



COMMITTEE ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL POLICY 2006 TOUR

Burton MacDonald, CAP Chair

The American Center of Oriental Research reception on June 6 in honor of Pierre and Patricia Bikai on their retirement from the directorship of ACOR and the introduction of Barbara Porter and Christopher Tuttle as the new ACOR director and assistant director, respectively, provided me with the opportunity to meet with many of the directors of archaeological projects that are ASOR/CAP affiliated. The reception took place while I was in Jordan carrying out the second season of "The Ayl to Ras an-Naqb Archaeological Survey, Southern Jordan." During the reception and the following day I was able to meet with a number of dig directors who were either in the field or working on some aspect of their research while in Jordan.

Tom Parker, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, was delighted to show me his just published, two-volume work on "The Limes Arabicus Project," which involved work at the Roman period sites of al-Lajjun, Qasr Bshir, and Da`janiya between 1980 and 1989. He now turns his attention to the publication of his completed "The Roman `Aqaba Project," which involved the excavation of the Roman site of Ayla at al-`Aqaba in southern Jordan.

John Oleson, University of Victoria, BC, had several reasons for being in Jordan this spring. Not only was he attending the ACOR Board of Trustees meeting in Amman, but he was also opening the exhibit on Humayma at the al-`Aqaba Archaeological Museum and finishing up the photographic and informational exhibition in the new Visitor's Center at the site itself. All this is part of his work on site development at Humayma.

Jerry Rose, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and his associate director Doris Burke were in Jordan engaged in their research on the "Bioarchaeology of Northern Jordan," in cooperation with Yarmuk University. Although they had completed field work before I had the opportunity to meet with



The Late Bronze Age palace at Khirbat al-Mudayna on the Wadi ath-Thamad.

them in the field, I was able to see them on June 6 and chat with them about their project.

Martha Joukowsky, Brown University, Providence, RI, was also at ACOR for several reasons, one of which was to begin another field season at the Petra Great Temple. She was actually just beginning her field work as I was completing mine.

During May and June I met with Mike Neeley, Montana State University, Bozeman, and Jane Peterson, Marquette University, Milwaukee, on two occasions at their base camp in Busayra. At the time of my visits, they were carrying out the first season of their work on "The Development of Agricultural Communities in West-Central Jordan." Field activities consisted of mapping and test excavations at two Late Natufian sites ("Tafila-Busayra Archaeological Survey" Sites 102 and 212) in Wadi Juheira and the Pre-Pottery Neolithic site of Kh. al-Hammam along the south bank of Wadi al-Hasa.

Update on Recent Developments in Membership, October 4, 2006

Tammi J. Schneider,
Vice President for Membership

DEAR ASOR MEMBERS,

Over the past months I have sent out a few notes highlighting what the Executive Committee has been doing. In this note I would like to emphasize again some of the recent accomplishments of ASOR and thank those of you who have helped make much of this happen.

It has been brought to my attention that not everyone may know who now constitutes the Executive Committee. Because of ASOR's precarious financial situation last year the new Officers were not elected at the November Board of Trustees meeting but instead were appointed at the February meeting of the Executive Committee and then elected at the May meeting of the Board. ASOR's officers are now: P. E. MacAllister, Chairman of the Board; Eric Meyers, President; Eric Cline, Vice President of Governance; Tammi J. Schneider, Vice President of Membership; Lawrence T. Geraty, Past President; Jim Strange, Secretary; and B. W. Ruffner, Treasurer. B. W. Ruffner has since been named as interim dean of the University of Tennessee Medical School and will step down as Treasurer effective January 1, 2007. We are pleased that B. W. will remain on the ASOR board, and he will be replaced as treasurer by Sheldon Fox, a CPA from Durham, NC. There have also been changes to the Executive Committee. That body consists of the Officers and Andy Vaughn, Chair, Committee on Publications; Burton MacDonald, Chair, Committee on Archaeological Policy; Rachel Hallote, Chair, Committee on Annual Meeting and Program; and Ann Killebrew, Interim Chair of Development. The Web site includes the list of all ASOR's committees as well as the members of each committee. Without the help of those on all the committees, ASOR simply would not work, so thank all of you for your time and expertise.

ASOR's big news is our financial situation. ASOR is in the black! We

ended last year in the black, and our budget for this year, though lean, means we will continue to be in the black. The Executive Committee is committed to ensuring that ASOR's financial stability remains stable and strong. Our financial progress, to a large extent, is due to some of our major donors, including P. E. MacAllister, Dick Scheur, and the Joukowskys. During the past year ASOR's membership has been extremely supportive, and we received financial contributions from many who had not given in the past. For all the gifts to ASOR this past fiscal year, THANK YOU!

ASOR members were also generous this past year in raising funds to bring NEA up to date. Ann Killebrew spearheaded this campaign, and her relentlessness led to the campaign's tremendous success. University of Notre Dame helped with ASOR's success with its Challenge Grant, whereby if ASOR could raise \$25,000 from institutional sources, they would meet it. Thanks are therefore due to those institutions that contributed to meeting that challenge, including Andrews University, Carroll College, Christian Theological Seminary, Claremont Graduate University, Emory University, George Washington University, Institute for Aegean Prehistory (Temple University), LaSierra University, and Mississippi State. A special thank you to the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, which appeared at the end and was particularly generous.

