



Winter 2002  
Volume 52, Number 4

American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter

ASOR

ASOR at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010

## Highlights of the 2002 Annual Meeting in Toronto

*"The best Annual Meeting ever!"*

*"A great venue!"*

*"Record turn out!"*

*"Had a wonderful time!"*

*"Thank you for a grand conference!"*

*"The food was terrific!"*

*"Sessions were full and the presentations of high caliber!"*

*"Tremendous plenaries!"*

These quotable quotes overheard in Toronto say it all about the 2002 Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research—a positive conference by all accounts. And the reasons, under close scrutiny, have all checked out to be legitimate:

The Marriott Eaton Centre Hotel served us extremely well in its location, the layout of meeting space and the hospitality and helpfulness of the staff.

The number of attendees (audited for accuracy) was 640, nearly 200 more than last year's count and 170 above the highest previous attendance.

The provisions for assuaging hunger and thirst were plentiful.

Virtually all sessions, including those on Saturday afternoon after SBL had opened, were full.

There were 237 presentations, featuring participants from 18 different countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon,

Netherlands, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Switzerland, USA.

The presentations were of high quality.

The plenaries by David Stronach, Sy Gitin and Trude Dothan, and Stronach again, this time as a minute-man replacement for Amy Dockser Marcus, were interesting, engaging and very well attended.

Committee meetings were scheduled, as far as possible, away from academic sessions in order to allow committee members to attend more sessions.

### Special Kudos

- our persistently helpful board chair, P.E. MacAllister and new president, Lawrence Geraty, and vice-president, Martha Joukowsky

- the efficient and ever-cheerful Boston staff—Rudy Dornemann, Holly Andrews, Britt Hartenberger, Selma Omerefendic.

- CAMP members and CAMP committee chairs and their committee members for spectacular planning—Eric Cline (Program), Carolyn Rivers (now, Gloria London, Outreach), Martha Risser (Honors) and Ann Killebrew (Lectures)

- the Atlanta publications office staff—Billie Jean Collins and Chris Madell—for advance PR, programs and an ever-expanding book display

- Academy Travel's Julene Miller for

her tenacity in helping us locate the best hotel for our needs

### Additional Notes

The Lecture Series Committee has been working hard to secure major lectures during the course of the upcoming year and contributed as well to the groundwork of the public lecture in Toronto. This Spring will feature a number of lectures, three in Atlanta co-sponsored by the Carlos Museum on the Emory University campus, and one in southern California, co-sponsored by the Cotsen Institute. Others are in the works.

Suzanne Richard, chair of our ad hoc committee on regionally affiliated ASOR



A view of a part of the book display.

chapters (usually connected with SBL or SBL and AAR), has collected and collated information on the eleven

*Continued on page 5*

## STATEMENT ON IRAQ

On November 23, 2002, the ASOR membership voted to endorse the following statement:

"The organizations and institutions listed below, mindful of the devastation of Afghanistan's cultural sites and material caused by war and political chaos, are deeply concerned that an outbreak of hostilities with Iraq may have serious and damaging consequences for that country's monuments, museums, archaeological sites and material culture. These have unique value to our own cultural heritage, which draws its strength from other cultures, including that of Mesopotamia, a region that has long been known as the

cradle of Western civilization.

The undersigned ask countries to take measures to avoid, to the extent possible, damage to Iraq's cultural monuments, museums and archaeological sites and that their military forces respect the integrity of such monuments and sites. We ask also that concerned countries encourage and help Iraq to ensure security for its own monuments, museums and sites.

Finally, the undersigned ask, if a conflict has occurred, that concerned countries encourage both governmental and non-governmental participation in rebuilding Iraq's cultural institutions. We are prepared to help mobilize appropriate technical, material and financial resources to support this end."

## ASOR MEMBER SERVICES TO COME IN-HOUSE!

As this newsletter goes to press, work is underway to bring ASOR's membership and subscription fulfillment services in-house. Over the years, these functions have been performed by a variety of outside sources, but the ASOR Committee on Publications and the ASOR administration feel that it is in the best interests of our members and subscribers and of ASOR as a whole that they now be consolidated.

The implementation of new in-house services for members and subscribers will take place in two phases. The initial step is to effect the transition of all current membership and subscription records to our new iMIS database. We have already started working on this and hope to have the process complete shortly. You will notice new contact information for subscriptions and membership enquiries on the back cover of this newsletter. A toll free phone number is now available and this will be advertised on the asor-l list. Note that communications sent to Academic Services will continue to be processed.

The second phase, which is scheduled for later next year, will involve web-based components,

allowing members and subscribers to check and update their records online, renew subscriptions and register for meetings using their previously stored data (i.e., less work for you!). This will enable us to provide a much more efficient and customer-friendly service than currently exists.

In addition, ASOR members will now be able to direct their queries to a dedicated staff member. As a part of its decision to handle member services in-house, ASOR has appointed Chris Madell to manage fulfillment and member services out of the Publications Office in Atlanta. We are very pleased to have him in this position and are certain that the membership will find him very responsive and helpful.

As with any transition, there will inevitably be some glitches, and we ask for your patience over the next few months. We believe that long-term benefits for the membership will far outweigh any short term inconveniences.

Please feel free to contact the ASOR Publications office at 866-727-8380 (e-mail: [asorpubs@asor.org](mailto:asorpubs@asor.org)) if you have any problems or questions.

The American Schools of Oriental Research is a nonprofit, scientific and educational organization founded in 1900.

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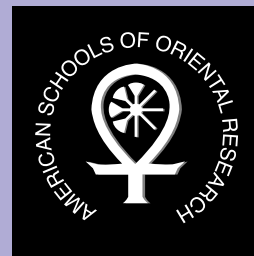
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## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT ASOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH invites applications for the position of Executive Director of ASOR, beginning January 1, 2004.

The Executive Director of ASOR serves as chief operating officer for the organization, responsible for directing the implementation of Board-approved policies and established aims of ASOR and for ensuring proper management of ASOR's business and resources in compliance with federal and state regulations as appropriate for non-profit organizations.

The ED serves as a non-voting member of the ASOR Executive Committee and Board of Trustees and is expected to anticipate, propose and participate in discussions for the improvement of the ASOR operational system, including, but not limited to, suggestions for change in the administrative and financial management policies and procedures.

The ED serves as the key resource and liaison for and among members of the Executive Committee, Board, Officers, Operating Committees, affiliated overseas research centers, Canadian ASOR (CASOR) and cooperating entities.

The ED serves as the focal point for coordination and assistance with fundraising, public and member information, planned events and preparations for the annual and interim meetings of the Board.

### Major Duties:

1. Oversees the operations of ASOR assuring timely information, administrative assistance, financial resources management and liaison services as required to implement the Mission and Policies of ASOR as established by the Board for management of the organization's activities.

2. Works closely with the Chairpersons of ASOR's Operating and Board Committees, such as the Committees on Publications, Archaeological Policy, Program and Annual Meeting, Finance, Budget, Audit and Investment, Personnel and Administration, Development, Institutional Membership and Nominations, encouraging their mutual participation and support in the conduct of ASOR business.

3. Provides general support for the Board, Officers and Committees of ASOR, including coordination of arrangements for meetings and consultations and preparation of reports and agendas.

4. Oversees, together with the ASOR Treasurer, the preparation of the consolidated annual budget and periodic financial/fiscal documents, special reports and other materials as may be required for review and approval of the ASOR Board, Executive and Finance Committees.

5. Coordinates public relations and information including the ASOR web site, ensuring (for example) timely announcements and reports of ASOR activities for member and public consumption.

6. Oversees the organization of special events and seminars, and serves as ASOR emissary in contacts and communications with overseas affiliated research and education centers, as well as other scholarly organizations.

