

MUSEUM

Geoff Emberling

After a year as director of the Oriental Institute Museum, I can say that I continue to be amazed and delighted. The collection is incredibly rich, the staff dedicated and creative, and the museum has a vast potential, not yet fully realized, to teach and remind our visitors of the importance of the Near East to history and to our devastatingly conjoined modern world.

This past year has been both productive and exciting. The museum opened another major permanent gallery, developed plans for ambitious and wide-ranging special exhibits, presented innovative and intriguing educational programs, improved storage conditions and access to our collections, and increased attendance and financial figures in just about every possible category.

The work of the museum is inherently collaborative, and I am thankful to everyone on the museum staff, many of whom have written about their own activities and accomplishments below, as well as to our volunteers, without whom our work would be impossible.

We were fortunate to welcome a number of new staff members in 2004/2005. Tom James is now Curatorial Assistant and has taken on a wide variety of assignments, from exhibit carpentry and securing image rights and permissions, to constructing databases of Oriental Institute images and assisting on a variety of curatorial projects. Helen McDonald is our new Assistant Registrar, Jessica Caracci is the new Education Programs Assistant, and Alison Whyte is now Assistant Conservator; their contributions are discussed below.

Our focus for this past year was the opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel in the East Wing* of the museum on January 29 (pg. 1). This permanent exhibition had the difficult task of displaying material from four archaeological projects (Khorsabad, Alishar, the Amuq Valley, and Megiddo) in a way that both presented local histories and established connections among them. It has been a great success on all fronts.

The reinstallation was guided by a large and dedicated committee that included Gil Stein, Ray Tindel, Laura D'Alessandro, Carole Krucoff, guest curators Seth Richardson (Khorsabad), Aslihan Yener and Virginia Rimmer (Amuq), Theo van den Hout and Ron Gorny (Alishar), Gabrielle Novacek (Megiddo), designers Markus Dohner and Dianne Hanau-Strain, and editor Joan Barghusen. Former Museum Director Karen Wilson laid the plans for the gallery, including the layout of the Assyrian reliefs. Once again, I thank them all.

The exhibition was generously supported by private donors who made possible the Dr. Norman Sohlkhah Family Assyrian Empires Gallery, the



Figure 1. East Wing galleries installation crew. Photo by Jean Grant

MUSEUM

Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery, and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. It is worth noting that the gallery opened within budget, thanks in large part to the skillful exhibit construction by Erik Lindahl, Brian Zimerle, and Ray Tindel, and the steady and patient painting hand of Gretel Braidwood.

The success of the exhibition could be noted in outstanding press coverage and reviews (including the *Chicago Tribune* and *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *Archaeology Magazine* so far); thanks to Bill Harms of the University of Chicago News Office and to Emily Teeter for getting the attention of the media. This resulted in an Oriental Institute record-setting opening weekend attendance of 1,232 people. This record attendance certainly built up on the successes of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the overall increased visibility of the museum, and thanks are due to Exelon for their continued support of museum publicity.

Overall museum attendance for the year was 60,087, up 9% over last year. In part this figure is due to the museum's new, longer hours (since October 1, the museum has stayed open until 6:00 P.M. most nights, until 8:30 on Wednesday), which increased opening time 26% overall. Clearly we will make fuller use of these longer hours, but they have paid off already — with a negligible increase in guard salaries, we drew 14% of our visitors (and 14% of sales in the Suq) after the old closing time of 4:00 P.M. We moved the collection box in August from its position in the corner of the lobby to a more central location, and the result was an increase in contributions of 32% over last year.

We have begun work on a number of museum publications. Emily Teeter's *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute* (Chicago, 2003) has generated \$9,419 in profit since its publication, and these funds are now available to support work on books that will highlight other parts of the collection. Karen Wilson (Mesopotamia), Abbas Alizadeh (Persia), and Gabrielle Novacek (Israel) have begun work, and we plan to have highlights books on Assyria, the Hittites, and Nubia as well as a new gallery guide. Finally, a volume of papers from the public symposium celebrating the East Wing galleries is also in preparation.

For the coming year, we are looking forward to the opening of the Robert F. Picken Family Nubian Gallery on February 2, 2006, which will mark the final permanent gallery to reopen after the closing of the museum in 1996, as well as the inauguration of a new series of special exhibits (see below).

Exciting ideas for the future of the museum's exhibit spaces came from a pro bono consultation with the design firm IDEO. Maura Shea and Christian Schmidt visited the museum spaces, talked with me, Carole Krucoff, and Markus Dohner, and presented recommendations about design — particularly of signage — throughout the museum. Our discussions were extremely provocative. We will be able to consider these suggestions in detail once the Picken Family Nubian Gallery is open.

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SPECIAL EXHIBITS

Emily Teeter

As the reinstallation of the permanent galleries nears completion, we are busy developing a program of exhibits for the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery. Special exhibits allow us to explore themes that fall outside the geographic organization of the permanent galleries and also to exhibit some of the many important objects in our collection that are not ordinarily on view. The shows will afford opportunities for graduate students, faculty, and visiting curators to work with the collections. Special exhibits provide other benefits for the museum because they generate greater public awareness of the Oriental Institute and they provide an incentive for visitors to return.

Whenever possible, exhibits will be accompanied by a catalog. Note that the following titles and exact dates are subject to change as we finalize our plans.

Lost Nubia: Photographs of Egypt and Sudan 1905–07

February 2–May 7, 2006. Lost Nubia features photographs of the first University of Chicago Epigraphic Expedition. These images, most taken from the original glass plate negatives, document Egyptian and Nubian temples, scenes of the scientific team at work, and ethnographic scenes of a now-vanished life-style.

The Ancient Near East in the Time of King Tutankhamun

May 31–December 31, 2006. Special labeling throughout the galleries highlights objects from the time of Tutankhamun, placing the king and the events of his time in the broader context of the ancient Near East in the fourteenth century B.C. A selection of Egyptian objects from the reserve collections will be installed in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery.

Wonderful Things: The Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun, Photographs of the Tomb by Harry Burton

May 31–September 30, 2006. The tomb of Tutankhamun was among the earliest archaeological discoveries to be thoroughly documented with photography. A selection of Burton's spectacular images traces the clearance of the tomb and addresses how photography is used in archaeology and the role that the photos played in the fame of the tomb and its "curse."

Palestinian Traditional Dress

November 4, 2006–May 31, 2007. A joint project of the Oriental Institute and the Palestine Heritage Center in Bethlehem, this exhibit of beautifully detailed regional garments from Palestine explores how clothing helped forge identity in the era before globalization.

Maps of the Ottoman Empire from the Collection of O. J. Soprano

Opening November 2007 in conjunction with map exhibits at other Chicago museums. This collection of printed maps and atlases from the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries explores how the west viewed the Ottoman Empire at its height, and how the science and art of cartography developed in Europe.

In addition to these exhibits, we are also investigating the possibility of shows on ancient Syria, Urartu, Pre-dynastic Egypt, and Anatolia (featuring the Hittites).

DESIGN AND PREPARATION

Markus Dohner

The museum reinstallation reached a major milestone in the last twelve months with the opening of the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel*. For the first time since the museum was closed for renovation in 1996, it is possible to walk unimpeded through all the gallery spaces in the museum. As the exhibit designer, I really appreciate how this new plan reflects a more cohesive experience of the museum's displays since the East Wing galleries now physically and thematically link the other galleries together.

An interesting aspect of the installation process is seeing how all the ingredients that go into creating a new exhibit come together. Months prior to the installation, the curators and educators were busy reviewing and conceptualizing the exhibit content. Following that, the exhibit preparation department began the process of designing and fabricating the exhibit and shaping the gallery spaces. Here is a list of ingredients for the *Empires in the Fertile Crescent* exhibition:

- Seventy-five sheets of formaldehyde-free plywood
- 130 yards of fabric for lining the cases and case furniture
- More than seventy didactic text panels
- 475 identifying labels
- 125 additional track light fixtures
- Three custom-built walnut museum cases having 6 × 7 ft hinged glass doors
- Twelve refurbished walnut cases from the old museum
- Six museum preparators and designers working for a period of six months prior to opening
- Over 700 ancient Near Eastern objects!

If you have any comments regarding the design of the East Wing galleries, or the other installations in the building, I would like to hear them. You can e-mail me at: mdohner@uchicago.edu. Please visit my Web site featuring my latest exhibit designs at <http://www.markusdohner.com>.

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ARCHIVES

John A. Larson

Museum Archivist John A. Larson completed his twenty-fifth year on the Museum Staff in June 2005. John began working in the Museum Office in June 1980 as a Project Assistant supported by a conservation grant from the National Science Foundation. His twenty-fifth anniversary as Museum Archivist takes place in early December.

Photographic Services

John Larson has been assisted by graduate-student assistants Justine Warren James, Brian Smith, and Laura Deneke, who have had the responsibility for preparing the necessary paperwork and handling all the other details that are involved in processing the requests that we receive for pho-

tographic image materials and reproduction permissions. Income from sales of Oriental Institute photographic images and permission fees for the fiscal year 2004/2005 totalled \$13,325, a 51% increase over the income for the previous year. The income from photo sales and reproduction fees enables us to purchase archival supplies and equipment for the Archives and for Photography. During the fiscal year, we acquired a new digital scanner and computer for scanning negatives and a new digital camera for photography.

Archives

The West Basement, a Museum work space in the Oriental Institute shared by the functions of Archives and Registry, is currently a host for the ongoing work of the Diyala Project, under the supervision of Clemens Reichel. Visiting scholars during fiscal year 2004/2005 included James Goode, Raş Greenberg, Eleanor Guralnick, Pierre Leriche, and Juris Zarins. From within our own Oriental Institute community, Abbas Alizadeh, Vanessa Davies, Emily Teeter, Donald S. Whitcomb, and Karen L. Wilson have conducted research using Archives materials. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of Tom James to the successful operation of the Archives; Tom has undertaken countless tasks with thoroughness, grace, and good humor.

Recent Acquisitions

John Larson is pleased to report that we have received the gift of a small collection of original pencil drawings of monuments in Egypt by Lansing C. Holden Jr. donated by Dr. W. Benson Harer Jr. and Pamela K. Harer of Seattle, Washington, in honor of Emily Teeter.

Volunteers

The following people have contributed generously of their time during fiscal year 2004/2005 and have made it possible for us to begin, continue, and complete a number of projects in the Oriental Institute Archives that would not have been possible without their willing help and unfailing good humor: Hazel Cramer, Irene Glasner, Peggy Grant, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Roberta Kovitz, Lillian Schwartz, and Carole Yoshida. We are extremely grateful for the services of these dedicated volunteers, and we are pleased to be able to recognize them here for their efforts on behalf of the Archives.

CONSERVATION

Laura D'Alessandro

This year saw a major milestone for conservation — the completion of the ten-year Assyrian relief reinstallation project. Over the course of those ten years, the museum's collection of Assyrian reliefs was de-installed from their 1930s installation in the former Assyrian Gallery, stabilized, and placed in a new arrangement in the Mesopotamian and East Wing galleries. The new arrangement successfully recreates the ambience of King Sargon's eighth century B.C. palace. The actual work — from the removal of the reliefs from the walls of the Assyrian Gallery,

MUSEUM

through their stabilization and framing, to their installation in the newly designed museum galleries — involved many people over the years. To all of them, we owe our heartfelt thanks.