ASOR's publications are another great source of pride to the organization. NEA should be up to date by the middle of 2007. BASOR continues to be one of the most influential journals on our topic in the world. JCS is known not only for its fine quality but for being one of the few journals on Assyriology in this country. None of this could have happened without the skill and expertise of our editors: Piotr Michalowski (JCS), Sandra Scham (NEA), and James Weinstein (BASOR). While last year ASOR lost the staff from the Atlanta office, all of those employees continued to help ASOR through the transition,

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ASOR Newsletter, Spring/Summer 2006

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Of course, my own project, "The Ayl to Ras an-Naqb Archaeological Survey, Southern Jordan" is ASOR/CAP affiliated. The second season of work from May 10–June 20 resulted in the "discovery" of 115 sites so that the total number of sites after two seasons of work is 324. In addition, survey team members surveyed 83 random squares, chosen on the basis of Geographic Information Systems database, in three topographical zones, in the territory to the south of Petra as far as the edge of the escarpment at Ras an-Naqb.

Following my own field work I had the opportunity, along with Larry Herr, former Chair of ASOR's Committee on Publications, to visit a number of sites in Jordan. First, we visited Michele Daviau, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON at Kh. al-Mudayna in Wadi ath-Thamad. She and her team are excavating, on the top of the tell, the Iron II remains, including the gate area. In addition, she is investigating a Nabataean building to the northeast of the tell.

Work on the Tall Madaba Archaeological Project, under the directorship of Tim Harrison and his associate directors Debbie Foran and Andrew Graham, all of the University of Toronto, resumed field work this spring/summer. The work involves the excavation and clearing of a Byzantine villa (?) at the edge of the tell and excavation of Iron II and late Iron I remains on the tell.

Sten LaBianca, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, was in Jordan while I was there. He talked enthusiastically about the reconstruction work being done at Tall Hisban and carried out under the direction of Maria Elena Ronza. My visit to the site helped me understand his enthusiasm. The present work there involves cleaning up the tell and consolidating and reconstructing previously excavated remains from the Iron I, Iron II, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Ayyubid, and Mamluk periods. In addition, signs are being put up throughout the site indicating to visitors the different architectural features represented. As mentioned in my CAP report for 2005, the U.S. Ambassador's Fund grant is providing the financial resources for the work as well as for that of the consolidation of the Pre-Pottery

Neolithic village of al-Ghuwayr in Wadi Faynan—under the directorship of A. Simmons and M. Najjar.

Although Larry Herr, Canadian University College, Lacombe, AB, had not as yet begun field work, it was not possible for him to pass by Tall al-Umayri without visiting it with me. This season, along with his co-director, Doug Clark, La Sierra University, Riverside, CA, the team will be investigating a number of areas on the tell that relate to the Late Bronze and Iron Age periods. I am grateful for Larry's accompaniment during my visits to several sites in Jordan.

Although neither Suzanne Richard, Gannon University, Erie, PA, nor Jesse Long, Lubbock Christian University, Lubbock, TX, were at Kh. Iskanidar this season, I had the occasion to talk with two of their co-workers, namely, Bill Libby and Hank Squires, about reconstruction and survey work at the site.

While at ACOR, I had several conversations with Barbara Porter about ASOR and CAP. Barbara is an ex-officio member of CAP, and I look forward to her contribution to its work.

It is always a delight to visit Cyprus and spend some time at CAARI. On my arrival there in June I had a fruitful conversation with the director, Tom Davis, about his involvement in CAP and the relationship between CAARI and ASOR. He was particularly interested in speaking about the six archaeological projects in Cyprus that are ASOR/CAP affiliated.

On June 24, I attended "The 24th Annual CAARI Archaeological Workshop in Collaboration with the Dept. of Antiquities Cyprus" that T. Davis moderated. The one-day workshop is an opportunity for archaeologists in Cyprus to come together and share their most recent findings. It is fast-paced, but it allows participants to meet with col-

leagues and discuss all aspects of Cypriote archaeology.

After introductory remarks by Davis, for CAARI, and Marina Solomidou-Ieronymidou, for Pavlos Flourentzos, Director of the Department of Antiquities Cyprus, 18 presentations were made. The directors of ASOR/CAP-affiliated projects reporting were: Alan Simmons (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) – "Ais Yiorkis"; Steve Falconer and Patricia Fall (Arizona State University, Tempe) – "Agrarian Landscape Change at Politiko-Troullia"; Nathan Harper (for D. Parks, Brock University, St. Catherine's, ON) – "Kourion Ama-



Excavation of Area 9000 at the Roman fort at Yotvata, Israel.

thus Gate Cemetery"; and R. Scott, W. Caraher, and D. Pettigrew (Indiana University of Pennsylvania) – "The Pyla-Koutsopetria Archaeological Project."

During the day and at the garden party at CAARI that evening I had the chance to meet with most of the participants, both directors of ASOR/CAP-affiliated projects as well as others who have an interest in ASOR/CAP. Of special interest was my conversation with Ian Todd and Alison South about the progress on the publication of their "Vasilikos Valley Project."

The following day Tom took me to visit the site of Falconer's and Fall's project. In addition, although L. Steele had not yet arrived in Cyprus to begin her field work for this season, Tom took me to the site of her field project at Are-diou Vouppes, a possible Late Bronze Age farming settlement located on the northern flanks of the Troodos mountains.

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While at CAARI I visited the site of St. George's Hill, just up the street and across from the center. This gave me the opportunity to speak with Despo Pilides, the director of the work and a staff member of the Department of Antiquities Cy-



Excavation of a whole flask found in situ at the Roman fort at Yotvata, Israel.

prus. I attended her presentations on the site in both 2005 and 2006, and now I was able to see the actual field work!

One of the advantages of visiting any of the in-country institutes is to have the opportunity to meet and discuss ASOR matters with the many graduate students who are working on either their M.A. or Ph.D. degrees and doing their research work at the centers. It is always heartening to learn that many of these students, whether from North America or Europe, will give papers at upcoming ASOR Annual Meetings.

