

# CHICAGO DEMOTIC DICTIONARY (CDD)

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The Chicago Demotic Dictionary continues to prepare for the final publication of the first phase of the CDD, both as PDF files available online and as hard copies.

During the 2018–19 academic year, the CDD staff continued the migration of text and images from the old Microsoft Word files to the new Adobe InDesign files, which will be used to produce these final PDF files and hard copies. Previously, Sandy Schloen and Miller Prosser of Ochre Data Services had converted all of the old Microsoft Word text files to the Unicode font named Gentium Plus, so they could be inserted into the new InDesign files. Meanwhile, the CDD staff extracted all of the images from the old Microsoft Word text files, gave them unique names, and saved them as high-resolution PNG files, so that they too could be inserted into the new InDesign files. The CDD staff is now in the process of migrating the Unicode texts from the old to the new files, inserting the new PNG images, and reestablishing the correct formatting.

The staff of the CDD this year consisted of professors Jan Johnson as editor and Brian Muhs as associate editor, as well as Egyptology graduate students Ariel Singer, Brendan Hainline, Theresa Tiliakos, and Joseph Cross. Ariel spent the winter of 2018–19 at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt, but continued to work on the CDD from there, primarily on migrating the texts and images and reestablishing the formatting for the new InDesign files. Brendan and Theresa worked in the CDD office in the OI. Brendan also worked on the migration and reformatting and was joined by Theresa after she completed relabeling the images from the old text files. Joey worked from North Carolina on checking and updating the references to Northwest Semitic vocabulary. He completed this task, and the corrections are now being incorporated in the new files as they are migrated. The CDD staff proper was assisted by Tom Urban and Alex Cornacchia in the Publications Office, who are also working on migration and reformatting. Together with Ariel, they have developed an InDesign template that automates much though not all of the reformatting, which has greatly expedited the process.

As of May 2019, over half of the forty-one text files had been migrated to InDesign. We hope that the migration can be completed in the coming 2019–20 academic year. Once the migration is completed, the CDD staff can begin the final round of proofreading the new files, after which the first phase of the CDD will be publication ready.

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