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OI NEWSLETTER - FIRST MONDAY - JANUARY 2002

FROM THE DIRECTOR / Gene Gragg

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THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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QUIZ?

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

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The Director is pleased to relay the Provost's announcement of the promotion of David Schloen to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, effective July 1, 2002.

Robert McCormick Adams will be in residence at the U of C for approximately one month from January 31st until March 2nd. His visit is co-sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Department of Anthropology. While he is here he will make one or two informal presentations in the form of workshops or seminars as well as an evening Breasted Society presentation. In addition we expect him to participate in a number of classes and seminars. Overall the organization of his visit is expected to be fairly flexible, and I am sure he will want to take the opportunity to interact with as many people as possible.

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COMPUTER LAB / John Sanders

Katherine Strange finished producing the electronic version of the 2000-2001 OI Annual Report, and we'll place it on the website as soon as Tim Cashion gives me an OK.

The 1980 Institute publication Ptolemais Cyrenaica, by David Nasgowitz, will be the next addition to the Photographic Archives section of the OI website. The text was processed via OCR in December, and we hope to start scanning the photographs during January or early February 2002.

A new 700MHz iMac with a "read-write" CD was ordered for the Lab in December, and we should have it up and running in January.

And lastly, I have almost completed checking the 950+ slides of archaeological sites in Egypt and Mesopotamia that were scanned from my slide collection. They will be made available via the OI website shortly.

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DEVELOPMENT / Tim Cashion

Upcoming event: Tom van Eynde, former staff photographer at the Epigraphic Survey and one of the featured artists in The Angle of Repose, will deliver a slide lecture, free and open to the public, at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 12, in Breasted Hall. Tom will discuss both his professional endeavours and his personal photographic work.

Visiting Committee: The Visiting Committee to the Oriental Institute will meet at The Field Museum on January 15, 2002. The two primary topics to be covered will be the delayed reinstallation schedule and its impact on fundraising both for that project and for research efforts, and an introduction of several new endowment funds, which will support all of the Institute's activities, including

archaeology, textual studies, epigraphy, information technology, the Research Archives, etc. All faculty and staff are encouraged, indeed urged, to communicate their thoughts on these matters to the Development Office. Once these funds are setup, it will be virtually impossible to change their scope or purpose, so timely consultation is imperative. Please come see me or send an email or memo by January 31, 2002.

Breasted Society: The James Henry Breasted Society met on December 6, 2001 in the Director's Study with Christopher Woods, who will take up his appointment as Assistant Professor of Sumerology in fall 2002. It was an extremely convivial occasion, and several members of the Breasted Society took the time, on the 6th and in the days following, to let us know how much they enjoyed meeting Chris and Jennie, and how pleased they were with Chris's remarks. The appointment of young, dynamic scholars such as Chris is clearly sending exactly the right message to our donors.

Immediately after the VC meeting on January 15, 2002, the James Henry Breasted Society will enjoy a dinner and private viewing of the Cleopatra exhibit at The Field Museum. Richard Saller, newly-appointed Provost of the University of Chicago, will address the Breasted Society, and Robert Ritner, academic advisor to the exhibit, will deliver remarks and enrich the appreciation of members who tour the exhibit. Don and Carol Randel, who have been members of the Breasted Society since they arrived on campus, will be in attendance.

The next Breasted Society event will be on February 14, 2002, when Robert McCormick Adams, former Director of the Institute, Dean of the Social Sciences Division, and Provost of the University of Chicago, and Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, will join members of the Society for dinner in the Director's Study.

Fundraising: Because the University does not close its 2001 books until mid-January, the December campaign update will have to wait until the February newsletter. I can, however, report some preliminary results; there is both good and bad news to report on this front. The good news is that the calendar 2001 saw a record for the Breasted Society--contributions to the Society set a record that is at least 20% above any previous year. Basic and Associate memberships for fiscal 2002 are running about 3% ahead of fiscal 2001, and we are on pace to set another record in membership

revenues. That is the good news; the bad news is that our year-end appeal is running at least 20% behind previous years. As a result, it will be very difficult, though I hope not impossible, to reach our fiscal 2002 goal of \$1,725,144. At best, it will be highly unlikely that we will exceed that goal by a meaningful amount. Even so, the Oriental Institute's development effort will continue its leading role on campus, as we will continue to raise a proportional amount of funds that is the envy of much larger units. So far in fiscal 2002, we raised the third-highest percentage (of all campus units) of our operating budget.