In late June, I made a two-day visit to Syria to meet with Rudy Dornemann and his team at the site of the "Tell Qarqur Excavations," a project that has been affiliated with ASOR/CAP since 1983–1984. Dornemann, former ASOR Executive Director, reports to CAP for the Damascus Committee while his Associate Director, Jesse Casana (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville), is a member of CAP. While continuing to excavate in several fields on both the tell and in the surrounding fields, they are also carrying out geophysical surveys, using magnetic gradiometry and ground penetrating radar, in the same areas.

I had the opportunity to renew acquaintances with many of the Tall Qarqur staff, a large number of whom are either teaching or studying at ASOR institutional members. And it is always wonderful to meet with the many graduate students who make a great deal of the North American involvement in Near Eastern archaeology possible.

In early July, I was in Israel for the third year in a row on ASOR/CAP-related matters. Sy Gitin, Albright Director, is always a wonderful host and has great knowledge of and interest in

ASOR/CAP matters. We spoke in general about CAP and in particular about where its future lies within ASOR. The matters discussed will be addressed at CAP's next meeting, scheduled during the ASOR Annual Meetings in November in Washington, D.C.

Sy and his team of researchers are making great progress on the Tel Migne/Ekron publications, and a number of his field people were at the Albright for the summer to push forward with the work.

Jodi Magness, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Gwyn Davies, Florida International University, had completed their field work at the Roman fort Yotvata, north of Aila, before my arrival. However, I was able to meet with a number of their team who were at the Albright during my stay there.

I visited with Susan Cohen, Montana State University, Bozeman, and her team at Tel Zahara in the north Jordan Valley. The architectural remains at the site are mostly Roman, but it appears that there are Middle Bronze Age graves present as well. The latter are of particular interest to Susan and her team!

My visit to Tel Kedesh in Israel's northeast was not successful. I was not able to find anyone at the segment of the site I visited. Apparently, I had visited the wrong part of the site, and despite my efforts to find someone to give me directions I was unable to locate Sharon Herbert, University of Michigan, Ann

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above and beyond the call of duty. Thus ASOR owes a sincere thank you to Billie Jean Collins, Chris Madell, and Katie Chapple for all their help over the years and especially in this last year. We are also grateful to the good and hard work being done by our current interim publications manager, Trina Arpin.

ASOR cannot rest on its laurels, and growing our membership is one area we are trying to expand. One goal for this year is to bring ten more Institutional Members to the organization. Thus far we would like to welcome, or welcome back, to the Institutional fold: George Washington University, University of LaVerne, and the University of Pennsylvania. There are a few more institutions on the verge of joining, and we encour-

age all to examine the list of "benefits" of Institutional Membership. In particular, we have added a new one that includes ten \$250 fellowships for students presenting papers at the Annual Meeting. I would like to thank Eric and Carol Meyers for their generosity in funding these fellowships. Rules and parameters for future applications to these fellowships will be discussed at the Annual Meeting in the Institution Members meeting and the Institutional Membership Committee meeting.

P. E. MacAllister and Joe Seger have been active in creating new types of membership for those who are interested in archaeology but may not be as concerned about the professional aspects of the organization. Some of the categories

of membership will evolve as a result of modifications in the by-laws that (by the time this letter is published) are available on ASOR's Web site. Steve Ortiz, as chair of the Individual Membership Committee, and his committee will be working on ways of enhancing membership so that ASOR continues to build and serve the needs of its membership.

Our goal is to make the Membership meetings a time when the members can learn more about what is happening in ASOR, provide the Executive Committee with feedback about changes in ASOR, and help us build for the future.

Sincerely,

Tammi J. Schneider
Vice President for Membership ✨

ASOR Newsletter, Spring/Summer 2006



**Join the American Schools of
Oriental Research
this November 15–18, 2006
for our Annual Meeting at the
Capital Hilton, Washington, DC**

Wednesday Plenary Session

**Matthew Bogdanos
(Colonel in the United States Marine Reserves)**

***Thieves of Baghdad:
One Marine's Passion to Recover
the World's Greatest Treasures***

**Friday
Presidential Forum**

Excavating ASOR

This Year's
New Featured Themes:

- * The Incense Trade Route
- * Current Issues in Palestinian Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Management
- * The Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age at Megiddo and the North
- * Archaeology of Lebanon
- * The Bioarchaeology of the Near East and Eastern Mediterranean

Forty-two Paper and five Workshop Sessions on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East from Prehistoric Times to the Ottoman Era.

- Iraq
- Syria
- Cyprus
- Iran
- Israel
- Jordan
- Turkey
- Arabia

Also of note:

- Junior Scholars Luncheon with a discussion about open and accessible scholarly communication in Near Eastern Studies.
- A public lecture at the Smithsonian on Thursday night about recent archaeological discoveries in Jerusalem.
- Teachers Workshop on daily life and trade in the ancient Near East, focusing on the Bronze and Iron Age periods.

See you in Washington, DC!

For more information and updates, visit our website at www.asor.org/AM/am.htm

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

 Eric Meyers, ASOR President

DEAR ASOR MEMBER:

Our Annual Meeting in Washington this year turns out to be one of the most important ones in recent years. A number of crucial issues will come before us that will chart ASOR's course for the near future and perhaps longer term. I think you will have to agree that your new leadership team through **Tammi Schneider** (Vice President for Membership) and myself has made every effort to keep you well informed through electronic mailings and other means of communication. Everyone on the Board and each officer is committed to having a full and open dialogue with you on the future course of our society, which for so long has served as the epicenter for all major discussions and announcements of scientific breakthroughs in Near Eastern archaeology. While ASOR's Management Committee (MC) has been working assiduously on keeping in close touch with the Boston office staff and riding herd on a very tight budget, it has not been easy with the current group located in so many different places. As of this writing the MC is composed of yours truly, **P. E. MacAllister**, **Joe Seger**, and **Andy Vaughn**, who recently replaced B. W. Ruffner as our official liaison to the Boston office. In this vein, I am pleased to announce that Andy will take a leave of absence from his position at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota after this semester and will serve as Interim Executive Director from January 1 to June 30, 2007. In view of the uncertainties facing ASOR with respect to our lease status at Boston University and in terms of our shaky budgetary situation, the MC in consultation with the Board is unable to do more than this at the moment. As the smoke clears in the spring, hopefully ASOR will be able to plan for a permanent solution to its management problems. In this connection Andy has offered to step down as head of ASOR Publications for the short term so that he will not have any conflict of interest issues and also so that he will be able to resume that post in FY 08 if he chooses to do so.

