



INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH



OVERLEAF:
Epigraphic Survey's
Yarko photographing
in the chapel of
the God's Wife of
Amun Amenirdis I,
December 27, 2018.
Photo: Amanda
Tetrault.

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ABBAS ALIZADEH completed and submitted his *Guide to the Persian Gallery* in 2018. This is the most extensive guide to the Persian Gallery that includes additional objects from third millennium BC (proto-Elamite) as well as the first millennium BC (Neo-Elamite) discovered by Donald McCown at Tall-e Geser (a.k.a. Tall-e Ghazir) in southwestern Iran between 1949 and 1950. He also has been working on an OIP manuscript to publish the results of his excavations at the five prehistoric settlements (Tall-e Bakun A and B, Tall-e Jari A and B, and Tall-e Mushki) in the plain of Persepolis that he excavated in 2005. These excavations have provided the hitherto unavailable absolute radiocarbon dates for these key settlements in the region as well as a stratified sequence of the local pottery and evidence of subsistence economy from circa 6800 to 4000 BC.

Alizadeh also conducted the twentieth season of excavations at Nippur in 2019 after almost thirty years of hiatus due to political unrest in Iraq. He will return to the site with a much larger staff and for a longer season in March of 2020. Once it is officially finalized, the Nippur project in 2020 will include the two important sites of Drehem (ancient Puzurish Dagan) and Dlehim (ancient Tummal) that lie within a 10 km radius of Nippur. The former was an important administrative and distribution center during the Third Dynasty of Ur; the latter was also an important cult center during the same dynasty and, according to some cuneiform texts, the burial place of Ur-Namma, the founder of the Third Dynasty of Ur.

In addition, Alizadeh's new project is "The Archaeology of Apprenticeship." This research focuses on the processes through which craftsmen (primarily potters) learned their crafts as children whose unskillful work is reflected in the clumsily made and decorated pottery vessels that most ceramic corpuses from prehistoric sites exhibit. This will be done by studying various categories of archaeological collections in both the Oriental Institute and the National Museum of Iran. The model for this project was provided by the ethno-archaeological works of M. A. Harding on contemporary potters in the southwestern United States. Alizadeh also plans to travel to Iran to conduct an ethno-archaeological 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. This was submitted to the Publications Office, where they converted it from Word to the design program InDesign, and in doing so, put it into the page format of the dictionary. The resulting page proofs were read by several staff members, since the necessary corrections in such a complicated manuscript only show up at the proofing stage. Beal assembled the corrections and entered them into the page proofs directly; this produced a second set of page proofs, which Beal read and further corrected, producing a third set of page proofs, and so on. The abbreviation list also needed attention. As new scholarly works appeared between the publication of CHD fascicles, each new fascicle required an addendum to the abbreviation list for these new works. This was usually published on the inside cover of the fascicle. With this fascicle finishing a volume, and presuming that the fascicle covers would be torn off

to bind the fascicles into a volume, it was necessary to combine the abbreviations list of the P volume with addenda of each fascicle. The fascicle is finally, at the time of writing this report, at the printers.

He completed a review of Trevor Bryce's *Warriors of Anatolia: A Concise History of the Hittites* for *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. Written by the well-known master of Hittite history, the book is a breezily readable overview of Hittite political and cultural history written for popular consumption. It contains far more informed speculation and imaginative reconstructions than are typical in most scholarly books; it is successful for what it is intended.

He and his wife, JoAnn Scurlock, have edited the papers of 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*. It is in the works at Archaeopress of Oxford, England.

In early June, Beal spent a month photographing in Sichuan and the surrounding regions of China, and at the end of the month, gave a lecture at Fudan University in Shanghai, China. The lecture was on Hittite oracles—questions to the gods asked in a yes/no format. Oracles were intended to find out which god was causing misfortune, why, and what compensation could soothe divine anger. They also asked about general or very specific military operations or unforeseen dangers, among other things. Some ten students taking courses in ancient Near Eastern studies from our hostess Professor Ouyang Xiaoli attended.

Finally, Beal wrote a chapter on the history of “Hittite and Anatolian Studies at the OI” for *Discovering New Pasts: The OI at 100*, ed. Theo van den Hout (Chicago: Oriental Institute, 2019), 320–39. Hittite language and Anatolian studies was a relative late comer to the University of Chicago, only beginning with D. D. Luckenbill's courses in Boğazköy Texts in the early 1920s and H. H. von der Osten's Anatolian surveys and excavations at Alişar beginning in 1926. These were followed by such distinguished names such as A. Walther, I. J. Gelb, H. G. Güterbock, H. A. Hoffner, up to the present day T. van den Hout, P. Goedegebuure, and J. Osborne. And, of course, since 1976 the OI has been producing the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary*, so this was a chance to reminisce about the various colleagues Beal has worked with since then.

As one of the coeditors of the series *Die Babylonisch-Assyrische Medizin in Texten und Untersuchungen*, **ROBERT D. BIGGS** spent several months reading and commenting critically on a massive manuscript of a new edition of Tablets III–XIV of the Babylonian medical diagnostic series *Sakikkû* for which many more sources are now known than were available for the previous edition in 1951. *Mesopotamische Diagnostik* will be published by deGruyter in Berlin.

ALAIN BRESSON's research activity is currently mainly focused on coinage and money in the ancient world. I have published one article this year, as well as four chapters and one review. I have also seventeen chapters in press (three of them should come out this summer) and several others in preparation.

As for my activity that is directly linked to the field of research of the OI, I will underscore the following. Two papers came out in 2018–19. “Coins and Trade in Hellenistic Asia Minor: the Pamphylian Hub,” in B. Woytek, ed., *Infrastructure and Distribution in Ancient Economies* (Vienna, Austrian Academy

of Sciences Press, 2019), 67–143. On the basis of an analysis of countermarks on the tetradrachms of Pamphylia, this chapter analyses monetary circulation between Asia Minor, Syria, and Mesopotamia under Antiochos IV, Antiochos V, and Demetrios I (between 175 and 150). Among other things it shows the close links among these three regions, Pamphylia playing the role of hub in this network. It also proposes a new interpretation of the Seleucid countermarks from Syria and Mesopotamia. “From Xerxes to Mithridates: Kings, Coins and Economic Life at Kelainai–Apameia,” in Z. Archibald and J. Haywood, eds., *The Power of Individual and Community in Ancient Athens and Beyond* (Swansea: Classical Press of Wales, 2019), 285–310, envisages the role of coinage in the long durée in the economic life of Kelainai–Apameia (in Phrygia).

Three papers that should come out in 2020. “The Choice for Electrum Monometallism: When and Why,” in U. Wartenberg and P. van Alfen, eds., *White Gold* (New York), on the origin of coinage in western Asia Minor after 650 BCE. “Closed Currency Systems of the Black Sea (Archaic and Classical Period),” in D. Schaps, ed., “Money on the Margins Coinage, Forms and Strategies of Intercultural Commerce on the Black Sea Shore in the Classical and Hellenistic Eras,” which offers a global approach toward coinage circulation in the Black Sea in the archaic and classical periods on the basis of coin hoards. “Silverization, Prices and Tribute in the Achaemenid Empire,” in C. Tuplin and J. Ma, eds., Arshama series, which shows that it is impossible to address the question of monetization in the Achaemenid Empire without taking into account the input of silver and gold coming from the west, that is, the Aegean.

In 2019–20, I will keep on working on currency and coinage in the ancient world, but I will also explore new ground. With Dr. Elizabeth Fagan, a former student of the UChicago History Department, I plan to organize at the University of Chicago and with the support of the Oriental Institute a Symposium on Armenia on April 17, 2020: “Ancient Armenia: Center and Peripheries.” We expect to have nine presentations. This symposium will be the opportunity for Dr. Fagan (as a specialist of Armenia) and me (as a specialist of Greek epigraphy) to present for the first time a new analysis (with new readings, restorations, and date) of a Greek inscription of Armenia that was published more than fifty years ago. The text was poorly understood and wrongly dated. Our new analysis will show that the text is of special importance for the understanding of the earliest phase of development of Christianity in Armenia.

JOHN BRINKMAN's research has focused recently on the Ahlamu, the earliest known group of Arameans, who lived in Babylonia in the fourteenth and thirteenth centuries BC. The Arameans became a significant social and cultural force in the Near East in the first millennium BC; their language, Aramaic, served as the *lingua franca* for much of the region. They continued as a vibrant presence in later centuries, and their language is today spoken in scattered areas of Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, and Iran and survives in Syriac, a congeries of dialects primarily seen in ecclesiastical and literary usage. In Babylonia of the Late Bronze Age, the Ahlamu were clustered in large kin groups (clans or tribes) and also appeared as individuals in various sectors of society. They organized merchant caravans, manned city gates, engaged in various agricultural enterprises, and worked as household servants. There are more than sixty known Middle Babylonian texts referring to the Ahlamu, most of them unpublished. Further research may lead to clarifying their role in society and to establishing a corpus of their personal names, which may provide clues to an early stage of the Aramaic language or at least a proto-Aramaic dialect. Brinkman also continued with his research on the Neo-Assyrian texts found by the Oriental Institute expedition to Khorsabad, reconciling disparate excavation and

museum records and correcting information in the OI database about the architectural provenance of individual prisms, tablets, and fragments.