On the subject of thanks, the museum was very fortunate to be the recipient of the talents of Jeanne Mandel, a Chicago-based conservator, who donated her time and expertise assisting the conservation staff with the final phase of the Assyrian relief project. Jeanne assisted the conservation staff with the work on the corridor reliefs. Their wonderful work on the reliefs can be admired in the Sohlkhah Family Assyrian Empires Gallery.

The past year also saw some changes in the conservation staff. Sarah Barack, the Getty-Replogle Postgraduate Conservation intern, completed her twelve-month internship in September. Sarah left Chicago for New York, where she accepted a Mellon Fellowship in objects conservation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Vanessa Muros, the Assistant Conservator, left the Institute at the end of January to take up a position at University of California, Los Angeles. We wish both Sarah and Vanessa well in their new positions.

Alison Whyte, a former Getty intern and the contract conservator for the East Wing installation, was appointed to the position of Assistant Conservator. The museum warmly welcomed Alison as the new Assistant Conservator and she has made a seamless transition into her new role. Since the completion of the East Wing galleries, Alison has been hard at work on objects for the new Nubian installation. As the *Annual Report* goes to press, Alison is busy in Turkey working as a field conservator at the Kerkenes Dağ excavation.

In February, I served once again on the Institute Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Conservation Project Support panel in Washington, D.C. We learned in late April that the museum was again fortunate to be the recipient of an IMLS Conservation Project Support grant. The 2005 IMLS grant award of \$81,142 will support an eighteen-month project to rehouse a portion of the Nubian collection, including ceramic and stone objects. The forty new cabinets will include three custom-sized cabinets for the Nubian textile collection. The cabinet that will hold the oversized textiles (some as large as 8 × 6 ft) is so large that it will have to be delivered in pieces and put together on-site. The Nubian textile collection — treated and temporarily housed at the Art Institute of Chicago for over twenty-five years — returned “home” to the Oriental Institute last year in crates, and has been temporarily stored in the museum’s oversized storage area. Both Registrar Ray Tindel and I are eagerly looking forward to the arrival of this particular batch of cabinets!

In March, the conservation laboratory hosted a meeting of the State Microscopical Society of Illinois. I gave a presentation on some of the recent research projects undertaken by the conservation laboratory in recent years. Alison and I then hosted a tour of the lab for the group, an interesting mix of microscopists, forensic scientists, and authors.

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

Jean Grant

It was a year of change for the Oriental Institute Photography Lab. As has been noticed by many, the image industry has been moving from the aging process of film and silver halide to digital.

Whether you want to or not, often you have to accept change to be of better service. Even if you feel the new system has not proven itself advantageous for archival purposes, the old way is disappearing. Many services and supplies are no longer available, while those that are require a much longer time to fulfill orders.

This year the Audio Visual Department of the University of Chicago Hospitals closed their campus Laboratory. No more one-day service for E-6 processing. Printing photographs now requires much more time plus added delivery charges. We did acquire some of their equipment, however, the best of which was a refrigerator. Ours was on its last "compression," while theirs was functioning well, but a bit rusty. With some refurbishing, it now looks like new and is running well. Film and chemicals last longer under cool and dry conditions.

At about the same time I was researching which digital system offered us the most advantages and quality. A short time ago we got a Canon 20D camera, which I am in the process of learning how to use. Much is the same as the old photography, but there is a lot more to learn.

A major photography project was shooting in the East Wing galleries of the museum, where I photographed almost all of the large artifacts that were to be installed. I took the "old tech" system into the galleries and had the now-closed Audio Visual Department speed the development process. It is wonderful to have those nice high ceilings (which all good photographers appreciate). I then took photos of the installed galleries and people visiting them.

As the last major gallery, Nubia, is being readied, I am shooting objects digitally. These photos are to be used by our exhibit designer, Markus Dohner, to visually set up the cases before they are actually installed. These photos will be in our archives for some time to come, so I'm taking photos from many angles because Murphy's Law would dictate that the one side you don't photograph will be the next one requested!

REGISTRY

Ray Tindel

The most important development for registration and collections management in many years has been the hiring of an Assistant Registrar. After an extended selection process which brought an international selection of applicants, Helen McDonald, recently of Cambridge, England, and the Tell Brak excavations in Syria, was chosen. She is a most welcome addition to the staff.

Another major event for registration and collections management was the opening of the East Wing galleries. Of more than 2,500 objects considered for these exhibits, ultimately 705 were put on display, some for the first time ever.

Following the opening of the Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel exhibition, preparation for the Nubian exhibit commenced immediately. Over one thousand objects have been reviewed so far, which the winnowing process has reduced to 790 at this point. We also received twenty new storage cabinets thanks to the successful grant application written by Laura D'Alessandro and the generosity of the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

We completed the following accessions in 2004/2005: Hacinebi bitumen samples from Gil Stein and Mark Schwartz; an Old Babylonian clay plaque with a scene of fighting dogs, a gift of

MUSEUM

the Marilyn H. Quinn Trust; skeletal and related material from the tenth season of excavation at Nippur, totaling over 3,000 bones and fragments from McGuire Gibson; and two crates and eight cardboard boxes of survey sherds from Khuzestan donated by Robert Wenke. Thanks to all our donors.

Meanwhile, the collections continued to be used heavily for research and study.

- Katherine Birney from Harvard came to look through the Amuq material for Aegean imports.
- Anne Dehnish came from Austin, Texas, to study the Megiddo Iron Age collection.
- Lynn Dodd came to go through the Amuq Iron Age material from Judaidah.
- Royal Ghazal borrowed early Iranian sherds for neutron activation analysis.
- Steve Harvey used Egyptian material for teaching.
- Georgina Herrmann came to look for Aramaic grafi₅ti on the backs of Khorsabad ivories.
- Kirsi Lorentz came to study Alishar organic material.
- Jaimie Lovell came to work on the Megiddo Chalcolithic material.
- Clemens Reichel has been working his way through photographing the Diyala tablets.
- Petra Sijpesteijn came to study early Arabic manuscripts.
- Elaine Sullivan came from Johns Hopkins University to study Egyptian New Kingdom material.
- Ahira Tsuneki of the University of Tsukuba in Japan came to study early Amuq seals.
- Don Whitcomb used material from Fustat in his Islamic pottery class.

It has also been a very productive year for object registration, with more than 24,000 pieces of our enormous backlog processed. These include substantial numbers of artifacts from the Institute's Prehistoric Project excavations at Jarmo and skeletal material from the Nippur excavations, as well as material from the Chogha Mish excavations and from the Robert McCormick Adams surveys.

In addition, we unpacked a great deal of Egyptian stone, revised object tracking procedures, and produced indices of the Oriental Institute Museum material published in Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition volumes 3, 4, 5, and 7.

These accomplishments have been made possible by the very capable and efficient efforts of Assistant to the Registrar Dennis Campbell and new Assistant Registrar Helen McDonald, and with the assistance of a wonderful group of volunteers, including Joan Barghusen, Gretel Braidwood, Hazel Cramer, Mary Grimshaw, Janet Helman, Pat Hume, Barbara Levin, Charles Myers, Toni Smith, and O. J. Sopranos. The volunteers have altogether contributed approximately a thousand hours of their time to Museum Registration.

SUQ

Denise Browning

This has been a very productive year for the Suq, with sales up 15% for the year and many new items developed for the store, most of which highlight our new exhibits.

Postcards

Median Groom with Horse Khorsabad, Neo-Assyrian

Bronze and gold statue of seated god from Megiddo, Late Bronze Age

Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, 1200 B.C.

Sculpture of Nen-Khefet-Ka and his wife Nefer — Shemes Old Kingdom Dynasty 5

Notecards

Median Groom with Horse, Khorsabad, Neo-Assyrian

Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, thirteenth century B.C.

Phrygian vessel fragment Alishar Höyük, Turkey, eighth century B.C.

Jar detail, Tell Tayinat, Turkey 1450–1200 B.C.

Sculpture of Nen-Khefet-KA and his wife Nefer-Shemes Old Kingdom Dynasty 5

Bookmark

Brass cut out of Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, thirteenth century B.C.

Jewelry

Vermeil Striding Lion Pin, Achaemenid fifth–fourth century B.C.

We are also in the process of developing four ties based on two designs, one with the Assyrian Genie and one with Mesopotamian Astral figures, and a mug featuring our winged bull.

All of this would be useless without our dedicated docents who have given years of faithful service to the Suq. Thanks to Muriel Brauer, Patty Dunkel, Peggy Grant, and Norma van der Meulen. Welcome to two new docents, Marda Gross and Mary Finn. Irene Glasner helped us in the office labeling all of those new postcards. Special thanks to Florence Ovadia who continues to make beautiful displays for us in the Suq — her sense of color is amazing — and to Norma van der Meulen who designs jewelry for the Suq that everyone loves. People now come in looking for “Norma’s designs.”

The Suq staff also helped with the planning and execution of the opening reception for faculty and staff of the new museum exhibition, *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel*.

In May we filled the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery with piles and piles of lovely oriental carpets brought directly from Afghanistan as part of Passport to the Middle East, the annual dinner for members. The dinner was an exciting afternoon event featuring Peter Stone, who lectured on oriental rugs, as well as many activities from calligraphy to henna art available to the members.

SECURITY

Margaret M. Schröder

The Oriental Institute Museum Security staff, together with the rest of the Oriental Institute, is very pleased that the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* is now open to the public. We have made minor adjustments to the gallery guards' patrol routes so as to cover all four display galleries now open for public viewing.

With the opening of the East Wing galleries, visitors are able to walk a complete circuit through the museum; previously one had to go into the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, come back to the lobby, and then go through the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery to the south to access the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery and Aliber Persian Gallery. Now people can begin viewing the museum displays with Mesopotamia, and proceed through all the galleries before they come back to the lobby.

Further, visitors can now see the monumental statue of King Tutankhamun from the vantage for which his post-renovation installation was designed. The visitor can proceed through the impressive reconstruction of public space of the Yelda Khorsabad Court, through the displays of sculptures from the private portions of the palace, through the Anatolian and Megiddo displays, and then turn the corner and come face to face with the glory of a pharaoh of ancient Egypt.

In addition to a new gallery being open and so, in a very real sense, the "circle" of the Oriental Institute museum now being complete, Museum Director Geoff Emberling decided to extend the museum's public hours by two hours five of the six days each week that we are open to the public. The museum is now open until 6:00 P.M. (extended from the old 4:00 closing time) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. (The galleries are still open until 8:30 P.M. on Wednesday evenings.) Word of these extended hours is spreading slowly, but so far this change has been popular with visitors and guard staff alike. Visitors who arrive late in the afternoon do not have to curtail their viewing; it is far easier to book early-evening lectures and other public events as well as allow for pre-event gallery viewing; and people, especially the under-served campus population, can now pop into the museum after work for a visit with one or more of their favorite objects. The gallery guards are generally pleased because they now have a further set of hours available for them to work. (Students, after all, have to fit work hours into their otherwise full schedules of classes, rehearsals, sports teams, study groups, etc.)