7. Negotiates and executes on behalf of the ASOR President all personnel service, consultant and vendor contracts or agreements. This includes the negotiation and signing of approved agreements with cooperating universities, financial institutions and other entities for the management of personnel and related staff accounts, lease, banking, investment, audit and legal services,

as prescribed in the By-Laws.

8. Personally supervises the headquarters staff and works closely with the Chair of the Committee on Publications regarding staff requirements for the Office of Publications.

### Qualifications:

Successful experience in administration and financial management, including fundraising. Substantive experience in scholarly research, fieldwork and publications in the culture and archaeology of the ancient Near East or eastern Mediterranean areas. Essential personal characteristics include integrity, initiative, collegiality in the conduct of business, and ability to solve problems and to represent ASOR in public forums.

The position will be based in the ASOR offices on the campus of Boston University and the successful candidate will receive payment and benefits according to the personnel rules and regulations of Boston University.

Applications should consist of an application letter of not more than three pages indicating why the candidate seeks the position, including his/her vision for ASOR, and a detailed curriculum vitae, including names and contact information of three references. Applications should be sent to Lawrence T. Geraty, Office of the President, LaSierra University, 4700 Pierce Street, Riverside, CA 92515. E-mail queries may be sent to lgeraty@lasierra.edu (please do not send applications by email).

The deadline for applications is April 15, 2003. Late applicants may be considered until a candidate is chosen. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience. Candidates must be from North America. ASOR is an equal opportunity employer.

## WALTER RAST HONORED IN TORONTO

The Richard Scheuer Medal—the most prestigious of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Awards—honors individuals who have provided truly outstanding, long term support and service contributions to ASOR. It is given only as appropriate, not annually.

“The recipient of the medal this year, Professor Walter Rast, has a record of long time service achievement to ASOR that few can match. His service at various levels includes:

(1) The presidency of the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, Jordan, at a critical time when fund-raising was initiated for the present research center and hostel;

(2) A two term editorship of the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research (BASOR)* during which he encouraged younger scholars in Jordan, Israel, and Cyprus to contribute articles and also initiated a series of BASOR Supplements to encourage early publication of preliminary excavation reports;

(3) A three term chairmanship of the Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP) during which he made annual visits to most of the ASOR field projects and developed new policies to emphasize collegial support of ASOR projects.

(4) Many terms as ASOR trustee where he freely participated in numerous assignments and where his wisdom and irenic spirit were a tremendous asset to the whole membership.

(5) Co-directorship of the Southeast Dead Sea Project which resulted in many of his outstanding publications and where he mentored and

encouraged many a budding field archaeologist.

(6) His most recent effort for ASOR was chairing the search committee that brought us our current president; it remains to be seen how wise a decision this was!

Support is a many splendored thing. ASOR could not survive without the financial support of generous benefactors and the collegial support that its members give one to another. Walt Rast has especially excelled in his relationships with his colleagues. Through his renowned work on several field projects as well as his distinguished professorship at Valparaiso University, he helped develop the careers of many young scholars. Through his visits to the sites of other colleagues he was always encouraging; through his editorial expertise he helped improve countless manuscripts, but especially through his ability to listen to others and his real interest in the projects and accomplishments of others he provided a level of support and trust that have led a great number of people in ASOR—senior and younger—to look to Walt Rast as an esteemed colleague and best of all as a friend.

I invite those who have been colleagues of Walt Rast, who have worked with him in any capacity, to stand. Walt, we are in your debt. For your lifetime of distinguished service we present you now with ASOR’s most prestigious award, the Richard Scheuer Medal.”

— Prepared by R. Thomas Schaub and Lawrence T. Geraty. Presented by Lawrence T. Geraty, ASOR President, in Toronto on November 21, 2002.

## CAARI APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

THE CYPRUS AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CAARI) announces the appointment of Thomas W. Davis as its Director effective July 1, 2003. Dr. Davis will be accompanied by his wife, Jennifer, when he assumes responsibility for the Institute’s operations in Nicosia, Cyprus. He replaces Dr. Robert Merrillees, who will retire after completing a distinguished four year directorship.

Thomas W. Davis received his Ph.D. in Oriental Studies and Syro-Palestinian Archaeology from the University of Arizona under the direction of William G. Dever.

In the mid-1980s he spent two seasons working with the expedition headed by David Soren in the city of Kourion. As a Pacific Scientific Fellow at CAARI in 1987 he began an oral videotaped history of American archaeology in Cyprus.

Since 1991 he has been an employee (most recently Assistant Vice President/Principal Investigator) of R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, a cultural resource management firm with headquarters in Frederick, Maryland. He has been responsible for the management and field direction of archaeological projects in several southern and middle Atlantic states as well as at Tell el Borg, Egypt.

His book on the history of biblical archaeology has recently been accepted for publication by Oxford University Press.

*David Detrich*  
CAARI President

## DAVID W. MCCREERY HONORED BY THE AIA

Long-time ASOR member and Chair of ASOR’s Committee on Archaeological Policy, David W. McCreery (Willamette University), was honored recently by the Archaeological Institute of America. In New Orleans this month McCreery was presented with the Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award. ASOR offers its heartfelt congratulations to Dave.

## Future ASOR Annual Meetings

2004	San Antonio
2005	Philadelphia
2006	Washington, D.C.
2007	San Diego

## ASOR Mesopotamian Fellowship

The Committee on Mesopotamian Civilization / Baghdad Committee of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) offers a Fellowship providing support in the amount of \$7,000 for one three-to-six month period of research. This fellowship is primarily intended to support field/research in ancient Mesopotamian civilization carried out in the Middle East, but other research projects such as museum or archival research related to ancient Mesopotamian studies and requiring travel abroad may also be considered. Applicants may be pre-doctoral students or post-doctoral scholars.

More detailed information and an application in .pdf format are available via: [www.asor.org/bagdam.html](http://www.asor.org/bagdam.html)

Applications are also available via fax and snail mail from the American Schools of Oriental Research, Located at Boston University, 656 Beacon St., 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215. tel (617) 353-6570. fax (617) 353-6575. Email: [asor@bu.edu](mailto:asor@bu.edu).

Application deadline:  
February 1, 2003

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### Annual Meeting, continued from page 1

regional groups with long established or newly hatched ties to ASOR. She has also set out an ambitious agenda for the committee, made up of regional representatives, covering a wide range of issues, which will in the long run serve ASOR and its mission well.

In planning for the 2003 Annual Meeting in Atlanta our mission, should we choose to accept it, will be to improve on Toronto. Although challenging to say the least, this is doable. There is significant momentum in the growth and development of the ASOR national conference and we are optimistic we can continue to improve the quality of its contribution to ASOR members and the informed public as well.

