

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

ABBAS ALIZADEH submitted to the publication office the final report of his excavations at three urban settlements of Abu Fanduweh, Chogha Do Sar, and Beladiyeh in lowland Susiana in the modern province of Khuzestan, southwestern Iran. The results of those excavations, conducted as part of the Oriental Institute Iranian Prehistoric Project, have provided a clear history of the development of the major types of the fourth millennium BCE ceramics for the three important stages of socioeconomic and political development of the early state and urbanism in the region.

He is now preparing the manuscript on his excavations of four prehistoric settlements (Tall-e Bakun A and B, Tall-e Jari and Tall-e Mushki) in the plain of Persepolis. The latter fieldwork has provided the hitherto unavailable absolute radiocarbon dates for these key settlements in the region as well as stratified sequence of the local pottery and evidence of subsistence economy from ca. 6800 to 4000 BCE. In addition to these works, Alizadeh is working on a manuscript for the Robert and Deborah Aliber Persian Gallery and an article on the contributions of Oriental Institute's archaeologists to Iranian archaeology from 1931 to the present.

Alizadeh's new project is "the Archaeology of Apprenticeship," in which the processes through which craftsmen (primarily potters) learned their crafts are documented using various categories of archaeological collections both in the Oriental Institute and the National Museum of Iran. The model for this project was provided by the ethnoarchaeological works of M. A. Harding on the contemporary potters in southwest of the United States. Alizadeh also plans to travel to Iran to conduct an ethnoarchaeological survey of the modern-day pottery workshops in Hamadan (ancient Ecbatana) and in Khuzestan to document the way modern-day potters train their young apprentices.

RICHARD H. BEAL spent much of his time copyediting the final fascicle of the letter Š, which was, at the time of writing, just submitted to the Publications Office. More was spent revising the entries in the L volume (published in 1979) for inclusion on the electronic e-CHD. This means looking for newly found or newly published references, 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.

Toward the beginning of the academic year he gave a lecture on the origins of Hittite, Anatolian, and cuneiform studies at the University of Chicago at the 10th International Congress of Hittitology, hosted by the Chicago Hittite Dictionary and held at the Oriental Institute the last week of August 2017. This lecture included information and illustrations from the Oriental Institute and University archives and some personal reminiscences. It showed that ancient Near Eastern studies were taught at the very founding of the University of Chicago, with founding president William Rainey Harper (Hebrew), Robert Francis Harper (Akkadian), Ira Price (Sumerian and Hebrew), George S. Goodspeed (history), and Carl Darling Buck (Indo-European linguistics). Texts from Ḫattuša/Boğazköy were first taught in classes, soon after the German team published them, by Daniel David Luckenbill, founder of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary. In 1926, Breasted, thinking that the Hittites were the least studied of all ancient Near Eastern empires, hired Hans Henning von der Osten to survey Anatolia and to

choose a site to excavate in Anatolia. Tales published in von der Osten's semi-popular reports of each season of explorations in the Oriental Institute Communications (OIC) series gave this section of the Congress lecture the heading "When Anatolian Studies Were a Little Too Exciting." It was amazing the amount of pressure to publish that Breasted put on von der Osten and his co-excavator of Alishar Höyük, Erich Schmidt, and the rapid series of publications that resulted. Breasted's intent to found an Oriental Institute branch in Ankara and continue excavations after 1932 in Anatolia foundered on a shrinking budget due to the Great Depression.

Meanwhile, in 1928 Breasted appointed controversial Swiss/German Hittitologist, Emil Forrer, as associate professor of Hittite. Unfortunately for the Oriental Institute, Forrer spent the three years of his contract avoiding showing up in America; not surprisingly his contract was not renewed. So in 1932 the editorial assistant of the CAD, Assyriologist and Hittitologist Arnold Walther, was promoted to assistant professor of Hittite and Hittite pedagogy at the Oriental Institute and began in Autumn 1932 with 9 am classes in OI 318. After Walther's too-early death, Hittite philology was continued through Ignace Gelb, Hans-Gustav Güterbock, Harry Hoffner, to today with Theo van den Hout and Petra Goedegebuure. A condensed version of this lecture is scheduled to appear as part of the Oriental Institute's Centennial volume.

In conjunction with the Hittite Congress, together with Oya Topçuoğlu — the CHD's then-senior lexicographic assistant (and now after getting her PhD, a lecturer at Northwestern) — Richard put together a condensed version of the lecture to form a temporary exhibit; this exhibit is currently installed in the lower level vestibule outside the LaSalle Banks room. He also contributed to discussions over the information to be displayed in the reinstallation of the Museum's Anatolian gallery.

Richard and his wife, JoAnn Scurlock, are editing the papers from a one-day Midwest American Oriental Society conference at St. Mary's University in Notre Dame, Indiana. The book is tentatively entitled *What Difference Does Time Make? Ancient, Biblical and Islamic Middle Eastern and Chinese Studies Celebrating 100 Years of the Midwest Branch of the American Oriental Society*.

In September Richard and JoAnn spent a month on a self-created tour of Iran. As on their previous two trips to Iran, they continued to build a photo archive of Iranian monuments and sights. While on their second self-planned trip to Iran, they had concentrated on Elamite, Achaemenid, Arsacid, and Sassanian rock-reliefs, this trip concentrated on Seljuk, Il-Khanid, and Timurid buildings. As before, other things were not neglected, such as Qajar houses and bathhouses, ethnographic museums, and villages. The highpoint was probably the vertical-axis windmills of Naštifan, perhaps the oldest windmills in the world. Our visit made the local newspaper.

ROBERT D. BIGGS continued to serve as co-editor of the series *Die babylonisch-assyrische Medizin in Texten und Untersuchungen* published by De Gruyter in Berlin. He spent much of the fall of 2017 reading the manuscripts for volume 9, that has now appeared as *Assyrian and Babylonian Scholarly Text Catalogues: Medicine, Magic and Divination*, edited by Ulrike Steinert. He continues to study cuneiform texts, mainly from the Third Dynasty of Ur, from small private and institutional collections.

The most satisfying event this year for **FRED M. DONNER** was his successful sponsorship of Michael C. A. Macdonald for the award of the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by the University of Chicago. Macdonald, who has for decades been the central figure in the study of pre-Islamic North Arabian inscriptions, was able to come from his home in Oxford to receive his honorary

degree at the University convocation in June, at which time he was able to meet numerous colleagues from the Oriental Institute and the University and participate in the gala ceremonies associated with the award of honorary degrees. Donner is grateful to his colleague Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee and others at the University and elsewhere who enthusiastically supported the nomination of Macdonald.

Besides his usual teaching — with courses on “The Rise of Islam and the Caliphate” and “Readings in Islamic Ritual Law” in autumn quarter and “Introduction to the Middle East” and “Islamic Origins” in the spring quarter — Donner spent a good deal of time preparing and giving lectures, mostly for specialized audiences. These included: “The Conquests of the Arabian Believers’ Movement as Historiographical Concept and Historical Reality” at a conference on the Battle of Yarmuk (636 CE) held in Tübingen, Germany, in June; “An Inscriptural Context for the Qur’an?,” delivered at the 2nd international conference of the International Qur’anic Studies Association in Tunis, in July; “Das sich entwickelnde Bild des frühen Islams und seine Bedeutung für die Geisteswissenschaften,” a plenary address to the Islamicists of the Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft at its triennial conference in Jena, Germany, in September; “Early Islam and the Community of Believers: Cohesion and its Limits,” delivered at a workshop on Religion and Ethnicity held in Vienna, Austria, in January; “The Earliest Extant Arabic Letter? Some Problems in Search of a Solution,” plenary lecture for the International Society of Arabic Papyrology quadrennial conference, in Berlin, in March; and “New Directions in the Study of Islam’s Origins,” the Inaugural Donald M. Little Memorial Lecture at McGill University in Montréal, in April. His lecture on “Early Arabic Epistolography” for a workshop on documentary typologies in Zürich, Switzerland in January had to be delivered by a colleague when Donner could not attend for personal reasons. He also gave a short presentation on “Periodization” at the Early Modern graduate workshop at Chicago in April, and in March spent a pleasant week at the University of Leiden, Netherlands, participating in workshops on early Islamic history and Arabic papyrology.

Donner served as outside evaluator for tenure or promotion reviews for several universities this year, including Duke, Florida State, Ohio State, and The American University of Beirut. He evaluated one project proposal for the Union Académique Internationale (Brussels). He reviewed article manuscripts for *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, *Der Islam*, *al-Qantara* (Madrid), *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* (University of London), and book manuscripts for Edinburgh University Press, Macmillan Publishers, and the Oriental Institute. And he chaired the Oriental Institute’s search committee for a senior scholar of Ancient Iranian Studies — a search that did not result in an appointment this year, but will be continued at some time in the future.

This year Donner published a major article entitled “Talking About Islam’s Origins” in the *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, and shorter pieces on “The Status of the Jews of Khaybar,” “In Memoriam: Günter Lüling (1928–2014),” and “The Maturing of Medieval Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies,” in the online journal *Al-‘Uṣūr al-Wuṣṭā: the Bulletin of Middle East Medievalists*. He has also been engaged in editing for publication the papers from last year’s conference, “Scripts and Scripture: Writing and Religion in Arabia, ca. 500–700 C.E.,” which he organized with Professor Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee. It has been a busy year!

Donner was pleased to be honored, in January, by being named to the Peter B. Ritzma Professorship at the University. He will be eligible for sabbatical leave next year (2018–19), and was happy to receive fellowships in support of work on Arabic papyrology from the American Council of Learned Societies and the American Academy in Berlin (the “Berlin Prize”); these will allow him to spend January–May of 2019 researching Arabic papyri in the Berlin museums.

FRANÇOIS GAUDARD completed his twenty-fourth year as part of the Oriental Institute scholarly community. He spent a productive year, including visits to various museum collections for research purposes, and he continued to work on his two OI projects: the edition of the Oriental Institute Museum funerary shrouds from the Graeco-Roman period and the Mummy Label Database (MLD) (see separate report), as well as on several of his own text edition projects.

The OI shrouds revealed more interesting features, such as this unusual writing of the word *hnk.t* “beer” as $\text{𓆎} \text{𓆏} \text{𓆐}$ instead of $\text{𓆎} \text{𓆑} \text{𓆐}$, the latter being a Graeco-Roman variant of the common spelling $\text{𓆎} \text{𓆑} \text{𓆐}$ (see *Wb.* III, 169). The sign 𓆑 , which usually reads as *g*, is used here with the value *k* (see, e.g., D. KURTH, *Einführung ins Ptolemäische: Eine Grammatik mit Zeichenliste und Übungsstücken, Teil 1*, Hützel, 2007, p. 426, no. 24. Note that *k* and *g* are also interchangeable: see, e.g., *ibid.*, p. 534, §27), while the sign 𓆏 , which usually reads as *nw*, is used here with the value *n* (see, e.g., *ibid.*, p. 428, no. 37). Moreover, we are dealing with a permutation of the signs 𓆏 and 𓆑 (see, e.g., S. CAUVILLE, *Dendara: Le fonds hiéroglyphique au temps de Cléopâtre*, Paris, 2001, p. 7).