As you can see ASOR is in a real period of transition, and we have the unique opportunity now to solve some of its long-term problems. Some of these have come to your attention already and concern the rewriting of the bylaws, which has been done under the expert leadership of **Eric Cline** of George Washington University (Vice President for Governance). The changes are intended to enable ASOR to better accomplish its goals in every area and to make it possible for the society to react and solve issues and problems that are



time dependent. The membership only meets once a year and the Board twice a year, and the Executive Committee has been meeting four times a year. The MC has been meeting weekly now for almost a year, and it is this kind of leadership that can only be assumed by a full-time Executive Director in the future. Thus far budgetary constraints have not allowed us to go forward with a search and appointment of a permanent individual, and we are merely holding things together in a temporary way. In this connection we have been exploring ways to make the Annual Meeting more convenient for members who cannot attend both the ASOR

and SBL meetings for more than the weekend plus one day. We are looking at a better overlap with SBL since AAR will be splitting up from SBL next year and such an opening will not happen again for many years. The ASOR old-timers like myself will remember that ASOR was a cosponsor for many years of the joint AAR-SBL convention, and I can assure you that every effort is being made to preserve ASOR's individuality and special identity. But our old ways have come at a high cost too, and hotel charges, required food expenditures, and the like have made doing things as before most difficult. Of course, if we can raise money like we did last year in an emergency situation we can do a lot of things, but the current leadership team is trying very hard to put ASOR back on a sound financial footing so that its Annual Meeting, Publications, and other core functions can operate without fear of lack of adequate resources.

In the course of visiting ASOR and working with staff, we have discovered that ASOR archives are a rich source of archaeological history, and some tidbits will be presented this year at the Presidential Forum on Friday evening. **Rachel Hallote** has been asked by the Board to prepare a plan for their proper safekeeping as a true archive and to explore ways of working on them for research purposes. Rachel is well qualified to do this in light of her recent work on Bliss. We have also explored ways of taking advantage of members' collections of archaeological materials, and we think we have a corporate sponsor to help us bring this to reality. Since the financial requirements for doing this are in the 7-digit range it is still too soon to say whether we can succeed in doing this or not. I hope that I will be able to report on our progress in this area in a future newsletter.

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More ASOR News on page 8

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Our Annual Meeting once again promises to be the best ever. Many thanks go to CAMP chair **Rachel Hallote** and Program Committee co-chairs **Yorke Rowan** and **Jennie Ebeling**. As a result of a large number of excellent proposals, we had to move to 5 concurrent sessions for much of the meeting. Registrations are ahead of last year, and the hotel facilities are excellent. There are several special and plenary sessions on the schedule as well as the opportunity to take advantage of meeting in close proximity to the Smithsonian. I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting!

I am also pleased to report that progress is also being made with ASOR publications. The move of the Publications office from Atlanta to Boston caused some complications, but we are addressing those and are now benefiting from some reduced costs. We are also pleased to welcome **Dr. Trina Arpin** to the ASOR staff as interim publications manager. Trina took over from Britt Hartenberger this summer, who resigned to accept a teaching appointment at Yale University. Under Trina's leadership, we are addressing some problems with our membership and fulfillment services that occurred with

the move to Boston. All these problems should be addressed by the time of the annual meeting. Thanks to the efforts of editors **Jim Weinstein** and **Piotr Michalowski**, BASOR and JCS continue to be leading academic journals, and both journals are being produced "on time." The progress with catching up NEA has been slower than we had hoped, and the progress was hindered by the move of the publications office to Boston. However, under the able leadership of editor **Sandra Scham**, we are finally starting to catch up, and we should be "up-to-date" with NEA by the middle of 2007.

As you can see from this letter, we are making progress on many fronts, but there is also room for progress, and we need the help of all our members to make sure that ASOR has a firm footing for the future. ASOR needs to have another year in terms of fund-raising like last year in order to provide this solid foundation and to build for the future. I urge every one of you to be as generous as you can be for FY 07. We have depended in the past on too few individuals and have now before us the challenge of securing support for the next generation. ✨

PUBLIC LECTURE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ASOR ANNUAL MEETING

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DISCOVERIES IN JERUSALEM

BY
RONNY REICH

7:00pm Thursday, November 16, 2006
Smithsonian
Location to be announced

Archaeology in Jerusalem has never been more exciting. In a rare visit to the U.S., eminent archaeologist Ronny Reich of the University of Haifa comes to the Smithsonian to share discoveries from his last two years of excavation in Jerusalem.

Reich first presents findings from near the spring Gihon, dated to the late 9th century BC, the days of the Kingdom of Judah. He then discusses his continuing excavation at the Pool of Siloam of the 1st century AD, where Jesus healed the blind man. A wide paved esplanade in the same area is also revealing new information about this extraordinary site.

Reich is Professor of Archaeology at the University of Haifa and has excavated in Jerusalem for more than 30 years.

Smithsonian and ASOR Members \$15 (please bring your ASOR badges), Senior Members \$13, General Public \$25
Please see the ASOR website for more details.

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Arbor, and Andrea Berlin, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

My plans for a visit with Eric Cline, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and an ASOR Vice President, at the site of Tel Kabri in northwestern Israel were also stymied. The excavations had been shut down before my arrival!