*Douglas R. Clark  
Chair of the Committee on the  
Annual Meeting and Program*

# ASOR

is pleased to announce the following  
**lectures**

## THE SEARCH FOR GOLIATH: RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT ANCIENT TELL ES-SAFI (GATH OF THE PHILISTINES)

Aren Maeir, Bar-Ilan University

Wednesday, 5 February 2003 • 7:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored by ASOR and the Emory Program in Mediterranean Archaeology,  
The Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University and the Rabbi Tham  
Institute for Jewish Studies at Emory University  
Carlos Museum Reception Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, GA  
Contact: [oborows@emory.edu](mailto:oborows@emory.edu)

## BARELY VISIBLE BUT VERY REAL:

### WOMEN'S RELIGIOUS CULTURE IN ANCIENT ISRAEL

Carol Meyers, Duke University

Wednesday, 26 February 2003 • 7:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored by ASOR and the Emory Program in Mediterranean Archaeology,  
The Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University, the Rabbi Tham Institute  
for Jewish Studies at Emory University and the Institute for Women's Studies at  
Emory University  
Carlos Museum Reception Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, GA  
Contact: [oborows@emory.edu](mailto:oborows@emory.edu)

## "HE NAMED THE WELL SHEBA AND THIS IS WHY THE CITY IS CALLED BEERSHEBA TO THIS DAY": WATER SUPPLY AT TEL BEERSHEBA IN LIGHT OF RECENT EXPLORATION AT THE SITE

Ze'ev Herzog, Tel Aviv University

Thursday, 6 March 2003 • 7:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored by ASOR and the Emory Program in Mediterranean Archaeology,  
The Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University and the Rabbi Tham  
Institute for Jewish Studies at Emory University  
Carlos Museum Reception Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, GA  
Contact: [oborows@emory.edu](mailto:oborows@emory.edu)

## EXCAVATING JESUS:

### ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE NEW TESTAMENT?

Jonathan Reed, University of La Verne

Thursday, 13 March 2003 • 7:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by ASOR and the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at UCLA  
Lenart Auditorium of the Fowler Museum of Cultural History  
at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
Contact: 310-825-4361, [www.fmch.ucla.edu/](http://www.fmch.ucla.edu/)

# R E G I O N A L A S O R

## Pacific Northwest

WHERE: University of Idaho, Moscow, ID  
WHEN: April 25-27, 2003  
CONTACT: Douglas R. Clark, Walla Walla College, 204 South College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324. Email: clardo@wwc.edu  
INFORMATION: [www.wwc.edu/pnw](http://www.wwc.edu/pnw) (click on "Info" and follow the buttons)  
CALL FOR PAPERS: Submit a 150-word abstract for each proposed paper by January 17, 2003 to the appropriate Chair listed below. Participants in the Pacific Northwest AAR Regional Meeting may present only one paper and must be registered for the meeting to participate. Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ASOR): Theme: Archaeology and Ancient Religion

## Midwest

WHERE: Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI  
WHEN: February 21-23, 2003  
CALL FOR PAPERS: Please send your proposal to Mark W. Chavalas, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 54601. Tel. (608) 785-8360. Email: [chavalas.mark@uwlax.edu](mailto:chavalas.mark@uwlax.edu)  
INFORMATION: For registration forms and conference information, please contact Troy Martin, Saint Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd. St., Chicago, IL, email: [martin@sxu.edu](mailto:martin@sxu.edu).

## Central States

WHERE: Holiday Inn - Westport, St. Louis, MO  
WHEN: April 6-7, 2003  
CONTACT: Victor H. Matthews, Southwest Missouri State University. Email [vhm970f@smsu.edu](mailto:vhm970f@smsu.edu).  
INFORMATION: [www.sbl-site.org/Regions/CentralStates.html](http://www.sbl-site.org/Regions/CentralStates.html)

### ASOR PROGRAM:

#### Session 1: Material Culture in Ancient Israel

*Convener: Victor H. Matthews, Southwest Missouri State University*

- Allison Karmel Thomason, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, "Conceptions of - Material Culture in Ancient Mesopotamia"
- Jennie Ebeling, University of Evansville, "Women, Bread, and the Domestic Cult in Iron Age Israel"
- Peter Warnock, University of Missouri-Columbia, "The Chicken or The Egg: Which Came First, The Olive as a Food or for Oil?"
- James C. Moyer, Southwest Missouri State University, "A Review of Victor Matthews, 'A Brief History of Ancient Israel'" Response: Victor H. Matthews

#### Session 2: Aspects of Near Eastern Economics and Cultures

*Convener: Peter Warnock, University of Missouri-Columbia*

- LaMoine DeVries, Southwest Missouri State University, "The Mouse from Ai"
- Sara E. Orel, Truman State University, "Social Stratification among Middle Kingdom burials at Beni Hasan"
- Susan Ellis, Wayne State College, "Patterns of Village Growth in an Ottoman Period Village, Jordan"
- Juris Zarins, Southwest Missouri State University, "Trade Networks Across the Rub al-Khali"
- Scott Smith, "The Scope and Economics of Herod the Great's Building Program."

#### Session 3: Excavations at Kursi

*Convener: LaMoine DeVries, Southwest Missouri State University*

- Vassilios Tzaferis, Israel Antiquities Authority, "A History of Excavations at Kursi: Archaeology of the Early Byzantine Monastery"
- Charles R. Page, Jerusalem Center of Biblical Studies, "Kursi Excavations Resumed: Two New Seasons (2001, 2002)"
- Brian S. Kvasnica, Jerusalem Center of Biblical Studies, "Between Archaeology and Text: Retrieving Late Roman and Early Byzantine History at Kursi"



## Eastern Great Lakes

WHERE: Marriott Courtyard Ambassador Conference Center, Erie, PA  
WHEN: April 10–11, 2003  
CONTACT: Suzanne Richard, ASOR convenor, Gannon University, Box 3161, Erie, PA 16541. Email: richard@gannon.edu.

CALL FOR PAPERS: The Society invites paper proposals on the archaeology of the ancient Near East, including subjects such as field excavations, bible and archaeology, artifact analysis or other topics of interest. The Proposal should include: Title of the paper; Presenter Name; 100 word Abstract; Audio/Visual Equipment Required. Paper proposals should be sent by: February 1, 2003 to Suzanne Richard.

INFORMATION: The Plenary Speaker for the EGLBS Regional Meeting in 2003 will be Dr. Elizabeth Bloch-Smith. The registration fee is \$25.00. For information concerning registration and hotel reservations, please contact Suzanne Richard.

## Northeast

WHERE: Andover-Newton Theological School, Newton, MA  
WHEN: Friday, May 2, 2003

CONTACT: [www.sbl-site.org/Regions/NewEngland/NE\\_HomePage.html](http://www.sbl-site.org/Regions/NewEngland/NE_HomePage.html)

INFORMATION: The plenary address will be delivered by Lawrence H. Schiffman of New York University and the Presidential Address by Richard Clifford of Weston Jesuit School of Theology. The registration fee for the conference is \$15. The conference does not provide for lodging nor does it arrange for meals. There will be a reception during the conference.

## Mid-Atlantic

WHERE: Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, NJ, conveniently located near Rutgers University, only 3 miles from the New Jersey Turnpike, and two blocks from the train station.

WHEN: Thursday and Friday, March 13–14, 2003

CONTACT: Dr. Peter Feinman, Institute of History, Archaeology and Education, PO Box 41, Purchase, NY 10577.

INFORMATION: The ASOR plenary address will be delivered by P. Kyle McCarter of Johns Hopkins University. The registration fee is \$45 for ASOR members, \$35 for students, and \$50 for nonmembers.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Paper proposals may be submitted on subjects covering from the Mediterranean to Nubia to Persia on such topics as (1) field excavations, (2) art and architecture, (3) archaeological and anthropological theory, (4) text and artifact, (5) history, and (6) religion in biblical and non-biblical areas. The calls for papers for the other

organizations already have been sent and I hope that next year we will be on the same schedule and able to offer joint sessions. If you wish to present a paper (or section) in conjunction with the SBL this year, that may be submitted as well. The cutoff date is January 31, 2003. Proposals should be sent to Dr. Peter Feinman.