François kept contacting museums and private collections around the world in order to track lost mummy labels and complete the Mummy Label Database. From September 5 to 8, 2017, he attended the annual meeting of CIPEG (International Committee for Egyptology), dedicated to “The Role of Curators in Museum Research and Exhibits: Tradition, Change, and Looking to the Future,” and held at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. As always, François served as an editorial consultant for Egyptology articles published in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (JNES) and the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* (JARCE). He has also been working on various articles, including the following ones, which have been published, are in press, or are in preparation:

- “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. 41–52. *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization* 70. Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2017.
- “A Greek-Demotic Mummy Label in the University of Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.” In *Hieratic, Demotic and Greek Studies and Text Editions. Of Making Many Books There is No End: Festschrift in Honour of Sven P. Vleeming*, edited by Koenraad Donker van Heel, Francisca A. J. Hoogendijk, and Cary J. Martin, pp. 309–13. *Papyrologica Lugduno-Batava* 34. Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2018.
- “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 (in press).
- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, Part II: OIM E4789,” to be published in a Festschrift honoring a colleague (in preparation).
- “A Demotic Accounting Text from the Ptolemaic Period” (in preparation).

He also furthered his research on several of his long-term publication projects mentioned in earlier annual reports.

Like every member in the Egyptological community, François was stunned and deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Eugene Cruz-Urbe on March 12, 2018. As an expert in the study of Early Demotic texts, Demotic graffiti, as well as the Hibis temple, Cruz made numerous major contributions to the field of Egyptology. Besides being the best colleague, he was also the most loyal friend, always so generous, helpful, and inspiring. François will never forget his kindness, good mood, unmistakable humor, and, above all, his unfailing friendship, not to mention his knowledge and many scholarly skills. Fortunate are those who have known Cruz. He will be sorely missed.

MCGUIRE GIBSON has finished the last of the manuscripts devoted to English translations of Iraqi archaeologists' excavations. Not as elaborate as the Nimrud Queens' Tombs volume, the present work will encompass two separate but connected reports on sites located in the Diyala Region, east of Baghdad. The Oriental Institute dug four sites in that area in the 1930s, including Tell Asmar, which was ancient Eshnunna. Eshnunna was an important capital of a local dynasty at the time of Hammurabi of Babylon and his predecessors. One of the reports in the present volume, by Hussain Ali Hamza, records a small site called Muqdadiya, which was a dependency at some periods of Eshnunna. The second report, by Salah Rmeidh, is concerned with new excavations carried out by him at Tell Asmar itself. This volume is being submitted to the OI editorial office in the next week or two. He has already turned his attention, once again to the manuscripts of his own backlog of reports on work done at Nippur and elsewhere.

An important event during the past academic year was the conference organized and chaired by Gibson at the Neubauer Collegium on May 23–24, 2018. Entitled Long-Term Environmental and Social Change in Mesopotamia Integrating Evidence from Ancient Texts, Archaeology, and Natural Science, this conference reported on the results of a research grant given by Neubauer to Gibson and a group of collaborators in the US, UK, and Iraq. The project included the taking of sediment samples in Iraq by Iraqis, coordinating with Mark Altaweel and Stephen Lintner (University of London) through Jaafar Jotheri (University of Qadissiya, Iraq). Other sediment samples that had been collected and stored in the US by Lintner in the 1970s, when he was part of the Nippur team, were also analyzed by Anke Marsh (London), and the combined samples gave great new information on environmental conditions in southern Iraq. This information was put into a broader context by the work of Dominik Fleitmann (University of Reading), which results in the best environmental record ever derived for Iraq over more than 10,000 years. Cuneiform scholars involved in studies of irrigation and land management — Hervé Reculeau (Chicago), Stephanie Rost (NYU), Stephen Cole (Northwestern), and Magnus Widell (Liverpool) — presented complementary data, and two specialists in the Ottoman period — Isacar Bolanos (Ohio State) and Faisal H. Husain (Georgetown) — showed that research within administrative records of any period could give great insights in traditional methods and administrative oversight.

PETRA M. GOEDEGEBUURE presented the final results of her work on the rise of split-ergativity in Hittite as key note speaker at the 29th West Coast Indo-European Conference, Los Angeles (The Universal Packagers *-ant-* and *-a-*, and Split-Ergativity in the Anatolian Languages). She argues that the reorganization of Hittite syntax into a split-ergative system was the result of the reanalysis of a morpheme that originally turned masses and collectives into individuals into an ergative case marker for neuter nouns. The study of split-ergativity is part of a larger project, Expressing Agency and Point of View: The Core Cases in the Ancient Anatolian Languages, 1700–300 BCE, awarded an ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies) fellowship for academic year 2018–19. Hittite morphology and syntax was also addressed in two works in progress (article: “Studies in Hittite Syntax: The Old Hittite Genitive on *-an* and the Local Adverb *tapuša* ‘alongside’”; conference presentation: “*kuit=a* ‘but as for’, Old Hittite Marker of Extra-Clausal Constituents”).

The latter study will be published in the proceedings of the Xth International Congress of Hittitology, held in Chicago, August 28–September 1, 2017. This triennial conference was organized by the members of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project and the graduate students of the Anatolian Studies program. Petra created the conference website, and handled registration and accommodation, but also almost all correspondence. Together with the students she worked on the program

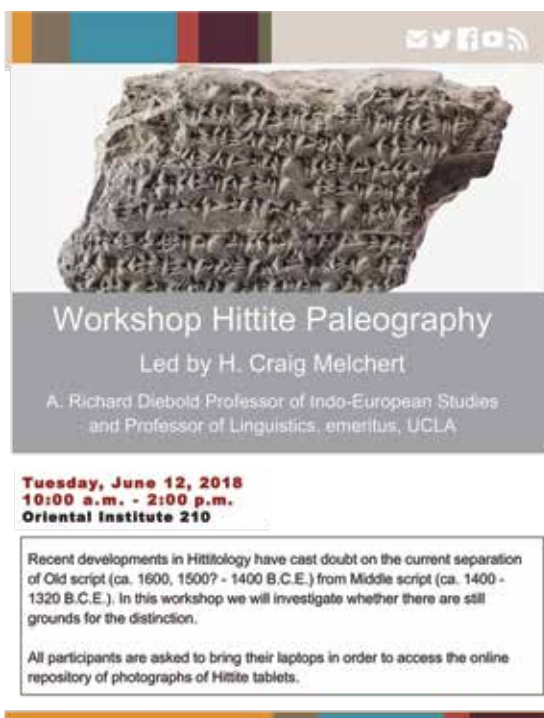
and the book of abstracts. As part of the preparations for the conference, Petra fulfilled advisory roles for a mini-exhibit in the Henrietta Herbolsheimer M.D. Syro-Anatolian gallery of the Oriental Institute Museum, connecting artifacts and dictionary entries; the refurbishing of the Alişar case in the Syro-Anatolian gallery; and the refurbishing of the writing case in the same gallery.

Several manuscripts on a wide variety of topics were submitted for publication, are in press, or were published. The topics covered pure philology (“A New Join to a Hittite Festival of Thunder: KBo 31.183 + KBo 34.185 + KBo 20.61 (CTH 631’),” *N.A.B.U.* 2017/2 (juin): 105–07), the decipherment of two Anatolian hieroglyphs that until now could not be read (“The Hieroglyphic Luwian Signs *128 (AVIS ‘bird’) = wa and *30 = HAPA.” Forthcoming in: *Acts of the IXth International Congress of Hittitology 2014*), history of religion (“Dynastic, State, and Popular Religion in Hittite Anatolia.” Forthcoming in Tawny Holm (ed.), *Oxford Handbook of Religions in the Ancient Near East*), and, last but not least, the submitted final volume of the letter Š of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary*. Among other things, Petra was responsible for the conjunction šu. Petra could show that this conjunction, which hitherto was not believed to have a real meaning, marked a cause-effect relation, and should be translated as ‘so (that)’ (see further Project Reports).

The correct dating of texts based on paleography is an important aspect of writing entries for the CHD. Petra organized a workshop Hittite Paleography, featuring Craig Melchert, one of the external CHD consultants, to share the results of his recent investigations. The workshop led to a better understanding of which sign forms can be used to date texts.

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For **GENE GRAGG**, the principal research effort during the year has been on the data, and data-manipulating routines of the Afroasiatic Morphological Archive (AAMA). Preparation for an online Afroasiatic and Semitic Digital Humanities Conference to be held in July has prompted a deeper examination of the Afroasiatic (or Afroasiatic or Afro-Asiatic) scope of the AAMA project, and a re-examination of the place of a project like this in the context of the current vast expansion of digital humanities resources. This motivates a reworking of its current primary web presence (still <https://aama.github.io>, now in addition linked with a video demo of the project’s web application). It has been possible now for a number of years to download project language-data files and application files, and to install an AAMA datastore on individual computers, but it is becoming clear that if AAMA is going to be in a position to interface with related digital humanities projects especially involving lexical resources, it is now essential to get an AAMA RDF datastore and its web application hosted online.



Hittite Paleography workshop poster.

ALEKSANDRA HALLMANN joined the Oriental Institute in September 2017 as postdoctoral scholar (2017–19) just after finishing her ten-month tenure as a postdoctoral scholar at the American Research Center in Egypt, financed by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Her main task was to organize the 14th Annual University of Chicago Oriental Institute Seminar, *Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*. The symposium, that was held March 1–2, 2018, explored dress studies in the ancient world, searching for cross-cultural patterns in dress behavior. The goal of this conference was to construct definition(s) of the clothed self and to investigate multiple trajectories of the dress' role in the construction of various identities in the ancient world.

Aleksandra spent November 2017 and March 2018 in Egypt pursuing her fieldwork related to her main research interest that is the iconography of Kushite and Saite monuments in the Theban area. The fieldwork for the project was conducted in the framework of the Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago at the temple of Medinet Habu, as well as in the framework of the Mission “Osirian Sanctuaries at Karnak” and the Franco-Egyptian Center at the temple of Karnak. Her fieldwork was funded by the National Science Centre of Poland in the form of Grant Harmonia 8 (016/22/M/HS3/00354) for international cooperation between the Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences (Warsaw) and Institut français d'archéologie orientale. The field seasons in Medinet Habu focused on making an extensive documentation of the God's Wife portrayals depicted in their mortuary chapels. The main goal was to conduct a computerized epigraphic survey of the surviving decoration using the photogrammetric software Agisoft PhotoScan and to make orthomosaics of particular scenes that will be used to make digitalized drawings of God's Wives depictions (see photo).