FRED M. DONNER enjoyed leave during 2018–19, thanks to grants from the American Council for Learned Societies and the American Academy in Berlin (the “Berlin Prize”). The latter allowed him to spend four months (late January–late May) living and working at the Academy’s elegant villa facing the Wannsee in Berlin while he edited for publication seventh-century Arabic papyri he discovered some years ago in Vienna. He also spent time exploring the papyrus collection of the Staatlichen Museen in Berlin, searching for further seventh-century papyri. During the year Donner also gave lectures at various venues, which included “Islamic Historiography: Past, Present, Future” (American University of Beirut, October 26), “The Early Development of the Narrative of Islamic Violence” (University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain, December 14), “Some Possible Interpolations in the Qur’an Text” (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid, December 18), “Islam’s Origins: Myth and Material Evidence” (American Academy in Berlin, January 31), and “Vorislamische arabische Inschriften: Kontext für den Koran?” (University of Erlangen, February 7, and University of Leipzig, April 15).

Several articles that had been submitted for publication appeared this year, including: “Early Muslims and Peoples of the Book” in Herbert Bert, ed., *The Routledge Handbook on early Islam* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2017; appeared 2018), 177–93; “The Origins Myth: Looking Anew at Islam’s Origins,” *The Berlin Journal* 32 (Fall 2018): 54–56; “*Dīn, islām, und muslim im Koran*,” in *Die Koranhermeneutik* Günter Lülings, ed. Georges Tamer (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2018), 129–40; and “The Study of Islam’s Origins since William Montgomery Watt’s Publications,” in *The Life and Work of W. Montgomery Watt*, ed. Carole Hilenbrand (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2019), 19–47.

He also submitted several articles for publication: “Scripts and Scripture in Late Antique Arabia: An Overview,” to appear in a volume in the OI’s LAMINE series (Late Antiquity and Medieval Islamic Near East) edited by Donner and Professor Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee; *Scripts and Scripture: Writing and Religion in Arabia, ca. 500–700 CE*, the proceedings of a conference held at the University of Chicago in 2017; “Who’s Afraid of Shari’a Law?” in *Whose Middle Ages? A Sourcebook*, ed. Thomas O’Donnell et al. (New York: Fordham University Press, forthcoming); and “Early Islam and the Community of Believers: Cohesion and its Limits,” in *Ethnicity and Religion in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages*, ed. Walter Pohl (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften[?], forthcoming).

Donner’s work on the Vienna Arabic papyri, which occupied a good part of his year, is nearing completion and will eventually appear as a volume in the publications of the Papyrus Collection of the Austrian National Library.

Although on leave, Donner agreed to serve as chair of the Middle East Studies Association’s Albert Hourani Book Award committee, which meant that he and four other colleagues on the committee had to evaluate the 150 books submitted for the prize this year. It was time consuming in the spring, but highly enlightening to read so much fine scholarship!

FRANÇOIS GAUDARD completed his twenty-fifth year as part of the Oriental Institute scholarly community. During the past academic year, he made progress with several text-edition projects

and kept working on the Mummy Label Database (MLD; see separate report) and the publication of the Oriental Institute Museum funerary shrouds from the Graeco-Roman period.

Among the errors occurring repeatedly in the texts of the OI shrouds, some notable ones include the group $\overline{\text{nb}}$ used as a writing of $\overline{\text{nb}}$ “lord” or $\overline{\text{nb.t}}$ “lady,” the addition of the feminine ending $\overline{\text{t}}$ to some masculine words such as wr “great,” and the use of the sign $\overline{\text{D37}}$ instead of $\overline{\text{D39}}$ in the word $\overline{\text{mw.t ntr}}$ “god’s mother.” In shroud OIM E4789, also note the unusual writing of the group B.t-di as $\overline{\text{t}}$ instead of $\overline{\text{N97}}$.

On the occasion of the Oriental Institute centennial, François, together with Raquel Martín Hernández and Sofía Torallas Tovar, contributed an article on the Mummy Label Database, which consists of a description of the characteristics, role, and appearance of mummy labels; a presentation of the project; and an introduction to the mummy labels in the Oriental Institute Museum.

François is pleased to announce that he has joined the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology of the University of Warsaw as a research associate. As every year, he 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:

- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago. Part I: Shroud OIM E4786,” in *Sur les pistes du désert: Mélanges offerts à Michel Valloggia*, eds. Sandrine Vuilleumier and Pierre Meyrat (Gollion: Infolio, 2019), 63–70.
- “Funerary Shrouds from Dendera in the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago. Part II: Shroud OIM E4789,” to be published in a Festschrift honoring a colleague (submitted).
- “A Demotic Accounting Text from the Ptolemaic Period” (in preparation).
- “The Mummy Label Database (MLD),” with Raquel Martín Hernández and Sofía Torallas Tovar, in *Discovering New Pasts: The OI at 100*, ed. Theo van den Hout (Chicago: Oriental Institute, 2019), 213–19.

It is with deep sadness that François learned of the passing of his good friend Dany Roy, on September 25, 2018. Trained in Orléans by the famous association of the *Compagnons du Devoir et du Tour de France*, Dany was a talented stonecutter specializing in cultural-heritage restoration projects. He worked on many Epigraphic Survey and American Research Center in Egypt projects at the sites of Medinet Habu, Luxor Temple, Karnak, Cairo, and the Valley of the Kings. Just as his creativity, rigor, and skills were his professional trademark, his cheerfulness, kindness, and helpfulness characterized his personality. We miss you much, Dany, and we always will.

MCGUIRE GIBSON, in 2018, continued to carry out his research, publishing, and teaching duties before retiring on January 1 of 2019. Besides his commitment to Nippur, he read submissions to scholarly journals; revised manuscripts that are in press; worked with Richard Zettler, Karen Wilson, and Jean Evans to perfect the Inanna Temple publication; and assembled the notes and plans for Umm al-Hafriyat and Nippur, which make possible his continuing preparation of site reports. He finished the editing and revising of two reports by Iraqis (Hussein Ali Hamza and Salah Rmeidh) that deal with excavations in the Diyala region and therefore have relevance to the Institute’s own work in that area in the 1930s. These reports have been submitted to the OI Publications Office and will appear in one volume. Gibson also continues to serve on the boards of The Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TARII) and the American Institute for Yemeni Studies, both of which he founded. There appears to be a good chance now of setting up a permanent office/hostel for TARII in Baghdad. The building

owned by AIYS in Sana'a is still standing, and the Yemeni woman who manages it can occasionally host small events for Yemeni scholars, despite the continuing war.

PETRA M. GOEDEGEBUURE spent her sabbatical year working on her ACLS project *Expressing Agency and Point of View: The Core Cases in the Ancient Anatolian Languages, 1700–300 BCE*. Her study of the function of the nominative and ergative led to some unexpected results. Petra argued against current opinion that the ergative only existed in New Hittite, not already in Proto-Anatolian. This new case, restricted to neuter nouns, arose out of the reanalysis of a morpheme that originally turned masses and collectives into individuals (“The Packagers *-ant-* and *-a-*, and the Origin of Split-Ergativity in Hittite (and Lycian),” in *Proceedings of the 29th Annual UCLA Indo-European Conference*, ed. David M. Goldstein, Stephanie W. Jamison, and Brent Vine (Bremen: Hempen, 2018), 77–115.

The status of an entity as a mass, collective, or individual determines whether it can occur as a plural. Typically masses do not occur as plurals: compare the awkward *airs* (plural of a mass) with *chairs* (plural of an object). Petra’s study of the ergative and its origin as an individuation morpheme already showed that masses and collectives could be treated as individual objects, but how would Hittite express the individual members of a collective, which is usually a neuter noun? It turns out that Hittite simply uses the common-gender singular ending for a single member, and the plural for the sum of all members of a single neuter collective (“The Old Hittite Plural Genitive on *-an*,” to appear in a *Festschrift*). In other words, there are no neuter or common-gender nouns; there are only masses, collectives, and individuals, and depending on how the speaker wants to present these entities, s/he chooses the appropriate endings: common gender for individuals, and neuter for collectives and masses. Grammatical gender in Hittite is not a fixed property of a noun.

It is common for nominatives to introduce topics to the left outside the clause (compare the so-called *casus pendens* of Hebrew), and this was believed to be the case in Hittite as well. Investigating the function of the nominative, Petra found an overlooked topic-introducing construction that always begins with *kuid=a* “but as for,” but against common wisdom, the following noun already takes the case ending it needs in the main clause. Such a Hittite sentence looks like “but as for **to Pete**, I gave the book **to him**” (article “*kuit=a* ‘but as for,’ Old Hittite marker of extra-clausal constituents”).



AP Photo/Per Johansson, <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/drunk-swedish-moose-found-stuck-in-tree-467096>.

A main event was the organization of a surprise mini-conference in honor of Theo van den Hout’s sixty-fifth birthday (October 12, 2018, Oriental Institute) with the support of the Oriental Institute, and the presentation of a draft of his *Festschrift* with the crucial assistance of graduate student Emily Smith.

Finally, Petra went off topic and presented “Wine in the Ancient Near East: From Origins to Anatolia” for the plenary session of the 229th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society (March 17, 2019, Chicago), which allowed her to talk about drunk moose, and more seriously, the spread of wine and words for wine through the Middle East.

GENE GRAGG's chapter "Semitic and Afro-Asiatic" has appeared in the second edition of the volume *The Semitic Languages* (Routledge, 2019), 22–48, edited by John Huehnergard and Na'ama Pat-El—a completely redone version of Robert Hetzron's *The Semitic Languages*, published in 1997. Otherwise, in addition to continuing work on the interface and online publication of the Afroasiatic Morphological Archive, he gave two lectures in Paris in December, one on Afroasiatic at the École Normale Supérieure, and another, "Inflection-Class Change: The Cushitic Suffix Conjugation and Beyond," at a meeting of the Groupe linguistique d'études chamito-sémitiques (GLECS). He returned to Paris in June to attend the 47th annual meeting of NACAL (redubbed for the occasion the North Atlantic Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics), hosted by the Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales, delivering his paper "Paradigm Survival and Innovation in Cushitic."