## Southeast

WHERE: Chattanooga Clarion Hotel

WHEN: March 14–16, 2003

CONTACT: Tom McCollough, Centre College, Danville, KY 40422. Email: mccollog@centre.edu

### ASOR PROGRAM:

#### **Archaeology and the Ancient World: The Excavations at Baniyas (Caesarea Phillipi)**

*Tom McCollough, Centre College, Presiding*

- Vassilios Tsafaris, Visiting Professor of Archaeology and the Bible, Averett College

- John Laughlin, Averett College

#### **Archaeology and the Ancient World: Archaeology and the Galilee**

*John Laughlin, Averett College, Presiding*

- Vassilios Tsafaris, Visiting Professor, Averett College, "The Archaeological Excavations at Kursi"

- James F. Strange, University of South Florida, "Archaeology and the Galilee"

### **Presidential Address**

- Milton Moreland, Huntingdon College, "Archaeology and the Bible: Prospects for Peace"

### **Archaeology and the Hebrew Bible: Archaeology and Gender**

*James F. Strange, University of South Florida, Presiding*

- Carol Meyers, Duke University, "Households and Holiness: Women, Religion, and Culture in Ancient Israel"

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## A TRIP TO CHINA FOR EDUCATORS

The Chinese-American Cultural Bridge Center, a non-profit organization, has created a trip especially designed for educators. Not only will you experience the geography, history, culture, economics, government, and technology of China firsthand, but you will be provided with background information and instructional materials, which will bring China alive to your students as well. There will be opportunities to meet with Chinese educators, and share ideas and information with each other.

On this unforgettable 15-day journey, you will go to Beijing, Zhengzhou, Kaifeng, Luoyang, Shaolin Temple, Xian, and Shanghai. Explore the tomb of China's first Emperor who unified China, with its amazing army of life-size, terra-cotta soldiers. Walk along the Great Wall, marvel at Beijing's Forbidden City, speculate at Luoyang's Longmen Grottos, and experience the Ancient Song Dynasty life in Kaifeng. The journey concludes in the vibrant city of Shanghai. \$3,250 including International Air fare from CA, 4 star hotels, all meals, transportation, guide, and sightseeing. **Tentative travel dates: June 25-July 9, 2003.** For detailed Itineraries, check the website, [www.cacbc.org/go/explorechina](http://www.cacbc.org/go/explorechina); or call toll free: 877-592-7072, email: [services@cacbc.org](mailto:services@cacbc.org)

Qiu Min Ji, the Executive Director of the CACBC, has extensive experience teaching in China and conducting a variety of educational tours to China. Her staff is composed of educators with many years of American classroom experience in the social sciences who are able to organize content, present instructional ideas, and assist you in creating educational materials and lessons for your students.

## WHITING POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS, 2003-2004

Applications are invited for two Whiting Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Princeton University, for the academic year 2003-4. The purpose of this award is to identify two outstanding humanities scholars early in their careers and give them the opportunity to undertake and/or complete a major project, interact with a group of diverse post-doctoral fellows and regular Princeton faculty, and contribute to the undergraduate teaching program at Princeton University.

*Terms of the Award.* Each fellowship will be for 12 months' tenure, beginning September 1, 2003. Whiting post-doctoral fellows will be appointed in a regular Princeton department as their "home" during the tenure of the fellowship. Fellowship holders will be expected to be in residence spending the bulk of their time on their own research and to present a seminar on their work at least once during the year in their department of appointment. In addition, fellows would be expected to teach one undergraduate course during the academic year. The fellowship may be renewable for one additional year pending continuation of funding.

The fellowship will pay a stipend of \$37,000 plus full faculty benefits.

*Eligibility.* Those who have been awarded a Ph.D. from a U.S. institution of higher education between January 1, 2001 and January 1, 2003, in the fields of architecture (history, theory, and criticism), art history, language and literature, history (including history of science), East Asian Studies, Near Eastern Studies, Philosophy (including political philosophy and classical philosophy), and religious studies, are encouraged to apply. There are no age or citizenship restrictions.

(Candidates who will not meet the January 1, 2003 deadline but are certain to have finished all requirements of the Ph.D. by June 1, 2003, may apply with a letter of assurance from their departmental chair that they will finish by June 1.)

*To Apply.* Interested applicants should send, in addition to a letter of application, a current *curriculum vitae*, including educational background, professional experience, and prior publications; an abstract of their completed Ph.D. dissertation; a two-page statement of their proposed research and writing project for the fellowship; and two confidential letters of recommendation, one from their dissertation supervisor and a second from another established scholar in their field.

Application should be sent to Prof. William B. Russel, Dean of the Graduate School, 205 Nassau Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544.

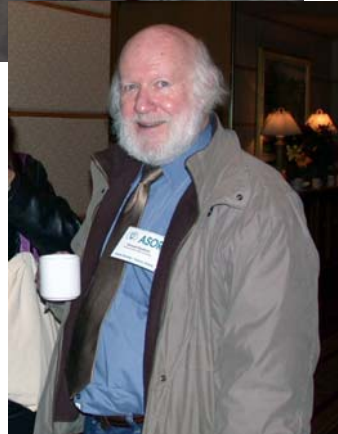
Applications are due on or before February 15, 2003. Awards will be announced by April 1, 2003.

## WWW.PHDDATA.ORG

<[www.phddata.org](http://www.phddata.org)> is a pioneering academic trial, attempting to create a WORLDWIDE INDEX OF CURRENT DOCTORAL THESES IN PROGRESS. Such an index is a must in today's research world, both in order to prevent duplication and for the purpose of enabling interactive communication between researchers and instructors around the world.

This site is still in its beginning stages but already includes advanced capabilities to search for theses. The site also allows users to communicate with those who have their theses registered on the site. The site is open and free of charge for all users.

We would appreciate your help in acquainting your doctoral students with the site, and encouraging them to register on-line.



TORONTO 2002



# American Center of Oriental Research

2001–2002  
Fellows' Reports



## Political Education in Jordan and Palestine

**Betty S. Anderson**  
*ACOR/CAORC Fellow*

In many works on the history of Jordan, the state appears to function as an entity entirely distinct from domestic forces, and the opposition, when mentioned, typically comprises merely disgruntled Palestinian refugees and a few rogue Jordanians. While it is undeniable that the state has always been able to function with little domestic input, the regime has still never been able to ignore all the demands generated by the country's changing socio-economic base. Expansion of the education system, increased urbanization, diversification of the economy, extension of media outlets throughout the country, and the influx of Palestinian refugees catalyzed political change as the opposition movement, the Jordanian National Movement, fought to gain access to power, and the Hashemite state reluctantly responded to new domestic demands in order to survive. In the process, Jordan's national identity came into question, with groups throughout the country asking whether Jordan should retain its separate structure or unite with its Arab neighbors.

The socio-economic changes Jordan had undergone in the 1930s and 1940s laid the groundwork for an intensified

clash over identity in the 1950s. In this debate, the traditional forces maintained their support for the nationalist ideal first posited in the 1920s by King Abdullah and the British and then perpetuated by King Hussen. For them, the foundations of the state lay with a continuation of Hashemite rule and an emphasis on Jordan's unique national identity. With this nationalist definition came a concomitant social structure that required that the traditional bases of the regime—the bedouin tribes, merchants, peasants, and landowners—and the political leaders—the “King's men”—maintain their dominant positions, to the exclusion of other groups.

The new urban forces, arising as a result of socio-economic change, opposed the designation of a separate Jordanian state by rallying instead to the calls for Arab unity and Arab nationalism that precluded a Hashemite role. Lying behind this stood a demand for a dramatically different image of Jordan, one that incorporated the new, emerging social strata, and one which had the potential to permanently displace the traditional forces that had ruled the country from its inception. The struggle was fought most visibly on the streets of the country's cities and in the halls of government, but beneath the surface an ideological debate fueled it, fought out in the schools, in the clubs and in the media.

In the end, the opposition forces

failed, and the Hashemite regime re-imposed its own view concerning uniqueness of Jordan. However, to succeed, the state had to adapt itself to the new conditions in the society by co-opting many of the new urban strata into its ranks and by expanding states services to many more.

