

PUBLICATIONS

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Seven monographs were published during the 2024–25 report year (fig. 1):

- *Unpublished Bo-Fragments in Transliteration III (Bo 6087–Bo 6434)*, by Oğuz Soysal. Chicago Hittite Dictionary Supplements 4. Published August 2024.
- *A Master of Secrets in the Chamber of Darkness: Egyptological Studies in Honor of Robert K. Ritner*, edited by Foy D. Scalf and Brian P. Muhs. Studies in Ancient Cultures 3. Published September 2024.
- *Chicago on the Nile: A Century of Work by the Epigraphic Survey of the University of Chicago*, by Emily Teeter. ISAC Museum Publications 2. Published September 2024.
- *The Capture of Jerusalem by the Persians in 614 CE by Strategus of Mar Saba*, by Sean W. Anthony and Stephen J. Shoemaker. Late Antique and Medieval Islamic Near East 5. Published January 2025.
- *Unpublished Bo-Fragments in Transliteration IV (Bo 2689–Bo 5660)*, by Oğuz Soysal. Chicago Hittite Dictionary Supplements 5. Published March 2025.
- *Insights into Islamic Archaeology and Material Culture: A Conference in Jerusalem*, edited by Katia Cytryn, Kristoffer Damgaard, and Donald Whitcomb. Studies in Ancient Cultures 4. Published June 2025.
- *Outward Appearance versus Inward Significance: Addressing Identities through Attire in the Ancient World*, edited by Aleksandra Hallmann. ISAC Seminars 15. Published June 2025.

Related to this year's two special exhibitions, *Chicago on the Nile: 100 Years of the Epigraphic Survey in Egypt* (September 17, 2024–March 23, 2025) and *Staging the East: Orientalist Photography in Chicago Collections* (April 17–August 17, 2025), the ISAC publications office facilitated the production and printing of two children's activity books:

- *So You Want to Be an Epigrapher?* by Catherine Witt (text) and Joshua Tulisiak (illustrations), with J. Brett McClain. ISAC Miscellaneous Publications. Published September 2024.
- *A Day in the Life of a 19th Century Photographer*, by Marc Maillot (text) and Joshua Tulisiak (illustrations). ISAC Miscellaneous Publications. Published April 2025.

Also this year, the publications office produced the 2023–24 annual report and four issues of ISAC's member magazine, *News & Notes*; copyedited and proofread the wall and case texts for the year's two special exhibitions; and made progress on the production of several titles that will be published in 2025–26.

In June 2025, a monograph published in March 2024 in the Late Antique and Medieval Islamic Near East series—*An Armenian Futūḥ Narrative: Ewond's Eighth-Century History of the Caliphate*, by Sergio La Porta and Alison M. Vacca—was awarded the Mediterranean Seminar's Prize for Best Edition and Translation. The prize announcement described La Porta and Vacca's edition and translation of this Armenian chronicle as “a model of scholarly rigor and style” (<https://www.mediterraneanseminar.org/book-prize-2025>).

Two book manuscripts submitted during this report year for possible publication by ISAC were still out for peer review at the end of the year; they included one manuscript that had been substantially revised



Figure 1. The seven monographs published this year.

in response to feedback received during a first round of peer review last year. Two other book manuscripts, submitted during the 2023–24 report year, were accepted this year: the latest installment of Oğuz Soysal's edition (in transliteration with text-critical notes) of unpublished Boğazköy tablets in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara, and the two-volume final report on ISAC's 2007–8 Nubian Expedition excavations at al-Widay. In addition, production started on a non-peer-reviewed volume that will accompany ISAC's spring 2026 special exhibition on animals in ancient Nubia.

As of June 30, 2025, the following twelve manuscripts—which include the two manuscripts accepted this year, as well as the forthcoming special-exhibition catalog—constituted the backlog of monographs in production. Most of them had been copyedited or were being edited, and several of them had been typeset and were being proofread.

- *Nippur VI: The Inanna Temple*, by Richard L. Zettler and Karen L. Wilson, with contributions by Robert D. Biggs, Jean M. Evans, McGuire Gibson, Richard C. Haines, Donald P. Hansen, James Knudstad, Walther Sallaberger, and John C. Sanders. ISAC Publications.
- *Center and Periphery: The Archaeology of Politics at Ešnunna from the Ur III Period to the Old Babylonian Period*, by Clemens Reichel. Studies in Ancient Cultures.
- *Excavations at Serra East, Part 8—Serre Matto: The Christian-Period Churches, Houses, Workshops, and Cemetery*, by Bruce Beyer Williams, with contributions by Nadejda Reshetnikova, Robin Seignobos, Alexandros Tsakos, and Dobrochna Zielińska. Nubian Expedition.