The second year of **ALEKSANDRA HALLMANN**'s postdoctoral position at the Oriental Institute was as busy as it was enjoyable. She started to edit the content of the proceedings of the 14th Annual University of Chicago Oriental Institute Seminar "Outward Appearance vs. Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World" that she organized in March 1–2, 2018. The conference explored cross-cultural patterns in dress behavior and multiple trajectories of the attires' role in the construction of various identities in the ancient world.

In the spring quarter, she taught the class Fashioning Identities in Ancient Egypt and Beyond (NEHC 20470/30470), in which she and her students explored the value of clothing as a powerful research tool to study distant civilizations. They investigated the importance of clothing as a marker of the self and its role as an expression and negotiation of identity.

As a part of her position at the OI, Hallmann organized three Connections Seminars: Donald Whitcomb, "The Oriental Institute and Excavating the Islamic City" (October 16); Gil Stein, "The World Cultural Heritage Crisis: What We Can—and Should—Do About It" (March 19); and Brett McClain, "The Epigraphic Survey in Luxor: Documentation, Preservation, and Publication" (June 12).

In September 2018, Aleksandra participated in the 14th International Congress of Nubian Studies in Paris, where she presented the paper "Negotiated Identity of Kushite Kings Visualized in Osirian Chapels in Karnak." She was also invited to participate in one of the congress' workshops: "Sudan, Thebes, Egypt: Crossing Cultural and Artistical Influences around the Kushite Domination in Egypt," where she presented a talk: "Cloak and Fringes: Few Remarks about Kushite Garments Represented in Egyptian Art."

Aleksandra also conducted fieldwork in Egypt during the winter of 2018–19, where she continued her ongoing research on 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 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.

Two of Aleksandra's articles were published this year: "Unwrapping Ancient Egyptian Fashion," *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 239 (Fall 2018): 6–15, and "Les divines Adoratrices: parure et iconographie," in *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*, ed. Florence Gombert-Meurice and Frédéric Payraudeau (Grenoble, 2018), 306–11.

Aleksandra also continued her work on the final version of the book manuscript based on her dissertation, which was accepted to be published by 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.

This academic year, **REBECCA HASSELBACH-ANDEE** finished two of her bigger book projects and submitted them for publication. One of those projects consists of the translation and revision of a grammar of Classical Ethiopic (Geʿez) originally written by Josef Tropper in German (2002). The other book is an edited volume for Wiley Blackwell, *A Companion to Ancient Near Eastern Languages*, which includes twenty-nine chapters by experts in the field on various aspects of ancient Near Eastern languages, with special focus on sociolinguistic topics such as language contact and language standardization. This volume is now in production and is expected to be published within this year. In addition, Hasselbach-Andee started a new project focusing on the relationship of Eblaite and Akkadian; these constitute the only two languages of East Semitic, one of the major two branches of the Semitic language family. How they relate to each other—that is, whether they reflect dialects of a single language or two separate languages—is still unclear. Hasselbach-Andee is looking at various aspects, such as linguistic criteria and historical factors, in order to answer the question of how these two representatives of East Semitic relate to each other. Preliminary results of this investigation were presented at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in March 2019. As a second, smaller project, she has also worked on the opposite end of Semitic in terms of chronology, namely on Neo-Aramaic—Akkadian and Eblaite being the oldest representatives of the Semitic language family, while Neo-Aramaic is a group of modern dialects that are spoken today. It has often been claimed that Neo-Aramaic reflects ergative alignment—a particular way in which certain elements of a sentence are marked. Hasselbach-Andee does not fully agree with this analysis and suggests that the dialects in question exhibit a different sort of marking instead, namely semantic alignment. This project is almost finished and will result in an article. Otherwise, she has started editing another volume on Akkadian historical linguistics with a colleague from the University of Texas at Austin, Naʿama Pat-El, with whom she has worked in the past.

Besides her work on research projects and publications, Hasselbach-Andee continued her involvement in organizing a lecture series on ancient languages, the Ancient Languages Reading Group, which she co-organizes with her colleague Petra Goedegebuure and student Matthew Hewett. This reading group, which had two meetings each quarter, was generously sponsored by the Oriental Institute. Hasselbach-Andee presented a paper in this group on the presumed “archaic” character of Akkadian and the numerous innovations the language underwent in its pronominal system.

This year **JANET H. JOHNSON** continued her work with the ancient magical handbooks project (Graeco-Egyptian Magical Formularies). This project, which is funded by the Neubauer Collegium, is directed by Christopher Faraone and Sofia Torallas Tovar in the Department of Classics. Jan’s thanks go to Egyptology graduate student and *Chicago Demotic Dictionary* staffer Ariel Singer, who has produced a wonderful publication version of the transliteration and translation of all these magical texts, the first time most specialists in ancient magic who are not Demotists will have seen a replica of the original documents. Jan wrote up a brief survey of the history of the *Chicago Demotic Dictionary* for

the Oriental Institute centennial publication and is working with Jean Evans, the curator of the OI Museum, and Brian Muhs on a small exhibit on the CDD for the OI Museum Special Exhibit for the OI centennial. She collaborated with numerous colleagues, including Brian Muhs and Annalisa Azzoni, on publishing an intriguing Demotic tablet, with stamps of Persians seals, which was found among the Fortification Tablets at Persepolis. She continues to work on her Sourcebook on Women in Ancient Egypt, on which she gave a presentation at the University of Chicago's annual Humanities Day during the fall/autumn. In addition, Center for Middle Eastern Studies student Maja Sunleaf found funding to assist on the project over last summer; she did proofreading as well as tracking down possible texts to use, which was most useful.

This year **W. RAYMOND JOHNSON** completed his forty-first year working in Egypt, his fortieth year working full time for the Epigraphic Survey, and his twenty-second season as Chicago House field director. With Assistant Director J. Brett McClain, Ray coauthored two essays on the work of the Epigraphic Survey for the Oriental Institute centennial volume *Discovering New Pasts: The OI at 100—“The Epigraphic Survey, 1924–2019,”* and “Chicago House: Technological Innovations in Epigraphic Recording.” Ray gave the R. B. Partridge Lecture in Manchester, England, on November 17, 2018, for the Manchester Ancient Egypt Society entitled “Reassembling *Talatat* Blocks of Akhenaten from Tel el-Amarna: New Joins, Discoveries, and Surprises,” and a second lecture for the University of Manchester, “The Epigraphic Survey at 95: Documentation, Conservation, and New Digital Technologies at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt.” He wrote an article entitled “Epigraphic Survey Update” for *Ancient Egypt Magazine* 19, no. 2 (October/November 2018). He contributed a catalog entry for the exhibition catalog *Toutankhamon, à la découverte du pharaon oublié*, eds. Simon Connor and Dimitri Laboury (Liège: Presses universitaires de Liège; Europa Expo, 2020), where he presented a joined group he reconstructed of two Amarna *talatat* blocks that depict female torchbearers in an Amarna torchlight procession. He also contributed an article to the forthcoming thirtieth-anniversary edition of *KMT: A Modern Journal of Egyptology* entitled “A Reappraisal of the Recumbant Limestone Colossus of Ramesses II at Memphis,” *KMT* 30, no. 4 (Winter 2019–20).

During the 2018–19 academic year, **MORAG M. KERSEL** was an Oriental Institute affiliate with the Galilee Prehistory Project (GPP). In the summer of 2018, Morag (with Yorke Rowan) worked toward publishing the excavations at Marj Rabba (2009–14) and preparing a manuscript on the 2015 Wadi al-Ashert archaeological survey (accepted for publication in *BASOR*). The various projects of the GPP are changing our understanding of the dramatic changes in villages, ritual sites, and mortuary practices during the Chalcolithic period (ca. 4500–3600 BCE) in the Galilee in Israel. As a part of the OI Members' Lectures Series, Morag was the inaugural speaker in the newly renovated Breasted Hall, where she discussed her research on the illegal and legal movement of archaeological artifacts from the Dead Sea Plain in Jordan. Throughout the year, Kersel gave nine public lectures as a Joukowsky Lecturer of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) National Speaker Series. The lecture topics covered many of Morag's research interests: the museum presentation of archaeological artifacts, the antiquities trade, and the desire to own objects from the Holy Land. As part of her ongoing commitment to the protection and preservation of global cultural heritage, on April 1 Kersel provided expert testimony before the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Property Committee in support of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's request for a bilateral agreement to protect against the illegal

importation of archaeological artifacts. Kersel also participated in a Wenner-Gren-sponsored workshop on cultural heritage crime in Fort Apache, AZ, where she and tribal archaeologists collaborated on strategies for recording looted sites. In March, Morag was a visiting scholar for a week of talks and meetings at the University of Agder in Norway. While in Kristiansand, Kersel and Norwegian colleagues discussed the trade in, and forgery of, Dead Sea Scrolls. During the year Morag published a review essay on F. Hagen and K. Ryholt, “The Antiquities Trade in Egypt 1880–1930: The H.O. Lange Papers and Z. Çelik, *About Antiquities: Politics of Archaeology in the Ottoman Empire*,” in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. She coedited (with C. Luke) an issue of the *Journal of Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies* on “The Power of Place at the U.S. Overseas Research Centers, Heritage Diplomacy, and Archaeology.” Through a series of case studies from the centers in Armenia, Cyprus, Egypt, and Jordan, the issue highlighted the critical role of American Overseas Research Centers as places where American researchers in the humanities and social sciences and in-country scholars, students, and locals meet one another and foster the seeds of collaboration.