## Domestic Architecture in Jordan during the Iron I Age

**Douglas R. Clark**  
*ACOR/CAORC Senior Fellow*

My research focused on the construction, maintenance, occupation, function and interpretation of domestic housing (especially “four-room” or pillared houses) from the Iron I period in Jordan, with an eye on the human dimensions involved in building, maintaining and occupying these structures. An extremely well preserved four-room house at Tall al-`Umayri provided the starting point of this investigation and was studied in comparison with others in the country and, from them, to some degree with those in the southern Levant at large. Taken together, the remains from Jordanian sites—while extremely limited, given excavation progress to date—combined with anthropological studies of domestic housing, illuminate the questions we are asking



"Four-room" House at Tall al-'Umayri. (Photo by Douglas R. Clark, Walla Walla College.)

and help clarify our responses.

I am also examining Iron I tomb assemblages (mostly from Irbid and Amman) for domestic wares. Thus, along with a more quantitative, descriptive study of the structures themselves, I am attempting an examination of the human dimensions these structures represent: labor investments in their construction and maintenance and space utilization along with discernible family dynamics in the context of what we now know about contemporary strategies for subsistence and survival.

The results of this study are many and varied, even if much more work deserves our attention. Of 527 Iron I sites (as listed in JADIS), 50 have been excavated or at least probed. Of these, eight boast certain Iron I domestic remains and another four are likely candidates for the same. An additional 14 might possibly contain domestic remains, but the records are not sufficiently clear to make this judgment with certainty. Five sites contain complete or relatively complete houses.

Painting of "Four-room" House at Tall al-'Umayri. (Artist, Rhonda Root, Andrews University.)

The construction techniques, easily observable at least on the house at Tall al-'Umayri and to some degree elsewhere at sites in Jordan, demonstrate a building style not particularly sophisticated nor aesthetically advanced. The materials required for Iron I domestic houses included stone, wood, reeds, lime plaster and mortar, mudbricks and mud, all demanding extensive investments of time and energy. The combined weight of all the construction components of the house at 'Umayri, determined through specific-gravity calculations, was over 450 tons.

What can we know of normal, everyday life in houses like these? What dynamics of space utilization, family life, population size, gender roles can we discover? It is eminently clear, based on current research on the



early Iron Age, that these houses were domestic in nature. The architectural features and artifactual assemblages indicate a symbiotic economy based on both agrarian and pastoral pursuits. The four-room and pillared houses lent themselves extremely well to this type of economy. Most were likely two-story buildings, the first floor being used for stabling animals, keeping implements, storing food stuffs in the large (often) collared pithoi, perhaps food preparation and, in some cases, textiles endeavors. This is clearly the case with the house at 'Umayri.

The second story would house the family, providing space for sleeping, food preparation and consumption, as well as food storage. It was the "broad room" of the four-room houses that served as the primary storerooms. This is particularly clear in the 'Umayri house, the combined collapse of first- and second-story remains yielding approximately 70 pithoi, along with other domestic ceramic types.

A number of studies have focused on family size and household populations, based on varied criteria, for determining the published estimates available today. These include the number of rooms, the space of covered rooms, the number of living and cooking areas, food storage capacity, etc. I continue to process which of these approaches (or which combination of these approaches) will best represent what we have at the sites where Iron I domestic architecture is found. Likely the four-room houses excavated to this point housed from 6-10 people, probably stretching across parts of three generations.

Ultimately, I hope to produce a monograph (and electronic equivalent) dedicated to the Iron I domestic housing of Jordan that addresses architectural, artifactual and interpretive issues in the context of digitized, three-dimensional renderings of as many of these structures as possible, utilizing some of the sophisticated software currently available.

## **Geoarchaeological Investigations in the Wadi al-Hasa and Similar Paleo-Environmental Settings**

**Nancy R. Coinman**  
*CACOR/AORC Senior Fellow*

Recent geoarchaeological research in the Wadi al-Hasa and similar paleoenvironmental settings elsewhere in Jordan now provides a more comprehensive understanding of local and regional land use and settlement patterns for the late Paleolithic time period. Most Levantine paleolithic scholars have paid little attention to steppe-desert adaptations in the *eastern* deserts of Jordan, and even less to lake and marsh contexts that characterized many of the late Pleistocene environments across this region, concentrating almost exclusively on the western Mediterranean and southern deserts of Israel and Sinai. New data on remnant geological formations and processes associated with Pleistocene lakes, marshes, and springs now contribute to developing a finer-grained landscape chronology of paleoenvironments and associated archaeological sites during the time period of ca. 40,000 to 12,000 BP and new models of man-land relationships that can be examined and tested in future geoarchaeological research. Information on Pleistocene lakes in Jordan reflects the more geographically widespread nature of these paleoenvironments during this time period and establishes a more representative assessment of the regional Levantine landscape, these ecological niches, and the paleolithic sites associated with them.

Research funded by a ACOR/CAORC Senior Fellowship was directed at an extended focus on the Pleistocene geological record in the Wadi al-Hasa, followed by

comparative studies of Pleistocene lake sediments reported for other areas in Jordan, including Jerf ad-Darawish, Al-Jafr Basin, Azraq, Wadi Gharandal, Wadi Siq (north of Petra), and the Wadi Hammeh. The well-documented Pleistocene lakes in the area of Palmyra, Syria and those in the Wadi Feiran of southern Sinai were examined, as well. The goals of the research were to provide a revised geographic overview and a more synthetic model of the evidence for lake/marsh ecological settings in the greater Levant for the purpose of better understanding how human groups articulated with a mosaic of landscapes at the end of the Pleistocene. Since these environmental landscapes disappeared about 12,000 years ago, it would be instructive to recover and reconstruct what served as dynamic geographic backdrops for the evolving hunter-gatherer societies during the waning stages of the last great Ice Age. At a more specific archaeological level, a better understanding of the paleoenvironment provides a greater appreciation for the organizational relationships between human settlement patterns, subsistence strategies, and associated technologies. Locational data collection on geological sedimentary sequences and on geoarchaeological site contexts and evaluations of paleolithic sites has integrated GPS (Global Positioning Systems) data with GIS (Geographic Information Systems) computer applications to produce distributional maps in which archaeological and geological data appear against a variety of background maps, including topographic, geological formations, satellite imagery, and geo-political maps.

## **The Politics of Promoting Eco-Development to Sustain Nature Conservation in Jordan and the Middle East**

**John Creed**  
*ACOR/CAORC Fellow*

Since the early 1990s, Jordan has redoubled its efforts to establish a coherent network of nature reserves designed to protect all of the country's major types of vegetation and provide habitat to preserve many threatened plant and animal species. This work, conducted by the Jordanian non-governmental organization (NGO) the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), is attempting to merge biodiversity protection with programs that address the economic and social needs of human communities living in and around protected spaces with an eye toward promoting sustainable development in these areas.

In several respects, the approach to integrated conservation-development projects prevailing in Jordan is potentially path breaking, both with respect to this new model of conservation and in the context of the Arab world. Preliminary work by the RSCN has focused on creating viable small business enterprises at different reserve sites, including eco-tourism, that exclusively employ local residents in order to economically connect communities to the new reserves and deter people from unsustainably exploiting resources for their livelihoods. The flagship effort at Dana has already successfully employed more than 50 people in a number of positions, including guiding tours, farming organically and manufacturing crafts under the label "helping nature, helping people." The "Dana approach" is now being modified and applied to several other sites throughout the country.

These initiatives have also underscored the need for more

conservation and development expertise within the RSCN and spawned a dramatic change in the organization institutionally. In recent years, the RSCN has abandoned its "top-down" management approach and replaced it with a team-oriented organizational culture that encourages local supervision of projects, as well as strategic planning, innovation and self-reflection throughout the organization. The RSCN's capacity in areas of conservation and economic development has expanded significantly and now it is beginning to share its expertise with others in the Arab world through the creation of an interactively oriented Regional Training Center.