Book Sale: The 7th annual Members Book Sale has so far generated \$4,858.00 in sales.

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MUSEUM / Karen Wilson

During the month of December, reinstallation proceeded at a good pace. The Khorsabad Court reliefs and the bull were encased in plastic to protect them during the painting of the gallery, which was completed before the holidays. The polishing of the floors will be completed this week, and the cases from Guenschel are to be delivered at the end of this month.

Conservation continues to work with Belding Walbridge to stabilize, frame, and mount the two Babylon lions and, last week, the first lion was installed in place. The piece looks extremely dramatic in its new location, and the pair promise to provide a very exciting (and colorful) approach to the Khorsabad Court. The installation of the second lion will take place this month. Conservation also has begun to work on filling in the spaces between the Khorsabad reliefs so that they form visually coherent walls on either side of the bull.

A very productive meeting with those faculty members involved in things Mesopotamian was held at the end of November and, like previous meetings, is shaping plans for the gallery in many ways. Joe Scott is currently producing drawings of the case layouts for the Prehistory Exhibit and the Chronology Case, and Eleanor and I are working on object selection and outlines for the other portions of the gallery. We are arranging another faculty meeting for the end of this week or early next week for further discussion on the gallery in

general, and on Seals and Sealing Practices, Khorsabad, and Daily Life more specifically.

With a view more toward the future, in December Tim Harrison agreed to be guest curator for the Megiddo Gallery and came to Chicago to begin work. David Schloen, Tim, and I met to further articulate the general themes of the gallery that we had discussed during Tim's last visit. Tim spent most of a week in the basement using the Megiddo publications that have been annotated with museum registration numbers to select objects for the various parts of the exhibition and is now back in Toronto typing up his notes. We are grateful that Tim, who knows Megiddo so thoroughly, is willing to undertake this responsibility long-distance, working with a graduate student assistant at the Oriental Institute.

Personal circumstances prevented me from writing a November entry to this newsletter, so I would like to take this opportunity to let people know about one November museum activity. Working with Robert Ritner, the museum produced a tour of our Egyptian Gallery that highlights objects that illustrate aspects of Egyptian history and culture at the time of Cleopatra the Great. This self-guided tour, which is available free of charge in the lobby, provides a link between the Oriental Institute and the Field Museum's highly successful exhibition, "Cleopatra of Egypt," as does the exhibit of more modern Cleopatra-based objects, owned by both Robert and John Larson, which is on view in the West Gallery.

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PUBLICATIONS / Tom Urban

OIP 117 -- Seals on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets (Garrison/Root) was printed in December 2001 and is at the bindery waiting to be bound; we expect delivery during the week of 21 January. Special thanks are due to Nicole Torres who dealt swiftly and ably with the various purchase orders and credit reports necessary to get these volumes printed and bound.

OIP 118 -- Scarabs [and such] from Medinet Habu (Teeter): The text continues to be put into PageMaker (the catalog has about 350 objects); the plate section is complete and has been checked by the author.

OIP 119 -- Rock Inscriptions in the Theban Desert (Darnell): The manuscript has been given its final reading and is completely formatted and ready for press. We await only the return of the author from Egypt, and we hope he is quickly able to answer the last eight, simple, remaining queries.

OIP 120 and 121 -- We await help to get started on the plate sections for these volumes.

CDD: We are preparing to post the last two of the nine files submitted for publication on the OI website.

CHD S/1: Final page proofs have been given to the CHD editors and staff.