GRÉGORY MAROUARD dedicated this year to his fieldwork projects in Egypt and his academic research, lectures, and publications. He spent more than three months on fieldwork excavations in Egypt. For the second year consecutively, his September season on the settlement area at Dendara, in Upper Egypt, was unfortunately cancelled due to a significant delay in the deliverance of the security clearance. However, between mid-October and early December 2017, Grégory conducted for seven weeks the seventeenth excavation season of the Tell Edfu Project in Upper Egypt, as codirector with Professor Nadine Moeller (see Tell Edfu report *infra*).

After the completion of his teaching during the 2019 winter quarter (Introduction to Egyptian Archaeology, NEAA20006), Grégory joined his colleagues from the Paris-Sorbonne University, the CNRS, and the French Institute in Cairo (IFAO) for the ninth season of excavation at Wadi al-Jarf, an early Fourth Dynasty harbor site on the Egyptian shore of the Gulf of Suez. He almost completed his work in Zone 5 area on the levels discovered last season 2018 under the foundations of the workmen barracks previously excavated. This campaign was particularly fruitful again with an extensive excavation of about 1,500 sq. m., which revealed a large complex with multiple installations that belongs to the oldest occupation level 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 now considered as the founder of the harbor site at Wadi al-Jarf.

This year, Grégory worked on multiple fieldwork reports, articles, and monographs and gave several lectures. Last summer, as primary author, he completed and submitted to the MDAIK (German Institute in Cairo) an extensive joint article about the results of an extensive survey carried out between 2012 and 2015 on the archaeological site at Bouto, in the western Nile Delta: G. Marouard, P. Ballet, J. Marchand, L. Mazou, M. Pesenti, and A. Simony, (under review), *À la recherche de la Bouto tardive. Essai de modélisation du site de la basse Époque au début de l’islam: les prospections et cartographies statistiques des kôms A et C de Tell el-Fara’in - Bouto*.

Last autumn an article, coauthored with Nadine Moeller, was published in the proceedings of the international conference held in Munich in September 2017: N. Moeller and G. Marouard, “The Development of Two Early Urban Centres in Upper Egypt During the 3rd Millennium BC: The examples of Edfu and Dendara,” in *From Microcosm to Macrocism. Individual households and cities in Ancient Egypt and Nubia*, ed. J. Budka and J. Auenmüller (Munich, 2018), 29–58.

Another coauthored article for a volume of conference proceedings was published in France: P. Ballet, S. Marchand, and G. Marouard, “Approches de l’espace domestique dans l’Égypte gréco-romaine

et de son mobilier,” in *De la Gaule à l’Orient méditerranéen. Fonctions et statuts des mobiliers archéologiques dans leur contexte*, ed. P. Ballet, I. Bartrand, and S. Lemaître (BiGen 53, Cairo, 2018), 25–34.

In late January and late February 2019, Grégory was invited to give two lectures on his work on the Red Sea shore harbors and the eastern Nile Delta survey by the NELC department at Yale University and the NELC department at UCLA. He also gave a joint lecture, with NELC PhD candidate Emilie Sarrazin, at the seventieth annual ARCE meeting in Alexandria, VA, about the recent results of the Tell Edfu Project excavation and the exceptional discovery of a private ancestor shrine from the early New Kingdom. In early July 2019, Grégory was also invited to talk about this recent discovery at the conference *Egypt’s Heartland: Regional Perspectives on Hierakonpolis, Elkab and Edfu*, organized by St. Antony’s College and Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford.

In early 2019, Grégory was appointed for three years to the editorial board of the ASOR journal *Near Eastern Archaeology* and was invited to serve to the publication board committee of JARCE.

In May 2019, Grégory received, as co-PI together with Nadine Moeller, a two-year grant from the Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications at the Harvard Semitic Museum in order to organize and supervise the production and publication of the first Tell Edfu Project monograph: *Tell Edfu I: Excavations of the Governor’s residence of the late Middle Kingdom and the granary court of the Second Intermediate Period in Zone 1 (2005–2013)*.

Finally, on July 1, 2019, Grégory was promoted to the rank of senior research associate at the Oriental Institute.

Much of **CAROL MEYER**’s personal research time was spent working through the enormous corpus of early Islamic glass from Aqaba, part of the Aqaba publication series. The last of the material from the 1992 season was tabulated and drawn, and some of the drawings were colored by means of “patterns” extracted from the best photographs. The last of the glass stored in Registration was also processed and the whole typology revised, some 1,338 drawings. This leaves only the last two field seasons, 1993 and 1995. Meyer also began the long process of seeking comparanda for glass types. Given that the trade connections of the port of Aqaba reached, at various times over the course of five hundred years, from China to north Africa, the publications are widely scattered indeed.

Meyer also resumed two long-delayed projects. She extensively updated the report on the glass from Tell Nebi Mend (ancient Qadesh) in Syria from a 1988 dot-matrix printout and submitted the manuscript to Peter Parr for publication. The corpus is not large, but it is significant because the earliest materials, the Late Hellenistic mold-formed bowls, are very close in time and space to the place where mass glass production is believed to have been invented, the Mediterranean coast from about Tyre to the Belus River in the first and second centuries BC. Also, little glass has been published from Syria, and the situation is not likely to improve soon.

Additionally, Meyer reworked the 1994 manuscript on the late Parthian through early Abbasid (late second to mid-eighth century) glass from Nippur, again from paper records, as the digital ones had decayed beyond retrieval. Post-1994 references were added as a cross-check on the dating of the Nippur levels. The relative paucity of such publications made the task easier, but it also means that the corpus from Nippur is that much more valuable in helping to fill the rather large gap in what we know about ancient Iraqi glass. As expected, the Nippur material seems closely related to ancient Iranian glass, though this is not extensively published either. What is surprising is how little connection there is to the vastly better-documented Levantine area. The reasons for this need further exploration.

During the academic year 2018–19, **NADINE MOELLER** was interim department chair of NELC, replacing Franklin Lewis. This was a particularly busy year, which included the first departmental review, the implementation of a new sixth-year funding and pedagogy model for our graduate students, and the creation of a new archaeology major/minor track. During one week in September, Moeller together with Sarah Walters, director of the Study Abroad Program at the college, visited Cairo in order to reestablish the Cairo study abroad program that had been put on hold temporarily after the Arab Spring. The program is now scheduled to start again in winter quarter 2020 with a lineup of three NELC faculty teaching the Middle Eastern Civilization sequence. At the beginning of October, she was invited by Irene Forster-Müller to give the keynote lecture at the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Cairo at the occasion of the so-called Institutstag. This lecture was attended by the minister of antiquities, Khaled el-Enany, and the Austrian ambassador in Cairo, Georg Stillfried. The dean of the humanities, Anne Robertson, invited Moeller to participate in her Dean's Salon in November, discussing recent results from fieldwork in Egypt. This brief presentation followed by Q&A was well received among the attending advisory council members. In February, Moeller was invited to give a guest lecture at the Cotsen Institute at UCLA, and in April, she participated in her role as board member at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, which was held in Alexandria, VA, this year.

As far as publications are concerned, Moeller published two articles together with Grégory Marouard on the recent results of the excavations at Tell Edfu. In addition, the last fieldwork season at the site (see Tell Edfu Project report for further details) was very successful and included the discovery of a small ancestor shrine, which was announced in the UChicago news (see <https://news.uchicago.edu/story/ancient-urban-villa-shrine-ancestor-worship-discovered-egypt>).

As far as grants are concerned, Moeller received an NEH fellowship for her next sabbatical, during which she is aiming to complete the second volume of her book *The Archaeology of Urbanism in Ancient Egypt*. Together with Grégory Marouard (PI), she was awarded a White and Levy Publications Grant for the first volume of results from excavations at Tell Edfu, in particular the results from the fieldwork in Zone 1, which includes the governor's residence of the late Middle Kingdom and the silo court of the Second Intermediate Period. The excavation in this area had been finished since 2014.

KATHRYN MORGAN's first year as Oriental Institute postdoctoral fellow began not in Chicago, but at the archaeological site of Zincirli, Turkey. Kate is assistant director of the OI-sponsored excavation project, where she supervises work on a newly discovered Middle Bronze Age settlement. Since she returned from the field in October, much of her research time at the OI has been spent preparing the preliminary publication of results since 2015, which include evidence for food, wine, and textile production, as well as administrative activities and transregional trade, and promise to shed new light on evolving relationships between Syria and Anatolia (and beyond!) over the course of the second millennium BCE. She is delighted to have shared this material with colleagues at the annual ASOR meeting in Denver last November, and with the OI community in a Brown Bag talk in April, and even more so, that her article on the subject has been accepted for publication in *BASOR*. She also submitted a second article this spring, on spinning and weaving tools from Kinik Höyük, Turkey. Pending the appearance of those articles, she will present on MBA Zincirli to international colleagues at the twelfth ICAANE in Bologna, Italy, next April, following further study in Turkey in the fall.

Of course, the primary focus of Kate's academic year was the organization of the fifteenth annual Oriental Institute Seminar, Pomp, Circumstance, and the Performance of Politics: Acting Politically Correct in the Ancient World, held March 7–8, 2019, in the newly renovated Breasted Hall.

Featured talks investigated the intersection of politics, ritual, space, and experience across the ancient world, from the ziggurats of southern Mesopotamia to the streets of medieval Rome. She was grateful for the attendance of so many OI faculty and staff, whose participation fueled a lively concluding discussion. She hopes the volume, for which she has already received several submissions, will elicit a comparable level of interest!

The conference also gave her the opportunity to build relationships with colleagues outside the OI. Kate subsequently joined OIS participant Catherine Kearns, from the Classics department, on her field project in southern Cyprus in June. Getting a closer look at the archaeology of Cyprus has provided Kate valuable context for her work at Gordion in Phrygia, central Anatolia—a region similarly positioned at the periphery of both the Greek and the Near Eastern worlds. In the second year of the postdoctoral fellowship, Kate plans to return her focus to Gordion, with two articles based on her dissertation work there currently in preparation.