We have continued with the periodic meetings of the entire guard force to clarify procedures, introduce new practices, and elicit suggestions on how to improve such things as visitor relations, safety to patrons and staff, and protection of the collections. After many of the guards expressed great interest in seeing the entirety of the Oriental Institute operations (rather than just the museum galleries that they see every day), we also started offering a set of "behind-the-scenes" tours for the guards to see where the objects not on display "live," and where the rest of the museum staff does their work with the collections.

One major improvement to the physical safety of the collections, designed and installed by Gallery Preparator Erik Lindahl, is a protective railing around the prehistoric pit burial display in the center of the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. This rail system was designed to provide an alternate place for people to rest their hands, arms, bags, etc. while looking down into the display without their leaning directly on the burial case. Contact with the burial case, day after day, was contributing to the long-term deterioration of the display.

I served for the second year on the board of the Smithsonian Conference for Cultural Property Protection. The board planned and held the 2005 conference, *Don't Gamble with Cultural Property Protection* at the Flamingo Las Vegas Hotel February 19 through 23, 2005. During the

conference, in addition to hosting and introduction duties, I chaired a session of talks, ran the round-table discussion on library security concerns, and was part of a panel on post-9/11 museum security measures. (Despite omnipresent gambling possibilities at the conference, I limited my Vegas experience to less monetarily-draining activities such as visiting the Luxor Hotel and Casino, taking a gondola ride at the Venetian, and having my picture taken with a lion cub at the MGM Grand Casino.)

The Smithsonian board's planning session for the 2006 conference was held in Washington, D.C. on April 18. At the February 2006 conference I will most likely be giving a talk on University Museum concerns, chairing another session on library security, and hosting an all-day session on planning, writing, and field-testing a museum or library disaster plan. The February 2006 conference will feature a viewing of the new National Museum of the American Indian at the Mall in Washington.

I am also part of the Chicago-area Cultural Properties Security Group. This group meets quarterly to discuss legal, procedural, and practical developments in the field and specifically in the Chicago area. Several group member institutions allow members from other institutions to attend instructional sessions they offer to their own staff. Taking advantage of this opportunity, this year I attended sessions on the latest antiterrorism measures, Homeland Security as it affects cultural institutions, and participated in another Chicago museum's test of their disaster plan, held during the building's open hours with the public. I also spoke at a Chicago-area session on cultural diversity in dealing with the general public.

MUSEUM EDUCATION

Carole Krucoff

The opening of *Empires the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel in the East* Wing of the museum, the receipt of major grants to serve local and national audiences, and a whole host of joint projects with longtime and new collaborators led to a whirlwind of educational programming this year. All these activities brought us 16,713 participants, an increase of 34% over last year. This attendance, which breaks every record for Museum Education, reflects the ways our collections and programs are resonating with diverse audiences as they seek increased understanding of the Middle East.

Throughout the year, faculty, staff, students, and volunteers joined us in a true team effort to present a broad range of exhibit-related programs for adults and a variety of educational activities for youth and families. The Polk Bros. Foundation is helping us expand services for children and their parents with a new, two-year award to create self-guided family activities for the East Wing galleries and the upcoming Picken Family Nubian Gallery. Support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the Chicago Public Schools, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, has continued to help us as we work to develop ground-breaking educational services for teachers and students in schools throughout the city, the state, and the nation.

MUSEUM



Figure 1. Visitors explore *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* with a special “Treasure Hunt for Families” during the exhibition’s grand opening weekend for the public. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

Empires in the Fertile Crescent Events

The grand public opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* took place during a weekend celebration of ancient cultures for museum visitors of all ages (sg. 1). On January 29 and 30 Museum Education staff, graduate students, and guest presenters hosted more than 1,200 adults, children, and families, who enjoyed a rich array of activities. Stone carver Walter Arnold, metalsmith Pam Robinson, and ceramic artist Hardy Schlick involved visitors in art-making processes that have remained virtually unchanged for millennia (fig. 2). Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director, presented an introductory slide lecture on the new gallery. Susan Marcus

and Amanda Freidman of the Spertus Museum showed how archaeologists have interpreted ancient artifacts found at sites in Israel. Graduate students Kathleen Mineck and Dennis Campbell wrote everyone’s names in the Luwian hieroglyphs of ancient Turkey.

For young visitors, master puppeteer Andrea Everman showed how to make and then perform with shadow puppets, a Turkish tradition. Volunteers helped children bedeck themselves in ancient Assyrian-style costumes, while docent Stephen Ritzel appeared garbed in Assyrian-style royal \mathfrak{s} neru to fascinate one and all as King Sargon II.

Vocal, instrumental, and dance performances brought the history and heritage of ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel to life. Presenters included the a Capella group Shircago, the Assyrian Hakkeru Dance Group, the Sanabel Palestinian Debka Dance Group (sg. 3), and Turkish musicians Hakan Berberoglu and Ozgur Sumer. Jutta and the Hi Dukes, a folk group specializing in performances for young people, had parents and children dancing to Middle Eastern music on the stage in Breasted Hall.

A corps of forty “Ask Me” docents staffed the new gallery the entire weekend. Dozens more engaged visitors in all the hands-on activities. The names of all these dedicated Museum Education and Family Programs volunteers can be found in the Volunteer Program pages immediately following this report.

In February, an open house for educators introduced the Assyrian, Syro-Anatolian, and Megiddo Galleries to area teachers. This event included a lecture by Geoff Emberling, docent-led gallery tours (sg. 4), an introduction to exhibit-related curriculum materials, and a wine-and-cheese reception. The new gallery was also the inspiration for a program highlighting the traditional and contemporary cuisine of Turkey. Called “Turkish Delights,” this event featured a dining experience at Cousin’s Turkish Restaurant, where Chef Ahmet Obali demonstrated the preparation of his signature main course and gave the guests recipes to take home. A good time was had by all the convivial gourmets at this unique adult education program.

Other adult education programs and courses related to *Empires in the Fertile Crescent* began well before the exhibition opened. In fall, the Education and Membership Offices joined together

to spark interest in the new exhibition by hosting the Chicago premiere of *The Hittites*. This major new documentary filled Breasted Hall to overflowing for the screening and accompanying reception with director Tolga Ornek and Oriental Institute faculty who appeared in the film (pg. 5). Co-sponsors included the Consulate General of Turkey, Cousin's Turkish Dining, Amuq Valley Excavation Projects Committee, International Women Associates' Film Group, and the University of Chicago's Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

Classes related to the new gallery began in summer 2004, when Gabrielle V. Novacek, guest curator for the Megiddo section of the exhibition, presented an eight-session course entitled "Armageddon Revealed: The Ancient Israelite City of Megiddo." In fall she taught "Digging for God and Country: The Archaeological Excavation of the Holy Land." Also in fall, Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages and Executive Editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, presented, "The Land Where the Sun Rises," an eight-session course introducing the history, languages, cultures, and written legacy of ancient Anatolia.

Kingdoms of Ivory, Kingdoms of Iron: Opulence and Empire in the Ancient Near East, a day-long symposium held in March, was an educational highlight this year. Presented in collaboration with the Graham School of General Studies, this event enabled participants to experience the most recent academic research alongside the remarkable collection on view in the newly opened East Wing galleries. Lectures featured some of the Oriental Institute's most eminent scholars, including Gil J. Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute and Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, who spoke on "The Ties that Bind: Local Cultures and Regional Linkages in the Ancient Near East"; David Schloen, Associate Professor of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, who spoke on "Canaanite and Israelite Religion: The View from Megiddo"; Theo van den Hout, who spoke on "Writing in Anatolia: Mirror and Political Instrument"; and K. Aslihan Yener, Associate Professor of Anatolian Archaeology, who spoke on "Guardians of Secret Knowledge: Trade and Empire in Anatolia." Renowned guest lecturers included Trevor Bryce, Fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy and leading scholar on Hittite history, who spoke on "The Hittites: Superpower of the Ancient Near East" (pg. 6); Marian Feldman, Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California at Berkeley, who spoke on "Hoarded Treasures: The Megiddo Ivories and the End of the Bronze Age"; and J. David Hawkins, Professor of Anatolian Languages, School of African and Oriental Studies, University of London, who spoke on "Cilicia, the Amuq, and Aleppo: New Light on the Neo-Hittite Period."

Trevor Bryce generously extended his visit to lecture on "Homer at the Meeting Place of East and West" for Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students as well as the University of Chicago community.



Figure 2. Ancient-style pottery making fascinated visitors of all ages during the opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent*. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

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Figure 3. Performing in traditional costume, the Assyrian Hakkery Dance Group brought history and heritage to life in Breasted Hall during the opening of Empires in the Fertile Crescent. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

Adult Education

Along with adult education programs related to ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel, Museum Education offered many other choices this past year — multi-session courses on campus, classes at the University of Chicago’s downtown Gleacher Center, and a selection of correspondence courses for all those who seek us out from locations worldwide.

Correspondence courses included “Hieroglyphs by Mail” taught by Andrew Baumann and Jacqueline Jay; “Intermediate Hieroglyphs” by Andrew Baumann; “Cuneiform by Mail” by Dennis Campbell; and “Warfare

and Empire in the Ancient World,” by Aaron Burke, who continued to enhance his distance learning courses by posting visuals on the Oriental Institute Web site and hosting discussions with students via e-mail. Over the past several years, Aaron has been a special friend to the adult education program. His innovative ideas for correspondence and on-campus courses have made him one of our most sought-after instructors, and he has generously given his time to mentor other graduate students interested in teaching for adult education but uncertain about how to begin. We offer him thanks and appreciation as he departs to assume a faculty position at the University of California at Los Angeles.

All Oriental Institute courses taught on campus are presented in collaboration with the University’s Graham School of General Studies. In addition to those related to the opening of the East Wing galleries, this year’s courses included: “The Other Hieroglyphs: An Introduction to Hieroglyphic Luwian,” taught by Dennis Campbell and Kathleen Mineck; “The Ancient Arabs and Their Predecessors,” by Joey Corbett; “Religion and Magic in Ancient Egypt,” by Malayna Evans-Williams; “Going Forth by Day: The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead,” by Harold Hays; “The Myths and Epics of Ancient Mesopotamia,” by Jacob Lauinger; “Trade and Tribute in the Ancient Near East,” by Jonathan Tenney; “Architecture in Ancient Egypt: Technique, Design, and Symbolism,” by Emily Teeter; and “Life and Legacy of Zoroaster,” by Ilya Yakubovich.

A wide variety of adult education opportunities ranging from special events to free drop-by programs were also available throughout the year, in collaboration with colleagues on campus, throughout the city, and even across the nation. During the summer, we joined the Adler Planetarium to offer “Stars of the Pharaohs,” a full-day program in conjunction with Adler’s new StarRider Theatre presentation on ancient Egypt. The event featured a lecture on ancient Egyptian astronomy by Robert Ritner, Professor of Egyptology, followed by a visit to the Oriental Institute’s Egyptian Gallery. Then participants at this sold-out program traveled by bus to the Adler Planetarium for lunch and enjoyed a VIP showing of the StarRider presentation. In fall, the Education and Membership Offices joined with the Iran House of Chicago and the

Iranian Cultural Society to present the Chicago premiere showing of *Persepolis: A New Perspective*, a fascinating new documentary from Iranian film maker Farzin Rezaeian. This event, which also included a lecture by Matthew W. Stolper, John W. Wilson Professor of Assyriology, a book signing with Mr. Rezaeian, and a sumptuous buffet, attracted close to 500 participants (sg. 7). The Seminary Co-op Bookstore was another new partner. We jointly sponsored a lecture and book signing by Stephen Mitchell, author of a new rendering of the epic of Gilgamesh. Along with Mitchell, this program offered commentary by Seth Richardson, Assistant Professor of Ancient Near Eastern History, and Christopher Woods, Assistant Professor of Sumerology.

