

Brian Muhs

Brian Muhs took up his position at the Oriental Institute on July 1, 2011. He presented a paper on “More Papyri from the Archive of Panas son of Espemetis” at the Eleventh International Congress of Demotic Studies in Oxford on September 2. In it, he identified three new accounts listing hundreds of money and grain loans made by the mortuary priest Panas in Thebes in the second century BC. On October 15, he gave a lecture on “Ancient Egyptian Law” for the Oriental Institute Volunteers Mini-series Order from Chaos, and on October 29, he was a participant in the roundtable that concluded the mini-series. Muhs presented a paper on “Literacy, Law and the Economy in Ancient Egypt” at the Ancient Societies Workshop at the University of Chicago on November 15, in which he discussed some issues from his current book project, *Administration and Economy in Ancient Egypt*. He also gave a lecture on “Law and Order in Ancient Egypt” for the Chicago Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt on March 3, 2012. Muhs gave a lecture “On Economic Rationality in Antiquity” at the Franke Institute of the University of Chicago on April 25. He used the example of the mortuary priest Panas’ loans to illustrate how an individual could participate in both redistribution and market exchange. On April 28, he presented a paper on “An Unrecognized Loan Contract from the Archive of the Choachytes, in Chicago” at the Sixty-third Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, in Providence, Rhode Island. In it, he showed how a well-known papyrus in the Field Museum probably came from a well-known archive from Thebes in the second century BC.

Muhs submitted two articles for publication, one on “Demotic Orthography in B. H. Stricker’s Notebooks,” for the proceedings of the conference Demotic as Demotic: Problems and Perspectives in the Study of the Demotic Script held in Trier on November 8, 2010, and one on “Some Early Ptolemaic Tax Receipts from Cambridge University Library,” for a Festschrift. Three short articles by Muhs appeared in the journal *Enchoria* 32 (2010/11): “In memoriam Pieter Willem Pestman” (pp. 1–4), “P. Louvre N. 3263 Revisited” (pp. 125–26 and pls. 4–6) and (on pp. 145–48) a review of P. Heilporn, *Thèbes et ses taxes: Recherches sur la fiscalité en Égypte romaine (Ostraca de Strasbourg II)* (Paris: De Boccard, 2009). Muhs also reviewed manuscripts for the *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* (Leiden), the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, and Oriental Institute Publications and served on the committee for the selection of the annual Oriental Institute post-doctoral fellow.