I had a very fruitful visit to Tel Gezer, a site at which I dug as a volunteer in 1970. Codirectors Steve Ortiz, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary,

Forth Worth, TX, and Sam Wolf, Israel Antiquities Authority, showed me their work on the Iron II casemate wall. In addition, they indicated the areas of the site where they appear to be coming down on Late Bronze destruction materials. According to Sy Gitin, this cooperation at Gezer between an American academic and a senior member of the IAA is what the future of American archaeological work in Israel is going to be like.

The Albright garden always provides an opportunity to meet with those either staying at the institute or passing

through. It is here that one often learns about work—both at the field and publication stage—of several projects.

The ASOR/CAP tour does provide the chair of CAP with many opportunities to meet dig directors who were frequently just a name previously. There is also the chance to get to know the areas where work is taking place. Later, when I read applications for ASOR/CAP affiliation and reports on the projects, I have a much better appreciation of what the work entails. ASOR is, indeed, represented by the member(s) of the CAP tour. ✨

IN MEMORIAM SIMON B. PARKER — 1940–2006

Simon B. Parker, a School of Theology and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences professor at Boston University, who specialized in the Hebrew Bible, died on April 29 from a brain hemorrhage. For over twenty years Dr. Parker served as Boston University's ASOR Institutional Representative. We would like to share with you the eulogy Dr. Jon Westling delivered at Dr. Parker's memorial service at March Chapel on May 5, 2006.

Many people—students, journalists, the public—generally believe that colleges and universities are awash in scholars. This is a useful fiction. But among ourselves—here, today, in this place, as we mourn the death and remember the life of Simon Parker—it is better to say the modest truth: that real scholars are rare, among the rarest products of civilization, and that no university can bear with equanimity the loss of even one.

Simon was a true scholar. The virtue of the scholar is not merely learning; we live in a world in which many people (many machines, for that matter) amass large amounts of information. Nor is it that less common characteristic, the love of learning. A love of learning is necessary, but it is not sufficient to make a scholar. No, the virtue of a scholar is something else: it is the strength of mind and character, the dogged determination, to do justice to the thing that one is studying.

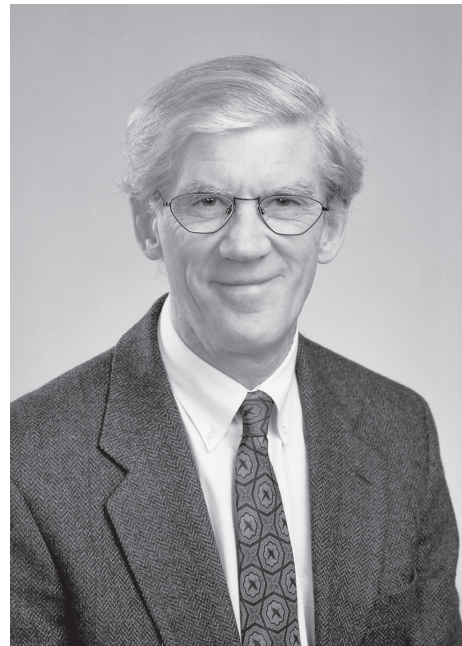
To be a scholar means to try never to give in to the temptation to go beyond the evidence. Never to let one's own enthusiasms—personal, political, aesthetic—color the story. Never to become so enamored of one's own hypothesis that inconvenient facts are given less than their proper weight. It is so rarely found precisely because it demands a special sort of self-abnegation, the willingness to put truth ahead of self.

No one who knew Simon could doubt that he was this kind of scholar. It was, of course, there in his books and articles and lectures. But it was also manifest in his everyday conversation, in the rugged good sense and shining fairness with which even small issues were treated.

The last time Simon and I spoke was ten days ago. I had just been teaching the Gospels to my sophomore students in the Core Curriculum, and so, among the many things that we discussed during that lunch, I asked him a question about the spread of Aramaic into Palestine in the centuries before Jesus' birth. I received (as I knew I would) an answer of crystalline clarity,

expressed with prudent qualifications and exquisite sensitivity to the difficulties of interpreting some of the evidence.

In reflecting on this in the days since his death, I realized that that conversation could have taken place at any time in the last nearly 40 years. I realized that in fact Simon had been instructing me ever since we met as very junior assistant professors at Reed College in 1968. And I do not mean just about the languages of the ancient Near East or about the textual history and interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. As much as I have learned from him about these and other specific matters, there was



always a larger and more important lesson being taught.

Whether as a colleague in the freshman humanities course at Reed, or in the President's and Provost's offices at Boston University, or at lunches, parties, picnics, and dinners at Sonia and Simon's home or at ours, or in unplanned chats when we'd meet by chance on campus, or when he could be persuaded to play the piano (I discovered that a little wine was often an effective adjunct to the process of persuasion), in discussions about books or music or England or politics or kids, in watching him play with Jonathan and Jeremy when they were young or talking with his father when he was old, whatever the setting, in season and out, what Simon was showing me—and showing all of us—was what it meant to live a virtuous and fulfilling life as a civilized person and as a scholar.

There are those who find the need for such exemplars mysterious. Of what pos-

sible use can it be, they wonder, to spend a life becoming a world authority on Ugaritic language and literature? Such questions are themselves symptoms of a disease: we live in a time and place in which the fragility of civilization, that great work of a thousand human generations and more, is being disregarded or forgotten.