The first Museum Education collaboration with Elderhostel, a Boston-based organization that provides educational programming for senior citizens nationwide, took place in September. “A Day of Discovery,” which focused on Mesopotamia as the cradle of civilization, brought us 240 registrants from throughout the metropolitan area. Featured speakers were Geoff Emberling, who lectured on Mesopotamian history and culture, and McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, who spoke about the precarious situation facing antiquities and ancient sites in Iraq today. All the participants enjoyed a luncheon at the University’s Quadrangle Club and docent-led tours of the museum galleries. For many of the seniors, this was a first-time visit to the Oriental Institute, and several became new members.

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., was the inspiration for Ancient Egypt Unwrapped, a one-day seminar highlighting the work of Oriental Institute Egyptologists and archaeologists. First offered in Washington, this special program was repeated — and enhanced — here at the Oriental Institute, with presentations that emphasized the latest findings and research. Lecturers included Stephen Harvey, Assistant Professor of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, who spoke on “A Lost Royal Tomb: The Burial Place of King Ahmose”; W. Raymond Johnson, Oriental Institute Research Associate (Assistant Professor) and Director of the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt, who spoke on “Piecing Together Egypt’s Magnificent Past”; Mark Lehner, Oriental Institute Research Associate, who spoke on “The Giza Plateau Mapping Project”; and Robert Ritner, who spoke on “The Archaeology of Egyptian Magic” (sg. 8).



Figure 4. Docent Daila Shefner (right) answers questions about the ancient Israelite site of Megiddo at our Educators’ Open House, which introduced *Empires in the Fertile Crescent* to teachers and administrators from throughout the metropolitan area. Photograph by Wendy Ennes



Figure 5. Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages and Executive Editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, chats with the crowd that filled Breasted Hall to view the Chicago premiere of *The Hittites*, a major new documentary. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

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Figure 6. Trevor Bryce, Fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy and leading scholar on Hittite history, captivated all who attended the Kingdoms of Ivory, Kingdoms of Iron symposium with his lecture on “The Hittites: Superpower of the Ancient Near East.” Photograph by Jean Grant

Drop-by programs presented free of charge were available year-round. During the summer, Friday Docent Captain Joe Diamond organized “Lunchtime in Another Time,” a series of noontime gallery talks that featured collection highlights. Museum Director Geoff Emberling inaugurated a new series of lunchtime tours during the school year, which brought University students, staff, and community members together to visit and discuss selected displays in the Mesopotamian Gallery and Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition. Egyptologist Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Research Associate, presented two lectures on women in ancient Egypt for Women’s History Month in March. Our Sunday afternoon film series continued its showings of the best in documentary and feature films on the ancient Near East, highlighted by a special screening in May of *Robbing the Cradle of Civilization: The Looting of Iraq’s Ancient Treasures*. This important new documentary was introduced and discussed by McGuire Gibson, whose expertise on the worldwide efforts to preserve Iraqi sites and antiquities gave the audience a dramatic picture of the tragic losses still occurring in Iraq.

Collaborations with partners on campus to serve the University and wider community remained important aspects of our programming. During Orientation Week in September, docents presented guided gallery tours that introduced new students to the Oriental Institute; these tours attracted close to 100 incoming freshmen. All our Saturday and Sunday docents led gallery tours for hundreds of visitors during Parents Weekend and the annual Humanities Day that the University offers for the community in October.

Two joint programs with the University’s Alumni Association focused on special activities for alumni with young children. In November, Membership Coordinator Maria Krasinski stepped back into her former educator’s role to lead a hands-on workshop for alumni parents and children. Docents Lucie Sandel and Carole Yoshida presented special gallery tours and museum treasure hunts for alumni families during Reunion Weekend in June.

The University’s Middle East Music Ensemble returned to the Oriental Institute in November for our second annual collaboration in celebration of Arab Heritage Month. This year’s concert offered a unique and moving portrait of Arab culture that featured instrumental and choral presentations of traditional music accompanied by readings of classic poetry from the Arab world.

The Hyde Park/University of Chicago Arts Fest, a celebration of the arts during the weekend of the 57th Street Art Fair, was our last campus collaboration of the school year. A special grant from the University’s Office of Community and Government Affairs allowed us to purchase a whole new selection of documentary films on the ancient Near East, so that we could offer showings as a free film festival during the weekend. The grant also brought the Chicago Storytelling Guild back to the Oriental Institute for their third annual Arts Fest presentation of tales and stories from the ancient Near East and around the world.

Youth and Family Services

Along with family events developed for the East Wing galleries, the year was filled with familiar favorites and new programs for children and their parents. For the eighth straight summer we

traveled to the Lill Street Art Center on the city's north side, where our outreach artist Mary Tepper presented two week-long sessions of "Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist," a children's day-camp that fills to capacity each time it is offered. For the nineteenth season we returned to the 57th Street Children's Book Fair, where volunteers Terry and Bill Gillespie, Kathleen and Carl Mineck, and John Whitcomb helped hundreds of children



Figure 7. All the guests who attended the Chicago premiere showing of Persepolis: A New Perspective enjoyed a delicious buffet provided by Iran House of Chicago and the Iranian Cultural Society. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

and parents create their own versions of ancient Mesopotamian cylinder seals (pg. 9). John also joined Museum Education staff to help hundreds more children create ancient Egyptian-style art at the Hyde Park Art Center's first Family Day for the community.

Back at the museum, we connected with a new audience during a special presentation for members of the Teen Program from the Museum of Science and Industry. Carrie Hritz, Ph.D. candidate in Near Eastern Archaeology, generously offered to speak on archaeology and science for these young people who had never visited the Oriental Institute. The group enjoyed being on the University campus and having the opportunity to experience a college-level lecture. We hope to develop more joint programming with this group in the near future.



Figure 8. W. Raymond Johnson (right), Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey, and Mark Lehner (center), Oriental Institute Research Associate, join in conversation with a visitor eager to learn more about their work during the reception following our Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

Mummies were the stars of two special events

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Figure 9. *The Oriental Institute booth at the 57th Street Children's Book Fair invited everyone to make their own version of ancient cylinder seal. Volunteer Kathleen Mineck shows an engrossed youngster how his name will appear as he rolls the seal over clay. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

for young children and their parents. “Mummies Night,” our annual Halloween celebration returned after a long hiatus to present a “tomb-full” of programming (sg. 10). Docents Rebecca Binkley, Kristina Cooper, Debby Halpern, Cameron and Dennis Kelley, Kathleen Mineck, Caryn, Charlotte and John Noble, Kitty and Rita Picken, and John Whitcomb held close to 500 visitors spellbound with activities that included making origami bats, donning Egyptian-style costumes, preparing a life-sized reproduction mummy for burial, and an introduction to the real mummies in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Storyteller Judith Heineman and musician Daniel Marcotte provided the evening’s thrills and chills with spine-tingling tales from ancient Egypt. Presented in tandem with Chicago Book Month sponsored by the Major’s Office of Special Events, “Mummies Night” brought us city-wide publicity

and throng of visitors who had never before been to the Oriental Institute.

Many of these visitors came back in May for “Happy Mummies Day,” our third annual celebration of Mother’s Day. This free event featured films, an Egyptian-style art project, an up-close and personal visit with a reproduction mummy loaned to us by The Field Museum, and gallery tours led by costumed docents, including Melissa Ratkovich as a Middle Eastern dancer and Stephen Ritzel in pharaoh regalia (sg. 11). We could not have managed without the volunteer support of Dennis Kelley and John Whitcomb.



Figure 10. *This adorable little girl in her homemade costume stole the show at “Mummy’s Night,” our annual Halloween celebration. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

From Anatolia to Africa: Museum Learning for Families

Over the past several years, major support from the Polk Bros. Foundation has enabled us to develop a comprehensive program of self-guided museum learning experiences designed to attract and serve families who do not generally visit the Oriental Institute. These include African-American families living in many of the neighborhoods surrounding the University, and the city’s growing population of Latino families. Working together with an advisory panel of parents and children from local schools, we have produced an array of materials and activities that families can use together to explore our Egyptian and Mesopotamian Galleries. These include full-color Family Activity Cards in both English and Spanish, and brightly colored, family friendly labeling for the King Tut statue and the colossal Assyrian bull. There is also an interactive computer kiosk where parents and children can take part in an archaeological dig, see beneath the wrappings of an Egyptian mummy, interview an Oriental Institute scholar, and much more!

This fall, we received a generous two-year award from the Polk Bros. Foundation to develop Family Activity Cards and computer

kiosks for the new Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition and the upcoming Nubia Gallery. Combined with the activities now in place for Egypt and Mesopotamia, "From Anatolia to Africa: Museum Learning for Families" will help us make the entire museum a major venue for family learning in the Chicago area.

Such a large project requires extensive research, evaluation, and assessment before the creative work of materials design and the making of computer interactives even begins. For the previous projects on ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, we had the assistance of a group of families from the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School (NK/O), who helped us shape and then test all the activities. This project now has the support of eight new NK/O families, as well as Dr. Marvin Hoffman, Founding Director of NK/O, who is serving as educational advisor. Seven families from Nightingale School on the city's west side have also joined us for the new project, with principal Maureen Savas, vice-principal Carmen Lehotan, and the school's bilingual education team serving as educational advisors.

The talented staff members responsible for the success of our previous family activities projects have all returned to take part in "From Anatolia to Africa." Wendy Ennes, Oriental Institute Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator, comes back as Art Director. Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, a University of Chicago graduate student in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology and Evolutionary Biology who created delightful and instructive computer interactives for Egypt and Mesopotamia, returns as Computer Programmer and Multi-media Architect. Teresa Vasquez, a professional museum programs evaluator for the previous projects, rejoins us to serve as evaluation consultant. Teresa's fluency in Spanish is complemented by the Spanish language skills of Catherine Dueñas, Oriental Institute Volunteer Coordinator, who is serving as project advisor, as well as museum gallery guide and translator for the Spanish-speaking families. Markus Dohner, Museum Installation Coordinator, and Erik Lindahl, Gallery Preparator, have begun to design the gallery installations that will house the all of the project's self-guided activities. Geoff Emberling is academic advisor to the project.