Kathryn Morgan excavating in a destroyed Middle Bronze Age building at Zincirli, Turkey, and (BOTTOM LEFT) her excavation team at Zincirli, Turkey.

Several of **BRIAN MUHS**'s articles appeared this year, including: "Of Priests and Pastophoroi," in K.-Th. Zauzich, ed., *Akten der 8. Konferenz für Demotische Studien, Würzburg 27.-30. August 2002* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2019), 131–44; "A Loan Contract in Chicago from the Archive of the Theban Choachytes (Second Century BCE)," 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; Chicago: Oriental Institute Press, 2017), 205–26; "Gender Relations and Inheritance in Legal Codes and Legal Practice in Ancient Egypt," in *Structures of Power, Law and Gender across the Ancient Near East and Beyond*, ed. Ilan Peled (OIS 12; Chicago: Oriental Institute Press, 2017), 15–25; "The Institutional Models for Ptolemaic Royal Banks and Granaries," *Ancient Society* 48 (2018): 83–101; "Imprisonment, Guarantors, and Release on Bail in the Ptolemaic Fayum," in *Le Fayoum: Archéologie—Histoire—Religion, Actes du sixième colloque international, Montpellier, 26–28 octobre 2016*, ed. Marie-Pierre Chaufray, Ivan Guermeur, Sandra Lippert, and Vincent Rondot (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2018), 89–99; "Collecting and Commoditizing Cultural Properties: The Case of William Randolph Hearst's Papyri," *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* 54 (2018): 117–27; and "Wenamun's Bad Trip," *News & Notes* 241 (Spring 2019): 6–9.

Brian also published an article with Annalisa Azzoni, Christina Chandler, Erin Daly, Mark B. Garrison, and Jan Johnson, "From the Persepolis Fortification Archive Project, 7: A Demotic Tablet or Two in the Persepolis Fortification Archive," *Achaemenid Research on Texts and Archaeology (ARTA)* 2019.003 (May 2019): 1–31 (www.achemenet.com/pdf/arta/2019.003-Azzoni.pdf); and he submitted an article, "Egypt and the Phoenicians: Substance over Style," for the proceedings of Jonathan Hall's

and James Osborne's 2018 conference, *The Connected Iron Age, Interregional Networks in the Eastern Mediterranean, 900–600 BCE*.

Brian was on leave during winter and spring quarters, so he took the opportunity to co-teach with Tasha Vorderstrasse an adult-education course entitled *Languages of Ancient and Medieval Nubia: Adaptation and Innovation* on March 7 and 14, 2019. At the beginning of April, he traveled to Egypt to visit Nag' el-Mesheikh, because he was preparing an edition of Demotic and Greek ostraca from that site. He then spent a week in London at the British Museum checking the readings for his forthcoming edition of the Demotic papyri containing the moneylending accounts of the mortuary priest Panas son of Espemetis from Ptolemaic Thebes. Brian gave a gallery talk on "Hadrian's Autobiography?" on June 6, 2019, about a Greek papyrus in the OI Museum collection. He prepared a brief history of Egyptologists at the OI for an OI centennial publication, and he worked with Jean Evans and Jan Johnson on an OI centennial exhibition about the *Chicago Demotic Dictionary*. He also collaborated on two OI podcasts with Matthew Welton and Steven Townshend.

In addition to her responsibilities as curator and communications associate, **KIERSTEN NEUMANN** continues to research and publish on Assyrian art and architecture, with an emphasis on sensory experience and material production, and has also expanded her scope of interest to include Achaemenid period material culture, in particular sculpture from Persepolis. Alongside her book on the sensory experience of the Neo-Assyrian temple, Kiersten is working on a volume coedited with Dr. Allison Thomason, professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, entitled *Senses and Sensibility in the Near East*, to be published in the coming year by Routledge/Taylor & Francis as part of the Routledge Handbook series. Articles by Kiersten that have been published in the last year include "Sensing the Sacred in the Neo-Assyrian Temple: The Presentation of Offerings to the Gods," in Eisenbrauns's volume, *Distant Impressions: The Senses in the Ancient Near East*; and "Laying the Foundations for Eternity: Timing Temple Construction in Assyria," in *Sounding Sensory Profiles in Antiquity: On the Role of the Senses in the World of Ancient Israel and the Ancient Near East*—part of SBL's ANEM series.

During the course of the year, Kiersten gave a number of public lectures, including two conference presentations as well as community/campus talks. In November, she chaired the third and final occurrence of the Senses and Sensibility in the Near East session at the 2018 ASOR Annual Meeting, in which she presented a paper on the smell of incense in the Assyrian temple; she also continued as co-organizer of the Art Historical Approaches to the Near East session. At a conference at the Max Weber Kolleg in Erfurt, Germany, entitled "Towards Urbanism: Ritualizations and the Growth of Settlements, Late Bronze Age to Archaic Period, Mediterranean Basin," Kiersten was invited to present a paper on Sennacherib's canal systems and urbanization at Nineveh; this paper will appear in a forthcoming publication of the conference papers. More locally, Kiersten was invited to act as interlocutor along with Ann Gunter, Bertha and Max Dressler Professor in the Humanities at Northwestern University, at a talk by Iraqi-American artist Michael Rakowitz, entitled "Counter Histories with Michael Rakowitz," at the Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University. This event took place in association with the Block Museum's exhibition *Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture, and Exchange across Medieval Saharan Africa* (January–July 2019). In the spring Kiersten presented a paper on the OI's excavations at Persepolis and the collection of Achaemenid sculpture and artifacts in the OI collection at the Barrington's White House in Barrington, IL.

During the 2018–19 academic year, **JAMES OSBORNE** had the great fortune of being on research leave for the entire year with the support of a fellowship sponsored by the university's Franke Institute for the Humanities. Based in the Regenstein Library, the Franke Institute fellowships offer a forum for scholars from across the Humanities Division to gather biweekly and scrutinize one another's work. Besides having non-specialists read one of my book chapters and offer insight into it—always a productive undertaking—the real delight of the year was getting a sense of the scholarship being undertaken by my colleagues in other departments. With the support offered by the fellowship, I was able to complete and submit my book manuscript, *The Syro-Anatolian Culture Complex*, to Oxford University Press in the spring. One of the most rewarding professional experiences of my career took place in Ascona, Switzerland, where European colleagues organized a small gathering of specialists in the Iron Age of southeastern Anatolian and northern Syria—precisely the subject matter of the monograph I had just submitted. To spend several days with the world's leading thinkers on exactly this subject was a fitting conclusion to my book-writing process.

Another very successful event that took place this year was a conference I organized on behalf of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL), called Landscape Studies in the Near East: The Next 100 Years. Thematically aligned with the OI's centennial celebrations, this conference gathered the world's leading landscape archaeologists and philologists to take stock of what the discipline—one that was largely created here at the Oriental Institute—has accomplished so far, where things stand currently, and what ought to be done next. It was extremely gratifying to see such an occasion take place at the University of Chicago, which seeks to retain its rightful place as the intellectual home of Near Eastern landscape studies. In addition to the financial support offered for the conference by the OI and by the Franke Institute, it was a pleasure to organize the conference with the help the new Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, thereby creating a partnership between one of the university's oldest institutes and one of its newest.

June 2019 also saw the beginning of a new field project in Turkey: the Türkmen-Karahöyük Intensive Survey Project, or TISP. I started this project at the invitation of colleagues Michele Massa and Christoph Bachhuber, who codirect a large regional survey in the Konya plain of south-central Anatolia called the Konya Regional Archaeological Survey Project. Visiting their survey last summer, I was very drawn to the multiperiod site of Türkmen-Karahöyük and proposed doing a rigorous survey of that site alone for several weeks. With the help of several OI graduate students, TISP completed a highly successful season whose results will be presented soon.

The most significant moment in the past academic year for **SUSANNE PAULUS** was being awarded tenure and being promoted to associate professor. I am very grateful and indebted to my colleagues at the OI and in the NELC department for their hard work and their support of my case, and I look forward to being a part of the future of the OI for many years to come.

Many of my research efforts this past year have been devoted to projects in connection with the Tablet Collection. One such project, which is funded by a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities, studies the geochemical composition of clay tablets. In addition, I furthered our digitization initiatives and took part in the gallery enhancement project, plus numerous outreach initiatives. For a detailed outline of these activities, see the section under Tablet Collection.

I made progress on my second book project, *Approaching Economic Life in Kassite Babylonia*. I presented my work at the AOS meeting in a talk introducing a new approach to analyzing means of payment and prices and an invited lecture at Prague University on taxation and the management of resources in the Middle Babylonian period. In addition, after over a decade, I finally received permis-

sion to work on the Babylon tablets at the Vorderasiatische Museum in Berlin. During a three-week intensive research stay, I was able to acquire a comprehensive overview of the legal tablets from various private archives, which are essential for my work on the legal and economic history of the Late Bronze Age. I also wrote a chapter on the history of Kassite Babylonia, which will be published in the *Oxford History of the Ancient Near East*.

After the publication of “Fraud, Forgery, and Fiction: Is There Still Hope for Agum(-kakrime)?” I further investigated the complex issue of ancient forgeries in a second article, “Copy, Copy, Cruciform — Thoughts on the Forgery of the *Cruciform Monument*,” which has been submitted for publication. In this article, I trace the origins of a sixth-century BC forgery and the motivations underlying its creation, while also providing an explanation for its curious cross-like shape.

I was very honored to publish the first tablet fragment excavated in Nippur after a twenty-nine-year hiatus: a Neo-Babylonian Real Estate Sale from Nippur.

