

Rebecca Hasselbach

Rebecca Hasselbach was awarded the residential fellowship of the Franke Institute for the Humanities for the academic year 2008/2009, which allowed her to be on research leave during the winter and spring quarters. During this time, she worked on her current book project, *Grammatical Roles and Relations in Semitic*, which investigates the expression of grammatical case and related matters such as word order in the Semitic languages with the aim to reconstruct the original case system of Semitic and to compare the Semitic system to that of other languages and language families.

In addition, she wrote an article on Old South Arabian grammar for a volume edited by Holger Gzella (Leiden), which comprises descriptions of languages that have significance for the Hebrew Bible and its cultural and linguistic environment. She has also agreed to write various brief articles for the *Encyclopedia of Hebrew Language and Linguistics*, of which the first, “The Barth-Ginsberg Law,” was completed and submitted this spring.

This year further saw the publication of several book reviews written by Rebecca Hasselbach, including (2008) *Une théorie de l'organisation du lexique des langues sémitiques: Matrices et étymon*, by Georges Bohas and Mihai Dat (*Journal of the American Oriental Society* 128: 372–77); (2009) *The Modal System of Old Babylonian*, by Eran Cohen (*Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 68: 38–40); (2009) *Current Issues in the Analysis of Semitic Grammar and Lexicon* 1, ed. Lutz Edzard and Jan Retsö (*Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 159: 157–60); and (2009) *Grammaire comparée des langues sémitiques*, by Jean-Claude Haelewyck (*Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 68: 131–34).

In addition to her research, Rebecca Hasselbach co-organized the annual meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics that took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in March 2009 — a conference that attracts scholars working on all aspects of Afroasiatic languages from a wide variety of countries. She was also invited to participate in the third meeting of the International Workshop on Comparative Semitics, which met in Turin in October 2009, where she presented a paper on the grammaticalization of demonstratives in Semitic.

Rebecca Hasselbach further continued to work as a book review editor for the Ancient Near East for the departmental *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.