The first year of "From Anatolia to Africa" is focusing on the East Wing galleries. Research began by polling all the families to discover the role that museums play in their educational and recreational lives, and to determine what they found interesting about ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel. The families then explored the new exhibition to identify the objects they found intriguing, discuss why these objects were appealing, and suggest the kinds of activities



Figure 11. Dressed in pharaoh finery he designed himself, Docent Stephen Ritzel (right) greets visitors in the Egyptian Gallery during our third annual "Happy Mummy's Day" celebration for Mother's Day. Photograph by Carole Krucoff



Figure 12. The Aparicio family uses a magnifying glass to take a close look at coins from ancient Anatolia. Several families from Nightingale School and the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School are helping us create activity cards and computer learning experiences based on artifacts in the Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition. This project is supported by the Polk Bros. Foundation. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

MUSEUM



Figure 13. Constance Schuett listens as an educator asks for information on Oriental Institute programs for schools at *Spotlight on Chicago*, a city-wide event sponsored by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

we provided teachers from throughout the metropolitan area with a wide variety of professional development programs based upon the unique academic, museum, and classroom curriculum resources of the Oriental Institute.

As in public programs, collaboration was the watchword for teacher services. On campus we joined with the Smart Museum of Art to offer students in the University's new Urban Teacher Education Program a workshop on ways museum field trips and the internet can be integrated into the classroom curriculum. These teachers-in-training also gave us important updates on the latest approaches to standardized testing in the state of Illinois.

Outreach services for teachers included our participation at the Chicago Cultural Center's *Spotlight on Chicago*, an annual resource fair for teachers and administrators sponsored



Figure 14. Docent Mylicent Buchanan introduces children's books on the ancient Near East to pre-school teachers during a professional development workshop sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools' Office of Pre-School Education. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

they might enjoy and find meaningful as learning experiences (e.g. 12). The results from these sessions are helping Wendy and Nitzan shape the next stage of the project — development of the prototype printed materials and computer interactives that the families will test this fall. We envision all the new self-guided activities for the East Wing galleries will be in place by early 2006, when all of us will turn our attention to creating family activities for the newly installed exhibition on ancient Nubia.

Teacher Training Services

Empowering educators to enrich student learning on ancient civilizations is a major goal of Museum Education. This past year

at this event, Wendy Ennes and Constance Schuett, Education Programs Assistant, highlighted our award-winning curriculum materials, as well as our museum visit and Web-based resources (e.g. 13). The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) also invited Wendy and Constance to present a similar program for more than 100 teachers during a special educator's event at Lane Tech Prep High School. Wendy also offered outreach programs for an educator conference at King High School and for students at Morton High School in Berwyn.

Support from CPS enabled us to offer three special professional development programs at the Oriental Institute. Funded by the CPS Office of Pre-School Education, seventy-five teachers of three- and four-year-olds took docent-led guided tours to discover how our exhibits could engage pre-schoolers. The teachers also met with docent

Myllicent Buchanan, who introduced them to the best in children's books on the ancient Near East (sg. 14), and with Museum Education intern Charlotte Noble, who showed them how they could create and use ancient-style costume reproductions as teaching tools. This was an eye-opening experience for these educators, most of whom had never visited the Oriental Institute.

A grant from the CPS Department of Mathematics and Science allowed us to join the highly regarded Museum Partners in Science program, which invites selected museums to create professional development seminars for elementary school teachers seeking to hone their science teaching skills. Twenty-one CPS teachers attended our one-day workshop, entitled "Archaeology and the Life Sciences." Gabrielle Novacek described how archeology uses the techniques and processes of many scientific disciplines to learn about the past and suggested ways teachers could integrate these approaches into the science curriculum. Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov introduced ways ancient DNA is being used to investigate the past. Teacher evaluations gave both these presentations the highest rating, and one expressed the feelings of many when she wrote that she "felt privileged to be part of such a special learning experience."

The CPS Department of Mathematics and Science also funded our participation in "Museum Connections: Outside the Classroom Walls," a pilot project designed to connect museum educators with teachers to create jointly planned classroom and museum lessons focused on science concepts. Robert Long, social studies and science teacher from Peck Math and Science Magnet School, was our partner. He worked with us to develop an ancient civilizations project on ways archaeologists learn about the past through study of animal bones, reconstruction of ancient pottery, and the scientific study of mummies. Planning for this program was a real team effort that involved Gil Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute, who shared a pottery-reconstruction activity he had developed for his daughter's classroom. He also encouraged us to introduce students to "Arnold the Articulated Pig" — a skeleton used by researchers in the Oriental Institute Zooarchaeology Laboratory (sgs. 15–16). Other planners included Belinda Monaghan, Oriental Institute Research Associate in Zooarchaeology; Leslie Schramer, graduate student in Near Eastern Archaeology; Claire Thomas, former Education Programs Assistant; and docents Joe Diamond, Dario Giacomoni, Anita Greenberg, Katie Heubel, Bob McGuinness, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, and Joy Schochet. The entire program received rave reviews from students, parents, and from Mr. Long, who called it the best museum learning experience of his teaching career.

Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates

One of our most extensive professional development programs took place during the summer, as the culmination of "Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates." This project provided K-12 teachers with the unique opportunity to study on campus and on-line during a three-week summer seminar developed with the support of the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. The seminar was designed to give participants the tools to enrich student learning on ancient Iraq, enhance student literacy skills, and integrate technology into instruction, as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The entire project was based upon the highly successful



Figure 15. The skeleton of "Arnold the Articulated Pig" was an important teaching tool during the Oriental Institute zooarchaeology workshop for sixth grade students from Peck School. This workshop was led by Belinda Monaghan (right), Oriental Institute Research Associate, and Katie Heupel (left), Museum Education intern. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

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Figure 16. Sixth grade students and fascinated chaperone study animal bones during the Oriental Institute's zooarchaeology workshop. This program was supported by the Chicago Public Schools Department of Mathematics and Science. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

model for Oriental Institute on-campus seminars that the Fry Foundation has supported for the past several years. This model includes: lectures on academic content by Oriental Institute scholars; workshops on teaching methods using the Oriental Institute's award-winning classroom curriculum materials; gallery sessions relating classroom curriculum to museum collections; and teacher-creation of classroom and museum lesson plans for their students.

Broadening this model to meet literacy and technology mandates while using approaches that would fit the schedules of busy teachers was the challenge of this project. Wendy Ennes, who served as Instructional Designer, chose to meet this challenge in groundbreaking ways by developing a seminar that combined on-campus training accompanied by on-line professional development units that teachers could complete at their own pace from home. To aid us in this unique

venture never before attempted by a Chicago cultural institution, Wendy recruited a panel of five computer-savvy educator advisors. These included: Mary Cobb, Computer Teacher, Ray School; JoAnne Groshek, sixth grade teacher, Bell Elementary School; Inga Jackson, Principal, Crane Tech Prep Common School; Lisa Perez, Area Library Coordinator, CPS Department of Libraries and Information Services; and Brandon Taylor, Dean, Center for Distance Learning, City Colleges of Chicago. Dr. Iris Stovall, Director of the Illinois Virtual Campus based in Champaign, Illinois, joined us as on-line curriculum consultant. Geoff Emberling and Seth Richardson were our academic advisors. Working with Wendy, this team designed a full day of teacher training in computer use and on-line navigation, and two on-line units on Mesopotamian topics that would complement and enhance the seminar's on-campus component.

Presented in July, the seminar attracted participants who ranged from fourth grade teachers to high school educators, and from special education instructors to curriculum coordinators. All were intrigued, stimulated, and inspired by the unique on-campus and on-line format and urged us to offer similar programs on other ancient Near Eastern cultures (sg. 17). Such a successful outcome was due to the months of intensive planning by the on-line education team, as well as the time and talents contributed by Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and graduate students. Seminar lecturers included Geoff Emberling, Gabrielle Novacek, and Jonathan Tenney, along with Martha Roth, Professor of Assyriology and Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project, and Karen Wilson, Research Associate and Curator of the Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. Carole Krucoff, Head of Public and Museum Education, led gallery workshops on building students literary skills through projects that ranged from analysis of primary sources to poetry-writing inspired by ancient art. Finally, Wendy Ennes brilliantly facilitated the on-line units of the course, enabling the project to combine best practices for both on-site and on-line learning. Due to the seminar's success, we now have a unique professional development model that has brought the Oriental Institute to the forefront as an e-learning innovator on the national stage.

Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History

Our last *Annual Report* described how the Oriental Institute's leadership role in e-learning was recognized when we received a prestigious National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (fig. 18). This federal award is enabling us to expand our local on-line professional development model into a complete on-line course on ancient Mesopotamia that will provide teacher training for educators nationwide. Wendy Ennes, Project Coordinator, is the driving force of this two-year initiative, working in tandem with Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students. Graduate student Leslie Schramer is creating the on-line course content, with guidance and review by



Figure 17. K-12 teachers hone their computer skills during a training workshop preparing them for the distance learning sessions we presented on-line during Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates, a professional development project supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

faculty and staff members, including Gil Stein, Geoff Emberling, McGuire Gibson, Martha Roth, and Christopher Woods, all of whom have been actively involved in our educational programming this past year. New academic advisors to this project are Robert Biggs, Professor Emeritus of Assyriology and Editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*; Jenny Myers, Research Associate, Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project; and Erica Reiner, John A. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor Emerita of Assyriology.

Wendy's dedication to educational excellence and expertise in on-line learning has been crucial to her skillful coordination of "Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History." She is nearing completion of the University of Illinois Master On-line Teaching Certification Program, which concentrates on the methods and role of instructional technology, assessment, and facilitation in on-line education. The skills she has gained are invaluable for development and facilitation of the on-line course, and also for production of two additional project components — a searchable database and a simulated archaeological dig that will be available on the Oriental Institute Web site. These major components are being created in tandem with two University of Chicago partners.

The eCUIP Digital Library, a unit run by the University's Regenstein Library, is working with Wendy on the creation of "The Learning Collection," a searchable database of 140 artifacts from the Mesopotamian Gallery. The production of this database — designed for use by teachers and students of grades six to twelve — has been intricate and intense. Photographing all of the artifacts, gathering "metadata" on them from registration records, designing Web pages to house and provide access to the information, and then uploading all the data has taken many months and has involved the time, talents, and expertise of many University of Chicago and Oriental Institute personnel. In addition to Wendy, these include: Steven Lane and Christie Thomas of eCUIP; Elisabeth Long and Glen Biggus of Regenstein Library; John Larson, Oriental Institute Archivist; John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory; and Ray Tindel, Oriental Institute Museum Registrar. Volunteer support has also been invaluable. Ka5 Moragne, a summer intern who came to us from Vassar, began the collection of metadata from museum records. As it was gathered, Irene Glasner edited information to make it more accessible to

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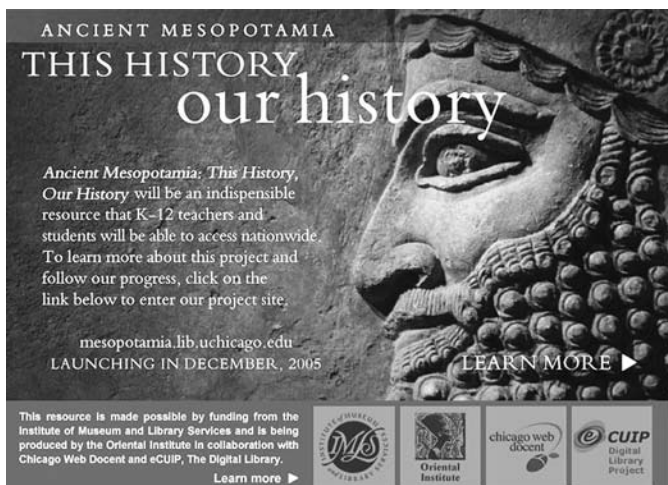


Figure 18. Web page introducing *Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History*, a major on-line initiative supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency. Visit <http://mesopotamia.lib.uchicago.edu> to learn more about the unique resources on Mesopotamia that we are preparing for K-12 teachers and their students nationwide.

teachers and students. David Berry has spent countless hours completing the gathering of metadata, refining the database, and streamlining its usability. Thanks to everyone's tireless efforts, we envision the Learning Collection will be fully operational by the end of the year, marking the first time that images and information on Oriental Institute artifacts will be available to the public in this highly accessible and state of the art format.