Finally, in addition to performing outreach for the Tablet Collection, I also dedicated my efforts to promoting public outreach by giving presentations at the Suburban Archaeological Society and the German Language Society.

During the 2018–19 academic year, **RICHARD PAYNE** primarily focused on the ongoing book project *The First Iranians: Ethnicity and Empire in Late Antiquity*. He also undertook ancillary projects on the political economies of trans-continental and trans-oceanic commerce in the first millennium, regimes of sexual exploitation and reproductive coercion, and the political salience of the memory of the Assyrian Empire upward of a millennium after its disappearance. He presented a paper on this final topic for the James Lecture in Assyrian Civilization at Northwestern University, and *Historische Zeitschrift* has accepted a version for publication. He continues to work on edited volumes on the history and archaeology of the Huns, the problem of highland political ecology for empire in Afghanistan, and the organization of labor in Middle Eastern societies in late antiquity.

Payne organized conferences at the University of Chicago, the University of Buenos Aires, and the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in Berlin. He gave lectures in Leiden, Athens, Berlin, Los Angeles, Vienna, Evanston, and Buenos Aires.

The academic year 2018–19 saw the long-awaited publication of Assistant Professor of Assyriology **HERVÉ RECULEAU**’s book *Florilegium Marianum XVI. L’agriculture irriguée à Mari: Essai d’histoire des techniques* (Mémoires de NABU 21; Paris: Sepoa, 2018; 535 pp., 4 pl.).

Hervé also developed collaborations inside and outside the university. He participated in the activities of the 3CEA project as primary investigator (see the project’s report) and was a collaborator in the interdisciplinary project *Computational Research on the Ancient Near East* (CRANE), in a subproject directed by Lynn Welton (Durham University) that aims at reviving the ENKIMDU agent-based model developed years ago at the Argonne National Laboratory by John Christiansen as part of his collaboration with the OI in the *Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems* (MASS) project led by Tony J. Wilkinson and McGuire Gibson (<https://www.crane.utoronto.ca/simulation-modeling.html>). Together with James Osborne and Yorke Rowan, he organized on behalf of the Center for Ancient Middle Landscapes (CAMEL) the two-day conference Landscape Studies in the Near East: The Next 100 Years (May 10–11, 2019), a collaboration among the OI, the Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, and the Franke Institute for the Humanities.

Hervé wrote and submitted two articles this year. The first one offers an analysis of slavery in the Old Babylonian kingdom of Mari (eighteenth century BCE), to appear in a world history of slavery: “Mari et la vallée de l’Euphrate, IIe millénaire avt. JC,” in *Histoire mondiale de l’esclavage*, eds. C. Chevalyere, P. Ismard, B. Rossi, and Cécile Vidal (Paris: Seuil, in press). The second article, written in collaboration with Antoine Jacquet (Collège de France), is the edition of Old Babylonian cuneiform tablets from the collection of Robert Francis Harper, now part of the OI’s tablet collection: A. Jacquet and H. Reculeau, “Tablettes paléobabyloniennes de la collection R. F. Harper conservées à l’Oriental Institute de l’Université de Chicago,” in *De l’argile au numérique: Mélanges assyriologiques en l’honneur de Dominique Charpin*, ed. G. Chambon, M. Guichard, and A.-I. Langlois (Publications de l’Institut du Proche-Orient Ancien du Collège de France 3; Leuven: Peeters, 2019), 469–90. These were gifted to the Haskell Museum in 1917–18 by the estate of Robert Francis Harper—the brother of William Rainey Harper and the first Assyriologist ever appointed at the university. Forty Old Babylonian tablets from this collection had been studied and published in 1917 by Theophile J. Meek for his University of Chicago dissertation, and a handful later appeared separately without their connection to the Harper collection being recognized. This new article offers the edition of the nineteen remaining Old Babylonian tablets, together with a brief overview of their institutional history—and with them brings new light on the OI around the time of its creation, right on time for the Oriental Institute’s hundredth anniversary.

Hervé presented his work in invited lectures and participations to workshops and conferences at the following institutions: Universität Innsbruck (Austria), Newcastle University and Durham University (England), Notre Dame University, the American Oriental Society, Harvard University, Yale University, and the University of Chicago.

SETH RICHARDSON’s research work this year refocused attention on writing a history of the fragmentation and collapse of the First Dynasty of Babylon in the seventeenth century BC as a book project. He is meantime having a good time pursuing collaborative research projects about the incidence of violence in Babylonian society with Steven Garfinkle (Western Washington University), and about some mysterious north Syrian storage vessels that show up in Babylonia about a century after we expect them to (with Kate Morgan, University of Chicago).

A busy year for papers on Babylonian topics had Seth going to Prague, to speak on the subject of strangers and foreigners; to Padua, to speak on concepts of peace at a MELAMMU symposium; to a workshop at Brown University, on the role of animals in the law; to UPenn, on rebellion; to Berlin’s Freie Universität, on systems of patronage; and to King’s College, London, on intersections of religion and war. Closer to home, he also presented a paper on the second-millennium historical content of a first-millennium oracle text, and he acted as respondent for the 2019 OI postdoctoral conference on politics and performance in antiquity. Several of these papers are bound up in Seth’s interest in political subjectivity, the topic of his larger research project with Clifford Ando (Classics).

Seth’s work published this year included a major study of Old Babylonian slavery, which appeared in the *Journal of Global Slavery* (2019). The work analyzed letters rather than contracts or administrative documents, concluding that the economic function of slavery was to provide a form of mobile credit for the mercantile economy, rather than to provide labor. He also published a long essay about the political purposes of antiquarian “Sumerianization” at the end of the Middle Bronze Age, an essay about the (very!) different roles played by animals in Sumerian versus Akkadian literature, and a note updating our knowledge of the many fortresses dotting the Babylonian landscape in the seventeenth century BC (at least twenty-eight, and as many as forty-two, against only four cities). He

also published a review of James C. Scott's 2018 book *Against the Grain*. Seth has eight more articles in press. He continues also as managing editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (see report p. XXX).

For the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), **ROBERT K. RITNER** continued as a member of the board of directors, the annual meeting committee, and the editorial board of the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* (JARCE). In April he became the chair of the ARCE Research Supporting Members. The accurate text of his edited volume *Essays for the Library of Seshat: Studies Presented to Janet H. Johnson on the Occasion of Her 70th Birthday* is now available for free download at <https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/publications/saoc/saoc-70-essays-library-seshat-studies-presented-janet-h-johnson-occasion>. After a hiatus of sixteen years, and with his personal digitization of the required 2,000+ photographic slides, Ritner revived his popular course Introduction to Egyptian Religion and Magic. He also taught courses on introductory Sahidic Coptic and a more specialized seminar on Coptic dialects. For the Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy, he lectured in Humboldt Park and provided a tour of the OI Egyptian Gallery. For Volunteers Day, he again gave a guided tour of the Egyptian Gallery, and for docent training he lectured on "Akhenaton and the Problem of Amarna."

During the past year, **YORKE ROWAN** continued research as part of the Eastern Badia Archaeological Project (EBAP) in Jordan and the Galilee Prehistory Project (GPP) in Israel. For the GPP, he was senior author, with OI affiliates M. M. Kersel and A. C. Hill, on an article about field research into the Chalcolithic period at Wadi el-Ashert (a.k.a., Bet Netofa or Hanaton), submitted and accepted to the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*. An additional chapter, "The Spiritual and Social Landscape during the Chalcolithic Period," appeared in the volume he coedited (with A. Yasur-Landau and E. Cline), *The Social Archaeology of the Levant: From Prehistory to the Present*, published by Cambridge University Press (2019). He also was lead author on the prologue for that volume.

Yorke gave the Kershaw Lecture "Death and Rebirth: Religious Change and Reincarnation during the Copper Age in the Southern Levant" for the Southern Nevada (Las Vegas) AIA society in March. Also relating to Chalcolithic attitudes towards death, his continued collaboration with D. Ilan produced an article submitted and accepted for publication in the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*, "Expediting Reincarnation in the Fifth Millennium BCE: Interpreting the Chalcolithic Ossuaries of the Southern Levant."

The Eastern Badia Archaeology Project team returned to Wisad Pools, in the Black Desert of eastern Jordan, for the first time since 2014. Our primary goal was completing excavation of building W-80, a large structure with multiple phases and occupations. Artifacts and radiocarbon dates confirm that the Late Neolithic structure was occupied intermittently from the mid-seventh to the mid-sixth millennia cal. BCE. The pools at Wisad formed around a short drainage that flows from a plateau down to a qa' (mudflat) about 10 m lower in elevation. These natural pools were augmented by blocking sections of the drainage, and around them hundreds of collapsed basalt structures built. In this arid region, pools of water attracted people and animals, depicted in hundreds of petroglyphs pecked into the basalt around the pools. Those results are discussed in greater detail under the Eastern Badia Archaeology Project. Yorke also presented lectures on the EBAP research. "Droning on: UAV Survey in the Black Desert of Jordan" was presented with A. C. Hill at the Society for American Archaeology annual meetings in Washington, DC. Research in the Black Desert was also presented for the Kershaw Lecture "Kites, Tombs, and Houses in the 'Land of Conjecture': New Discoveries in the Black Desert,

Jordan” that Yorke delivered for the AIA Cleveland Archaeological Society in March. Other publications included “Tel Yaqush: An Early Bronze Age Village in the Central Jordan Valley, Israel” authored with Y. Rotem, F. Hoflmayer, and M. Iserlis in the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* (381: 107–44), and “The Ground Stone Assemblage from Nevallat” in *Atiqot* (94: 107–30).