The etiology of this disease is captured in a haunting passage in *Brave New World*. The speaker is the Resident Controller for Western Europe, one of the malign technocratic oligarchs of the world in the year 632 AF. (After Ford):

"[Y]ou all remember, I suppose, that beautiful and inspired saying of Our Ford's: History is bunk. History," he repeated slowly, "is bunk." He waved his hand; and it was as though, with an invisible feather whisk, he had brushed away a little dust; and the dust was Harappa, was Ur of the Chaldees; some spider-webs, and they were Thebes and Babylon and Cnosos and Mycenae. Whisk, whisk—and where was Odysseus, where was Job, where were Jupiter and Gotama and Jesus? Whisk—and those specks of antique dirt called Athens and Rome, Jerusalem and the Middle Kingdom—all were gone. Whisk—the place where Italy had been was empty. Whisk, the cathedrals; whisk, whisk, King Lear and the Thoughts of Pascal. Whisk, Passion; whisk, Requiem; whisk, Symphony; whisk . . .¹

Without living examples to the contrary, it is easy to despair: perhaps civilization is destined to be a failed experiment after all. But there are examples to the contrary, and we were blessed to have had among us one of the finest.

Without rancor, without arrogance, without self-serving, Simon stood unflinchingly against those who think that we have somehow created ourselves, and that technology by itself can produce worth. Against those who would wield the whisk, Simon helped to teach us that the ability to remember, to understand, to pass the past achievements of our species on to future generations, and to learn from our past mistakes, is precisely what makes us human; and that doing justice to that legacy is among the highest of our human callings.

In Simon's presence, the hope of a civilized life seemed not just possible again, but actual.

This was—and is—his princely gift to us.
Jon Westling ✨

¹ Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World* Modern Library (1932; repr. New York, 1946), 38-39.

2006 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

NOVEMBER 15-18

Please see our [Annual Meeting web page](#) for detailed schedules, information on housing and transportation and online registration forms for the meeting and hotel:

<http://www.asor.org/AM/am.htm>

Housing

Accommodations are available at the conference hotel, the Capital Hilton, 1001 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036. You must make your reservation directly with the hotel by either calling (202) 393-1000, faxing (202) 639-5784, or reserving online via our website. If you call the hotel, identify yourself as part of the "American Schools of Oriental Research" meeting in order to receive the reduced rate. Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Cancellations must be made with the hotel at least 24 hours prior to the arrival to secure a full refund.

The hotel is located just north of the White House near Dupont Circle and the "K Street" area of Washington, DC. Two Metro stops are in short walking distance from the hotel: the Farragut West and McPherson Square stops are both less than four blocks from the hotel. The Metro runs directly from Ronald Reagan National Airport to these stops and costs only a few dollars. Taxis and shuttles are available at Ronald Reagan National Airport, Dulles International Airport, and Baltimore-Washington Airport. Super Shuttle is also available at all local airports; the service costs usually range between \$30-\$9, depending on the airport. Reservations can be made ahead of time by calling 1-800-BLUE VAN (202-258-3826) or (202) 296-6662, or at the airport at their pick-up stations in front of the transportation lane outside. See the "Hotel and Washington, DC." link on our web page for more details.

Pre-Registration

Save up to \$20 and avoid on-site registration lines by preregistering for the meeting. Complete the enclosed pre-registration form or use a credit card and fill out the secure online form. Your registration fee entitles you to participate in all the academic sessions, the ASOR Welcome and President's Receptions, and the Plenary Session. All refunds of preregistration payments must be requested in writing or by e-mail by November 10, 2006 and will be assessed an administrative fee.

Registration Desk On-Site

The ASOR registration desk will be located in the foyer on the second level of the hotel. All those preregistered should come to the ASOR registration desk to pick up the final meeting program and abstract book.

Registration desk hours will be:

Wednesday 15 Nov	4pm to 7pm
Thursday 16 Nov	8am to 5pm
Friday 17 Nov	8am to 5pm
Saturday 18 Nov	8am to 2pm

For Students

Once again student members and recent Ph.Ds active in ASOR will have an opportunity to meet together formally for lunch. Watch the Annual Meeting web page for more information on "Sandwiches and Small Talk: Near Eastern Archaeological Scholarship—Open and Accessible in the 21st Century." The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) recently called upon university counsels, boards of trustees, and provosts "to provide aggressive support for the principles of fair use and open access, and to promote awareness and use of Creative Commons licenses." At the Junior Scholars Lunch, we will discuss these changes and how junior researchers can best position themselves to profit from this important transition toward open scholarship. We will also launch the "Junior Scholar Open Archaeology Prize," a new initiative to build awareness of open access research and enhance the prestige and community recognition of open scholarly communication. Please check the ASOR web page where new details on this lunch will be posted.

Special Evening Programs

In the opening Plenary session on Wednesday night Matthew Bogdanos (Colonel in the United States Marine Reserves) will speak on his involvement with the recovery of Iraq's antiquities after the looting of the Baghdad Museum. Following Col. Bogdanos's lecture there will be a reception and a signing of his new book "Thieves of Baghdad: One Marine's Passion to Recover the World's Greatest Treasures."

The 4th Annual Presidential Forum “Excavating ASOR” will turn our attention to ASOR’s past as we hear several short presentations that highlight the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls and ASOR’s involvement in their publication and dissemination, as well as provide highlights of ASOR’s history from a new exploration into our archives. Speakers include:

- *Eric Meyers, President of ASOR, will offer a glimpse into some memorable moments in ASOR’s past.
- *Westin Field, President of the Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation, will offer insights into his ongoing work on the “authorized” history of the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- *George Kiraz—a longtime ASOR exhibitor, Syriac scholar, and founder and publisher of Gorgias Press, whose father was involved with the purchase of some of the Dead Sea Scrolls—will tell us of his father’s involvement and describe his recent work on the subject.
- *Rachel Hallote, SUNY-Purchase, ASOR CAMP chair, has worked on archival material for her recent book on Frederick Bliss, published by Gorgias Press, and will describe a few ASOR archives items.