This research project is focused on examining whether the Jordanian plan to integrate conservation and development, with its preliminary focus on socio-economic development for surrounding communities, can go beyond the initial goal of increasing local support for conservation and create a successful and sustainable system of community-based natural resource management in the reserves, where local residents themselves control and manage conservation efforts. In addition, research is directed on the dynamics of the RSCN's internal capacity-building processes and the future diffusion effects these efforts might have on other Jordanian environmental institutions and the larger community of Arab non-governmental organizations focused on biodiversity conservation.

## **The Virtues of Cities in Late Antiquity and Islam**

**William R. Darrow**  
*ACOR/CAORC Senior Fellow*

Much work has been done in the past few decades in setting the coming of Islam in the context of Late Antiquity, thus resisting the tendency of Islamic sources to see an absolute new beginning and the tendency of the non-Islamic sources to see an

unmitigated catastrophe. A careful study of the cultural transformations is made difficult by the disinterest in most of our written sources in such questions, but also by the fact that we have not clarified how some of the central concepts we need to make such a study were themselves reconfigured and transformed. This study is an attempt to outline some of those processes with a geographical focus limited primarily to the Bilad al-Sham up to the end of the Umayyads. Taking the notion of city as starting point, this study seeks to elaborate the physical, social and conceptual transformations undergone by the notion of city and therefore civic identity from the Late Antique to the Islamic periods. The connection between city and sacrality is central, but the notion of sacrality also was undergoing important transformations. Sacrality had come to be placed primarily in bodies, especially those of holy men, but ideally of all human beings in late antiquity. This location of sacrality posed the problem of the appropriateness of its representation, which was played out in versions of the iconoclastic controversies of this era. More importantly Islam saw the relocation of sacrality in three areas. The first is that of "sacrifice," which in one respect recovered an old notion that both Christianity and Judaism had rejected, though for very different reasons. However, the sacrifice that Islam recovered was not that of offering to the divine, but rather one fully ethicized and made the hallmark of charitable responsibility within the virtuous city. Second, sacrality was placed fully in text. If bodies were to be holy it was because they "contained" the text and the work of its interpretation. In this Islam followed closely a similar move made by Rabbinic Judaism and developed the centrality of the hermeneutic enterprise as the basis for religious authority. Finally, Islam continued the process of placing sacrality in locations of religious memory, building on the already developed Christian (and perhaps Jewish) notions of holy places of pilgrimage.

Especially central to this was the special place of the city of Jerusalem in this period and the apocalyptic expectations that grew out of this particular place.

## **The Circulation of Ceramic Commodities in Iron Age Central Transjordan**

**Benjamin Porter**  
*ACOR/CAORC Fellow*

Previous archaeological and historical investigations demonstrate that Iron Age Moab did not evolve from a kinship structured tribal society to a politically and economically integrated territorial state, a trajectory that social evolutionary models would predict. Finding traditional approaches unsatisfying then, how is it possible to explore social change in this ancient society? My research investigates Moabite society through an examination into the circulation of ceramic commodities over space and time. By identifying how ceramic objects were produced, exchanged, and consumed throughout Moab's existence, it is possible to make broader statements on the character of Moabite society and explore the dynamics that transformed it over time.

My investigation analyses ceramic evidence from two excavated sites in Central Transjordan using petrographic and Instrumental Neutron Activation (INA) analyses. First, Iron Age I ceramics are drawn from the University of Pennsylvania's Khirbat Mudayna al-'Aliya (KMA) excavations, under the direction of Dr. Bruce Routledge. KMA is a typical late Iron Age I village located near the Wadi Mujib. Second, Iron Age II ceramic evidence is examined from the late William H. Morton's 1955, 1956, and 1965 excavations at Dhiban (Dibon). Ceramic thin sections are first examined to gain a preliminary understanding of the diversity in raw

materials. From this information, sherds are selected for INA analysis.

Two additional data sets compliment this Central Transjordan ceramic sample group. In order to increase this investigation's analytical scales, ceramic samples are collected from well-excavated Iron Age contexts in the study region. These samples will permit an examination of the Moabite ceramic economy at the regional level, illustrating the relationship between the principal sites of KMA and Dhiban, and settlements in their vicinity. In addition, clay samples from the study region are collected for INA analysis to identify the source of ceramic commodities' raw materials. The entire sample group will be analyzed at Missouri's University Research Reactor (MURR) in the Fall of 2003.

My research places the analytical distinctions between production, exchange, and consumption practices under scrutiny to encourage a new understanding of material culture and value in archaeological research. Variations in these practices over time can point to larger social transformations, from the development of bureaucracies that reorganize local economies to new cultural expressions of social status. The methodology outlined above will allow for an investigation into these variations. For example, can we say with certainty that ceramic production grew increasingly specialized during the Iron Age? Are particular vessels produced for and consumed by elites and does the production of vessels emulating these restricted forms develop in response? Most importantly, what historical, political, and economic forces are producing these new circulation practices in Moabite society?

The manner in which individuals make, obtain, and use objects varies over time, creating a volatile relationship between humans and objects. Value is an important force driving material culture's circulation through society. Broadly considered, value is a culturally assigned quality determined by the meanings that things embody and the functions they

perform. Value is that compelling force that draws us to make and consume objects, or that cultural knowledge we possess that helps us to determine one thing's exchangeability for another. But ironically, cultural knowledge rarely remains fixed, and our ability to calculate an object's value is far from consistent. My research recognizes the dynamic force of value and will investigate its contribution to human-object relations in Iron Age Moab.

## **Neolithic Rescue Archaeology in Jordan**

**Gary O. Rollefson**  
**ACOR/CAORC Senior Fellow**

Research during my ACOR-CAORC fellowship tenure focused on three Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic B (LPPNB) settlements in Jordan: AWS 102 in the Azraq Wetlands Reserve in the oasis area of eastern Jordan; al-Bast in Wadi Musa; and 'Ayn Jammam on the western Ras en-Naqb escarpment.

The research objective for AWS 102, a small hunting-pastoral camp in the desert, was to retrieve two skeletons that were found emerging from a silt dune. Because of the rarity of Neolithic burials outside the agricultural area to the west, these skeletons held some promise for investigating the relationship of western and eastern populations and their possible contributions to the development of pastoral nomadism. However, instead of two skeletons, the site yielded seven, including one adult and six children below the age of six years. The group was not Neolithic in age, but evidently a recent Bedouin family who evidently suffered a catastrophic epidemic sometime around the beginning of the 20th century or later.

For the last two sites, which were excavated by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities during the mid- to late 1990s, the fellowship provided the opportunity to analyze typologically and technologically

more than 11,600 chipped stone and ground stone artifacts, and small finds at ACOR in Amman. In addition, architectural features and stratigraphic information was documented in the field at both sites. Tools at both sites were dominated by projectile points, drills, and knives. Representative samples of tools and small finds were photographed and have been consigned for drawing. Animal bones from 'Ayn Jammam were shipped to the United States for analysis in the 2002-2003 academic year. All of this research concerning these two LPPNB "megasites" (each was ca. 8 hectares in area) represents the first stage in the eventual publication of a final report on the excavations, which is viewed as a combined volume to appear in the Freie Universität of Berlin *Ex Oriente* Neolithic series in approximately two years.

