

CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

THEO VAN DEN HOUT

There is no doubt that work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) slowed down over the past year because of COVID-19 and CHD chief editor Theo van den Hout's serving as the Oriental Institute's interim director. Progress was made, though, thanks to the work of editors Richard Beal and Petra Goedegebuure. Over the past year, Beal worked on 188 entries in the T volume, many of which were written more than twenty years ago. Since then, new texts and new editions have appeared that he checked through the invaluable *Konkordanz der hethitischen Keilschrifttafeln*, a joint undertaking of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Mainz and the University of Würzburg in Germany. The authors of these new editions often have found a duplicate to an already-existing Hittite text that fills a hole in the text we want to quote. Or sometimes a recently published fragment will join an older known one, giving us a completely new and fresh context. The *Konkordanz* also gives the approximate date of each tablet, whereas many of our dictionary entries dated only some of the texts, and Beal straightened all this out as well. It can also happen that new evidence forces us to rethink entire entries, or that some entries had not yet been written at all, so Beal wrote new articles for them. Finally, all entries were put into proper CHD style, which will save time later.

Goedegebuure, as usual, worked on the often-difficult “function words” such as conjunctions, postpositions, and adverbs (see page 17 of last year's annual report for a more detailed description). One example among many is Hitt. *ta*, usually translated as “and” (though that is a very simplified meaning). Goedegebuure has also been working on lexical items such as the verb *tarna-* “to let, allow,” *tiššai-* “to shape, ready, align, match,” and *tarru-* “firm.” She also worked hard on finishing the editing of the proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Hittitology, hosted by the OI in 2017, which has meanwhile been submitted to the OI's publications office. Together, Goedegebuure and van den Hout hosted a virtual session of the “Drinks with the Dictionaries” series organized by Tasha Vorderstrasse for the OI's adult education program.

Throughout the year, we had the pleasure of having Semra Dalkılıç, a PhD student from Turkey, as a guest in the CHD room, working on her dissertation on Anatolian seals and sealing practices. We were also glad that Dr. Susanne Görke (see last year's report) stayed with us for another year.

With sadness we report the passing of one of the CHD's very first research associates, Silvin Košak (fig. 1). A native of Slovenia (formerly part of Yugoslavia), Silvin studied in Ljubljana, where he received his PhD in 1975. He further honed his Hittite skills with Heinrich Otten in Marburg, Germany, and Oliver Gurney at Oxford. After Hans Güterbock and Harry Hoffner secured funding for the CHD in 1976, Silvin was one of their first hires in 1980, and he stayed in Chicago until 1985. He then moved to Changchun, China, where he taught Hittite at the Northeast Normal University. Subsequently he became a researcher at the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Mainz, working for the Boğazköy Archiv. There, he started the project that became his life's work—the *Konkordanz der hethitischen Keilschrifttafeln*, a complete overhaul of the *Catalogue de textes hittites* that Emanuel Laroche had started in the 1960s. Published at first in print, it soon started its digital life and grew into a powerful database that every Hittitologist now has on her/his computer screen every day.

As always, we would like to thank our donors, in particular Walter and Susan Güterbock, for their generous support.

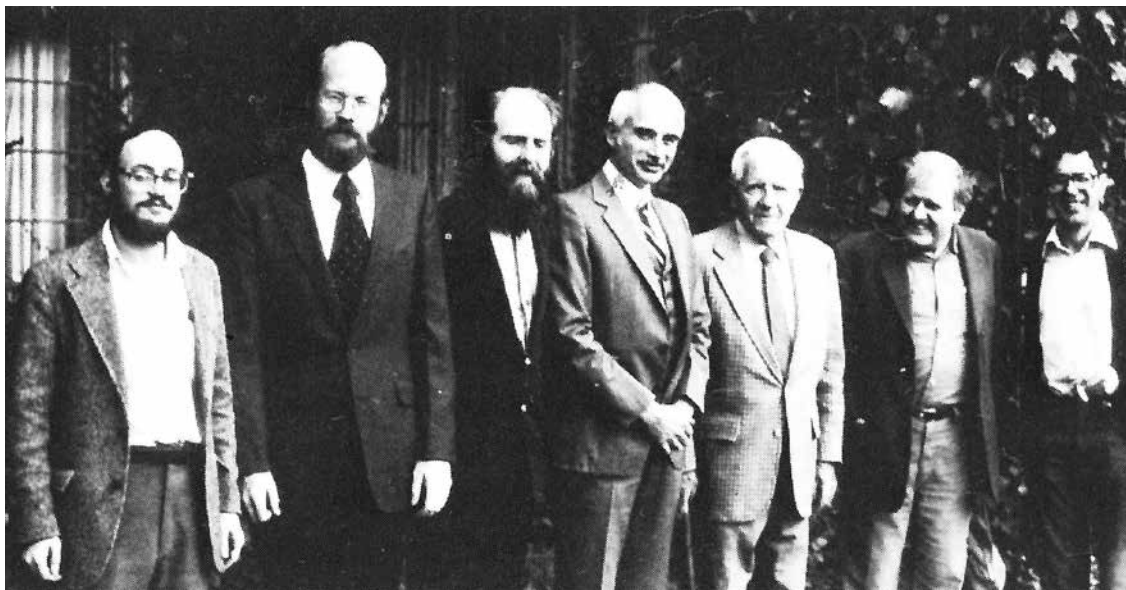


Figure 1. The staff of the CHD and Prof. Eric Hamp in the early 1980s. From left: Howard Berman, Gregory McMahon, Richard Beal, Harry Hoffner, Hans Güterbock, Eric Hamp, and Silvin Košak.