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RESEARCH ARCHIVES / Chuck Jones

On the evening of December 6th, the Institute hosted a reception in the Research Archives to dedicate the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room. After remarks by the Director, the two new signs, on the inside and outside of the main entrance were "unveiled". In attendance were many members of the faculty and staff, students, the Breasted Society and members of the University community as well as the principals of the Elizabeth Morse and Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable trusts. The latter seemed particularly pleased with the event. Many thanks to all who made this long process of renovation possible, particularly Tim Cashion and his predecessor Cynthia Echols in the OI Development Office.

At the end of the month, I switched two of the offices in the Research Archives. The Librarian's office is now (again) the large office on the west side of the entry. The Assistant Research Archivists' office is now the smaller office on the east side of the entry. You can check out books in the Assistant Archivists' office.

The July-August Research Archives Acquisitions List was broadcast on the RABooks list:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/RABooks.html>
and on the Web:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/RABooks.2001.7-8.html>
on December 12.

For reasons which have so far defied analysis, the UNIX server handling mailing lists for the Oriental Institute has been malfunctioning since early December. This means that the ANE lists: (ANE; ANE-digest; ANENews and ANENews-digest) have not been broadcasting. They have been archived on the Web server, however, and we believe we will have a solution to the problem in place in short order.

Following are the Director's remarks made at the dedication of the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room.

"We are here to inaugurate formally what the Institute's founder, James Henry Breasted, described as "the most beautiful room in the building." He was certainly correct in his assessment, though I am compelled to point out that his successor as Director, John A. Wilson, who found the old lighting "inadequate", celebrated the installation of the mercifully-retired florescent light panels with a satisfaction that is simply mystifying.

Several years ago, Charlie Slamar and Jim Alexander, co-trustees of the Elizabeth Morse and Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trusts, wisely recognized the beauty of the room, and offered the Institute an opportunity to raise matching funds from our members and friends to restore it. Aesthetically, the chief elements were to be replacement of the original cork floor and replication of the original light fixtures, some of which now hang in Harper College and in our Business School. Jim, Charlie, and Institute Director Bill Sumner recognized, however, that beauty, while more than skin-deep, was not the only merit of this project. Thus, the other portion of this initiative was the installation of task wiring and internet connections at each of the study tables. I encourage you to take a look at the QTVR film on the computer at the south end of the reading room [<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/QTVR96/MISC/Re1.html>]; the film depicts the room as it formerly looked. While you compare, favorably of course, the current appearance of this room with its previous incarnation, please take a moment to consider that the fact that you are viewing this transformation at one of our tables is as important as that transformation itself.

Through the support of the Trusts, the patience of Jim and Charlie, and the overwhelming response of our members and friends to our appeals for support, we were able to raise the funds necessary to complete this project. I would like to note on this occasion that for a long line of OI alumni, myself included, this room was our home in the Oriental Institute. Most of these people live far from Chicago; many hold teaching appointments at institutions around the country and overseas. Many will never see the finished product. We made an unprecedented fundraising appeal to our living alumni, and more than half of them gave generously to this project. This generosity gives us a sense of how vital these volumes and this room have been to the field of ancient Near Eastern studies, and to the lives of those who have dedicated themselves to that field.

This reading room will now be known as the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room. One of the missions of the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust is to "encourage self-reliance;" we are proud that we are the only unit at the University of Chicago that supports its own full library. It is a crucial resource for our research mission, for the education of students, and for the many Chicagoans who fulfill their passion for the ancient Near East within these walls. The Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room is once again the most beautiful room in the building, and we have Jim, Charlie, and many of you to thank for that; it is also the most important room in our building, and, again, we have the same people to thank for that.

A toast to the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room."

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TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP / Chuck Jones

As announced in last month's Newsletter, we intend to revive the Technology Discussion Group during the Winter Quarter. We hope to have a least one session each month.

The first of these sessions will be a screening of the Oriental Institute's 1935 16mm film "The Human Adventure". The film includes substantial footage from Oriental Institute projects in Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia and Iran, as well as Chicago. It has not been shown publicly since the early 1980s and is very rarely screened for in-house audiences at the OI.

