution Freer Gallery, Washington, DC. (April 18, 2016)
- “Producing Income and Reproducing Identity: The Long-Term Trajectory of a Mesopotamian Trade Diaspora in the Fourth Millennium BC,” at the Anthropology Department, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Globalization Seminar (April 28, 2016)

Gil had five single-authored and co-authored publications in 2015–16:

- Michael Fisher and Gil Stein, “Aks of War: A Digital Museum Inventory for a War-torn Afghanistan,” in *Proceedings, 9th ICAANE, Basel 2014*, (Basel, 2016), pp. 453–67
- Alexia Smith, Philip Graham, and Gil Stein, “Ubaid Plant Use at Tell Zeidan, Syria,” *Paléorient* 41/2 (2016): 51–69 (2016)
- Gil Stein, “Tony Wilkinson (1948–2014),” *Iraq* 77 (2016): 1–3
- Gil Stein, “The Oriental Institute Partnership with the National Museum of Afghanistan 2014–2015 Report,” *Oriental Institute Annual Report 2014–2015*, (University of Chicago The Oriental Institute, 2015), pp. 139–43
- Gil Stein “The War-ravaged Archaeological Heritage of Afghanistan: An Overview of Projects of Assessment, Mitigation, and Preservation,” *Near Eastern Archaeology* 78/3 (2015): 187–95

Emily Teeter

Emily Teeter continues to work with objects in our collection and in other collections throughout the world. She is presently researching stelae originally from Deir el Medina that were excavated by the Oriental Institute at Medinet Habu in the 1920s and 1930s. Surprisingly, considering they have been unstudied for many decades, some of them were commissioned by very well-known individuals. She continues to work on an embalming cache in our collection and she, along with Kierra Foley and Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer, are finishing the complete re-cataloging of the Egyptian holdings of the Art Institute of Chicago. Emily is also completing a chapter on forms of Egyptian worship for the *Oxford Handbook of Ritual and Worship*. She recently submitted manuscripts for publication to Palgrave/MacMillan, and to the French Institute in Cairo, as well as a brief entry on Felix Teynard for the catalog of the Smart Museum’s exhibit of The Guttman Collection of Photography. Publications that appeared this last year include *In the Shadow of a Pyramid: The Egyptian Collection of L. V. Holzmaister* (Prague: National Museum), for which she served as co-editor and contributor. She reviewed articles being considered for publication in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and *Journal for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities* and she also reviewed several book proposals for major academic publishers.

Emily spoke at the College of William and Mary, the History Museum of Mobile, and the Field Museum. She continues to serve on the Boards of CIPEG (the International Committee for Egyptology), CAORC (Council of American Overseas Research Centers), and ARCE (American Research Center in Egypt), finishing her term as ARCE's Vice-President. She served on a committee reviewing the governance of CAORC, and she was part of an ARCE delegation that visited Washington, D.C., to visit with American and Egyptian officials. Emily attended the International Congress of Egyptology in Florence in August, and she continued to the CIPEG meeting in Munich where she delivered a paper on the Egyptian collection of the Oriental Institute.

Theo van den Hout

In his first year not being department chair, **Theo van den Hout** was able to devote more time to the Chicago Hittite Dictionary project (CHD, see separate report) and teaching. Besides teaching classes on Hittite and Anatolian topics, the Common Core course in the College, "Reading Cultures," proved to be a very rewarding experience. As usual, there was also some committee work to be done. Theo submitted manuscripts for three entries for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*: "Waškuwatašši" (a deity), "Weihgabe" (votive gift), and "Ziege" (goat). Great fun was giving the joint Oriental-Institute lecture with Robert Ritner on the Battle of Kadesh in the winter (see below). In April Theo was elected a 2016 Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation in New York City. This past year he also corresponded with author Stephen King who asked him some questions on ancient Near Eastern demons.

