Gary Greig's dissertation topic is a study of the correlation between the meanings of ancient Egyptian verbs of perception and cognition and the grammatical forms in which the

various meanings of each lexical verb may appear. In many ancient and modern languages lexical verbs such as "see" and "hear" can denote simple involuntary perception or related voluntary actions. When they denote involuntary perception, they are not used in progressive verbal forms which describe an action in immediate progress (e.g., "The man is running/was running/will be running"). In English, for example, one normally uses a nonprogressive verbal form to describe involuntary visual perception, "I see the doctor." However, when the same lexical verb is used in a progressive verbal form, it is recategorized with a different meaning which is often voluntary. The sentence "I am seeing a doctor on the fifth floor" actually means that I am consulting or visiting the doctor on the fifth floor, and the imperative "See the doctor tomorrow!" has the same recategorized meaning. The same appears to be the case in ancient Egyptian. Greig's dissertation will attempt to demonstrate this in Middle and Late Egyptian which form the boundary between the two major contrasting phases of the language, Old and Middle Egyptian on the one hand and Late Egyptian, Demotic, and Coptic on the other.