We have tentatively scheduled a showing for next Monday, 14th January, at 12:30 PM in Breasted Hall.

Because this event is happening in Breasted Hall where food is forbidden, please do not bring a bag lunch.

Watch for notices of changes of time or place

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INDIVIDUALS
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ABBAS ALIZADEH

The 1979 revolution in Iran interrupted indefinitely all archaeological activities conducted by foreign expeditions, including those of the Oriental Institute in lowland Susiana. To explore the possibilities of resuming the Oriental Institute's decades of archaeological research in Iran, I went to the country in 1994. Even though I was granted a permit to conduct archaeological survey in Fars province in a joint Iranian project, I was not allowed to work with international students and scholars. With a similar agreement I was also able to conduct in 1996 a series of archaeological excavations at the early Neolithic site of Chogha Bonut, near Chogha Mish in lowland Susiana.

In the course of my annual visits to Iran, I had numerous long discussions with the authorities at the ICHO on the necessity of conducting large-scale systematic archaeological research that should involve various international experts. When in 1998 I found the conditions and circumstances favorable, I submitted a research proposal for a 5-year archaeological excavation and survey project in one of the least archaeologically explored region in southwestern Iran, i.e., the province of Ilam.

The project was approved in 2000 and a permit was granted to us to go to the field in September of the same year. We applied for and received an NSF grant, but bureaucratic red tape at the ICHO forced us to postpone our expedition almost indefinitely. Good news came in November 2001 when I traveled to Tehran to sign a final letter of agreement between the ICHO and the Oriental Institute.

As the result of the agreement, University of Chicago students and scholars, as well as individuals from other American universities, will be able to participate for the first time in archaeological fieldwork in Iran. We will be going to the field in September 2002. Nick Kouchoukus and one of his students from the Dept. of Anthropology, Tony Wilkinson, Mike Kozuh, Jesse Casana, Tobin Hartnel, and Abbas Alizadeh from the Oriental Institute, Mark Schwarz (Northwestern University) and Ben Diebald (Yale U.) as well as Naomi Miller (botanist U of Penn), Marjan Mashkur (zoologist, CNRS, Paris), Heidi Ekstrom (botanist, U of Minn.), and Shin Nishiyama (U of Cambridge) will participate in the expedition. In addition we will have a number of Iranian students and young archaeologists to help us with the fieldwork. We are hoping this project will usher in a new era of joint international archaeological activities in Iran by the Oriental Institute and other American and international academic institutions

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ISRAEL EPH'AL

Prof. Israel Eph'al of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem is staying this year at the OI on sabbatical. He is working on two book length projects: An introduction to ancient Near Eastern military history, and a monograph on the significance of non-literary (epigraphic) documents for the study of the history of the Land and the People of Israel in the 9th-4th centuries BC. He is teaching in the NELC Department on these topics: a seminar for graduate students on Epigraphy and History (winter 2002) and a class on ancient Near Eastern military history (spring 2002). Among his publications on these topics are SIEGE AND ITS ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN MANIFESTATIONS, Magnes Press, Jerusalem 1996 (Hebrew); and (with J. Naveh), ARAMAIC OSTRACA OF THE FOURTH CENTURY BC FROM IDUMAEA, Magnes Press and the Israel Exploration Society, Jerusalem 1996.

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HARRY HOFFNER

Happy New Year 2002, y'all! Some of my December research time was spent writing book reviews. Among the items reviewed were:

Jaan Puhvel's, Hittite Etymological Dictionary vol. 5 (L) for JAOS, Maciej Popko, Religions of Asia Minor (1995) for JNES, Douglas B. Miller and R. Mark Shipp, An Akkadian Handbook for JNES, Trevor R. Bryce, The Kingdom of the Hittites (1998) for JNES, Vladimir Soucek and Jana Siegelová, Systematische Bibliographie der Hethitologie 1915-1995 (1996) for JNES, Ben H. L. van Gessel, Onomasticon of the Hittite Pantheon, Vols. 1-2, Handbuch der Orientalistik, Erste Abteilung: Der Nahe und Mittlere Osten; Band 33. Parts 1-2 for JNES, Jak Yakar, Ethnoarchaeology of Anatolia: Rural Socio-Economy in the Bronze and Iron Ages (2000) for JNES, and J. David Hawkins, Corpus of Hieroglyphic Luwian Inscriptions (2001) for JNES. All of the JNES reviews are brief and general, in keeping with their editorial policies, but the review of Puhvel for JAOS is longer and more detailed.