Theo was happy to see his book *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköi, Achtundsechzigstes Heft: Texte aus dem Bezirk des Grossen Tempels XX* (Berlin: Gebr. Mann Verlag) published: hand copies of 317 cuneiform fragments that he had worked on for the last few years. Articles that came out this year are "Memorization and Hittite Ritual: New Perspectives on the Transmission of Hittite Ritual Texts" (with Hannah Marcuson), *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 15: 143–68; "A New Hieroglyphic Luwian Inscription from Pancarlı Höyük, Near Zincirli, Turkey, and its implications for the Early Iron Age in Sam'al-Y'DY" (with Virginia Rimmer and Ahmet Beyazlar), *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 75: 53–70; "Purandamuwa, der Verlorene Sohn Mittannamuwas?" in *Anatolica et Indogermanica. Studia linguistica in honorem Johannis Tischler septuagenarii dedicata*, H. Marquardt, S. Reichmuth, and J. V. García Trabazo, eds. (Innsbruck), pp. 343–48.

In addition there were five encyclopaedia entries in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* on "Vergöttlichung" (deification), "Versammlung" (assembly), "Wächter, Wache" (guard, watch), "Wagen, -modell" (wheeled vehicle and models thereof), and "Walwazidi" (PN), that appeared in print. Especially interesting turned out to be the article on vehicles, on which nothing systematic had been written so far. This is a subject Theo might return to in the not too far future with chariotry and horse specialist Peter Raulwing (San Francisco), who was instrumental in writing this longer entry.

Theo gave the following presentations: "Is Absence of Evidence Evidence of Absence? oder die Frage nach dem Anders-sein der Hethiter," (keynote lecture) *Stand und Perspektiven der Hethitologie. Kolloquium zum Abschluss des Projekts "Hethitische Forschungen," Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur, Mainz* (September 7–8); "The Battle of Kadesh: A Debate between the Egyptian and Hittite Perspectives," with Robert Ritner, *The*

Oriental Institute (January 6; see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1AGe2V0qHo&feature=youtu.be>); “Neue Gedanken zu den Tonbulln aus dem Nişantepe-Archiv in Hattusa,” Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (July 5).

Tasha Vorderstrasse

In 2015–2016, **Tasha Vorderstrasse** received the Oriental Institute Museum Collections Research grant. Her work focused on the Islamic levels at the site of Alishar Höyük, located in central Turkey, that was excavated by the Oriental Institute in the 1920s and 1930s. Although some of the Islamic material had appeared in the publications of the excavations, this material has never been studied as a whole. It represents an important corpus of material from the twelfth/thirteenth centuries as well as the Ottoman period. Central Turkey has not been the subject of extensive archaeological research in the Islamic period and this project builds on previous work done by the author in the area, most notably at the site of Komana. She looked at a large quantity of small finds, glass, and pottery in order to come to a better understanding of the site and how it fits into wider regional trends.

In January 2016, she became part of the MANTIS project at the Oriental Institute (see separate) and has been working largely on the site of Dura Europos since then. This has included doing data entry in OCHRE and conducting research on the site. She was one of the presenters at a brown bag lecture on the project at the Oriental Institute in June.

Her research outside of the University of Chicago focused on continued work at the excavations at the site of Komana, near Tokat, where she worked again on the pottery in the summer of 2015. She also returned to the Louvre to complete the work on the Qoueiq survey material for publication. In March, she looked at coins and unpublished manuscripts from the site of Alishar Höyük at the American Numismatic Society and examined material from the Dura Europos in the Yale University Art Gallery as comparanda for material from the sites of Antioch and Alishar Höyük. She also examined the papers of Ellsworth Huntington concerning his research in Turkey in the late nineteenth/early twentieth centuries at Yale University Library.