"Dig into History: Mesopotamia" is the third major component of this extraordinary on-line learning project. An interactive game that can be played at home or in school under a teacher's guidance, this computer simulation will give students the choice of agreeing or disagreeing with a big

idea or concept about ancient Mesopotamia. These ideas will drive the game play, challenging students with decision making scenarios, and building their critical and visual thinking skills as they embark on the virtual excavation of an archaeological site, research and catalog the artifacts they uncover, and use their finds to "curate" an on-line museum exhibit.

Sean York of Chicago WebDocent, a University of Chicago developer of on-line curriculum for K-12 teachers and students, is the extraordinarily talented multimedia architect and Flash designer creating "Dig into History." His work and all other aspects of Ancient Mesopotamia On-line have been guided by the ten teachers and administrators on our Teacher Advisory Board. The five advisors who helped develop our prototype model for on-line teacher training supported by the Fry Foundation have returned to assist with this major new project. They have been joined by Paula Andries, Educational Coordinator for Hephzibah Children's Association; Carolyn Brewer and Bijo Vayalil, CPS Area Instructional Technology Coordinators; Pat Galinski, Visual Arts Coordinator for the CPS Office of Language and Cultural Education; and Peter Scheidler, social studies teacher at Kenwood Academy High School. Julia Brazas, Director of Chicago WebDocent, also serves on this board, and as educational advisor to the project.

Based on their knowledge of curricular needs across many grade levels, these educators have chosen the artifacts for the Learning Collection and formulated questions about them for students to consider. They have chosen the big ideas for the interactive game and offered guidance on the suitability of activities for varying student skills and abilities. They will also test, evaluate, and help refine the on-line professional development course before it is launched nationwide at the end of December 2005.

Behind the Scenes

Taking stock of all that has been accomplished this eventful year, I would like to say how much I appreciate the encouragement, support, and direction that Museum Education has received from Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students, many of whom are mentioned often in this report.

A special thank you goes to Geoff Emberling; during this 3rd year as Museum Director he has guided us, cheered us on, and provided assistance at every turn. Grateful thanks also go to the Museum Education and Family Program volunteers. None of our gallery-based public programs could have taken place without the time and talents of all these men, women, and young people (5g. 19). A record of all their names appears in the Volunteer Program section of this report.

Nothing would be happening without the creativity, spirit, and dedication of the Museum Education and Volunteer Program staff. They are here early, stay late, and will work evenings and weekends to provide the public with meaningful, instructive, and rewarding educational programs.

The abilities and accomplishments of Wendy Ennes are mentioned throughout this report. Her vision, dedication, and drive make her an invaluable asset to the Oriental Institute, and her creative integration of instructional technology into the museum's educational programming is placing us at the forefront of both the local and national museum communities.

The important work of Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov is also evident in this report. Additionally, we could not have managed without the support of public program interns Ann Avouris, Katharyn Hansen, Katie Heupel, and Charlotte Noble. Crucial to all we do is the work of our Education Programs Assistant, who administers the entire adult education program, handles registrations and confirmations for all guided tours, and serves as graphic designer, editor, and public relations specialist for Museum Education and the Volunteer Program. This past year Constance Schuett assumed the challenges of this demanding position, bringing us her administrative skills, keen sense of design, writing talents, and a calm demeanor that kept all programs running smoothly and professionally. Constance also worked on museum advertising and marketing campaigns in close collaboration with Emily Teeter, whose role as Special Projects Manager makes her another important friend to Museum Education.

Due to family concerns, Constance had to leave us in the spring. However, Claire Thomas was available to step in as Education Programs Assistant. Formerly an Oriental Institute docent and intern during her four years as a University of Chicago undergraduate, Claire knew 3rdhand how our programs function and could make a seamless transition into the position. Although she was with us only temporarily, Claire brought new efficiency and vitality to our office. She even moved out from behind her desk to administer the Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar (5g. 20) and join in creating the zooarchaeology portion of our "Outside the Classroom Walls" collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools. In mid-June, Claire left us to pursue other academic and career goals. We wish her the best of everything in this new chapter of her life.

Claire's successor is Jessica Caracci, who comes to us after completing a prestigious Monticello Internship at the Illinois State Museum and receiving a Master's degree in history and museum administration from Eastern Illinois University. Welcome Jessica!

Two additional people deserve special mention here, honoring major milestones in their careers. Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman began their relationships with the Oriental Institute as volunteers and then became Volunteer Coordinators after years of volunteer service. As of 2004 Cathy Dueñas has been with the Oriental Institute for twenty years and this is Terry Friedman's thirtieth year of service. Under the dedicated leadership of these extraordinary women,



Figure 19. Dressed as Miss Mouse for "Mummy's Night," Docent Rita Picken was one of the many dedicated volunteers who contributed time and talents to all of our public programming this past year. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

MUSEUM



and the work of their remarkable corps of volunteers, the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program has become one of the most respected and admired in the city of Chicago. Turn to the following section of this *Annual Report* to discover all that the Volunteer Program has accomplished this year.

Figure 20. Claire Thomas prepares to register participants for the Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

This year the Oriental Institute docents and volunteers have worked as a team to adopt a more proactive role in improving the Volunteer Program and in planning for the museum's future. They began a dialogue with Oriental Institute Museum Director Geoff Emberling and museum staff by creating a Docent Advisory Committee and by completing a volunteer survey. They took the initiative to collect funds for benches in the East Wing galleries, to create theme-based gallery tours, and to expand the Docent Library. With the opening of the Assyrian, Syro-Anatolian, and Megiddo Galleries, the docents have handled the ever-increasing constraints and demands for one-hour guided tours of the entire museum with ease and grace. Their thirst for knowledge and their determination to support the Oriental Institute's mission make the docents and volunteers an invaluable asset. As goodwill ambassadors, they have applied their knowledge and channeled their enthusiasm to provide the public with an understanding and appreciation for the historical and cultural legacy of the ancient Near East in today's troubled world.

Tour Program

Docent-led tours of the permanent galleries of the Oriental Institute Museum were in high demand and were enthusiastically supported by audiences of all ages. Whether for schools, religious groups, community organizations, or senior citizens, the Oriental Institute docents were eager to share their knowledge of the museum's collection with all visitors. With the opening of the East Wing galleries, museum docents could add artifacts from ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel into their touring repertoire. Faced with the challenge of incorporating the reinstalled collection into a one-hour tour of the entire museum, the docents needed to develop and modify their touring strategies in the galleries. They successfully worked together in teams to offer each other creative suggestions to help each other hone their interactive touring skills. We are proud to announce that nearly 12,000 museum visitors enjoyed the advantages of a docent-led tour!

The Docent Captain system serves as an important communication link between the museum docents and the administrative staff. The captains' diligence and supervision over the organization and maintenance of docent staffing for the morning and afternoon tour schedule allows the Volunteer Program to function with efficiency and purpose, as their administrative skills and unwavering support are vital components to the program's excellence as an enriching educational experience for the public. Our thanks to Docent Captains: Myllicent Buchanan, Gabriele da Silva, Joe Diamond, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelley, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, Donald Payne, Patrick Regnery, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, Cynthia Warso, and Carole Yoshida.

This year a Docent Advisory Committee was developed to help give the volunteers a greater voice in the decision-making policies of the Volunteer Program and Museum Education Office. This Committee serves as an open forum for the docents and the volunteers and is designed to discuss concerns and to work on productive solutions for problem areas. Cynthia Warso has served as the chairperson of the committee, helping to facilitate meetings and activities while actively seeking input from all the docents and volunteers. The Committee's valuable work will assist with improving communications with museum staff as well as incorporating fresh perspectives and plans for the museum's future. Early in the fall, the volunteers were given the opportunity to have a dialogue with Geoff Emberling, and to participate in a volunteer survey to help the director assess the strengths and weaknesses of the museum exhibits and the Volunteer

MUSEUM



Figure 1. During December Volunteer Day, Debby Halpern (middle) and Mari Terman (right) present a check to Oriental Institute Museum Director, Geoff Emberling (left) for benches in the new East Wing galleries. Debby and Mari spearheaded a fundraising drive to collect funds to purchase two new benches designed to be replicas of the Oriental Institute benches from the 1930s. The money was donated in the collective names of the Oriental Institute Volunteers of 2004

to report that they have been donated in the collective names of the Oriental Institute Volunteers of 2004 and have become welcome additions to the gallery space.

This year, we were also able to purchase thirty-six portable aluminum folding stools for use in the galleries. Whether for museum visitors or for gallery workshop sessions, everyone has been eager to take advantage of this new lightweight equipment. This purchase was made possible through the many generous donations from the volunteers in memory of Simon Garzankle, Terry Friedman's father.

Docent Library



Figure 2. An annual tradition continues at James Hart Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois, where students enjoy an Oriental Institute Outreach visit and dress up like ancient kings and queens

Program. The survey was developed by Volunteer Shel Newman and was enthusiastically received by the docents and volunteers, who participated in this candid and constructive evaluation of their peers and of the program.

Bench Drive

As the opening of the East Wing galleries neared, many of the volunteers noted that there was a shortage of adequate gallery seating for museum visitors when they wished to rest for a few moments while enjoying a docent-led tour. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of Debby Halpern and Mari Terman, many generous volunteers rallied to the call for donations to purchase two new benches in the East Wing (sg. 1). The benches were designed to be replicas of the Oriental Institute benches from the 1930s. We are pleased

As Head Docent Librarian, Margaret Foorman has continued to develop an outstanding resource of books, ephemera, and reference materials for the volunteers to access easily. Building on a strong foundation developed by Debbie Aliber, former Docent Librarian, Margaret has continued to expand the collection as well as to reorganize sections of its content. Her monthly updates in the *Volunteer Voice* have helped to highlight new additions to the library and offer suggested readings to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the ancient Near East. Through generous donations from faculty, staff, and volunteers, along with many new purchases, the Docent Library's collection continues to flourish both as an educational tool and a valuable research resource. Sandra Jacobsohn and Deloris Sanders

have been helpful in assisting Margaret with the library's orderly maintenance, content organization, and offering suggestions for new acquisitions.

Interns

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to work with five exceptional interns: Katharyn Hanson, Katie Heupel, Charlotte Noble, Claire Thomas, and Cynthia Warso, who helped to support many vital areas of the Volunteer Program's ongoing operation. Their assistance is mentioned throughout this report. From administrative tasks to research opportunities, and theme-based gallery presentations, our interns approached their assignments with great dedication and resolve. Special thanks and appreciation go to Charlotte Noble for undertaking the monumental task of reorganizing all of our lists into one uniform database. Charlotte's hard work will make a significant difference in how we store, modify, and access important information concerning the volunteers.