- *Excavations at Serra East, Part 9—Serre Matto: The Christian-Period Pottery, Small Objects, Glass, and Texts*, by Bruce Beyer Williams, with contributions by Carol Meyer, Alexandros Tsakos, Tasha Vorderstrasse, and Donald Whitcomb. Nubian Expedition.
- *Lowland Susiana in the Fourth Millennium*, by Abbas Alizadeh. ISAC Publications.
- *Iraqi Excavations in the Diyala Region: New Excavations at Tell Asmar (Ancient Eshnunna), 2001–2002, and Excavations at Tell Muqdadidiya, 1980*, by Hussein Ali Hamza and Salah Rmayidh, with contributions by Daniel Mahoney, Alexandra Witsel, and Hervé Reculeau. Translated and initially edited by Mark Altaweel. Finally edited, with additional notes, by McGuire Gibson. ISAC Miscellaneous Publications.
- *Ancient Iran in the ISAC Museum: From Prehistory to the Achaemenid Period*, by Abbas Alizadeh. ISAC Museum Publications.
- *A Connecting Polemic in the Medieval Mediterranean: The Correspondence of Leo III and ‘Umar II*, edited and translated by Thomas E. Burman, Nuria de Castilla, Seonyoung Kim, Sergio La Porta, Jeremy Pearson, and Alison M. Vacca. Late Antique and Medieval Islamic Near East 6.
- *Hattannaš: A Festschrift in Honor of Theo van den Hout*, edited by Petra Goedegebuure and Joost Hazenbos, with the assistance of Emily Smith. Studies in Ancient Cultures 5.
- *Unpublished Bo-Fragments in Transliteration V (Bo 1398–Bo 6002)*, by Oğuz Soysal and Mine Çifci. Chicago Hittite Dictionary Supplements 6.
- *The Cemeteries at al-Widay: Text and Plates*, by Lisa A. Heidorn and Bruce Beyer Williams, with contributions by Geoff Emberling, Megan Ingvolstad, and Joanna Then-Obłuska. Nubian Expedition.
- *A Bestiary of Ancient Nubia*, edited by Marc Maillot. ISAC Museum Publications.

I gratefully acknowledge the production assistance this year of Connie Gundry Tappy (copyediting and proofreading), Alison Whyte (proofreading), Kristin Goble and Billie Jean Collins (typesetting), Kevin Quach and Joshua Tulisak (cover design), Susanne Wilhelm (typesetting and cover design), ISAC assistant editor Becca Cain (*News & Notes* layout), and former ISAC editor and current independent contractor Leslie Schramer (*Nippur VI* layout and project management).

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

The ISAC publications office continued to make PDFs of new publications freely available online as soon as the print editions were released. The complete catalog of ISAC titles—which includes annual reports, *News & Notes*, and the *Chicago House Bulletin*—can be viewed at <https://isac.uchicago.edu/research/catalog-publications>.

SALES

Since January 1, 2019, ISD has been the exclusive distributor of ISAC publications. Between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, ISD sold 1,216 print copies of ISAC publications—952 through its US warehouse and 264 through its agent in the United Kingdom—as well as 33 e-book copies to customers in the United States. The ISAC Museum Shop also sells select titles it considers to be of potential interest to a general audience.

Generally, newly published titles, special-exhibition catalogs (both current and past), and books featuring ISAC Museum gallery highlights sell the most copies; table 1 shows this year’s fifteen top sellers.

RESEARCH SUPPORT | PUBLICATIONS

Emily Teeter's *Chicago on the Nile*, which appeared in mid-September 2024 to accompany ISAC's fall 2024 special exhibition of the same name, took first place with 236 total copies sold over the course of its first nine and a half months. In second place with 158 print copies sold—all of them through the ISAC Museum Shop—was the gallery guide *Highlights of the Collections of the Oriental Institute Museum*, originally published in 2017. In third place, Robert K. Ritner's *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*—a perennial top seller first published more than thirty years ago and reprinted many times since then—remained popular.

Table 1. Best-selling ISAC publications, July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

Title	Author(s)	Year published	Print copies sold	E-book copies sold	Total copies sold
<i>Chicago on the Nile: A Century of Work by the Epigraphic Survey of the University of Chicago</i> (special-exhibition catalog)	Emily Teeter	2024	230	6	236
<i>Highlights of the Collections of the Oriental Institute Museum</i>	Jean Evans, Jack Green, and Emily Teeter (eds.)	2017	158	N/A	158
<i>The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice</i>	Robert K. Ritner	1993	128	N/A	128
<i>The Adventures of Inanaka and Tuni</i> (children's activity book)	Jane Gordon, Susanne Paulus, Madeline Ouimet, and Sarah Ware	2023	124	N/A	124
<i>Back to School in Babylonia</i> (special-exhibition catalog)	Susanne Paulus, with Marta Díaz Herrera, Jane Gordon, Madeline Ouimet, Colton Siegmund, and Ryan Winters	2023	70	4	74
<i>Embroidering Identities: A Century of Palestinian Clothing</i> (special-exhibition catalog)	Iman Saca	2006	72	N/A	72
<i>A Master of Secrets in the Chamber of Darkness: Egyptological Studies in Honor of Robert K. Ritner Presented on the Occasion of His Sixty-Eighth Birthday</i>	Foy D. Scalf and Brian P. Muhs (eds.)	2024	69	2	71
<i>Ancient Israel: Highlights from the Collections of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago</i>	Gabrielle Novacek	2011	65	N/A	65

(continued)

Title	Author(s)	Year published	Print copies sold	E-book copies sold	Total copies sold
<i>Book of the Dead: Becoming God in Ancient Egypt</i> (special-exhibition catalog)	Foy Scalf (ed.)	2017	63	N/A	63
<i>An Armenian Futūḥ Narrative: Ēwond's Eighth-Century History of the Caliphate</i>	Sergio La Porta and Alison M. Vacca	2024	42	9	51
<i>The Capture of Jerusalem by the Persians in 614 CE by Strategius of Mar Saba</i>	Sean W. Anthony and Stephen J. Shoemaker	2024	50	0	50
<i>Before the Pyramids: The Origins of Egyptian Civilization</i>	Emily Teeter (ed.)	2011	43	N/A	43
<i>So You Want to Be an Epigrapher?</i> (children's activity book)	Catherine Witt and Joshua Tulisiak, with J. Brett McClain	2024	40	N/A	40
<i>Fly with Dana over the Past</i> (children's activity book)	Marie-Laure Chambrade and Jérôme Agostini, with Marc Maillot, Kiersten Neumann, and Thomas Boudier	2024	39	N/A	39
<i>Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute</i>	Emily Teeter	2003	35	N/A	35

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