She was the co-organizer and co-chair of the ASOR 2015 session “Archaeology of the Crusader Period,” and gave a talk on “Archaeology and Charters in the Principality of Antioch and the County of Tripoli” at the conference as well as another lecture, “Economy, Documentation, and Coinage in Achaemenid and Hellenistic Bactria” with Brian Muhs. She gave a talk on “Reliquary Crosses in the Middle Byzantine Period” at the Late Antique and Byzantine Studies Workshop, University of Chicago (December 2015) and gave an invited lecture “Ways of Seeing in Frescoes in Georgian Churches: Past, Present, and Future” at the Yale University symposium “‘Georgian Orthodoxy’: Revival of Art and Religion in the Caucasus” in March 2016.

She was appointed to the editorial board of the journal *Near Eastern Archaeology*, and the following articles were published: “Re-Constructing a Medieval Tomb from Antioch,” in *Le patrimoine architectural de l’Église orthodoxe d’Antioche. Perspectives comparatives avec les autres groupes religieux du Moyen-Orient et des régions limitrophes*, M. Davie, ed. (2015); “Medieval Pits of Komana,” in *The Medieval Settlement at Komana*, D. B. Erciyas and M. N. Tatbul, eds. (Istanbul:

Ege Yayinlari, 2015), pp. 181–92; “A Yezidi Sanctuary in Armenia” in *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 227 (2015): 20–21.

John Z. Wee

John Wee is author of the following academic articles and essays in 2016: “Virtual Moons Over Babylonia: The Calendar Text System, Its Micro-Zodiac of 13, and the Making of Medical Zodiology,” in *The Circulation of Astronomical Knowledge in the Ancient World*, J. M. Steele, ed. (Time, Astronomy, and Calendars 6; Brill), pp. 139–229; “A Late Babylonian Astral Commentary on Marduk’s Address to the Demons,” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 75/1: 127–67; and a trade essay on “Wretched Subjects, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Ancient Science,” *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 230: 4–14. In press and forthcoming are “Earthquake and Epilepsy: The Body Geologic in the Hippocratic Treatise on the Sacred Disease,” in *The Comparable Body: Imagination and Analogy in Ancient Anatomy and Physiology*, John Z. Wee, ed. (Studies in Ancient Medicine; Brill); and “Five Birds, Twelve Rooms, and the Seleucid Game of Twenty Squares,” in an edited volume by Brill.

In the past year, John presented the following lectures and conference papers: “Mapping Stars and Planets Until the Zodiac” at the 37th Annual Humanities Day at the University of Chicago (October 17, 2015); “An Esoteric Babylonian Commentary, Explained,” at the 226th Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Boston (March 18–21, 2016); and “How to Play the Mesopotamian Game of Twenty Squares,” at an invited lecture for the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program, University of Chicago (April 11, 2016).

In addition, he is preparing papers for these upcoming presentations: “Pan-astronomical Hermeneutics and the Arts of the Lamentation Priest,” at the Workshop for Project on Pre-Medieval Commentaries in Medicine and Mathematical Sciences, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin (August 25–27, 2016); “On Mesopotamian Planets and Star Maps,” at the Wednesday Lunch Series for Faculty at the Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago (October 12, 2016); “The Mesopotamian Diagnostic Series Sa-gig as Handbook,” at the Conference on the Form, Utility, and Professional Technê of Practical Handbooks in the Ancient World as part of the Magical Knowledge Project sponsored by the Neubauer Collegium, University of Chicago (November 12, 2016); and “From the Babylonian Micro-Zodiac to Dodekatemoria in Late Antiquity,” at the Workshop on Ancient Astrology, aligned with the 2016–2017 Research Theme of Scale, Institute of Advanced Study at Durham University (Dec 9–10, 2016).

Donald Whitcomb

This year has been one of changes of fortune, the conclusion of the Jericho Mafjar Project, the opening of new fieldwork projects, and cautionary physical events. For someone who started in Middle Eastern archaeology in Iran, an opportunity to return was remarkable. In early October, **Donald Whitcomb** flew to Tehran for the International Congress of Young Archaeologists at University of Tehran. Don gave a lecture on “Archaeology of Sasanian Cities” and came to realize that he had the earliest Iranian field experience of the foreign archaeologists there.

