

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Richard H. Beal

Richard H. Beal spent his time updating, reference-checking, and copy editing articles for the fourth fascicle of the Š volume and the beginning of the T volume of the Hittite Dictionary. He has also been transliterating into roman script Hittite text fragments from the cuneiform of the hand copies produced by our German colleagues, then checking to see if anyone has worked on the fragment, and finally producing a dictionary card to be duplicated and filed by our student assistants. (Yes it's obsolete and cumbersome, but it's easier to write a dictionary article with cards than with computer files.)

Outside of office hours, he completed a review of Christel Rüster and Gernot Wilhelm, *Landschenkungsurkunden hethitischer Könige*. The purpose of the legal texts published in this volume was to document the Hittite king's conveyance of a number of plots of land (and often people attached to that land) from one owner to another. Generally the receiver is a man, but one grant is given to the wet-nurse of another female. Beal's review of a festschrift honoring British Hittitologist and leading expert on hieroglyphic Luwian David Hawkins appeared in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 133. Much of the second half of 2013 was spent editing, reading proofs, and preparing indices for a book that he co-edited with his wife, Oriental Institute alumna JoAnn Scurlock: *Creation and Chaos: A Reconsideration of Hermann Gunkel's Chaos Kampf Hypothesis*. This volume includes papers concerning Mesopotamian, Hittite, Hurrian, Ugaritian, Judahite, Greek, and Egyptian beliefs, which were originally given at the joint meeting of the Midwest branches of the American Oriental Society and the Society for Biblical Literature in February 2011. Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations PhD and former Hittite Dictionary worker Dennis Campbell wrote a fine article on the Hurrians and Hesiod, showing how the king of the Hurrian pantheon Teššub was considered not just son of his deposed antepenultimate predecessor the skygod Anu, but also son of Anu's usurper, the male terrestrial god Kumarbi (who, since he swallowed Anu's sperm and subsequently bore Teššub, was called by the Hurrians Teššub's mother). Thus through this unusual filiation Teššub united the astral and terrestrial lines of gods in his person. This book has since appeared from Eisenbrauns. With one book out, considerable time in the first half of 2014 was spent reading page proofs for Scurlock's massive *Sourcebook for Ancient Mesopotamian Medicine*, to be published later this summer as number 36 in the series *Writings from the Ancient World* by the Society for Biblical Literature. This book will contain transliterations and translations of all types of Mesopotamian diagnostic and therapeutic texts.