Aleksandra participated in the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, held in April in Tucson, where she presented results of her project “Iconography of God's Wives: The Association between Image and Idea” that she started as an American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) postdoctoral fellow and that she is continuing as postdoctoral scholar at the OI.

Two of Aleksandra's publications were published this year: “The Osirian Chapels at Karnak: An Historical and Art Historical Overview Based on Recent Fieldwork and Studies,” co-authored with Laurent Coulon and Frédéric Payraudeau, in *Thebes in the First Millennium B.C.: Art and Archaeology of the Kushite Period and Beyond*, edited by E. Pischikova, J. Budka, and K. Griffin, (GHP Egyptology 27, London 2018): pp. 271–93, as well as “Tissu en lin peint de Sennefer,” in *À l'œuvre on connaît l'artisan... de Pharaon ! Un siècle de recherches françaises à Deir el-Medina (1917–2017)*, edited by H. Gaber, L. Bazin Rizzo, F. Servajean, (SilvanaEditoriale, Milano, 2017): pp. 92–94.

One of the main foci of the academic year was ongoing work on the final version of the book manuscript based on Aleksandra's dissertation, which was accepted to be published by



Orthomosaic of the North-West wall of the cella's corridor of the chapel of Ameniridis at Medinet Habu by Aleksandra Hallmann.

the Oriental Institute. The PhD thesis “The Representation of Private Costume in Egyptian Art from the 25th to 31st Dynasty,” was defended in June 2015 at the University of Warsaw, Poland, and won the Prime Minister’s Award of Poland for one of the best dissertations of the year.

Aleksandra is currently preparing a paper, “Unwrapping Ancient Egyptian Fashion,” for the fall edition of *Oriental Institute News & Notes*, as well as the chapter “Les divines Adoratrices: parure et iconographie” for a book *Chanteuses, adoratrices et prêtres d’Amon à Thèbes. Une société égyptienne mille ans avant notre ère. Une exposition pour le Musée des Beaux-Arts de Grenoble, en collaboration avec le Musée du Louvre*, edited by Florence Gombert-Meurice and Frédéric Payraudeau.

This academic year, **REBECCA HASSELBACH-ANDEE** was involved in organizing a conference on Akkadian Historical Linguistics at the University of Texas at Austin that convened in March 2018. The meeting was a successful two-day gathering of international scholars who share an interest in Akkadian language and linguistics.

She furthermore presented a couple of lectures at the University of Chicago, one at the Oriental Institute’s Connections Seminar series, for which she talked about multilingualism and diglossia in the ancient Near East, and the other at the Language Variation and Change workshop organized by the Department of Linguistics, where she presented a talk on a morpheme that has been suggested to reflect a Proto-Semitic dative marker. Hasselbach-Andee argued that the morpheme is not a case but an adverbial marker originally and dismissed the idea of a Proto-Semitic dative-case.

In terms of research, Hasselbach-Andee continued to work on three book projects. Two of these are volumes that she is editing, one being *A Companion for Ancient Near Eastern Languages* for Blackwell Wiley, for which she is the sole editor, and the second is the *Proceedings of the Conference on Script and Scriptures*, which she co-organized with Fred Donner last year. Both edited volumes are almost completed. In addition, she finished her translation and revision of Josef Tropper’s *Ge’ez Grammar*, the manuscript of which has been submitted to the publisher.

In addition to these academic tasks, Hasselbach-Andee continued to serve on the Oriental Institute’s Publications Committee and as associate chair for Graduate Studies for the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

During the academic year 2017–18, **JANET H. JOHNSON** continued work with the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (see separate report), the Handbook of Magical Texts Project (directed by Chris Faraone and Sofia Torallas-Tovar of the Classics Department and funded by the Neubauer Institute; Jan is preparing the translations of the relevant Demotic texts while her student Ariel Singer has prepared marvelous integrated transliterations of these texts indicating their use of not only demotic script but also hieratic, hieroglyphic, old Coptic, and a cryptic script), and the preparation of *Women in Ancient Egypt, a Sourcebook*, to be published by the Society for Biblical Literature in their series “Writings from the Ancient World.” For the latter she has prepared over 150 translations of texts written by(?), for, about, or including women from the Old Kingdom into the Ptolemaic Period. Each translation is accompanied by background information (date of the text, genre of the text, provenience of the text, etc.) and an analysis of the social and cultural implications of the text for the study of women in ancient Egypt.

She gave a preliminary report on this Sourcebook at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, inviting colleagues, students, and others to send her the names of texts they would

like to see included in the volume. She was also able to speak directly with several colleagues who work extensively in Egyptian gender studies and has made arrangements for a couple of colleagues who teach introductory classes on women or gender in ancient Egypt to test the “workability” of the entries before the volume is submitted. During the annual meeting, Jan was also very privileged to receive a “Distinguished Service Award” from ARCE (American Research Center in Egypt) for her work with the organization over the years, an award of which she is very proud.

Jan remained a member of the OI Policy Committee, served on the Renewal Committee for Assyriologist John Wee, and served as an interviewer for the College for the University of Chicago finalists for Fulbright Fellowships. As has become regular, she gave a presentation on “Gender Studies, from an Egyptian Perspective” for the new MA students in their introductory course “Approaches to the Study of the Ancient Near East.” She was pleased to supervise the work of one undergraduate writing a BA paper, one MA student writing her Master’s Thesis, and one student who completed her PhD. In addition to students in NELC and Anthropology on whose dissertation committees she continues to serve, she is a member of committees for students in both Oslo, Norway, and Leiden, the Netherlands.

This year **W. RAYMOND JOHNSON** completed his fortieth year working in Egypt, his thirty-ninth full year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his twenty-first season as Chicago House Field director. Ray was very pleased to contribute an article “An Indurated-Limestone Sphinx Fragment of Nefertiti in the Luxor Temple Blockyard,” in *Essays for the Library of Seshat; Studies Presented to Janet H. Johnson on the Occasion of Her 70th Birthday*, ed. Robert K. Ritner, SAOC 70 (2018). Ray published more preliminary results of his Amarna Talatat Project this fall with “Fresh Evidence for an Akhenaten/Nefertiti Coregency,” in *KMT: A Modern Journal of Ancient Egypt* 29, no. 1 (spring 2018), 71–76. He also contributed his opinion to the current forensic facial reconstruction — and proposed identity — of the mummy of the Younger Lady found in KV35 in “Further Thoughts on the Younger Lady Forensic Reconstruction,” *KMT* 29, no. 2 (summer 2018); also *Nile Magazine* #14 (June–July 2018). He is currently working on “An Assessment of the Limestone Talatat Found in the Pennsylvania Talatat Magazine, Karnak: Use and Reuse,” in *The ARCE Karnak Talatat Magazine Project*, editor Jocelyn Gohary (American Research Center in Egypt, forthcoming). This summer Ray’s research associate status changed to research associate professor.

During the 2017–18 academic year **MORAG M. KERSEL** was an Oriental Institute Affiliate with the Galilee Prehistory Project (GPP). The summer of 2017 was spent investigating the site of Tel Nes/Tell Sanjak (see the GPP submission in this report) and working on publishing the excavation of Marj Rabba (2009–14) and the Wadi al-Ashert survey (2015). Through these various projects the GPP is examining the dramatic changes in villages, ritual sites, and mortuary practices during the Chalcolithic period (ca. 4500–3600 BCE) in the Galilee in Israel.

Another research focus is the presentation of the past to the public — museum exhibits of archaeological sites and artifacts. A museum under study is the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. Kersel’s interest led to an OI Docent book club appearance (alongside Brian Muhs) to discuss Candida Moss and Joel Baden’s *Bible Nation: The United States of Hobby Lobby* (Princeton 2017). During the lively meeting about twenty people debated various aspects of the book including the Green family (owners of Hobby Lobby) and the Museum of the Bible (funded by the Green family). Vigorous discussion over topics included the Green acquisition of thousands of biblical antiquities and the recent forfeiture of some of this material in a legal complaint with the excellent title of *United States v. Approximately Four*



Morag Kersel and Brian Muhs discussing Moss and Baden's *Bible Nation: The United States of Hobby Lobby* with the OI book club.

Hundred Fifty Ancient Cuneiform Tablets, et al. The defendants in this case were ancient clay and stone artifacts, probably originating in Iraq, but labeled as “tile samples from Turkey,” which were stopped upon entry into the US. The docents were surprised by the Green family’s use of false declarations on the shipping label. Conversation focused primarily on the Greens/Hobby Lobby acquisition of artifacts, although the millions of dollars that the Greens spent to increase the Bible’s influence in the USA caused perhaps even greater concern among the OI readers. Every-

one agreed that the investigative reporting by Moss and Baden provided excellent insights into the Green’s efforts to modify public schools curriculum to include the Bible. The last half of the book club was spent examining the ethical issues surrounding the acquisition and public display of undocumented artifacts. This rousing examination of a thought-provoking read left people with more questions than answers and perhaps a greater awareness of ethical issues related to objects on display. The summer issue of *News & Notes* 238 includes a piece on the myriad rationales for looting archaeological sites, including the long-entrenched myth of lost gold. As a part of her larger project tracking the transnational movement of artifacts (followthepotsproject.org), Morag discusses the hunt for gold at archaeological sites and the devastating effects on landscapes, resulting in an incomplete understanding of the past. Kersel was a keynote speaker at the University of Michigan/University of Witwatersand Mellon Workshop on Decolonizing Sites of Culture in Africa and Beyond, presenting “Beyond ‘West Knows Best’: Decolonizing Archaeological Site Protection in the Middle East.” In January, she was elected as an Academic Trustee of the Governing Board of the Archaeological Institute of America, the nation’s largest archaeological organization.

GRÉGORY MAROUARD dedicated his eighth year as research associate at the Oriental Institute to his fieldwork projects in Egypt and academic research, lectures, and publications.

He spent about four months on excavations in Egypt this year. Because of a significant delay in the deliverance of the security clearance, his season on the settlement area at Dendara, originally scheduled between early September and mid-October 2017, was unfortunately canceled and postponed to next fall 2018.

Between mid-October to early December 2017, he conducted as co-director with Nadine Moeller the sixteenth season of the Tell Edfu project in Upper Egypt (see Tell Edfu report *infra*).

