

Robert D. Biggs

Robert D. Biggs spent the first year of his retirement in scholarly pursuits. He was invited to give the Thirteenth Sir Arthur Thompson lecture at the Centre for the History of Medicine at the University of Birmingham in England. His topic was “Medical Practice in Ancient Babylonia: A Twenty-first Century View.” He has been asked to revise it as a chapter in a volume being edited by Professor Robert Arnott of Birmingham. Still in the realm of Babylonian medicine, he was active in his capacity as one of two members of the editorial board of the series *Die babylonisch-assyrische Medizin*, a new volume of which was published in summer 2005. On a different topic, he revised and updated his chapter on the inscriptions for Augusta McMahon’s *Nippur 5, The Area WF Sounding: The Early Dynastic to Akkadian Transition* (Oriental Institute Publication 129; Chicago, forthcoming). Despite being retired, he has consented to continue as editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* until a new editor is appointed. In June 2005 he was honored by the editors of the *Journal of Assyrian Academic Studies* with an issue of the journal dedicated to him, for which he was asked to contribute several articles, including one on his career in Assyriology and his Near Eastern archaeology experiences.