Outreach

The Outreach Program developed nearly ten years ago in response to the museum's closure for renovation and climate control (5g. 2). Once the museum reopened, the Outreach Program continued to serve as an extension of the docent-led tour program. Its popularity quickly grew as a viable way to create a special in-school field trip experience. Throughout the years, it has been able to retain a loyal cadre of client support, as well as attract new audiences. It continues to receive accolades and praise from students, educators, parents, and adults throughout metropolitan Chicago. Even with the reopening of the Egyptian, Persian, Mesopotamian, and the new East Wing galleries, many groups continue to request an outreach visit to enhance their museum visit. This year more than 300 students and 100 adults enjoyed the benefits of an outreach visit.

Volunteer Training for the East Gallery

Volunteers were thrilled to participate in the volunteer training sessions offered in conjunction with the opening of the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel*



Figure 3. During a workshop in the East Wing galleries, Gabrielle Novacek, guest curator of the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery, discusses the importance of stratigraphy with the docents and volunteers



Figure 4. After helping register participants for the East Wing training sessions, Sunday Museum Docent Co-captain Dennis Kelley relaxes by strolling through the new Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery

MUSEUM



Figure 5. January Volunteer Day highlighted the Oriental Institute Preparation and Conservation teams. Here Markus Dohner, Head of Preparation, explains to the Docents and Volunteers the layout and structure of one of the cases in the East Wing galleries

Aldrin, Jane Arkell, Christel Betz, Rebecca Binkley, Joan Curry, Gabriele da Silva, Mary Finn, Joan Friedmann, Debby Halpern, Mark Hirsch, Dennis Kelley, Charlotte Noble, Denise Paul, Donald Payne, Rita Picken, Stephen Ritzel, Lillian Schwartz, and Mari Terman were an integral part of each program's success.

Enrichment Workshops for Docents and Volunteers

In preparation for the opening of the East Wing galleries, docents and volunteers gathered to review materials and information presented during the fall 2004 training classes. Two gallery workshops on the East Wing collections were offered to facilitate and encourage further



Figure 6. Erik Lindahl, Preparator, shows the docents and the volunteers how a mount is designed and developed to display an artifact in a case in the museum

(figs. 3–6). The classes began on October 13 with an introduction and opening lecture by Museum Director Geoff Emberling and then continued with two more sessions in October and two in November.

We would like to thank both the faculty and staff that helped make the volunteer training sessions for the East Wing galleries a great success: John Brinkman, Geoff Emberling, Ron Gorny, Gabrielle Novacek, Virginia Rimmer, David Schloen, Theo van den Hout, and Aslihan Yener. Their lectures and printed training materials will serve as an excellent resource for our ongoing education and enrichment.

We would also like to thank all of the docents and volunteers who helped with setup and behind-the-scenes activities, so that everything ran smoothly for each of the programs. John

background study of the artifacts. Our thanks to Joan Barghusen, former Head of Museum Education and guest curator for Empires of the Fertile Crescent, for her comprehensive presentation on the labels in the Syro-Anatolian Gallery and to Dennis Campbell, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), for his discussion and decipherment of the Luwian hieroglyphs. Each workshop shed new light and insights into the objects and how they relate to the rest of the collection. We would also like to thank Geoff Emberling for his enlightening “Highlights of the Collection” tour which gave the docents and volunteers an excellent overview of how they could develop a comprehensive tour of the entire museum in an hour.

Two other theme-based gallery workshops were researched and developed by docent interns Katharyn Hanson and Cynthia Warso. In April Katharyn Hanson, Tuesday morning Museum Docent, intern, and NELC

graduate student presented a theme-based tour on ancient Near Eastern “Art and Architecture.” Her tour of the galleries consisted of a condensed overview of the collection with some visual aids. She carefully transitioned between the objects in each of the four galleries to help maintain the theme of her tour and to keep within the confines of a forty-five minute to one-hour time frame, which is very important for weekday tours. She presented her information in a clear, concise, and engaging manner targeted for sixth grade students.

In May Cynthia Warso, Thursday Morning Museum Docent Captain and intern, presented a Biblical emphasis tour of the galleries. Her theme-based one-hour tour helped us to make important connections between many of the museum artifacts and how they relate to specific sections in the Bible. Her abbreviated tour can serve as a model to help us prepare for an ever-growing audience of church and religious school groups as well as seminary students.

In June we were very fortunate to have a special full-day enrichment workshop with Clemens Reichel. Our thanks and appreciation go to Clemens for a truly outstanding Volunteer Day Seminar on “Khorsabad and the Assyrian Expansion into Syria.” This comprehensive and in-depth presentation put the objects into a meaningful context, helping us to interpret their importance both culturally and historically. Clemens’ insightful discussion shed a whole new light on the cultural narrative and ideological messages conveyed through Assyrian monumental art.

Special Workshops for Teachers

This year we were pleased to introduce many teachers throughout metropolitan Chicago to the museum’s galleries as well as to the rich resources available to bring the ancient Near East to life for students of all ages. The Friday Museum Docents, with Joe Diamond as their captain, were instrumental in the development of these innovative workshops (fig. 7). From preschool teachers, to art teachers from DuPage County, to science and math students learning what archaeologists learn from the past through scientific study, these docent-led tours were an eye-opening experience for the teachers and students alike, many of whom had never visited the Oriental Institute. This introduction to the museum’s collection was a priceless experience for both the educators and the students.



Figure 7. Friday Docent Co-captain Joe Diamond (left) helped develop a special teachers’ workshop for Susan Gall (right) the Art Institute Co-coordinator for DuPage County Teachers. Here Joe and Susan enjoy a coffee break with Volunteer Services Coordinator Terry Friedman (center)

Hosting Colleagues

In March we were pleased to host the volunteers from the Museum of Science and Industry for a field trip to the Oriental Institute. Saturday morning museum docents John Aldrin, Clare Lipinski, and Docent Co-Captain Lucie Sandel welcomed these volunteers to a delicious brunch in the LaSalle Banks Education Center, followed by a tour of the museum galleries. This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our collection while sharing ideas about touring techniques with colleagues from another cultural institution.

MUSEUM



Figure 8. In September, Oriental Institute docents hosted the Adler Planetarium volunteers. Here we see Thursday morning Docent Elisabeth Lassers guiding the Adler Volunteer Manager Alisun DeKock and another volunteer through the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Elisabeth passed away tragically in April of this year

Volunteer Days

One of the major benefits of being a member of the Oriental Institute's volunteer corps is the monthly Volunteer Day programs which provide both continuing education and a stimulating learning environment for docents and volunteers to hear lectures and to explore topics for further research and study. These unique educational seminars serve as an interactive forum to broaden one's knowledge of the ancient Near East, while enjoying special camaraderie with fellow docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff members at the Oriental Institute, as well as with colleagues from other cultural institutions (sg. 8).

This year's programming focused on a wide range of topics and interests that served as a springboard for gathering information and ideas to incorporate into the tours. Our thanks and appreciation go to: faculty and staff members Abbas Alizadeh, Joan Barghusen, Laura D'Alessandro, Markus Dohner, Geoff Emberling, Jan Johnson, Erik Lindahl, Vanessa Muros, Gabrielle Novacek, Clemens Reichel, Martha Roth, Emily Teeter, Theo van den Hout, graduate students Dennis Campbell and Katharyn Hanson, and faculty assistant Karen Terras.

Randel Tea

One of the yearly highlights of the volunteer program is the special July Volunteer Day Tea Reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel (sg. 9). For the past four years, the Randels have hosted a lovely tea reception for Oriental Institute docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff. This year our guest speakers were Professors Janet Johnson, Martha Roth, and Theo van den Hout, who discussed "The Power of the Word." Each of the three presenters focused on their individual dictionary projects while sharing some of the highlights as well as the technological challenges facing a lexicographer in these rapidly changing times.



Figure 9. The July Tea Reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel is a special annual event for the Oriental Institute docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers. Here Mrs. Randel and her guests listen to Professor Theo van den Hout explain his research on the Hittite Dictionary

Field Trips

Our volunteers enjoyed two special field trip experiences this past year (sg. 10). In September, we gathered at the Adler Planetarium to enjoy a lovely brunch followed by a tour of the galleries, and a front row seat to the sky show Stars of the Pharaohs. This unique program explored the grandeur of ancient Egypt utilizing computer simulations to recreate this powerful and vibrant civilization. Our thanks go to Alisun

DeKoch, manager of Volunteer Services at the Adler Planetarium, for providing this wonderful opportunity for the Oriental Institute docents and volunteers to relax and enjoy one of Chicago's major cultural institutions.

The second part of this program took place later in September, when we invited the Adler Planetarium Volunteers to visit the Oriental Institute. Our guests enjoyed a brunch in the LaSalle Banks Education Center followed by a tour of the museum galleries. Afterwards the Adler volunteers were treated to a tour of the University of Chicago campus. Our thanks go to John Aldrin, Joan Curry, Stephen Esposito, Terry and Bill Gillespie, Elisabeth Lassers, Lucie Sandel, and Larry Scheff for extending such a warm and gracious welcome to our visitors.

March Volunteer Day consisted of a trip to The Field Museum. The day began with a lovely continental breakfast where the volunteers heard a brief overview of the exhibit, Jacqueline Kennedy, The White House Years from May Simon, Field Museum Docent. Immediately following her introduction, the docents and volunteers were privately escorted into the exhibit to enjoy leisurely this memorable and nostalgic era in American cultural and political history. Our thanks and appreciation to Bob Cantu, May Simon, and The Field Museum staff for hosting an outstanding field trip for March Volunteer Day.

Volunteer Recognition and Annual Holiday Luncheon

December Volunteer Day has become an annual tradition when docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration together (pgs. 11–12). This popular event includes a guest speaker, the introduction of new volunteers, and the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. The program concludes with a lovely holiday luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. This year's special event took place on Monday, December 6 and our guest speaker was Geoff Emberling. His presentation on "Temples in Early Dynastic Mesopotamia — Why Would They Build a Temple Oval at Tell Brak?" was an insightful discussion of his research and discoveries at this Early Dynastic site.

Following Geoff's presentation, the program continued with the introduction of new volunteers and the Recognition Awards Ceremony. We were pleased to introduce twenty new volunteers to the Volunteer Corps. Welcome aboard to: Sophia Bender, Scott Berg, David Berry, Sophie Brennan, Courtney Carter, Jewell Dickson, Djanie Edwards, Dale Fisher, Katharyn Hanson, Katie Heupel, Mark Hirsch, Carole Kipp, Clare Lipinski, Austin O'Malley, Mary O'Shea, Kathy Pratt, Maricelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Cynthia Warso, and Inge Winer.