Among long overdue publications is Recent Developments in Hittite Archaeology and History, a volume edited by Aslihan Yener and me, containing the lectures given at the meetings of the AOS several years ago in Miami. This volume will soon be published by Eisenbrauns. It is dedicated to the memory of H. G. Güterbock. My essay in this volume is entitled "The Treatment and Long-term Use of Persons Captured in Battle According to the Masat Texts", pp. 61-71.

I have a chapter on "Hittite" in a book in press entitled Beyond Babel: A Handbook for Biblical Hebrew and Related Languages, edited by John Kaltner and Steven L. McKenzie. This has been in the works for some time. Hopefully, it will appear soon. I also have a chapter on "The Hittite King" in a volume entitled Text, Artifact, and Image: Revealing Ancient Israelite Religion (Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies), edited by Gary Beckman and Ted Lewis. This contains papers given at a symposium on ideas of kingship which was held at the University of Pennsylvania in 1998. So you can see what I mean about "lag" with these publications.

I continue to function along with Robert K. Ritner as a Consultant for the three-volume set The Context of Scripture, edited by W. W. Hallo and K. L. Younger (Brill). The third volume of the set, dedicated to the so-called "Archival" Texts, will appear soon. To it I have contributed translations of archive shelf lists ("catalogues"), vow texts, letters, depositions (Gerichtsprotokollen), and cult inventories (including the image descriptions, i.e., Bildbeschreibungen). This volume should appear in mid-2002.

On the weekend Aug. 11-13, 2001 a conference was held on the campus of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, to which I was invited. The subject was "The Future of Biblical Archeology". By invitation I gave a lecture on the subject of Hittitology and the Bible. This was a much enlarged version of my Tyndale Archeology Lecture in Cambridge, England in the summer of 1968 (Hoffner, 1969), and essentially the same talk that I gave in a symposium at the Midwest Branch AOS/SBL Meetings held in Hyde Park, just off the campus of the University of Chicago in February 2000. A book containing most of the lectures given at the conference is planned, to be published by Eerdmans. But since the text of my lecture will comprise part of the Introduction to the Context of Scripture III (Brill, forthcoming), it is not yet certain if that publisher will allow it to appear also in the Trinity conference volume.

For the past year Craig Melchert and I have been hard at work revising unpublished classroom notes on Hittite grammar to produce a new Introduction to the Hittite Language, which like J. Friedrich's *Elementarbuch* will consist of two parts: a systematic grammar (part one) and a series of graded lessons for beginners (part two). We are now quite close to completing the first draft of the books and may be shipping parts of it off to selected colleagues for comment soon. I also committed myself several years ago to produce a book of Hittite letters in translation. It is supposed to appear in the Society of Biblical Literature Series Writings from the Ancient World. That will have to be written concurrently with the last part of my work with Craig Melchert on the grammar.

Behind the grammar and the book of Hittite letters in my research queue is the task of completely revising my book *Alimenta Hethaeorum: Food Production in Hittite Anatolia* (1974) for a second edition. The text of the book will be so thoroughly changed as to amount to a second and quite different book. In my lecture before the International Congress of Hittitology in Würzburg September 1999 entitled "Alimenta Revisited" I gave some idea of how dramatically the progress in archeobotany will change the face of *Alimenta Hethaeorum* Second Edition. I gave another look at the whole field in an Oriental Institute Members' Lecture on November 28, 2001 in Chicago. But not much can be done on the revision of *Alimenta* until Craig and I finish the grammar.