Then, in December 2017 he joined Chicago House and the Epigraphic Survey for about two weeks in order to conduct an archaeological evaluation with Nadine Moeller of the remains located outside of the precinct of Ramesses III mortuary temple at Medinet Habu. He mainly focused his extensive exploration on the area of the mortuary temples of Ay and Horemheb, that Uvo Hölscher had excavated between November 1930 and spring 1931 but left partially unexcavated. He also focused his observations on the remains of a settlement from the mid-Eighteenth Dynasty (period of Amenhotep III, ca. 1400–1350 BC) that still lie beneath those two buildings. The aim of this operation was also to

reactivate the former Architectural and Archaeological Survey that Chicago House and the Oriental Institute conducted in Medinet Habu area in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The renewal in the coming years of this fieldwork program is strongly necessitated in order to face the significant challenges on Egyptian heritage and increasing preservation emergencies in this specific part of the Theban West bank, for which archeological expertise is essential.

In the course of winter and spring quarters 2018, Grégory joined for a second time Chicago House and the Epigraphic Survey in order to conduct a short intervention on the Western High Gate area at Medinet Habu (a project piloted since 2014 by Chicago House Egyptologist Jennifer Kimpton). He conducted archaeological cleanings on both the southern and northern massive towers of the western gate and made numerous architectural observations about the construction techniques and foundation system of this fortified entrance of the Ramesses III mortuary temple.

Then Grégory joined his French colleagues from Paris Sorbonne University and the French Institute in Cairo (IFAO) for the eighth season of excavation at Wadi al-Jarf, the harbor of King Khufu on the Red Sea coast. He pursued his work on the workmen barracks area in Zone 5 started in 2016. Despite a shorter campaign, this excavation was very successful again and led to the discovery of the oldest occupation levels ever discovered at the site, which date back from the reign of King Snofru, first ruler of the Fourth Dynasty (ca. 2650–2600 BC) and who is well-known for his three pyramid projects at Meidum and Dahshur. It is now possible to confirm the hypothesis that this port, the oldest in the world so far, was originally founded by Khufu's father and predecessor.

Since last spring 2018, Grégory is also engaged with Nadine Moeller on a new collaborative project between the University of Chicago and Fermilab on the site of the Great Pyramid of Khufu at Giza. This ongoing work is also the occasion for an increasing scientific collaboration with the archaeological work of the Giza Plateau Mapping Project and AREA team, directed by OI Research Associate Mark Lehner (see Giza Plateau Mapping Project and personal report *infra*).

Grégory worked on multiple fieldwork reports, articles and monographs and gave several lectures this year.

Last summer 2017, Grégory submitted a contribution to the fourth volume on the Ayn Sokhna excavations (IFAO) at the Red Sea Coast, dedicated to the study of an important deposit of crucibles used during the early Middle Kingdom (ca. 2000 BC) for the transformation of copper. He significantly progressed in the preparation of the collective publication of eight seasons of excavations at the Greco-Roman settlement site at Buto, in Lower Egypt, with a manuscript that will be submitted for publication next fall 2018.

After the international conference *AcrossBorders: From Microcosm to Macrocosm: Individual Households and Cities in Ancient Egypt and Nubia*, held in Munich in September 2017, Grégory submitted with Nadine Moeller an extensive joint article about their recent archaeological work at Tell Edfu and Dendara: "The Development of Two Early Urban Centers in Upper Egypt During the 3rd Millennium BC: The examples of Edfu and Dendara." Another contribution about their excavation results at both sites has been submitted in June 2018 for the proceedings of the seventh Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology (OKAA) Conference held in Milan in July 2017.

Last fall 2017, Grégory published a short overview about his recent discoveries of the Pre- and Early Dynastic phases at Dendara in: "Dendara at Its Origins. New Evidence for a Pre- and Early Dynastic Settlement Site in Upper Egypt," *Near Eastern Archaeology* 80.3, 166–75. He briefly described his results of photogrammetry survey assisted with a drone at Dendara in: "Dendara from another Perspective. The Use of Remote Technologies in the Field in Egypt," *OI News & Notes* 235, pp. 12–15.

In December 2017, he published with Pierre Tallet a synthetic joint article in German about his archaeological work on King Khufu's harbor on the Red Sea coast: "Der Hafen des Cheops am Wadi el-Jarf," *Sokar* 35.2, 2017, pp. 14–27.

In February 2018, Grégory was invited by the Semitic Museum at Harvard and the Harvard Museum of Science and Culture for a lecture about his archeological work on the Red Sea Coast at Wadi al-Jarf. He was also invited to give several lectures at the AIA Chapter at Toledo and at the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse about his recent excavation work on the Red Sea and at Tell Edfu and Dendara.

Late April 2018, Grégory was invited by the Department of Classics at Cornell University to the conference *Better to Dwell in Your Own Small House: Households of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt in Context*. He gave a lecture related to his research about the “Tower-houses of Hellenistic Period in the Delta and Fayum Agglomerations: A Solution to the Urban Pressure within Egyptian Towns and Villages.”

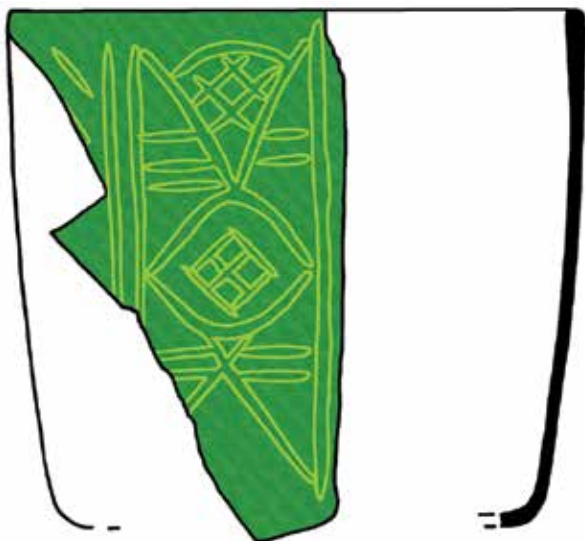
In collaboration with Pascale Ballet and Sylvie Marchand, Grégory also submitted a joint article in French about “Mobiliers et espaces urbains dans l’Égypte Greco-romaine” in the proceedings of the international conference *Les mobiliers archéologiques dans leur contexte, de la Gaule à l’Orient méditerranéen: fonctions et statuts*.

Lastly, at the end of June, he submitted a joint article (for the *MDAIK Journal of the German Institute in Cairo*) on the results of extensive statistical survey carried out between 2012 and 2015 on the archaeological site at Bouto, in the Western Nile Delta.

CAROL MEYER continued research on the massive corpus of glass from Aqaba. To date she has processed all the material from eight and a half out of eleven field seasons by the Oriental Institute and the University of Copenhagen for a total of 8,639 database entries or 13,129 sherds, 1,295 inked drawings, 67 photographs, and a newly added table of comparanda.

Why spend so much effort on early Islamic glass sherds? For one, after potsherds glass can be numerically the most common category of artifacts at Near Eastern sites later than the first century. It has the potential to be as useful for dating as ceramics; glass vessels generally have a shorter use life than ceramic ones. Until the recent availability of databases, however, the sheer abundance of glass sherds prevented study of anything but a few special types. Another problem has been the relative neglect of Islamic archaeology until fairly recently. The careful excavation and good stratigraphy at Aqaba (Umayyad through Fatimid times) can help narrow the dating of glass types from a vague

range of centuries. A short article in *Journal of Glass Studies* 59 (November 2017) on a group of early Abbasid glass from Aqaba was a first step in this direction. The final, large, dated typology of Aqaba glass will be a resource for excavators in the region. Secondly, glass is a good medium for trade studies. Glass vessels were manufactured at fewer workshops than pottery, and raw glass was produced at even fewer sites. For this reason, Laure Dussubieux of the Field Museum tested twenty-six examples of a distinctive, lead-rich emerald green glass by LA-ICP-MS analysis. Emerald green glass is found from Tunisia to Denmark to Java, but the Aqaba corpus is the largest one studied to date and may help determine where the raw glass came from. Meyer and Dussubieux



Emerald green cup with cut decoration.

plan to submit the results in another short article to *Journal of Glass Studies*. Not only goods but also ideas are traded — an export of technology. For instance, distillates were important in Islamic medicine and science, and the distribution of glass alembics can indicate where this technique was actually practiced. The new comparanda table added to the database will further this study.

Meyer also reviewed a major manuscript on glass for publication and assisted in the OINE publication project. Finally, the results of the Bir Umm Fawakhir excavations in Egypt are still being disseminated, most recently in e-book format by the Collège de France in French and English (<https://books.openedition.org/cdf/5185>).

In the fall quarter, **NADINE MOELLER** started chairing the Centennial Committee, which has been tasked by Chris Woods with the planning for the Oriental Institute Centennial celebrations that will take place in the academic year 2019–20. The committee has since then met several times and started working on the fundraising, gala, special events, and lectures in addition to a publication, which will all be part of the year-long celebrations of the 100 years since the foundation of the Oriental Institute.

She also gave multiple lectures this year presenting the recent research results from the excavations at Tell Edfu and Dendara together with Grégory Marouard, which started with the Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology (OKAA) conference at Milan in July. This was also a great opportunity to connect with European colleagues and discuss new research initiatives. She participated as an invited speaker in the international conference *Across Borders: From Microcosm to Macrocosm: Individual Households and Cities in Ancient Egypt and Nubia*, organized by Julia Budka (Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich). In November, she was invited to speak at the Urban Art and Urban Forum, which is part of the Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar, on “Dynamics between Urban Space Art: The Role of Walls in Ancient Egypt.” This was a stimulating venue since it involved mainly colleagues from art history and provided an interesting comparison between ancient and modern art. At the end of February, she and Grégory were invited to give a lecture at the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse on the recent discoveries at Edfu and Dendara. Later in March, Nadine traveled to the East Coast and gave two lectures in New York: one at the Aegean Colloquium at the Institute of Fine Arts on the Ahmose Tempest Stele and its implications for the absolute chronology of Egypt in relation to the Thera eruption, and a second lecture at Columbia University on the discovery of the Khayan sealings at Tell Edfu and the history of the Second Intermediate Period (ca. 1700–1550 BCE) in Egypt. The last lecture of this academic year Nadine gave was in April at Yale University where she also attended a conference on *New Perspectives in Environmental History*. Towards the end of April, she joined the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center (ARCE) at Tucson, Arizona, where she participated in multiple meetings in her capacity as a member of the Board of ARCE.

As far as publications and editing work are concerned, Nadine spent a week in Munich in July working with Karen Radner and Daniel Potts on the *Oxford History of the Ancient Near East* volumes which will be published by Oxford University Press. The main task during this meeting involved inviting the potential contributors for three of the five volumes. She and Grégory also prepared two long articles focusing on the origins of the early cities at Edfu and Dendara for the proceedings of the OKAA and *Across Borders* conferences respectively. The edited volume (together with Irene Forstner-Müller, Austrian Archaeological Institute, Cairo) on the workshop revising the reign of the Hyksos ruler Khayan is finally in press and will be published by early fall 2018.