This year twenty-four individuals were



Figure 10. Oriental Institute docents and volunteers pose in front of the magnificent Chicago skyline during their September field trip to see the Stars of the Pharaohs exhibit at the Adler Planetarium



Figure 11. The December Volunteer Recognition Ceremony always ends with a festive luncheon at the Quadrangle Club where docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers all enjoy a meal together

MUSEUM



Figure 12. Docents and volunteers provide a multitude of services at the Oriental Institute. Here they are busy preparing the invitations and the greeting cards for the Annual Holiday luncheon and Volunteer Recognition event. Ira Hardman is in the front

recognized for their distinguished support and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute and the museum. Their combined years of service represent 325 years in total! We would like to thank all of the award recipients for their loyal support to the volunteer program. We admire and respect all your contributions, past, present, and future.

5 Years

Bill Gillespie

Gabriele da Silva

Ila Patlogan

Terry Gillespie

Shel Newman

Agnes Zellner

10 Years

Barbara Storms Baird

Hazel Cramer

Catherine Mardikes

Janet Calkins

Mary Harter

Pamela Wickliffe

15 Years

Ruth Hyman

Samantha Johnson

Agnethe Rattenborg

Sandy Jacobsohn

Caryl Mikrut

Patrick Regnery

20 Years

Rebecca Binkley

Charlotte Collier

Alice James

25 Years

Jane Hildebrand

Mary Shea

35 Years

Muriel Nerad



Figure 13. Norma van der Meulen has been a docent and volunteer for more than twenty-five years and continues to design beautiful jewelry and help in the Suq

The December Volunteer Day program would not have been possible without the support and co-operation of many people (figs. 13–14). We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein and the Office of the Director for their



Figure 14. The docents and volunteers who were being recognized this year proudly pose for Jean Grant, Oriental Institute Photographer

generosity with underwriting the annual holiday luncheon for the docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff; Membership Coordinator Maria Krasinski for awarding complimentary memberships to the Volunteer Recognition Award Recipients; Jean Grant for photographing this very special occasion; Denise Browning for her assistance with the recognition awards and gift selections; Bernadette Strnad and David Ray for assisting with the parking validation for the Volunteers; Olivia Boyd for her technical assistance with the audiovisual aspect of the program; and Joan Knoll and the Quadrangle Club staff for orchestrating another wonderful holiday luncheon.

In Memoriam

This past year the volunteer program lost two extraordinary women who were loyal friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute: Elizabeth (“Betty”) Baum (5g. 15) and Elisabeth Lassers (5g. 8). Both of these remarkable women devoted many years of their lives to help further the goals and mission of the Oriental Institute. Each took great pride in her involvement with the Oriental Institute and we are so grateful that they chose to spend a portion of their lives with us. They will be remembered for their intellectual curiosity, generosity, and commitment to excellence.

Reflections

We are grateful for the good humor and camaraderie of our colleagues and friends in room 221. In an atmosphere bustling with activity and distractions, they manage to inspire creativity while fostering a high level of efficiency and productivity. Our thanks go to Jessica Caracci, Wendy Ennes, Carole Krucoff, Constance Schuett, and Claire Thomas for their abiding patience and understanding throughout the year. They are the voice of reason, common sense, and encouragement.

Building on nearly forty years of expansion and growth, the Volunteer Program has been able to meet the many challenges and opportunities of these changing times. The collective vision and determination of our predecessors, Carolyn Livingood, Carlotta Maher, Peggy Grant, and Janet Helman has set a standard of excellence for us to follow. Today’s Volunteer Corps has grown to over 150 people who form a community of uniquely talented and dedicated



Figure 15. Member of the first Docent Training Class and a loyal supporter of the Volunteer Program and the Oriental Institute, Elizabeth (Betty) Baum passed away in May of this year. Betty is shown here (center) with Volunteer Services Coordinators Catherine Dueñas (left) and Terry Friedman (right) during the groundbreaking ceremonies for the addition of the new wing in June 1997

MUSEUM

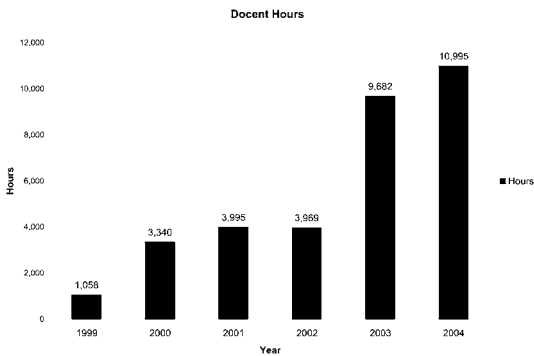


Figure 16. Graph of Volunteer Hours

individuals devoted to serving the Oriental Institute and enriching its mission. This year Oriental Institute Volunteers have demonstrated their commitment by contributing about 11,000 hours of volunteer service. As you can see from the graph (5g. 16), the hours of volunteer service have continued to increase every year since we have tracked this important data. The volunteers are a rare and treasured asset and we thank them for their numerous contributions past, present, and future.

Our apologies go to Nancy Baum and to Tom Hunter for inadvertently omitting their names from the *2003/2004 Annual Report*.

SPECIAL THANKS to Claire Thomas for helping us compile and edit this year's *Annual*

Report. We would never have been able to do it without her.

Advisors to the Volunteer Program

Carlotta Maher

Peggy Grant

Janet Helman

Honorary Volunteers-At-Large

Carol Randel

Elizabeth Sonnenschein

Volunteer Program Consultant

Shel Newman

Museum Docents

John Aldrin

Sylwia Aldrin

Jane Arkell

Douglas Baldwin

Nancy Baum

Jane Belcher

Christel Betz

Rebecca Binkley

Dorothy Blindt

Myriam Borelli

Myllicent Buchanan

Andrew Buncis

Courtney Carter

David Covill

Joan Curry

Gabriele da Silva

Catherine Deans-Barrett

Joe Diamond

Sam Dreessen

Djanie Edwards

Mary Finn

Margaret Foorman

Karen Friedman

Joan Friedmann

Dario Giacomoni

Ruth Goldman

Anita Greenberg

Debby Halpern

Katharyn Hansen

Ira Hardman

Mary Harter

Janet Helman

Lee Herbst

Katie Heupel

Teresa Hintzke

Mark Hirsch

Tom Hunter

Dennis Kelly

Henriette Klawans

Elizabeth Lassers†

Lo Luong Lo

Nina Longley

Sherif Marcus

Robert McGinness

Sherian McLaughlin

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Pat McLaughlin
Alice Mulberry

Roy Miller
Charlotte Noble

Kathy Mineck
Austin O'Malley

Museum Docents (cont.)

Mary O'Shea
Donald Payne
Diane Posner
Del Ramirez
Patrick Regnery
Maricelle Robles
Larry Scheff
Mary Shea
Bernadette Strnad
Karen Terras
Tatyana Tsirlin

Nancy Patterson
Kitty Picken
Semra Prescott
Melissa Ratkovich
Liz Rietz-Clark
Lucie Sandel
Joy Schochet
Daila Shefner
Pierangelo Taschini
Claire Thomas
Monica Wood

Denise Paul
Rita Picken
Kavita Rajagopal
David Ray
Stephen Ritzel
Deloris Sanders
Anne Schumacher
Toni Smith
Mari Terman
Pramerudee Townsend
Carole Yoshida

Outreach Docents and Volunteers

Rebecca Binkley
Andrew Buncis
Joe Diamond
Terry Gillespie
Robert McGinness
Roy Miller
Mary O'Shea
Larry Scheff
Anne Schumacher

Myllicent Buchanan
Janet Calkins
Bill Gillespie
Ira Hardman
Caryl Mikrut
Kathy Mineck
Stephen Ritzel
Joy Schochet
Carole Yoshida

Agnes Zellner

Docent Library

Head Librarian

Margaret Foorman

Committee

Irene Glasner
Deloris Sanders

Sandra Jacobsohn
Mary Shea

Daila Shefner

Emeritus Librarian

Debbie Aliber

MUSEUM

Suq Docents

Muriel Brauer	Patty Dunkel
Irene Glasner	Peggy Grant
Marda Gross	Caryn Noble
Kavita Rajagopal	Norma van der Meulen

Substitute Suq Docents

Janet Helman	Jo Jackson
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Suq Jewelry Designer

Norma van der Meulen

Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteer

Irene Glasner

Membership and Development Volunteers

Sophie Bloom	Hazel Cramer
Andrea Dudek	Djanie Edwards
Margaret Foorman	Erin Harral
Janet Helman	Henriette Klawans
Jo Lucas	Carlotta Maher
Kavita Rajagopal	David Ray
Mary Shea	Mari Terman

Agnes Zellner

Museum Archives Volunteers

James Baughman	Hazel Cramer
Peggy Grant	Patricia Hume
Sandra Jacobsohn	Lillian Schwartz

Carole Yoshida

Registrar's Office Volunteers

Joan Barghusen	Gretel Braidwood
Hazel Cramer	Mary Grimshaw
Barbara Levin	Charles Myers
Toni Smith	O. J. Sopranos

IMLS Grant Project Volunteers

David Berry	Irene Glasner
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Conservation Lab

Jeanne Mandel

Diyala Project Volunteers

Betsy Kremers

George Sundell

Karen Terras

Robert Wagner

Iraq Museum Database Project Volunteer

Karen Terras

Amuq Project Volunteers

Irene Glasner

Mari Terman

Tatyana Tsirlin

Abydos Project Volunteers

Chad Bouffard

Amber Meriwether

Christopher C. Miller

Hacinebi Turkey Project Volunteer

Mari Terman

Hamoukar Project Volunteers

Betsy Kremers

George Sundell

Photography Lab Volunteers

Pam Ames

Irene Glasner

Carole Yoshida

Courtyard Volunteers

Terry Gillespie

Bill Gillespie

Robert Herbst

Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers

John Aldrin

Sylwia Aldrin

Catherine Deans-Barrett

Jane Belcher

Christel Betz

Rebecca Binkley

Dorothy Blindt

Myllicent Buchanan

Joan Curry

Gabriele da Silva

Joe Diamond

Stephen Esposito

Mary Finn

Margaret Foorman

Dario Giacconi

Bill Gillespie

Terry Gillespie

Ruth Goldman

Anita Greenberg

Debby Halpern

Katharyn Hansen

Ira Hardman

Katie Heupel

Teresa Hintzke

MUSEUM

Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers (cont.)

Tom Hunter	Dennis Kelley
Barbara Levin	Lo Luong Lo
Robert McGuiness	Roy Miller
Kathy Mineck	Charlotte Noble
John Noble	Donald Payne
Kitty Picken	Rita Picken
Semra Prescott	Diane Posner
Melissa Ratkovich	David Ray
Patrick Regnery	Stephen Ritzel
Maricelle Robles	Lucie Sandel
Deloris Sanders	Joy Schochet
Anne Schumacher	Toni Smith
Bernadette Strnad	George Sundell
Pierangelo Taschini	Mari Terman
Karen Terras	Claire Thomas
Inge Winer	Carole Yoshida

Junior Volunteers

Kristina Cooper	Cameron Kelley
Carl Mineck	Caryn Noble
John Whitcomb	

Assistants to the Epigraphic Survey and Chicago House

Debbie Doyle	Mary Grimshaw
Carlotta Maher	Crennan Ray
David Ray	

Assistants to the Prehistoric Project

Diana Grodzins	Andree Wood
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Demotic Dictionary

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