FOY SCALF’s teaching schedule this past academic year was relentless. He taught two classes for the OI’s adult education program: Introduction to Egyptian Hieroglyphs in autumn, with thirty-two students and over \$10,000 in revenue, and Introduction to Egyptian Religion in the winter, with fifty-one students and over \$14,000 in revenue. The latter class is now officially the largest and most profitable class taught in the program to date. With the move to online teaching spearheaded by Foy and Knut in 2017, along with the enthusiasm and promotion of Tasha, the adult education program has an exceptional opportunity for further growth and development. Foy presented insights about these pioneering efforts during a roundtable discussion on “Teaching and Learning Anthropology Online” at the American Anthropological Association meeting in San Jose in November. Foy taught two further classes for UChicago’s NELC department: *Imagining the Text: Books and Manuscripts in the Ancient Middle East*, and *Introduction to Middle Egyptian II*. He taught *History of the Text: Early Books and Manuscripts Up to the Age of the Printing Press* for the third consecutive year at Dominican University in the spring. Foy also guest lectured for the introductory approaches class for CMES master’s students taught by Brian Muhs and the Egyptian Religion class taught by Robert Ritner.

Foy was invited to give presentations in Los Angeles at the Getty and in Rockford at the local Archaeological Institute of America chapter. In Los Angeles, Foy joined a panel discussion on conceptions of the afterlife in the ancient world, where he covered some basic aspects of ancient Egyptian religious beliefs. In Rockford, he presented on “The Earliest Illustrated Manuscripts in History: Reading and Writing the Ancient Egyptian Book,” bringing results from his book history research and teaching to a broader audience. Foy joined with Tasha in revamping the OI’s cemetery walks, giving multiple tours of the Egyptian and Neo-Classical revival monuments in Graceland cemetery. As part of this public outreach effort, he gave over a dozen community scholars presentations around the Chicagoland area, including at public libraries in Burbank, Geneva, and River Forest, as well as a trio of talks at the Clare, programs for the OI Young Professionals at the Newberry Library, the OI centennial at the Barrington White House, and the OI Breasted Society.

The 2018–19 academic year saw the appearance of several publications, including two articles in the OI’s own *News & Notes*, one on the OI oral history project as well as a very popular piece on the hieroglyphic letterpress font in the Research Archives with a selected history of the use of hieroglyphs in print. Foy’s article on a long “lost” papyrus from the Newberry Library, now in a private collection, which was inscribed with a text known as the Book of Caves (BD 168) finally appeared in the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 104 (2018). Another important article on the materiality of funerary papyri placement appeared in *Maarav* 25 (2019), which will inspire new discussion about ritual deposition practices. Foy’s article on an embalming bowl with Demotic inscription appeared in the *Festschrift for Janet Johnson*. His article on the Rosetta Stone appeared online for the ARCE national website. A new introduction for a publication of Budge’s translation of the Book of the Dead was submitted to Skyhorse Publishing and is in press with a 2020 publication date.

In summer 2018, **GIL J. STEIN** directed the Oriental Institute's fourth field season of excavations at the sixth–fourth millennium BC early town site of Surezha on the Erbil Plain in the Kurdistan Region of northeastern Iraq.

As principal investigator of the Oriental Institute's three cultural heritage grants in Afghanistan, Gil made four trips to Afghanistan in 2018–19 to work with our partners at the National Museum of Afghanistan (NMA) and the Afghan Institute of Archaeology (AIA). During these visits, Gil assessed project progress, coordinated with the National Museum director, and worked with Field Director Alejandro Gallego Lopez and the Kabul team of registrars, conservators, and consultants. This included work at the NMA 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 National Museum of Afghanistan Outreach–Mobile Museum Project (MMP) and the Afghan Heritage Mapping Project (AHMP).

In addition to the work in Afghanistan, in 2018 Gil started a second cultural heritage preservation project focused on the five post-Soviet republics of Central Asia (also known as the “C5”). The purpose of the C5 Cultural Training Partnership for Artifact Conservation (C5 CTPAC) project is to bring together conservators from the national museums of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan for a three-year integrated program of annual two-week intensive training workshops held at the State Museum for the History of Uzbekistan in Tashkent. The workshops, coordinated by Mr. Fabio Colombo (who also acts as our head conservator in Kabul), are intended to teach best practices in the conservation of the key raw materials for the artifact types in the national museums of these countries. From September 3 to 16, 2018, the first two-week workshop was held at the State Museum, with conservators from the national museums of four out of the five republics (due to bureaucratic delays, conservators from Turkmenistan were unable to attend). The second and third workshops will take place in September 2019 and September 2020.

In 2018–19 Gil also served as Senior Advisor to the Provost for Cultural Heritage, and developed a proposal for a university-wide center for cultural heritage preservation. The proposal was submitted to the Provost in December 2018.

In tandem with his excavations at Surezha and his cultural heritage work, Gil had three publications in the past academic year:

- Smith, Alexia, Lucas Proctor, Thomas C. Hart, and Gil J. Stein. 2018. “The Burning Issue of Dung in Archaeobotanical Samples: A Case-Study Integrating Macro-Botanical Remains, Dung Spherulites, and Phytoliths to Assess Sample Origin and Fuel Use at Tell Zeidan, Syria.” *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany* 28, no. 3 (September): <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00334-018-0692-9>.
- Stein, Gil J. “Excavations at Surezha: Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region, Iraq.” 2018. In *Oriental Institute 2017–18 Annual Report*, 55–69. Chicago: Oriental Institute.
- Stein, Gil J. “Oriental Institute Cultural Heritage Work in Afghanistan.” 2018. In *Oriental Institute 2017–18 Annual Report*, 119–25. Chicago: Oriental Institute.

EMILY TEETER's publications for the year include “The Raw, the Cooked, and the Immolated: The Preparation of Meat Offerings in Ancient Egypt,” in *Religion et alimentation en Égypte et Orient anciens*, ed. Marie-Lys Arnette (Cairo: Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale), and “Collecting Ancient Egypt in Chicago” (with Ashley F. Arico), which appeared in *KMT*. Emily also submitted an essay on

the history of the Oriental Institute Museum for the Oriental Institute's Institute's centennial volume. She completed and submitted her catalog of First Intermediate Period seals and scarabs from Naga ed-Deir for a monograph edited by Vanessa Davies, and she finalized and submitted a lengthy manuscript on the history of the Egyptian collection at the Art Institute of Chicago accompanied by eighty-four object descriptions. She reviewed manuscripts for the journals *Etudes et Travaux* (Warsaw) and the *Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities* (Toronto). She also continued to serve as an editor for the *CIPEG* (International Committee for Egyptology) *Journal*, and in late 2018, she agreed to serve as editor of the *Journal of the American Research Center*, the primary academic journal of Egyptian studies in the United States.

She delivered the annual Weinberg Lecture entitled "Ancient Egyptian Festivals" at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, and she spoke to the North Texas chapter of ARCE on "Crafts and Consumerism in Predynastic Egypt," and to the Chicago chapter on "Egypt at Chicago's World's Columbia Exposition."

Emily attended the annual CIPEG meeting in Swansea, where she spoke on "Ancient Egypt at the Chicago Expositions of 1893 and 1933."

Emily led the Oriental Institute 2018 tour to Egypt, she attends the frequent reunions of the very compatible participants, and she also led the institute's first tour to Sudan. In early 2019, she accompanied a group of Oriental Institute supporters on a cruise on the Nile on the *SS Karim*, the last steam-powered ship on the river (built 1917), with an extraordinary itinerary from Aswan to Cairo.

She continues to be on the board of the American Research Center in Egypt, and she attended the organization's annual meeting in Alexandria, Virginia.

Upon retirement from the museum at the Oriental Institute in late 2017, she was appointed a research associate of the Polish Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology (University of Warsaw), and an associate of the Oriental Institute.

A big surprise awaited **THEO VAN DEN HOUT** on October 12 when he received a *Festschrift* for his sixty-fifth birthday! In secret, his colleague Petra Goedegebuure and students had been preparing this for some time and collected articles from almost forty colleagues worldwide. Theo felt truly honored and is deeply grateful to all contributors and especially to Petra.

Besides a heavy teaching load of six classes, the past year was very busy with several simultaneous book projects. The fourth and final fascicle of letter Š of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary* (see the separate account in this annual report) was submitted to the OI Publications Office in the spring and should be out by the time you read this. After peer review by two anonymous scholars, Theo's manuscript *A History of Hittite Literacy: Writing and Reading in Late Bronze Age Anatolia* was accepted by Cambridge University Press and should come out in the next academic year. A third book project, a biography of Hans Gustav Güterbock, coauthored with Peter Raulwing and Lars Petersen, should also appear in 2020.

During the past year Theo chaired the committee charged with putting together a volume to celebrate the OI's centennial. The committee consists of Gretel Braidwood and Jim Sopranos, both longtime volunteers and members of the OI's Advisory Council; Anne Flannery, the museum's head archivist; Charissa Johnson, managing editor of our Publications Office; and John Wee, professor of Assyriology. The book opens with a chapter on James Henry Breasted and the OI, written by his biographer Jeffrey Abt. It will also contain historical overviews of the OI's involvement in the various geographical areas of the ancient Middle East over the past hundred years as well as essays on all sections of the institute, such as the museum, the Research Archives, the Archives, Publications,

CAMEL lab, and lots more. We were very fortunate to receive a ready and enthusiastic response from all authors, and the Publications Office has done an amazing job in making it an extremely attractive volume worthy of our centenarian.