In terms of archaeological fieldwork, Nadine spent some time in October and December participating in the ongoing fieldwork at Tell Edfu, even though her time on site was more limited this year

because of administrative work that needed to be done in Chicago. In December, she carried out a first brief survey together with Grégory at the mortuary temple of Aye and Horemheb in Egypt, which is a concession still held by the Oriental Institute. This preliminary survey had the aim to get a better idea about the current state of the site and its potential for a future fieldwork project there that would complement Hölscher's work during the 1930s.

Early December, Nadine received the good news about the award of a new collaborative research project *Coping with Changing Climates in Early Antiquity: Comparative Approaches between Empiricism and Theory*, led by Hervé Reculeau. This award is part of the research initiative *The Work of the Humanities in a Changing Climate*, which has been promoted by the Humanities Without Walls consortium (for further details see H. Reculeau, N. Moeller, *Coping with Changing Climates in Early Antiquity*, this volume).

And last but not least, in the spring quarter, Nadine was officially informed by Robert Zimmer, president of the University, and John Boyer, dean of the college, that she had been awarded the Llewellyn and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Undergraduate Teaching. This award is based on letters of nominations from students. She was also elected interim chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations for the next academic year 2018–19 replacing Franklin Lewis. In addition, she was offered the position of academic director of the UChicago Paris Center for one year (for the academic year of 2019–20), which she was happy to accept.



Nadine, awarded the Llewellyn and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Undergraduate Teaching.

BRIAN MUHS published one article, “Ancient Egyptian Cuisine,” in the *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 237 (spring 2018), pp. 12–16. He submitted two more articles, namely “Imprisonment, Guarantors, and Release on Bail in the Ptolemaic Fayum,” (eds.) Sandra Lippert, Marie-Pierre Chaufray, Ivan Guermeur, Vincent Rondot (eds.), in *Proceedings of the Conference, ‘Le Fayoum: Archéologie, Histoire, Religion,’ held at Campus CNRS, Montpellier France, 26–28 October 2016*, pp. 89–99 (Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, to appear in 2018); and “Military Land Allotments in Ancient Egypt,” to appear in *Vestnik Drevney Istorii*, based on a paper presented in 2015.

Brian gave two lectures illustrating how legal markets for antiquities also threaten cultural property, “William Randolph Hearst’s Papyri: Collecting and Commoditizing Cultural Heritage,” at CIPEG (International Committee for Egyptology), Chicago, September 5–8, 2017; and “Papyri in Private Collections, Afterlife or Second Death? The Case of William Randolph Hearst,” at the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, Tucson, Arizona, April 20–22, 2018. He was also a respondent at the 2018 OI Postdoctoral Symposium, *Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*, March 1–2, 2018.

Brian collaborated with Foy Scalf on a survey of the Ayer collection of ostraca, which was split in 1903 between the Field (Columbian) Museum and the OI (Haskell) Museum, and he used the OI portion to teach a course on Demotic ostraca with the assistance of Foy Scalf, and Helen McDonald and Susan Allison in Registration. Brian also gave a four-week seminar on “Ancient Egyptian Crimes, Petitions and Trials” for the OI Continuing Education program, January 13–February 3, 2018, with both in-person and online participants, and he gave a gallery talk on “Shabtis: Servants and Substitutes” in the OI Museum Egyptian Gallery on June 7, 2018.

KIERSTEN NEUMANN, in addition to her responsibilities as curator and communications associate at the Oriental Institute, continues to do scholarly research grounded in theoretical approaches to ancient art, with an emphasis on sensory experience with respect to the visual and material culture of the ancient Near East. Her primary focus for the past year has been on her book manuscript that explores how embodied sensory experience acted as a primary contributor to processes of ritualization in the Neo-Assyrian temple. Smaller concurrent projects include articles she has written for edited volumes and journals slated for publication this calendar year. Among them is a chapter on the presentation of offerings to the gods in the Neo-Assyrian temple to be included in a volume entitled, *Distant Impressions: The Senses in the Ancient Near East*, forthcoming from Eisenbrauns. Her article on the temples of Nabu at Kalḫu and Dur-Šarrukin, entitled “Reading the Temple of Nabu as a Coded Sensory Experience,” was accepted for publication in *Iraq*, and will appear in this year’s volume (80). She is also working on a handbook on the *Senses in the Ancient Near East*, co-edited with Allison Thomason, professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. This volume draws on a three-year session at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Annual Meeting, entitled “Senses and Sensibility in the Near East,” that Kiersten organized and chaired. Additionally, Kiersten continued to publish on objects from the OI collections, including *News & Notes* artifact highlights on a lustrous spindle bottle from Çatal Höyük, a wooden statue of the god Anubis, inscribed stone tableware from Persepolis, and the cast of the Hammurabi stela.

During the course of the year, Kiersten gave a number of public lectures, including two conference presentations and four community/campus talks. In November, she chaired the second run of the “Senses and Sensibility in the Near East” session at the 2017 ASOR Annual Meeting, in which she presented a paper on the tactile experience of the Apadana reliefs at Persepolis; she also continued as co-organizer of the “Art Historical Approaches to the Near East” session. In the same month, she was invited to give a talk — entitled “Achaemenid Art and Artisans: A Tactile Exploration of the Apadana Reliefs at Persepolis” — at the Society of Scholars of Zoroastrianism (SSZ) Conference, hosted by FEZANA in Burr Ridge, Illinois. In 2018, she attended her first ICAANE, presenting a paper on the sense of time in Assyrian temple construction in a session entitled, “Shaping the Living Space,” at the congress’ eleventh annual meeting in Munich. Kiersten also taught an introductory course on ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology in fall 2017 as part of the OI’s on-site/online course offerings.

For **JAMES OSBORNE**, the most exciting and productive aspect of this past academic year was building intellectual and professional bridges with the Aegean world, traditionally the purview of the Classics Department at the University of Chicago. Over the past several years James has come to realize that the Iron Age culture of Anatolia that he has been studying (which he has begun referring to as the Syro-Anatolian Culture Complex, or SACC) had contacts with the pre-classical Aegean world

that have not been sufficiently recognized. Knowing that learning more about this phenomenon would require considerable background research, James first secured a grant from the Franke Center for the Humanities to co-teach a graduate seminar with Catherine Kearns in Classics dedicated to the subject of ancient Mediterranean connectivity. This provided the foundation for a two-day conference called *The Connected Iron Age: Interregional Networks in the Eastern Mediterranean, 900–600 BCE*. This event was funded with a grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, along with support from the Oriental Institute. James and his conference co-organizer Jonathan Hall (Classics) invited the world's leading scholars on Mediterranean interregional interaction, all of whom gathered on campus for a remarkable two days of robust intellectual exchange. Now the hard part really begins, which is converting this exciting and dynamic event into a published volume. This process will likely take over a year to complete.

Fortunately, the upcoming academic year should provide ample time for research projects, as James was awarded a Franke Fellowship that will provide for a full academic year of research leave. Besides the *Connected Iron Age* edited volume, he anticipates that most of that time will be devoted to completing his monograph on the Syro-Anatolian Culture Complex, as well as continuing to take steps to secure a field research permit from the Turkish Ministry of Culture to allow the Oriental Institute to resume archaeological field work on the Anatolian plateau, which has not taken place in many years.

This year was also a very busy one with speaking events around the world. In the fall James was appointed the Kershaw Lecturer by the American Institute of Archaeology, which involved a lecture tour to public chapters of the AIA in Montana, Illinois, Nevada, and Iowa. He was also invited to give the A. K. Grayson Lecture on Assyrian History and Culture for the Canadian Society for Mesopotamian Studies in Toronto, in addition to lectures at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Liverpool. The academic year was rounded off in spectacular fashion with a conference devoted to *Iron Age Anatolia* that took place in Ascona, Switzerland.

This year, **SUSANNE PAULUS** was appointed as a faculty fellow at the Franke Institute for the Humanities. This fellowship gave her time to focus on her second book project, *Approaching Economic Life in Kassite Babylonia*. She worked on chapters focusing on the barley economy, loans and debts, and wealth and money in Babylonia (1350–1150 BCE). Her work profited from the interdisciplinary discussions and the friendly atmosphere of the Franke Institute.

She presented the results of her research on economic history during an invited lecture at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Meeting in Boston in a paper titled “Investment, Debt, and Slavery.” She also presented her results during the *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale* in Innsbruck, Austria, at a Kassite workshop which she co-organized with Elena Devecchi (Torino). This well-attended workshop focused on studies in Kassite administration and brought together junior and senior scholars studying the texts and seals of this oft-neglected period of Babylonian history. Together with Tim Clayden (Oxford), she put finishing touches on the proceedings of the first Kassite workshop; these studies will be published under the title *Studies on Babylonia under the Sealand Dynasty and the Kassites* and will include her contribution “Turn! Turn! Turn! — An Administrative Term with a Legal Connotation.”

Additionally, Susanne further developed her interest in ancient and modern forgeries, publishing a lengthy article in the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*, titled “Fraud, Forgery, and Fiction: Is There Still Hope for Agum(-kakrime)?” This article revisits whether a potential early Kassite royal inscription is a later forgery or not. In this article, she discusses the Agum-kakrime text in the context of other Kassite inscriptions only preserved as later copies. She also completed a second article on the transmission history of the Cruciform Monument, one of the best-known Mesopotamian forgeries.

The results of her ongoing work were presented at the University of Chicago's Humanities Day and in the Ancient Civilizations workshop.

Together with Kristin Kleber (Amsterdam) and Georg Neumann (Münster/Berlin), she edited a Festschrift for her advisor and teacher Hans Neumann, titled *Grenzüberschreitungen. Studien zur Kulturgeschichte des Alten Orients*.

Finally, she has devoted much time to public engagement and the intellectual life at the OI. She gave an OI Member's Lecture on "Debt, Crime, and Prison — Daily Life in Babylonia ca. 1200 BCE," and lectured for a docent training session and the Project Archaeology Leadership Legacy Institute. She wrote "Eating like a Babylonian" for the *OI News & Notes* and gave presentations connected to her work with the Tablet Collection. She started several initiatives at the Tablet Collection to better document our tablets (see Tablet Collection report).

On sabbatical for the 2017–18 academic year, **RICHARD PAYNE** worked as a visiting researcher in the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History at Uppsala Universitet in Sweden. There he continued research and writing for a book, *The First Iranians: Religion, Empire, and Ethnicity in Late Antiquity*, a study of the relationship between empire formation and ethno-genesis and of the role of Zoroastrian institutions in providing enduring foundations for a state and its ethno-class. He also continued editing two volumes integrating archaeological and historical approaches to the history of imperial regimes in Afghanistan and the history of the Huns in Western Asia, respectively: *The Limits of Empire in Ancient Afghanistan* together with the OI's former director Gil Stein and his graduate student Rhyne King; and *The Archaeology of the Huns* together with the general secretary of the German Archaeological Institute Philipp von Rummel. His articles appeared in the following journals and books: *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*; Marcelo Campagno, Julian Gallego, and Carlos Garcia Mac Gaw (ed.), *Capital antes el Capitalismo? Riqueza, Disegualdad y Estado en el Mundo Antiguo* (Buenos Aires, 2017); and Iris Colditz, Benjamin Jokisch, and Maria Macuch (ed.), *Spätantike Rechtssysteme im Wandel: Rezeption, Transformation und Rekontextualisierung von Rechtsbegriffen* (Berlin, 2017).

