



DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

Overleaf: Fragment of the Thousand and One Nights written in Arabic. Paper and ink. Tulunid or earlier, prior to 879 ad. Egypt or Syria (acquired in Egypt). Purchased from James E. Pullen, 1947. 26 × 24 cm. OIM E17618 (photo D. 019247: Anna Ressman)

DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

Development

Tracy Tajbl

With the help of numerous friends and contributors, the Oriental Institute continues to make exciting new discoveries and enhance knowledge of the Ancient Near East. The Oriental Institute received more than \$6.6 million in support during the past academic year through a combination of generous current outright contributions, pledged commitments towards key initiatives, and visionary gifts from estates. As a result, the Oriental Institute was able to offer continuing support for two unique special exhibitions, a full roster of museum education programming, and six ongoing excavation projects across the Middle East. The steadfast commitment of our supporters provides the cornerstone for long-term initiatives, such as the Persepolis Fortification Archive, the Chicago Demotic Dictionary, and the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. These projects, which may take decades of work to bring to completion, would simply not be possible at typical academic departments and are the hallmark of the Institute's international reputation for excellence. We are very grateful for the continuing support of our government and foundation partners, including the United States Embassy in Kabul, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Roshan Cultural Heritage Foundation, among many others for their continuing investment in Oriental Institute research projects.

The Oriental Institute is especially honored that the loyalty of so many of our friends and supporters motivates them to make provisions for the Institute in their estate plans. Oriental Institute archaeological excavations regularly benefit from a visionary gift created by Alwin Clemens Carus, which provides support for our excavations over a twenty-year period through a mineral trust. This year, we were very honored to receive gifts from the estates of several long-time friends of the Institute, including William A. Hoffman, Neil C. Miller, and Nancy M. Sargis.

Every gift we receive will make a difference for the Oriental Institute. Thank you to each of our donors for becoming partners in our discoveries this year, and for your investments in the future of the Oriental Institute.

Current Income

	2015	2014	2013
<i>Outright Gifts</i>	\$839,310	\$635,753	\$861,086
<i>Realized Bequests</i>	\$1,595,689	\$686,753	\$368,382
<i>Payments on Multi-Year Pledges</i>	\$4,221,727	\$671,430	\$637,130
Totals	\$6,656,726	\$1,993,936	\$1,836,598

Future Commitments

	2015	2014	2013
<i>Pledged Commitments</i>	\$2,004,400	\$2,002,500	\$71,150
<i>Planned and Deferred Gifts</i>	\$125,000	\$4,112,120	\$960,000
Totals	\$2,129,400	\$6,114,620	\$1,031,150

Figures above do not include foundation and federal/nonfederal grants.

VISITING COMMITTEE

The Oriental Institute Visiting Committee 2014–2015

— Harvey Plotnick, Chairman —

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**Denotes Life Member*