At a dinner feted by Dr. Hamideh Choobak, director of the Iranian Center for Archaeological Research (ICAR), she suggested that Don excavate Jundi Shapur with direction of Negin Miri. Negin and Don discussed this huge, complex urban site and agreed on approaches — thus begins a new dream.

Following the conference, Abbas Alizadeh organized an overnight train to Shush (Susa, some sixteen hours). They lived in the chateau (the old French archaeological center) and Abbas gave them tours of ancient Susa and Iwan-I Karkheh, an important Sasanian city. The next day they visited Jundi Shapur, and Don saw Robert Adams' trenches of the 1960s. Don had studied that project and made startling new discoveries on the basis of its reports (*Oriental Institute 2003-2004 Annual Report*, p. 93). The day ended with a picnic above the falls of Shushtar. Back in Tehran, Don visited the ceramics study rooms with Majid Arfaee, an old friend from the Oriental Institute and again chatted with Negin and her husband Abbas about Iranian archaeology.

In November Don participated in the American Society of Oriental Research meetings in Atlanta. Don responded to an interesting set of papers on the "11th c. decline" organized by Katia Cytryn-Silverman and Gideon Avni; this was a fine opportunity to continue discussion of what Don called the "second transition" in Islamic Archaeology, from Early into Middle Islamic periods. Then they had a panel on Khirbet al-Mafjar, where Don spoke on the four mosques that have now been discovered. The other papers in the panel seemed to turn around Ignacio Arce's new hypothesis, that the site has an earlier Roman occupation. They put together a series of papers on their excavation experiences and this is now published in the journal *Near Eastern Archaeology* 79/2: 78-87.

As it turned out, this article is a sort of "swan song" for the Jericho Mafjar Project. The new director and a committee decided that the five-year Memorandum of Understanding was finished and no further excavations were necessary. This termination of the Jericho Mafjar Project now seems to be a matter of departmental politics and not a dissatisfaction with our fieldwork. Nevertheless, Don went to Jerusalem feeling some umbrage and looking for a new project. This became a tour of Tiberias, with a long visit to Sinnabra (Khirbet al-Karak) led by Rafi Greenberg, and the Jezreel valley, hosted by Matt Adams. The most exciting information came from a visit to al-Quds University, where the archaeologists treated him to information on several early Islamic sites of extraordinary value and potential.

April proved a deciding month, as Don went to Cairo to be keynote speaker for a Fatimid ceramics conference sponsored by the French and German Institutes. After a day of fine papers, Don became hobbled with a bad hip and returned to Chicago. The wages of so much travel this last year included more serious health problems that kept him in the hospital for a month and then on a slow road to recovery. Don was home by early June and returned to the Oriental Institute, waiting for a new hip and more field opportunities.

Karen L. Wilson

During the past year, **Karen Wilson** has been finalizing the manuscript for *Nippur VI: The Inanna Temple* that will appear in the Oriental Institute Publications series. *Nippur VI* will be the final publication of the Oriental Institute excavation of the Inanna Temple at the site of Nippur during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The authors of the volume are Richard L. Zettler,

Karen L. Wilson, Jean M. Evans, and Robert D. Biggs, with contributions by R. C. Haines and Donald P. Hansen. The series editor is McGuire Gibson.

This past year, Karen also continued to serve as Kish Project Coordinator and Research Associate at the Field Museum, preparing aspects of the publication of the work of the joint Field Museum and Oxford University expedition to Kish in 1923–1932. She is extremely pleased that the Oriental Institute Publications Committee has agreed to publish the manuscript as a volume in the Oriental Institute Publications series. The volume presents the results of a symposium conducted in November 2008 that focused on current research and updated excavations at the site. Chapters cover studies of the human remains, textual evidence, lithics, animal figurines, seals, stucco, and stratigraphy as well as a catalog of portions of the Field Museum holdings from the sites of Kish and Jamdat Nasr.