In February, he traveled to Tehran to receive the World Award for Book of the Year of the Islamic Republic of Iran from President Rouhani. During the summer of 2018, he enjoyed, for a second time, a visiting fellowship at the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin, taking advantage of the peerless library of Russophone archaeology of its Eurasienabteilung. Apart from associated talks in Tehran, he gave invited lectures at the Ruhr-Universität in Bochum, the Classical Association Conference at the University of South Africa in Pretoria, various seminars at Uppsala Universitet, the Leiden Universitet, the University of California at Irvine, the University of New Mexico, and a conference on legal pluralism and social change at Princeton University. He also organized a conference at the University of Chicago Center in Paris for graduate students from Iranian, European, North American institutions working in Iranian history, art history, and archaeology, with the goal of cultivating a more collaborative and interdisciplinary culture in the field.

Assistant Professor of Assyriology **HERVÉ RECULEAU** used his partial research leave for the autumn and winter quarters of academic year 2017–18 to complete the writing of his book *Flori-legium Marianum XVI. L'agriculture irriguée à Mari: Essai d'histoire des techniques* (Mémoires de NABU 21), Paris: Sepoa, 2018, which will be published in September 2018 by the Société pour l'Étude du Proche-Orient Ancien (<http://www.sepoa.fr>), one of the venues in charge of the publication of the

eighteenth century BCE cuneiform archives of Mari (Syria). The book is comprised of two hard-bound volumes of 315 and 241 pages, respectively. Volume 1 presents a comprehensive study of irrigation along the “Banks-of-the-Euphrates” (the ancient name of the kingdom of Mari), with a detailed discussion of archaeological and textual evidence for large-scale canals and a systematic analysis of irrigation technology and water management (including flood control). Volume 2 offers the edition of sixty-five cuneiform tablets which, together with numerous already published documents, serve as the basis for the analyses presented in Volume 1. It is complete with indices, tables, and maps. In February–March 2018, Hervé profited of his leave to spend one month at the Collège de France in Paris, as part of an ongoing collaboration with Dominique Charpin and his team. As a result, this new material will be made available for free on the online database of Old Babylonian Archives Archibab (<http://www.archibab.fr>), in the form of lemmatized editions and high-resolution photographs.

Hervé presented his work to the OI volunteers in September 2017 with his lecture “Irrigation, a Case Study for Mesopotamian Technology,” and to colleagues and students of the University with his presentation on “Mesopotamian Water Technology, Between Texts and Archaeology” at the Ancient Civilizations Workshop in February 2018. He took part in May 2018 in the Conference on Long-Term Environmental and Social Change in Mesopotamia: Integrating Evidence from Ancient Texts, Archaeology, and Natural Science, organized by McGuire Gibson at the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, with his talk “Adapting Valley Irrigation to a Changing Environment in Middle and Late Bronze Age Upper Mesopotamia.” This talk signals a return to Hervé’s long-standing interest in the study of social response to climate change in Antiquity, which he also engaged by acting as the principal investigator for the collaborative project “Coping with Changing Climates in Early Antiquity: Comparative Approaches between Empiricism and Theory” (see Project Reports). In June 2018, Hervé participated in a conference in Paris on The Old Babylonian Diyala — Research Since the 1930s and Prospects, where he presented a paper on “The Diyala Valley in the early Old Babylonian Period: New Evidence from Tell Muqdadiya.”

This year saw the publication of Hervé’s article “On Some Metrological Issues Affecting Yield Estimates in Second Millennium BCE Upper Mesopotamia,” *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 70 (2018): 87–114 and of his review of A. E. Miglio’s *Tribe and State: The Dynamics of International Politics and the Reign of Zimri-Lim* (GSANE 8, 2014) for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 137/3 (2017): 611–13.

For **SETH RICHARDSON**, this year marked the start of a new multi-year project called “State and Subject in the Ancient World,” with Seth as an associate in partnership with Clifford Ando of the University’s Classics Department. The project will investigate the various dialogues of political claim and counter-claim that shaped some of the world’s first state societies. A workshop now being planned will address such concepts as political identity, personhood, and civil society in the ancient Mediterranean world. Richardson’s own near-term invited papers will also contribute towards the framing of this project through the 2018–19 year: on Mesopotamian ideas of “strangers” (Charles University, Prague, September), concepts of peace (University of Padua, November), personhood and animals in the law (Brown University, December), patronage (University of Witten, February), political participation (Freie Universität Berlin, February), taxation (Prague again, May), and citizenship (University College London, July).

In 2017–18, Seth published two articles, one note, and a book review. The first article is on changing concepts of distance and imperial knowledge entitled “‘They Heard from a Distance’: The šemû-rûqu Paradigm in the Late Assyrian Empire” (*Journal of Ancient Near Eastern History* 4/1–2: 1–33). The

second is an essay entitled “The Mesopotamian Citizen Conceptualized: Affect, Speech, and Perception,” which appeared in a major new comparative history of states entitled *State Formations* (ed. J. Brooke et al. [Cambridge, 2018]). The note appears in *Anabasis* 8, “A Note on the Name ‘Sinnaces’ and Armenian Claims on an Assyrian Royal Background”; the review is of a book about expressions of power in Assyrian royal inscriptions for the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (see <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2016/2016-11-06.html>).

Seth gave four papers this year. First was a trip in late June to a MELAMMU conference in Blankenheim, Germany, to speak on the correlation between imperial ideology and its different uses of concepts of forever and eternity. Next, he attended the annual American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) conference in Boston, where he spoke on the history of community violence and issues of perception and uncertainty in terrestrial omens. He also gave a brown-bag talk at the Oriental Institute about his forthcoming work on Old Babylonian slavery.

His tasks this coming year (beyond the “State and Subject” project) include continuing work on projects such as his editions of Old Babylonian tablets; upgrades to and analyses of his personal-names index (LOB-PNI); and writing his book about presumptive states. He will also complete individual studies of piracy; on omens; and on texts concerning women in economic distress at Sippar. He looks forward to the appearance of at least four in-press articles on slavery, political concepts of legitimacy, divine emblems, and Sumerian vs. Akkadian ideas about animals, and a feature essay on ASOR’s e-Newsletter *The Ancient Near East Today*. He continues also, of course, his work as the Managing Editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (see project reports, *infra*).

For the Oriental Institute’s exhibit catalog *Book of the Dead: Becoming God in Ancient Egypt*, edited by Foy Scalf, **ROBERT K. RITNER** published the essay “Divinization and Empowerment of the Dead” and the entry for the Roman-era “Papyrus of Shemaynefer Inscribed with a Mortuary Compendium,” a text which he is preparing for publication. Ritner’s edited volume *Essays for the Library of Seshat: Studies Presented to Janet H. Johnson on the Occasion of Her 70th Birthday* (SAOC 70) is now at the printer and will be published just after the end of this academic year. His contributions to the Institute Museum’s *Highlights of the Collections of the Oriental Institute Museum*, edited by Jean Evans, et al., appeared this past December.

Ritner’s articles now in press include the Festschrift contributions “The Origin of Evil in Egyptian Theological Speculation,” “The Supposed Earliest Hieroglyphic Mention of Israel (Berlin ÄM 21687): A Refutation,” and “The ‘God’ Ptiris and the Curses of Philae,” while a further Festschrift article is in preparation on “Jubilating Baboons and the Bes Pantheos.” With Foy Scalf, he is continuing work on “P. Michigan Inv. 1444: A Demotic Spell for Sexual Compulsion.”

For the Oriental Institute symposium *Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*, Ritner delivered the lecture “Clothing as a Marker of Ethnic Identity: The Case of the Libyans.” He is currently preparing the text of the talk under the same title for the conference publication (OIS 15).

Ritner served on the Board of Governors and as Chicago representative of the American Research Center in Egypt. He taught five classes during the year on Middle Egyptian grammar and texts, Egyptian History, Coptic, and Ptolemaic Hieroglyphs.

YORKE ROWAN

continued his two primary field projects, the Galilee Prehistory Project (GPP) in Israel and the Eastern Badia Archaeological Project (EBAP) in the Black Desert of eastern Jordan. The GPP investigated Tel Nes (Tell es-Sanjak) for a future project, discussed in the project report on the Galilee Prehistory Project. Taking a season off from fieldwork, EBAP concentrated on analysis and submitting



Yorke on tour in Jordan.

several manuscripts for publication. Currently in press, “The 2016 Excavation Season at the Late Neolithic Structure SS-1 on Mesa 7, Black Desert” will appear in *Neo-Lithics* and is co-authored with team members. Also co-authored for the *Annual of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan* (59) is “Excavation of Structure W-80, a Complex Late Neolithic Building at Wisad Pools, Black Desert.” These two publications represent the two different areas of EBAP: Wisad Pools and Wadi al-Qattafi. An additional co-authored journal article in press, “Two Glass Beads from Wisad Pools in the Jordanian Black Desert” discusses two beads found in the Iron Age tomb built on top of the Neolithic structure W-80, to be published in the *Journal of Glass Studies*. A related paper based on our research in the Black Desert is “Flamingos in the Desert,” co-authored with A. Wasse and G. Rollefson, submitted for publication in *Landscapes of Survival: Pastoralist Societies, Rock Art and Literacy in Jordan’s Black Desert*, based on a conference organized by P. M. M. G. Akkermans and A. al-Jallad held in Leiden. Also submitted and currently in press is the co-authored article “Tel Yaqush — An Early Bronze Age Village in the Central Jordan Valley, Israel” in the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*. A larger book project was submitted to the Cambridge University Press. Edited with Eric Cline and Assaf Yasur-Landau, *The Social Archaeology of the Levant: From Prehistory to the Present* includes thirty-three chapters, spanning the Paleolithic to recent historical periods, but including contributions on the impact of radiocarbon dating, object itineraries, and the intersection of the public, museums, and archaeology. Yorke took the lead on the introduction to this volume, and contributed his own chapter to the volume, “The Spiritual and Social Landscape during the Chalcolithic Period.” Yorke also presented papers at professional meetings, including “Droning On: UAV Survey in the Black Desert of Jordan” (with OI affiliate Chad Hill) at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Washington, DC on April 12, 2018, and with Hill and Kersel, “Filling in the Gaps: Fifth Millennium B.C.E. Villages in the Galilee” at the Annual Meetings of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Boston on November 16, 2017. Also in fall 2017, Yorke and affiliate Morag Kersel led an Oriental Institute trip, “Journey to Jordan” that included a desert trek to Maitand’s Mesa (M-4), where the first building excavated as part of the OI’s Eastern Badia Archaeological Project is located.