## **The Palaeography of Iron Age Ammonite Inscriptions from Jordan**

**Christopher A. Rollston**  
**NEH Fellow**

Various Iron Age Semitic inscriptions have been found in Jordan during recent decades. Some of these are written in the Ammonite and Aramaic languages. Although it is readily apparent that the Ammonite language is distinct from Aramaic (and from other Northwest Semitic languages), there has been substantial discussion within the secondary literature regarding the script employed to write the Ammonite language. Frank Moore Cross, for example, has argued that the Ammonite script became independent of the Aramaic script (from which it derived) during Iron II, and evolved into a national script. Joseph Naveh, however, has argued that the Ammonite script never became an independent national script. Rather, he argues that the script of Ammonite inscriptions is always the Aramaic



script. The goal of my research was to analyze the script used to write in Ammonite, to describe the diachronic evolution of the script used to write Ammonite, and to determine if this script should actually be considered an independent national script.

During my four month residency at the American Center of Oriental Research, I collated scores of provenanced Iron Age Ammonite and Aramaic inscriptions in Jordan. In addition to using traditional methods (e.g., use of a 10x loupe for magnification), I also employed a stereo-microscope (with 20x–40x magnification), something that was especially effective for reading and analyzing the script and readings of seals and seal impressions. Most of the collations were conducted at the Amman Archaeological Museum, however, I also traveled to various regional museums as well, such as the University of Jordan Archaeological Museum, the Madaba Museum, the Kerak Museum, the Salt Archaeological Museum, and the Deir Alla Archaeological Station. Moreover, because of the importance of comparative palaeographic analysis, I traveled to Lebanon and collated Phoenician and Aramaic inscriptions there.

During my fellowship, I arranged for Bruce Zuckerman and Marilyn Lundberg of the West Semitic Research Project to travel to the region in order to take large format photographs (4" x 5") of the targeted inscriptions. This was very successful and these images will ultimately be scanned on a high resolution drum scanner, so that I will be able to begin to analyze the digital data, and to draw the inscriptions digitally, as part of his continuing research. My research on Iron Age scripts and inscriptions will be published in various places, including a lengthy article in a *Festschrift* honoring Harvard Professor Frank Moore Cross (forthcoming, Eisenbrauns).

## **Crusader and Ottoman Heritage Presentation in Jordan – Al-Karak and As-Salt**

**Sandra Arnold Scham**  
***ACOR/CAORC Senior Fellow***

Salt and Karak, though their primary attractions are from periods some seven hundred years apart, have some historical characteristics in common. Both places were traditionally known as towns where Muslims and Christians in Jordan peacefully co-existed. Both are sites of medieval castles (Salt's has all but disappeared). Both were populated in Ottoman times by successive waves of people from elsewhere and both were contenders (Salt successfully) for the capital of the new nation of Jordan for a brief period of time.

Karak was one of the first archaeological sites to be developed by the Department of Antiquities of Jordan in 1925. Unlike Karak, however, Salt is an historical site, but not an archaeological one. What is on view and what is of interest at Salt was essentially not recovered or restored. Salt is not only a model of an older Arab city, but it is also an important symbol of Jordan's history. Only recently, however, has it been examined as a potential tourist site and its businesses are largely unrelated to the tourist industry with the exception of the Salt Handicraft Center.

Both Salt and Karak have been the subjects of planning for many years. The "Historic Old Salt" project has as its main objective the creation of a "wholly new" tourism resource that will broaden the tourist perspective in Jordan to include sites other than antiquities. For Karak, the model project has, as its main objective, the enhancement of a current tourism resource. The plans are being implemented despite the dismal tourism situation in Jordan today. Karak is undergoing a controversial structural renovation to make it more safe and accessible and the museum

projects in both the Karak and Salt are underway.

Sustainable tourism is important to Jordanian heritage, as most professionals in the country clearly recognize, but the approaches to this goal are still fragmentary here as elsewhere. Competent conservationists struggle to make sites authentic – within their understanding of the term and planners struggle to make the sites successful in economic terms. Sites, however, communicate certain values whether planned or not. Karak is a site that is not really culturally integrated into its local and regional cultural surroundings. Efforts to make the site speak more to Arab history will be a step in the right direction, but the site still lacks cultural coherence to the town. Salt may be more of a success story in terms of local participation as well as cultural relevance and coherence, but it is unlikely to achieve stature as a major tourist destination unless it can somehow communicate its local values cross-culturally even while maintaining them.

The focus on Salt and its local history at the new Visitor's Center and Museum has the potential for creating such a link, but it is difficult to achieve this kind of effect in a museum setting. Original plans that adversely affected business owners and residents of Salt have been ameliorated by the active intervention of Jordanian professionals and community members, but, thus far, there have been no similar activities undertaken at Karak. From its beginnings, Karak has been looked at by Jordanians as alien – foreign built, foreign excavated, and foreign restored. Although the fact that it is now a Jordanian site related to one of Salahdin's major victories must give some satisfaction to those who know its history. A tour guide at Karak echoes this sentiment when he says, "The Crusaders – they came as invaders, the Romans came as invaders, in Hellenistic times also. The big powers everywhere – they look to their own interests, but did leave something behind for us in these places." The goal of heritage

professionals should be, similarly, to “leave something behind” in terms of the development of sites.

## Transmission of Musical Heritage: Youth Education in Arab Music at the National Music Conservatory, Amman, Jordan

**Anne Elise Thomas**  
**ACOR/CAORC Fellow**

Amman was named by UNESCO to be the “Cultural Capital of the Arab World” in 2002, and throughout the city cultural and artistic events have been held in honor of this year-long occasion. While Jordan’s historical sites have gained recognition in recent years, Amman’s reputation as a center for the performing and creative arts is yet to be built. Helping to provide a solid foundation for the development of these are a number of recently-established institutions for the arts.

My project focuses on one of these institutions, the Noor al-Hussein National Music Conservatory, founded in 1986, and its role in the transmission of Arab classical music in Amman. This research, supported by an ACOR/CAORC fellowship, will form the basis for my Ph.D. dissertation in ethnomusicology from Brown University. Using a variety of ethnographic techniques, including interviews, questionnaires, and participant-observation, I have observed and documented the teaching and learning of Arab music within the conservatory.

Currently, there are not many students of Arab music at the NMC. Out of a total enrollment of about 250 students, only about 10 percent are focusing on Arab music – the rest are studying the performance, history, and theory of Western art music. This ratio reflects the degree of prestige that Western classical music enjoys among higher-income Amman residents – the segment of the city’s population most directly served by the conservatory.

Course offerings in Arab music at the conservatory include the theory, history, and sight-singing of Arab music as well as a course on the *muwashshahat*, a repertoire of classical Arabic songs originating in *al-Andalus* in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Most of the Arab music students also take private lessons on an Arab instrument – the *oud* (the Arab predecessor of the lute) or the *qanun* (78-stringed Arab zither).

Until the early to mid-twentieth century, the teaching and learning of Arab music was rooted in oral transmission. Western musical notation was adapted to Arab music beginning in the nineteenth century and gained popularity in the twentieth, particularly in the region’s conservatories. Currently, written musical notation is used extensively in the Arab music curriculum at the NMC. Students are expected to master fundamentals of Western music first, including the major and minor scales and key signatures, to equip them for the systematic study of Arab music theory.

Elements of oral transmission are still in evidence, however. Sakkher Hatter, who teaches the course on the *muwashshahat*, presents these songs through performance rather than on paper. In private lessons, students use written notation to learn the basic melody of a piece, but performance details, such as ornamentation and techniques idiomatic to each instrument, are taught orally.

I am continuing my dissertation research in 2002–2003 in Cairo, Egypt, in order to compare Arab music education at conservatories there with the NMC in Amman. Through this research, I hope to document processes at work the contemporary transmission of Arab music as well as encourage the continued involvement of young people in this musical tradition.