The festschrift presented to me in spiral bound manuscripts on my 65th birthday in November, 1999, a little over two years ago, is still

being edited. At last word it was supposed to be submitted to the publisher (Eisenbrauns) in final manuscript early in 2002. The first of two or possibly three fascicles of the S volume of The Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, edited by Harry A. Hoffner, Jr. and Theo van den Hout, is ready to go to the printer.

These are the latest bits of news on my scholarly activities. The 2002 Joint Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society and Society of Biblical Literature Midwest Branches will be held here in Chicago. The subject interests me very much: Food in the ancient Near East and in the Bible. But alas, I have a commitment elsewhere and will not be able to attend. I hope to receive the texts of the talks as a courtesy to a past president, so that I can utilize the insights for Alimenta Second Edition!

Have a nice January, and try to stay warm!

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CHUCK JONES

I will attend a meeting of ETANA in Nashville at the end of January to discuss the proposal for the next round of funding from the Mellon Foundation:

<http://staffweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/etana/>

Work is progressing of the migration of data from the current form of Abzu to the database being developed with ETANA.

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ROBERT RITNER

Robert Ritner will conduct the OI Breasted Society through the Cleopatra Exhibit at The Field Museum on January 15. On January 18, he will speak on Cleopatra for the Fermilab Lecture Series.

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OGÜZ SOYSAL

I hope 2002 will be the year in which I keep my promise for over 6 years and finally realize my plan of a Hattian book. The work entitled "Hattischer Wortschatz in hethitischer Textüberlieferung" is now very close to be completed, and I estimate a few months to write the final and shorter chapters. The main chapters including "Hattian word list", "Grammar", "Phonology etc." on about 1,100 pages are already done.

Some philological results of my Hattian research I released last year in two European journals: "New materials for the Hattian text corpus" N. A. B. U., 2001 nr. 3 (2001) pp. 67-68, and "Ist das hattische Wort für "Kuh" gefunden ?" AoF 28 (2001) pp. 282-288 where some Hattian names of animals (ox, horse, bull) are claimed to have been found. In a further short article for N. A. B. U. (forthcoming) I am dealing with a Hattian passage on famine on earth with very interesting onomatopoeic descriptions: "The sheep cannot stay on its feet anymore. The ox cannot stay on its feet anymore. The human being cannot stay on its feet anymore. The sheep does not say "me-me!". The ox does not say "mu-mu!". The human being does not say "piuh!" etc." [note: You can translate Hattian exclamation "piuh!" also with American "yippee!"].

As a co-operation with our German colleagues we are now planning to edit some unpublished texts from Bogazköy that I was able to determine as duplicates of some important historical documents from Old Hittite Kingdom. They are mostly tiny fragments, however, they make a remarkable contribution to gain a larger "Corpus of Old Hittite historical documents".

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EMILY TEETER

Two Chapters written by Emily ("Animals in Egyptian Religion," and "Animals in Egyptian Literature") appeared in -A History of the Animal World in the Ancient Near East- (HdO 64, Brill), edited by former Chicago Hittite Dictionary staffer, Billie Jean Collins. JoAnn Scurlock also contributed two chapters ("Animals in Ancient Mesopotamian Religion" and "Animal Sacrifice in Ancient Mesopotamia").

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QUIZ

A recent novel:

Pyramid scheme /
Dave Freer; Eric Flint
2001; Riverdale, NY : New York : Baen Books ; Distributed by Simon &
Schuster, ISBN: 067131839X

includes sections which take place inside the walls of the Oriental
Institute.

A couple of other titles with scenes here come to mind, including:

Search the shadows /
Barbara Michaels
1997; New York, N.Y. : HarperPaperbacks, ISBN: 006101009X

The Treasure of Alpheus Winterborn /
John Bellairs; Judith Gwyn Brown
1980; New York : Bantam Skylark Book, ISBN: 0553156292

I'd be grateful for information on other fictional uses of the Oriental
Institute

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