The past academic year was highlighted by the opening of the special exhibit *Book of the Dead: Becoming God in Ancient Egypt*, curated by **FOY SCALF**, which opened on October 3, 2017. Accompanying the publication of the exhibit catalog, the Seminary Coop bookstore held a book launch featuring a discussion between Foy and Rita Lucarelli, assistant professor of Egyptology at the University of California, Berkeley. Segments from the in-store talk were aired on the Seminary Coop's Open Stacks podcast #25 "Books of the (Un)Dead," which remains available on the web and in iTunes. A second event was held at 57th Street Books to celebrate the closing of the exhibit on March 31, 2018, at which local writers — organized by Samantha Clark — read from original work inspired by the exhibit. The exhibit was well received and included over three dozen curator-led tours by Foy for a variety of groups, including University of Chicago Humanities Day, the office of the Provost, ARCE (American Research Center in Egypt) Chicago chapter, International Women Associates, the Newberry Library, Young Professionals, Field Museum, and many others.

Foy resurrected the series of Oriental Institute cemetery walks by leading groups through not only the very famous Egyptian revival tombs at Graceland cemetery, but also the little-known mausoleum of the Friedley family in the Naperville Cemetery. The latter features an Egyptian temple façade design flanked by two bronze Greco-Roman style sphinxes. The Friedley family formed a metal fabrication business with the Voshardt family of Wisconsin, and the Voshardts also have an Egyptian revival mausoleum in Two Rivers, WI, which likewise includes a temple façade and sphinxes. Preparing for these walks had the pleasant result of inspiring a new research project tracing Egyptian revival elements and their family connections in midwestern cemeteries — research which will be supplemented by examining the Harold Allen Egyptomania collection at the Ryerson and Burnham Libraries of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Elements of the *Book of the Dead* exhibit were covered in Foy's adult education course for fall 2017, "Hieroglyphica: A History of Egyptology." He was joined by seventeen students for an eight-week overview of the history of the discipline, including a conversation in the special exhibit gallery about the history of research on the ancient Egyptian *Book of the Dead*, as well as a visit to the Special Collections Research Center at Regenstein library to view Renaissance and Enlightenment Era volumes about ancient Egypt. In winter, twenty-seven students braved Foy's sixteen-week course "Intensive Sahidic Coptic Grammar." Students proved so enthusiastic that they requested an additional course and fourteen students continued their study in the "Readings in Sahidic Coptic Texts" course for spring 2018. For a second year straight, Foy taught at Dominican University in their graduate program for Library and Information Science, bringing back the course on "History of the Text: Early Books and Manuscripts Up to the Age of the Printing Press." Finally, he sat in on a course taught by Brian Muhs on Demotic Ostraca in spring 2018 for NELC (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations) and assisted in leading students through both published and unpublished Demotic ostraca from the OIM, which have been previously cataloged as part of the OIDO (Oriental Institute Demotic Ostraca Online) project.

In addition to editing and authoring various articles for the *Book of the Dead* exhibit catalog, Foy published articles promoting the exhibit in *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 235 and the 2017–18 issue of *KMT* magazine. Foy continued to collaborate with Brian Muhs and Jackie Jay on their book project *The Archive of Thotsutmis: An Early Ptolemaic Demotic Archive from Deir el Bahari*, which the authors hope to submit for publication sometime in 2018. The volume edits nearly fifty Demotic ostraca in the OIM collection from the archive of a mortuary worker in the necropolis of early Ptolemaic Thebes and contextualizes the importance of the provenance of the ostraca as well as their significance for studies of early Ptolemaic Egypt.

In summer 2017, **GIL J. STEIN** directed the Oriental Institute's excavations at the site of Surezha on the Erbil Plain in the Kurdistan Region of Northeastern Iraq. This project marks the first OI excavation in Iraq since the Gulf War of 1991. The Surezha excavation results are presented in a separate section in this volume.

As principal investigator of the Oriental Institute's Partnership with the National Museum of Afghanistan (see report in this volume) Gil made three trips to Afghanistan in 2017–18 to assess project progress, coordinate with the National Museum director and to work with field director Alejandro Gallego Lopez and the Kabul team of registrars, conservators, and consultants. This included work on the Hadda Sculptural Restoration Project, and ongoing efforts to identify what objects have been looted from the National Museum. Gil is also the principal investigator for two additional grants — the “Afghan Heritage Mapping Project” (AHMP) and the “National Museum of Afghanistan Outreach-Mobile Museum” project.

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

Gil had several publications in the past academic year:

- Stein, Gil J.; Michael T. Fisher; Abdul Hafiz Latify; Najibullah Popal; and Nancy Hatch Dupree, editors. 2017. *Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan: Proceedings of the International Conference Held at Kabul University, November 2014*. Chicago: The Oriental Institute.
- Stein, Gil J. 2017. “International Legal Frameworks to Protect the Archaeological Heritage of Afghanistan.” In *Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan: Proceedings of the International Conference held at Kabul University, November 2014*, edited by Gil J. Stein, Michael T. Fisher, Abdul Hafiz Latify, Najibullah Popal, and Nancy Hatch Dupree, pp. 147–50. Chicago: The Oriental Institute.
- Stein, Gil J. 2017. “The Oriental Institute Partnership with the National Museum of Afghanistan,” *Oriental Institute Annual Report 2016–17*, pp. 143–50. Chicago: The Oriental Institute.
- Stein, Gil J. 2018. “The Roots of Urbanism in Northern Mesopotamia — 2017 Excavations at Surezha.” *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 236: 15–21.

EMILY TEETER continues to work on long-term research projects dealing with material from Medinet Habu excavated by the Oriental Institute (1926–33), especially stelae that originated from Deir el-Medina. She continues to work with Virginia Davies on a catalog of seals and seal impressions from the First Intermediate Period cemetery at Naga ed-Deir. She is also researching the history of the Egyptian collection at the Field Museum, and she continues to study the links between that collection, the Oriental Institute Museum, and the Art Institute.

Her essay “The Oriental Institute, Its Museum and Collections” appeared in *Highlights of the Collections of the Oriental Institute Museum*. She submitted two essays for the Field Museum's 125th anniversary volume and an article dealing with Egypt at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago in 1933–34 and Lorado Taft's “Dream Museum” for an upcoming Festschrift. She is working on the final edits for a book on the Egyptian collection at the Art Institute of Chicago. Emily also served as an outside reviewer for several European scholarly journals.

Emily consulted on the Field Museum exhibit *Interconnections in the Ancient Mediterranean* that was on view from October 20, 2017, to April 29, 2018, and also on their *Mummies* show that finally returned to Chicago on February 23 following a national tour.

In January, Emily participated in a panel discussion at the Block Museum, Northwestern University, in conjunction with “Paint the Eyes Softer,” an exhibit of Egyptian mummy portraits. In October, she gave a tour in the storage rooms of the Art Institute for members of their Classical Art Society, highlighting some of the fascinating things that have been recently discovered about certain objects. In February, she gave a lunchtime tour in the Oriental Institute galleries on “Egyptian Lives” showing the level of detail that we know about individual Egyptians.

Emily coordinated the annual meeting of the International Association of Egyptology (CIPEG), a working group of ICOM that was held at the Oriental Institute September 5–9. Forty-two people from thirteen countries attended the four-day conference presenting papers on Egyptian collections and responding to the conference theme *The Role of Museum Curators in Research, and Exhibits: Tradition, Change and Looking into the Future*.

Emily continues to serve on the Board of the American Research Center in Egypt, and she attended its annual meeting in Tucson in April. She continues to be very involved in the local chapter. She is also on the Board of the *Writings from the Ancient World* of the Society of Biblical Literature.

In October Emily retired from her museum position after twenty-seven years. She remains an associate of the Oriental Institute and continues to be very active in the field.

Having enjoyed his sabbatical as a Guggenheim Fellow the year before, **THEO VAN DEN HOUT** returned to the usual joys and duties of teaching, research, and committee work that a regular faculty job comes with. For his work as chief editor of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD)* see the separate report in this annual report. Theo finished the manuscript of his book on *A History of Hittite Literacy: Writing and Reading in Late Bronze Age Anatolia* and submitted it to Cambridge University Press. Hopefully, after the usual peer-review, they will accept it for publication.

Theo submitted an article to the *Festschrift* of a colleague on the Hittite compound *arḫa uwe-* “to come away” as well as a written version of the paper he presented earlier this academic year (September 2017) at the conference *The Scribal Mind: Textual Criticism in Antiquity*, organized at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW) in New York. He also submitted a review to the *Canadian Journal of History*.

Particularly exciting he found his work on what is known as one of the most elaborate pieces of Hittite art, a silver vessel in the shape of a kneeling stag. Around its body it has a frieze depicting two deities and three worshippers. Probably found in the early 1960s and published in 1974, it has been on display in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York since 1983. Because the vessel stems from illicit excavations it has no archaeological context, which means that a lot of information has been lost. The elegantly shaped cup has two small, round, gold decorations with Anatolian hieroglyphs on them that thus far had been taken as “captions” identifying the two deities portrayed. The reading and interpretation of the two roundels, however, have always been debated and there is no consensus as to their meaning. Theo has now proposed an entirely new interpretation and was able, through the generosity of the Met, to study the object up close. The Met also kindly provided two radiographs of the roundels confirming his reading. Meanwhile, the Met has accepted his article for the *Journal of the Metropolitan Museum of Art*, due out at the end of this year.

Besides the paper read at the conference at the ISAW mentioned above, in March Theo delivered the keynote lecture at the *Workshop on Ancient Near Eastern Royal Ideology*, held at Doshisha

University, Kyoto, Japan. Earlier, in October he gave a so-called Model Class to the parents of first-year college students during the Family Weekend at our own University about the silver stag vessel and in November an Oriental Institute Museum Gallery Talk on Hittite religious festivals. This past April he was invited for a Hittite class and a lecture to Brown University.

Since last year's annual report, two entries were published in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*: "Ziege. B. Bei den Hethitern" (goat in Hittite sources) in Volume 15, pp. 267–72, and "Zypern. C. Nach hethitischen Quellen" (Cyprus in Hittite sources) *ibidem*, pp. 369–71.