New Sessions and Themes

New sessions this year include:

[The Incense Trade Route](#)

[Current Issues in Palestinian Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Management](#)

[The Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age at Megiddo and the North](#)

[Archaeology of Lebanon](#)

[The Bioarchaeology of the Near East and Eastern Mediterranean](#)

Our existing sessions will cover recent research in Cyprus, Israel, and Jordan as well as Syria, Mesopotamia, Arabia, and Anatolia, from prehistoric times to the Ottoman era.

Outreach Programs

A special public lecture will be held Thursday night, Nov. 16, at the Smithsonian Institute, featuring Dr. Ronny Reich (University of Haifa). Dr. Reich will spend the evening discussing the “Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Jerusalem.” Registered ASOR Annual Meeting participants will receive a discounted admission fee of \$15. Registration is required and can be made ahead of time by calling the Smithsonian (202) 252-0012 or e-mailing CustomerService@ResidentAssociates.org.

Elementary and High School teachers will have the opportunity to learn how archaeologists have reconstructed the ancient history of the Near East. The Teacher’s Workshop “Daily Life and Trade in the Ancient Near East: What Archaeology Can Tell Us,” sponsored by ASOR and The Smithsonian Institution, will be held on Nov. 17, at the Department of Anthropology Rose Seminar, Room 339, Smithsonian Institution. The all-day workshop for teachers in the Washington DC area will feature a program that focuses on the Bronze and Iron Age periods in Jordan and the Mediterranean, through lectures, online educational activities, and lesson plans. This workshop is part of a continuing effort to encourage teachers to include Near Eastern archaeology in their curriculum. Participants in the teachers’ workshop will learn how to use archaeological methods to analyze artifacts in order to answer research questions. This workshop is sponsored by ASOR’s Outreach Committee and requires separate registration. For more information on participating, please contact Ann Kaupp at (202) 633-1917.

Program and Abstracts

The following pages detail the academic program for the meeting. Complete listings including paper titles and authors’ and presiders’ complete names and affiliations may be found on the Annual Meeting web page. The Abstract Book is also available online. Both the final meeting program and abstract book will be available at the registration desk throughout the annual meeting. The ASOR web page with meeting details can be found at www.asor.org/AM/am.htm.

Academic sessions co-sponsored with ASOR at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature:

Sunday, 19 November — 9:00–11:30 am

S19–22: Literature and History of the Persian Period

Theme: Judah’s Neighbors under Persian Rule

Co-Sponsored with ASOR’s Persian Period in the Levant Session

D. Vanderhooft, Presiding

R. Reich, I. Stern, A. Lemaire, S. R. Martin, J. Nitschke

For other sessions at SBL that might be of interest to ASOR members, visit

http://www.sbl-site.org/Congresses/Congresses_ProgramBook.aspx?MeetingId=4

and use the search function for a particular session or simply hit the “submit” button for the entire program.

ASOR ANNUAL MEETING 2006 ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Wednesday–Thursday

Wednesday 15 November

7:00–8:30pm

Plenary Session

R. Hallote Presiding

Matthew Bogdanos (Colonel in the US Marine Reserves),

“Thieves of Baghdad: One Marine’s Passion to Recover the World’s Greatest Treasures”

Thursday 16 November

8:30–10:30am

The Incense Trade Route

M. Jasmin and Y. Thareani-Sussely Presiding

M. Jasmin, G. Plisson, U. Avner, Y. Thareani-Sussely

Archaeology of Mesopotamia I

P. Michalowski Presiding

P. Michalowski, M. Tanret, D. Owen, R. Zettler

Archaeology of Cyprus I

D. Counts Presiding

P. Kardulias, S. Stewart, K. Fisher, L. Hitchcock

Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology I

D. Browning and D. Manor Presiding

J. Cahill, D. Maltzberger, A. Maeir, A. Faust, A. Rainey

New Technologies and Their Uses in Archaeology [Poster Session]

R. Root and G. Christopherson Presiding

J. Harrison, F. Schipper

Art and Artifacts of the Ancient Near East — Context, Content, Contacts

E. Friedland and M. Feldman Presiding

*S. Costello, M. Eppihimer, E. Guralnick, A. Baadsgaard,
L. Roller*

10:45am–12:45pm

Archaeology of Mesopotamia II

R. Zettler Presiding

A. Petty, J. Scurlock, S. Reed, J. Szuchman, E. Stone

Archaeology of Cyprus II

D. Counts Presiding

L. Alpe, G. Bazemore, N. Harper, D. Pettegrew, J. Schryver

Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology II

D. Browning and D. Manor Presiding

G. Arbino, M. VanZant, J. Iatesta, I. Shai

Current Issues in Palestinian Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Management

R. Sauders and A. Yahya Presiding

*R. Sauders, A. Yahya, S. al-Houdalieh, O. Hamdan, I. Sarie’,
R. Greenberg*

Material Culture in Ottoman Syro-Palestine

(Bilad es-Sham) — Theme: Ottoman Period Ceramics

B. de Vries and Ø. LaBianca Presiding

M. Avissar, M. Abu Khalaf, B. Walker, R. Gabrieli, H. Salem

2:00–4:00pm

Reports on Current Excavations – ASOR-Affiliated I

M. Lawson Pruitt Presiding

B. MacDonald, R. Arav, S. Cohen, A. Yasur-Landau,

K. Mattingly

The World of Women: Gender and Archaeology

B. Alpert Nakhai Presiding

*A. Karmel Thomason, C. Bergoffen, C. Ehrlich, H. Katz,
M. Schuler*

Individual Submissions I

L. Mazow Presiding

A. Greener, K. McGeough, L. Mazow, E. Maher,

A. McKinney Dehnisch

Culture-Contact in the Persian Levant

S. R. Martin Presiding

J. Cataldo, S. R. Martin, A. Brown, C. H. Roosevelt

Archaeology of Syria

M. W. Chavalas Presiding

J. Ur, A. Smith, M. Danti, R. L. Zettler, R. Dornemann,

J. Casana

4:15–6:15pm

Reports on Current Excavations – ASOR-Affiliated II

M. Lawson Pruitt Presiding

G. Davies, T. Harrison, B. Janeway, R. J. Bull, L. Herr

Problems in the Archaeology of Central Transjordan

A. J. Graham Presiding

S. Klassen, J. Pace, G. Linton, D. Rohl, G. Mattingly

Ancient Inscriptions

C. Rollston and A. Azzoni Presiding

A. Azzoni, N. Hirschfeld, C. Haberl, R. Byrne, C. Rollston

ASOR ANNUAL MEETING 2005 ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Thursday–Friday

