Miguel Civil

The edition of the Farmer's Instructions (Aula Orientalis, Supplement 5), announced in last year's report, appeared as planned and now, one year later, is already out of print. A volume with Sumerian dialogues between women is expected to go to press in spring 1996.

Miguel Civil has in press, among editions of other Sumerian literary texts, the study of a curious fragment showing how Sumerian was taught to Akkadian-speaking pupils. The teacher recites a series of Akkadian verbal forms and the student translates them into Sumerian. Interestingly enough, the verbal forms are the same found in an "Old Babylonian Grammatical Text" of the eighteenth century B.C. giving instructions on how to make a clay tablet. Language teaching was thus combined with practical training in skills needed by the future scribes.

The work on the hypertext corpus of Sumerian has continued during the past year. The major texts—lexical, historical, and literary—are all incorporated although some still lack a complete critical apparatus. Sizable portions of the grammar have
already been incorporated to the textual data. A complete Macintosh-compatible version should be soon available.

Civil took part in the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in Salt Lake City and in the forty-second Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Leuven. He has been asked to collaborate as advisor to an international project to compile an anthropological index of Akkadian terms (ISLA).