TASHA VORDERSTRASSE, thanks to the generosity of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), received an ASOR Strange/Midkiff Fellowship to participate in the excavations at Komana and Çadır Höyük in Turkey. This project occupied most of summer 2017. The purpose of this work was to look at the ceramics from the Middle Byzantine/Seljuk transition in central Turkey, which remains an understudied topic. Significant progress was made on the identification of the Middle Byzantine period and the transition in the region and comparing it with other parts of Turkey. In March 2018, she finished her work on the Antioch lamps at the Princeton Art Museum by visiting the museum for a few days.

In fall 2017, Tasha began a new position at the Oriental Institute as University and Continuing Education program coordinator (see separate report). She gave an Oriental Institute adult education class on the Silk Road to tie in with the Oriental Institute tour of Central Asia ("East Meets West: Arts of the Silk Road in Central Asia") as well as Frank Lloyd Wright's unrealized plans for Baghdad ("Frank Lloyd Wright's Vision for a Greater Baghdad"). Tasha also participated in Oriental Institute events: she gave a talk about Frank Lloyd Wright and Baghdad for the James Henry Breasted Society in fall 2017; and she performed music (which she adapted from ancient Greece and Egypt) for the Young Professionals event by Foy Scalf on the Book of the Dead which was associated with the Oriental Institute special exhibition *The Book of the Dead: Becoming God in Ancient Egypt*.

Tasha gave the following lectures: at the Hamazkayin Education and Cultural Society of Chicago in October, "Antoin Sevruguin: An Armenian Photographer in Qajar Iran"; a lecture for the 14th Annual University of Chicago Oriental Institute Seminar in March, *Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*; and an Oriental Institute Gallery Talk in May, "Late Antique Egyptian Textiles in the Oriental Institute Museum." In addition, Tasha and Asa Eger presented their joint talk at the University of Copenhagen in June 2018, "Gaps or transitions? North Syrian/South Anatolian ceramics in the Early, Middle, and Late Islamic periods."

The following articles were published this year: H. Friedman, T. Vorderstrasse, R. Mairs, and R. Adams, "Fragments of an Arabic Papyrus from Khirbet Hamrā Ifdān." *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy* 28.2 (2017): 1–11; "Qajar Iran between Tradition and Modernity: Late Nineteenth-Century Photographs of Antoin Sevruguin." *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 236 (2018): 4–10; "Roman Textiles and Heritage in Syria." In *Cultural Heritage Care and Management: Theory and Practice*, ed. C. L. Salvatore, 71–82. Rowman & Littlefield: Lanham, Boulder, New York, and London; and "Coins and Silk Road: The Oriental Institute Collection of Indo-Greek Coins." *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 237 (2018): 17–19.

JOHN Z. WEE is author of the following academic articles and essays in 2017–18: “Pan-astronomical Hermeneutics and the Arts of the Lamentation Priest,” *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie und Vorderasiatische Archäologie* 107.2 (2017): 236–60; “Five Birds, Twelve Rooms, and the Seleucid Game of Twenty Squares,” pp. 833–76 in *Magic and Medicine in Mesopotamia*, edited by S. V. Panayotov and L. Vacín (Ancient Magic and Divination; Brill, 2018); as well as “Earthquake and Epilepsy: The Body Geologic in the Hippocratic Treatise On the Sacred Disease,” pp. 142–67 in his own edited volume *The Comparable Body* (Studies in Ancient Medicine 49; Brill, 2017). Forthcoming are his Brill monographs *Knowledge and Rhetoric in Medical Commentary and Mesopotamian Commentaries on the Diagnostic Handbook Sa-gig*; the essay “Medicine and Healing, Ancient Near East,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*, Volume 16 (de Gruyter); as well as an invited chapter contribution in a volume on *Ancient Holisms*, edited by C. Thumiger (Cambridge University Press).

In the past year, John presented the following academic lectures and conference papers: “Scholasticism and Technical Writing in Late Babylonian Medical Education” at a Meeting of the History of Science Society (Toronto; November 9–12, 2017); and “Ancient Commentaries on the Mesopotamian Diagnostic Handbook” at the Ancient Civilizations Workshop of the University of Chicago (May 25, 2018). His paper on “Epistemics, Curriculum, and Scholasticism in Mesopotamian Commentaries on a Handbook of Medical Diagnosis” was accepted for the conference on 5000 Years of Comments: The Development of Commentary from Ancient Mesopotamia to the Age of Information at the Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University (Washington, DC; August 7–10, 2018). In addition, he gave the following public lectures: “The Royal Game of Ur from Ancient Mesopotamia” at the 39th Annual Humanities Day at the University of Chicago (October 21, 2017); “Stone Ducks: Weights and Measures in Ancient Mesopotamia” at an Oriental Institute Lunchtime Gallery Talk at the University of Chicago (December 7, 2017); and a Cornerstone Lecture on “The World’s Oldest Board Game Rules” and a Mind-bender Lecture on “Journeys of Ancient Planets” for Renaissance Weekend (Santa Monica; February 15–19, 2018).

John was interviewed for Louise Lerner’s article “Eclipse Reflects Sun’s Historic Power: Scholars Discuss Phenomenon’s Significance in Science, Culture, Religion” in *UChicago News* (August 15, 2017). He served as moderator for the 9th Annual GradUCon Panel on First Year as Faculty (Humanities/Social Sciences) (April 6, 2018). For the ongoing renovation of the galleries of the Oriental Institute Museum, John will select cuneiform tablets and compose their labels for the display case on Cuneiform Mathematics and Science.

Jan and **DONALD WHITCOMB** undertook a mid-summer expedition to Nashville to visit their daughter and her husband. The underlying purpose was to witness the solar eclipse, which was indeed impressive, sitting in an open field with a hundred or so relaxed observers. This experience was itself “eclipsed” (so to speak) by a visit to the Parthenon, a very impressive, full-size replica (though regrettably made of cement). The temple became even more impressive within the dark interior with the full-size statue of Athena Parthenos, in full polychrome and gilt details. Standing over 40 feet high, this statue becomes a goddess one might believe in.

The fall brought the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) meetings in Boston, always a fascinating city with not a few Greek revival structures. A special session on Jerusalem, organized by Beatrice St. Laurent, was inspiring with her latest recension of the experience of Mu’awiya and the early Islamic city. There was also a fine paper by Serenella Manchini on Istakhr ceramics, first results of her museum study in the Oriental Institute collection. Other good Islamic papers by Asa

Eger and Veronica Morriss showed a continuity of earlier and present Islamic research here. It was perhaps a mistake not to give a paper, but Don was torn between the Islamic and Iranian sessions.

During the fall quarter, Don taught the course of Islamic archaeology of Syria-Palestine, what he calls Late Levant. It proved to be good preparation for the first season of excavations at Sinnabra, better known here as Khirbat al-Karak (see separate report). One might add to mention the debt of gratitude for the assistance of Veronica Morriss, an OI graduate student who took a little time to look for an Umayyad dock, from which the Umayyad Caliph might have visited nearby Tiberias. Regrettably, this new population from Arabia seems not to have invested in Roman-style port facilities.

Later in the spring, Don taught “Problems in Islamic Archaeology,” in which six students produced remarkably original and interesting aspects of some Islamic cities. But it was in May that Felicia, their daughter, came to help with Jan, who had suffered a stroke, in hospital. The stroke had minor effects due to amazing new drugs and she was back at home before Don was in for his second hip replacement. Thus these physical complications were a new aspect that ended an interesting school year.

KAREN L. WILSON is pleased that *Nippur VI: The Inanna Temple* has been accepted by the Oriental Institute Press and will appear in the Oriental Institute Publications series. *Nippur VI* will be the final publication of the OI 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. The Oriental Institute Publications Office is currently editing and formatting the volume(s).

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 1923–32. She is extremely pleased that the OI 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 and stucco, as well as a catalog of the Field Museum holdings from Kish and Jamdat Nasr. Karen is currently working on the proofs for the manuscript which she received recently from the Publications Office.

Perhaps **ILONA ZSOLNAY**'s most enjoyable event in this her second year at the Oriental Institute was the unexpected invitation to present on cuneiform tablets for the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop at the OI (November 2, 2017). For this lecture, entitled “The Agency of a Clay Tablet: The Effect of Materiality on the Conductivity and Reception of Knowledge,” she arranged a sample cart from the OI collection with the assistance of Assyriologist Susanne Paulus and graduate student Andy Wilent and displayed digital examples from the Penn Museum collection. Since the talk was well attended and garnered considerable enthusiasm, it demonstrated the passion we all share for cuneiform tablets both as texts and as material culture.

Zsolnay is pleased to announce the publication of her article “Analyzing Constructs: A Selection of Perils, Pitfalls, and Progressions in Interrogating Ancient Near Eastern Gender,” in *Studying Gender in the Ancient Near East*, edited by Saana Svärd and Agnès García Ventura (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns), 461–80, and her review “Review: Lion, Brigitte, and Cécile Michel (eds.). The Role of Women in Work and Society in the Ancient Near East. Berlin, Boston: de Gruyter,” *WZKM* 108 (2018), 334–37. In the fall

of 2017, she was asked to review T. M. Lemos, *Violence and Personhood in Ancient Israelite and Comparative Conflicts* (Oxford Press), for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (submitted), and offer peer reviews for *History of Religions* and *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*.

This spring, Zsolnay thoroughly edited the content of the majority of chapters for the proceedings of the symposium she arranged last year: *Seen Not Heard: Composition, Iconicity, and the Classifier Systems of Logosyllabic Scripts*. These substantial first drafts, which address iconicity, indexicality, ludic writing, and determinatives/classifiers in cuneiform (Mesopotamian and Anatolian), hieroglyphic (Egyptian and Anatolian), Mesoamerican, and Chinese writing systems, have been returned to their authors; Zsolnay has already begun receiving revised versions. She has also been researching and writing her own two chapters for *Seen Not Heard*: “Introduction,” which addresses the experiential and performative aspects of writing and classifiers systems, and “Searching for a Classifier (or organizational principle): A Selective Diagrammatic Investigation of Sumerian Cities in the Uruk IV and III Corpus.”

Also, during this year, as part of her position at the OI, Zsolnay convened two Connections Seminars: Susanne Paulus, “Debt in the City,” December 29; Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee, “Speaking in “Tongues”: Multilingualism and Diglossia in the Ancient Near East,” February 21; and arranged, Donald Whitcomb, May 23 (rescheduled). She also had the opportunity to attend lectures at the OI symposia: International Congress of Hittitology, August 28–September 1, and *Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*, March 1–2, in addition to numerous members lectures and workshop presentations.

Finally, Zsolnay was invited to give the talk “The Sulky and Abusive Nature of the Gods: Permutations of *Erra and Išum*,” in a workshop at the 64th *Rencontre Assyriologique International* in July in Innsbruck, and presentations for two sessions at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting* in Denver, US, in November: “Beauty and the Priest: Physical Perfection as an Attribute of Priestly Masculinity” and “The Mesopotamian God of Pestilence and Ezekiel’s Vision.”