Theo submitted the manuscript for an article in the Japanese journal *Orient*, to be published as part of the proceedings of a conference that he attended in Kyoto in March 2018. This year he read the following papers: “Context without Provenance? A New Reading of a Hittite Silver Vessel,” Humanities Day, University of Chicago, October 20; “Greed and Gold: Facts and Legends about Midas and the Ancient Phrygians,” Oriental Institute’s Barrington White House Curious Minds Series, March 10; and “Does the Anatolian Hieroglyph 326 Really Mean ‘Scribe’?,” at the 229th Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Chicago, March 15.

Since last year’s annual report, the following articles appeared in print: “The Silver Stag Vessel: A Royal Gift,” *Metropolitan Museum Journal* 53: 114–27; “Hitit Krallığı ve İmparatorluğu’nun Kısa Tarihi,” in *Hititler. Bir Anadolu İmparatorluğu*, ed. M. Doğan-Alparslan and M. Alparslan (Tüpraş-Yapı Kredi Yayınları, İstanbul), 11–29 (= Turkish-language only publication of 2013); “Did He Come or Go? Hittite *arḫa uwe/a-*,” in *And I Knew Twelve Languages: A Tribute to Massimo Poetto on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday*, ed. N. Bolatti Guzzo and P. Taracha (Warsaw: Agade Bis), 703–14; and a review of Marek, Christian (in collaboration with Peter Frei, translated by Steven Rendall), *In the Land of a Thousand Gods: A History of Asia Minor in the Ancient World* (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2016), in *Canadian Journal of History/Annales canadiennes d’histoire* 53, no. 3 (2018): 539–41.

In 2018, **TASHA VORDERSTRASSE** continued with her position at the Oriental Institute as university and continuing education program coordinator. She facilitated multiple adult-education courses and gallery talks and taught several adult-education classes including Science and Technology in the Medieval Islamic World; Languages of Ancient and Medieval Nubia: Adaptation and Innovation (with Brian Muhs); and Connecting the Medieval Mediterranean and Beyond: Jacques de Vitry and the Formation of a Treasury of Byzantine, Islamic, Crusader, and European Art. She also gave an “Object Histories” tour for Humanities Day 2018, led “A Sepulchral Grand Tour” with Foy Scalf at Graceland Cemetery, conducted “Demon Trapping 101,” participated in “Demons and Donuts” for Orientation Week, and did a Georgian Wine tasting, in addition to providing postcolonial tours of the OI Museum for University of Chicago core classes on request, as well as other special tours. Tasha also organized a teacher workshop “From Syria to the South Side” at the Logan Center and the Oriental Institute in conjunction with the Logan Center’s special exhibition “Atlas Unlimited.” As part of the Atlas Unlimited exhibition, she participated in the opening of the exhibition (“Plaisance”), gallery activations and the closing of the exhibition (“Strike”) and was the presenter at the Graham Foundation (“Entr’acte”). She also selected objects and wrote labels and panels for the Islamic installation at the OI Museum.

She gave the following lectures: “What Is Medieval Nubian Art?” (Afrofuturism Symposium, day 1, Oriental Institute, October 2018), “Coinage and Accounts in Late Roman Antioch” (ASOR annual meeting, Denver, November 2018), and “Coins and Papyri in Early Islamic Egypt” and “A Possible early Byzantine Hoard from the Carthage Mint” (7th Century Syrian Numismatic Round Table, Worcester, UK, April 2019).

The following articles were published this year: “What is Medieval Nubian Art?” *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 240 (2019): 16–29; “Georgia on my Mind,” *News & Notes* 241 (2019): 10–21; “Lamps from the Roman–Middle Islamic Periods,” in M. C. Eser and D. B. Erciyas, eds., *Komana Small Finds* (Settlement Archaeology Series 7; İstanbul: Ege Yayınları, 2019); “Experiencing the Medieval Churches of Komana,” in M. C. Eser and D. B. Erciyas, eds., *Komana Small Finds* (İstanbul: Ege Yayınları, 2019); “Buddhism on

the Shores of the Black Sea: The North Caucasus Frontier between the Muslims, Byzantines, and the Khazars,” in A. Asa Eger, ed., *The Archaeology of Medieval Islamic Frontiers from the Mediterranean to the Caspian Sea* (Louisville: University Press of Colorado, 2019), pp. 168–94; F. Rose-Greenland, J. Marrone, O. Topçuoğlu, and T. Vorderstrasse, “A Site-Level Market Model of the Antiquities Trade,” *International Journal of Cultural Property* 26 (2019): 21–47.

JOHN WEE is author of the book *Knowledge and Rhetoric in Medical Commentary: Ancient Mesopotamian Commentaries on a Handbook of Medical Diagnosis (Sa-gig)* (Cuneiform Monographs 49/1; Leiden: Brill, 2019) intended for historians interested in the ancient history of medicine or the history of interpretation, as well as its companion volume *Mesopotamian Commentaries on the Diagnostic Handbook Sa-gig: Edition and Notes on Medical Lexicography* (Cuneiform Monographs 49/2; Leiden: Brill, 2019) with a cuneiform edition and philological notes on thirty tablets or fragments for specialists in cuneiform studies. His essay on “Five Birds, Twelve Rooms, and the Seleucid Game of Twenty Squares,” in *Magic and Medicine in Mesopotamia*, eds. S. V. Panayotov and L. Vacín (Ancient Magic and Divination; Leiden: Brill), 833–76, was published in 2018.

Currently in press is another essay on “A Systemic Etiology of Sicknesses from Ancient Iraq: Organ Systems and the Functional Holism of the Babylonian Body,” in *Ancient Holisms: Contexts, Forms and Heritage*, ed. C. Thumiger (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press); as well as the encyclopedia entry on “Medicine and Healing, Ancient Near East,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (de Gruyter). John has been invited to submit the following essays with deadlines within the year: “Prophetic Ecstasy and States of Consciousness in Mesopotamian Psychology,” in *Ecstatic Experience in the Ancient World*, eds. S. Costello, K. Foster, and D. Stein; and “Mesopotamian Medicine,” in *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, Digital Edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

In the past year, John presented the following academic lectures and conference papers: “Epistemics, Curriculum, and Scholasticism in Mesopotamian Commentaries on a Handbook of Medical Diagnosis,” at the conference 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); “The Micro-Zodiac in Babylonian and Greco-Roman Late Antiquity,” at the Session on Measurement and Calculation at the Meeting of the History of Science Society (Seattle, WA, November 1–4, 2018); “Scholasticism and Medical Language in Cuneiform Commentaries from Ancient Iraq,” at an invited lecture for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Colloquium, at Johns Hopkins University (February 21, 2019); “Metrological Commentaries on the City Wall and Moat of Babylon,” at the 229th Meeting of the American Oriental Society (Chicago, March 15–18, 2019); and “The Hippocratic Oath and Professional Family Guilds in Ancient Mesopotamia,” at the Meeting of the Association of Ancient Historians, Emory University (Atlanta, GA, April 25–27, 2019). In addition, he spoke on “Geometry of Sound Holes in Mesopotamian Harps,” at an invited lecture for Volunteer Day at the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago (March 11, 2019).

During the academic year 2019–20, John will be on research leave in his home country of Singapore, where he will work on his next book-length project *Charting Planets Until the Zodiac*.

In the fall–winter quarters of 2018, **DONALD WHITCOMB** taught his usual course in Islamic ceramics. In October, I was invited to give a Connections seminar to the OI faculty and I gave a paper on the history of the Oriental Institute and its excavations on the subject of the Islamic city—perhaps

not as good as the Persian dinner that preceded it. During that quarter was Fred's conference on Industrialism, where I gave a paper on Islamic ceramics that surprised, but was well received by, historians (and archaeologists). Then, in November, I attended the MESA (Middle East Studies Association) meetings in San Antonio, where I received an award by MEM (Middle East Medievalists) for lifetime achievement in Islamic archaeology (much appreciated, though the field is not too competitive, yet).

Publications that appeared in 2018 were "Caliph and King: Effigies and Islamic Archaeology," offered in commemoration of Monik Kervran; "From Shahrstan to Medina' Revisited," offered in a seminar on the Iranian city at Harvard University; and "Toward an Archaeology of Sasanian Cities," offered to the International Congress of Young Archaeologists, in Tehran in 2015.

In February, Taufiq Da'adli conducted the second season of our excavations at Sinnabra, in which he attempted to expand on the hypostyle building, which we hope to be the mosque (see separate report). Then, on April 27 was a special surprise—Jan and my daughter Felicia arranged for a birthday dinner at a local restaurant, La Petite Folie, with some sixty OI friends and students, celebrating my seventy-fifth year. This was much appreciated, though I hope not a signal to stop!

Spring quarter was otherwise occupied with catching up on a number of articles. Perhaps more dramatically, we gave up the old homestead and waited for changes in the new apartment. This meant living out in the Wild West, i.e., our little home in Hobart, Indiana. As I write this just before Halloween, we are filled with regrets from abandoning the "thousands" of trick-or-treaters (and many students and colleagues) who would come around Harper Ave. for some candy and festivities—this is one of the saddest parts of moving away from the Hyde Park house, or at least our happy street.

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 Oriental Institute excavation of the Inanna Temple at the site of Nippur during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The authors of the volume are Richard L. Zettler, Karen L. Wilson, Jean M. Evans, and Robert D. Biggs, with contributions by R. C. Haines and Donald P. Hansen. The series editor is McGuire Gibson. The Oriental Institute Publications Office is currently editing and formatting the volume(s), and Karen is working on proofs of various chapters as they become available.

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 Oriental Institute Publications Committee has agreed to publish the manuscript as a volume in the Oriental Institute Publications series. The volume presents the results of a symposium conducted in November 2008 that focused on current research and updated excavations at the site. Chapters cover studies of the human remains, textual evidence, lithics, animal figurines, seals, 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 that she received from the Publications Office.