Christopher Woods

Christopher Woods devoted much of this past year to continuing work on a number of long-term projects, completing publications, and presenting papers at several international conferences. Chris chaired the search committee that recommended the appointment of Jean Evans, PhD, as Chief Curator and Deputy Director for Collections and Exhibitions of the Oriental Institute Museum. He continued his editorship of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and oversaw the Oriental Institute's Postdoctoral Scholars Program.

This year has also seen the conclusion of Chris' Neubauer Collegium project, *Signs of Writing: The Cultural, Social, and Linguistic Contexts of the World's First Writing Systems* (in collaboration with Edward Shaughnessy, *East Asian Languages and Civilizations*). *Signs of Writing* was a three-year research project designed to investigate, from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective, the cultural and social contexts and structural properties of the world's oldest writing. Particular emphasis was placed on the four primary writing systems from Mesopotamia, China, Egypt, and Mesoamerica, looking at the similarities and differences in the archaeological and paleographic records across regions and the psycho-linguistic processes by which humans first made language visible. The first of our three annual conferences took place November 8–9, 2014; a second conference took place in China on June 25–30, 2015, and was hosted jointly by the Chicago Center in Beijing and Fudan University in Shanghai. Our third conference took place July 25–27, 2016, with two days at the University's Paris Center and a third at the Sorbonne (co-hosted by the École Pratique des Hautes Études and the University of Basel). Following the format of our Chicago and China meetings, the theme of our Paris conference was, broadly, script, society, and literature, within the context and process of the invention of writing. Specific topics included scribal transmission and education, the development of literacy, the rise of literature from earlier genres and the extension of incipient writing systems to serve this purpose, the materiality and archaeological contexts of writing, as well as the relationship between writing and the non-linguistic symbolic systems that preceded visible language. It bears mentioning in this connection that our *Signs of Writing* conferences represented the most extensive forum to date for the study of early writing systems, having collectively offered more than one hundred presentations given by some fifty scholars representing not only the different civilizations that independently invented writing (Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and Mesoamerica), but also various disciplinary

approaches such as number systems, pedagogy, cognitive psychology, in addition to such traditional disciplines as archaeology, history, linguistics, and religion. We also hosted at the Collegium several visiting scholars in connection with our project, for periods ranging from two weeks to two months. Xianhua Wang, Director of the Institute of Afrasian History and Philology at the School of History and Culture, Sichuan University, spent much of the winter quarter (January–March) with us. He was joined in February by Amalia Gnanadesikan of the University of Maryland. Wang is an Assyriologist working primarily on issues of writing in third-millennium Mesopotamia; Gnanadesikan is a linguist and world-authority on writing systems broadly. In March we hosted our close collaborator Andréas Stauder, an Egyptologist at the École Pratique.

Chris presented at both Signs of Writing conferences this past year, speaking on “Contingency Tables and Economic Forecasting in the Earliest Texts from Mesopotamia” at Shanghai and on “Determinatives in Sumerian Writing from the Perspective of Noun Classifier Systems” at the Paris meeting. At the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale meeting in Philadelphia in July, Chris spoke in a session honoring Oriental Institute Professor Emeritus Miguel Civil on “In the Mind’s Eye: Possible Mental Abacus Calculations in Mesopotamia.” In March, at the American Oriental Institute meeting in Boston he presented on “The Abacus in Mesopotamia: Considerations from a Comparative Perspective.” At this year’s annual Oriental Institute Symposium, organized by Stephanie Rost on Irrigation in Early States, Chris spoke on “Where the Rivers Meet Language: Topographical Deixis in Sumerian.” Finally, in June Chris spoke on “Gilgamesh in Its Ancient and Modern Contexts” at the Assyrian Legacy: From Ancient Civilization to Today’s Cultural Revival conference at the Library of Congress and participated in the workshop “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Cuneiform Studies and Ancient Societies” (Ann Arbor) in honor of Piotr Michalowski.