## And the Award Goes To ... The 2002 ASOR Honorees

The Richard Scheuer Medal: This is the most prestigious award which honors an individual who has provided truly outstanding, long term support and service contributions to ASOR. **Recipient in 2002: Walter Rast**

The W. F. Albright Award. This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers ACOR, AIAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees – the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee. **Recipients in 2002: Andrew Oliver, Robert Haak**

The P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award. This award honors an archaeologist who, during his/her career, has made outstanding contributions to ancient Near Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean archaeology. **Recipient in 2002: Elizabeth C. Stone**

The G. Ernest Wright Award. This award is given to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) dealing with archaeological material, excavation reports and material culture from the ancient Near East and eastern Mediterranean. This work must be the result of original research published within the past two years. **Recipient in 2002: Edward F. Campbell, Jr.**

The Frank Moore Cross Award. This award is presented to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) related to ancient Near Eastern and eastern Mediterranean epigraphy, text and/or tradition. This work must be the result of original research published during the past two years. **Recipient in 2002: Ehud Netzer**

ASOR Membership Service Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made special contributions on behalf of the ASOR membership, through committee, editorial, or office services. **Recipient in 2002: Harold O. Forshey**

# C O N F E R E N C E C A L E N D A R

## February 20–22, 2003

**Official Religion of the Upper Classes and Popular Religions of Ethnic Population Groups. Anatolia and its Neighbours in the 2nd and Early 1st Millennia BCE.** Religionswissenschaftliches Seminar, University of Bonn, Germany. Contact: Prof. Dr. Manfred Hutter, Adenauerallee 4-6, D-53113 Bonn, Fax: ++49-228-737531. Email: mhutter@uni-bonn.de

## March 2003

**Ancient Textiles, Production, Craft and Society.** Copenhagen, Denmark/Lund, Sweden. Themes: Textiles in Practice—techniques, technologies and tools; other cross-disciplinary studies including scientific analyses; experimental archaeology and practical demonstrations; Textiles in Society—craftsmen and craftsmanship; production and its role in society; written evidence and economic factors. Contact: Eva Andersson, Dept. of Archaeology, Sandg., Lund, Sweden eva.andersson@ark.lu.se or Carole Gillis, Dept of Classical Studies, Solveg. 2, S-223 62 Lund, Sweden carole.gillis@klass.lu.se.

## March 20–23, 2003

**The Fifth Bi-Annual Conference in Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity.** The University of California, Santa Barbara. Theme: "Violence, Victims and Vindication in Late Antiquity." Contact: Prof. H. A. Drake, Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410. Email: drake@history.ucsb.edu.

## March 28–31, 2003

**American Oriental Society Annual Meeting.** DoubleTree, Nashville, TN. Contact: www.umich.edu/~aos/

## April 3–6, 2003

**Egypt and Cyprus in Antiquity.** Nicosia, Cyprus. Sponsored by the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI), and the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU) of the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Cyprus. Contact: Mrs. Vassiliki Demetriou; email: vasiliki@ucy.ac.cy; tel. (357-2) 674658/674702; fax. (357-2) 674101. Archaeological Research Unit (ARU), University of Cyprus, P.O.Box 20537, CY-1678 Nicosia, Cyprus.

## June 11–17, 2003

**Fifth World Archaeological Congress.** The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. Sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and National Museum of the American Indian. Contact: www.american.edu/wac5.

## July 7–11, 2003

**49th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale. Theme: Nineveh.** On the occasion of the British Museum's 250th anniversary the London Centre for the Ancient Near East, acting for the British Museum and colleges of the University of London, takes pleasure in inviting scholars to convene for RAI 49 at the British Museum. The Rencontre will be meeting in London (and indeed in Britain) for the first time in twenty-one years. Contact: www.let.leidenuniv.nl/rencontre/RAI\_2003.html

## July 19–25, 2003

**The International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature,** in conjunction with the Society for Old Testament Studies and the Oudtestamentisch Werkgezelschap. Cambridge, England. Contact: www.sbl-site.org

## August 16–18, 2003

**The First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia.** Tehran. Sponsored by the Office of Deputy Minister for Cultural Affairs at the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance. Deadline for paper submissions: January 21, 2003. Contact: Secretariat of the First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. 1178 Enqelab Ave. between Felestin St. and South St. 3rd Fl. Postal area

code : 1315773411, Tehran, IRAN. Tel.: + 98 21 641 52 62. Fax : + 98 21 641 54 98. E-mail : contact@ficiwa.org

## August 23–26, 2003

**Common Ground. Archaeology, Art, Science, and Humanities.** The XVI International Congress of Classical Archaeology of the Associazione Internazionale di Archeologia Classica (AIAC), hosted by the Ancient Art Department of the Harvard University Art Museums, Cambridge, MA. Contact: Amy Brauer, e-mail: AIAC2003@fas.harvard.edu. Tel: 617-495-3393 32; Fax: 617-495-5506.

## February 8, 2003

**A Symposium on Ancient Near Eastern Astronomy.** A joint symposium of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities and The Canadian Society for Mesopotamian Studies. This event will deal with astronomy in Egypt and the Near East from the Bronze Age to the Graeco-Roman Period. The symposium will be held at the Medical Sciences Auditorium, 1 King's College Circle, Main, University of Toronto Campus, Toronto, Ont. Canada. Email contact: the\_ssea@yahoo.ca or ssea@bigfoot.com

## February 21–23, 2003

**Midwest States.** Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI. ASOR Contact: Mark W. Chavalas, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, La Crosse, WI 54601. Tel. (608) 784-8360. Email: chavalas.mark@uwlax.edu.

## March 13–14, 2003

**ASOR Mid-Atlantic States Regional Meeting.** Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ. ASOR contact: Peter Feinman, Institute of History, PO Box 41, Purchase, NY 10577.

## March 14–16, 2003

**Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion (SECSOR) Meeting.** Chattanooga Clarion Hotel. ASOR contact: Tom McCollough, Centre College, Danville, KY 40422. Email: mccollg@centre.edu.

## March 27–28, 2003

**7th Annual Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations Graduate Students' Symposium.** To be held at the University of Toronto. Contact: Heather Snow, Symposium Coordinator, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, 4 Bancroft Avenue University of Toronto Ontario, Canada M5S 1C1. E-mail: hsnow@chass.utoronto.ca. Web: nmcgsa.sa.utoronto.ca. Tel: 416-787-2130. Fax: 416-978-3305.

## April 6–7, 2003

**ASOR Central States Regional Meeting.** Holiday Inn, Westport, St. Louis, MO. ASOR contact: Victor H. Matthews, Southwest Missouri State University. Email: vhm970f@smsu.edu. Web: www.sbl-site.org/Regions/CentralStates.html

## April 10–11, 2003

**ASOR Eastern Great Lakes Regional Meeting.** Marriott Courtyard Ambassador Conference Center, Erie, PA. Suzanne Richard, Gannon University, Box 3161, Erie, PA 16541. Email: richard@gannon.edu

## April 25–27, 2003

**ASOR Pacific Northwest Regional Meeting.** University of Idaho, Moscow, ID. ASOR contact: Douglas R. Clark, Walla Walla College, 204 South College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324. Email: clardo@wwc.edu. Web: www.wwc.edu/pnw.

## May 2, 2003

**ASOR New England Regional Meeting.** Andover-Newton Theological School, Newton, MA. Contact: www.sbl-site.org/Regions/NewEngland/NE\_HomePage.html

## November 6–8, 2003

**Transeuphratene in the Persian Period: Powers, Societies and Religions.** Institut Catholique, Paris. Contact: Secretary of the 6th International Conference, Institut Protestant de Theologie de Paris, 83 boulevard Arago, 75014 Paris, France (iptparis@wanadoo.fr). E-mail: elayij@mediatechnix.com. Web: www.mediatechnix.com/transeuphratene/

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