Individual Submissions II

E. Bloch-Smith Presiding
E. Lapp, A. Bullock, K. Galor, M. Zimmerman, H. Nur el-Din

Artifacts: The Inside Story

E. S. Friedman Presiding
D. Adan-Bayewitz, E. S. Friedman, M. Notis, A. Feuerbach

7:00 pm

Public Lecture at the Smithsonian with Ronny Reich Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Jerusalem

Prehistoric Archaeology

G. O. Rollefson and A. Nowell Presiding
S. Shidrang, M. Neeley, J. Peterson, A. H. Simmons, G. O. Rollefson

Maritime/Nautical Issues

A. Brody and E. Marcus Presiding
B. Foley, J. Leidwanger, Z. Friedman, A. Catsambis

The Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age at Megiddo and the North

E. H. Cline and I. Finkelstein Presiding
D. Ussishkin, E. Arie, N. Franklin, A. Gilboa, E. Cline, I. Finkelstein

2:00–4:00pm

Egypt and Canaan II

M. Hasel Presiding
R. Gillam, J. R. Chadwick, W. Crist, P. Feinman

Landscape Archaeology

B. Saidel Presiding
*S. A. Rosen, J. Jones, A. Burke, C. Cohen Stuart,
M. Haiman, M. Peilstocker, A. McCarthy, S. E. Alcock*

The Bioarchaeology of the Near East and Eastern Mediterranean

M. A. Perry Presiding
*M. A. Perry, J. C. Rose, B. Baker, L. Gregoricka, S. G.
Sheridan, J. Ullinger, S. Fox*

Workshop of Caesarea Maritima I

K. G. Holum Presiding
K. Gleason, E. Amos, P. Gendelman, R. Gersht

4:15–6:15pm

Workshop on Caesarea Maritima II

K. Gleason Presiding
H. Sivan, K. G. Holum, J. Stabler

Current Excavations Non-ASOR Affiliated

D. Ilan Presiding
*R. Reich, O. Lipschits, S. Muenger, M. Toumazou, K. Galor,
A. Fantalkin*

Ancient Mediterranean Trade

B. M. Gittlen Presiding
C. Aznar, M. Feldman, A. M. Arruda

Material Culture in Ottoman Syro-Palestine

B. de Vries, B. Walke, r and Ø. LaBianca Presiding
W. Kawar, S. de Vries, S. Belger Krody, V. Tamari, H. Salem

Friday 17 November

8:30–10:30am

The Ethics of Collecting and Communicating the Near Eastern Past

P. Gerstenblith, E. Herscher and M. Kersel Presiding
R. Hallote, C. Luke, M. Lucey-Roper

Workshop on the Roman Aqaba Project

S. T. Parker Presiding
J. Stumpf, J. McDaniel, S. T. Parker

The Archaeology of Israel – New Developments

G. Avni Presiding
Y. Tepper, L. Di Segni, R. Reich, M. Eisenberg, M. Fischer

Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing, and Archaeology

G. L. Christopherson Presiding
*J. Pincus Ben-Avraham, S. Parcak, R. Cargill,
G. L. Christopherson, J. Barghouth*

ETANA Workshop I

J. W. Flanagan, D. R. Clark Presiding
*E. Fox, R. Shen, N. Srinivas Vemuri, W. Fan, L. Cantara,
J. Eustis, J. W. Flanagan, D. R. Clark, R. da S. Torres*

10:45am–12:45pm

Egypt and Canaan I

K. L. Younger, Jr. Presiding
M. Hasel, R. Hess, C. Duff, J. K. Hoffmeier

Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to Near Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean Art and Archaeology

S. K. Costello, L. Hitchcock, and A. P. McCarthy Presiding
M. Canepa, Ø. LaBianca, A. Sasson, K. Croucher, E. Miller

ASOR ANNUAL MEETING 2005 ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Saturday

Saturday 19 November

8:30–10:30am

Archaeology of Lebanon

J. L. Nitschke Presiding
H. Sader, C. Doumet Serhal, N. Boksmati, B. Fischer-Genz

Archaeology of Anatolia I: Current Work

J. C. Ross Presiding
S. R. Steadman, S. Branting, Y. Nishimura, A. Creekmore, C. Painter

Archaeology of Religion and the Sacred I

A. Cohen Presiding
Y. Rowan, A. Keinan, S. Tricoli, K. Bramlett, A. Limmer

Arabia

D. Graf Presiding
S. Farès-Drappeau, M. B. Reeves, W. Ward, L. DeCarlo

ETANA Workshop II

E. Fox and L. Cantara Presiding

10:45am–12:45pm

The Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East

D. Foran and A. Eger Presiding
C. Toskay-Evrin, C. Swan, J. Ferguson, M. Hawari, G. Awni, A. Walmsley

Archaeology of Anatolia II

S. R. Steadman Presiding
M. Schwartz, T. Matney, P. Zimansky, S. E. Kroll, J. Davis-Kimball

Archaeology of Jordan

L.-A. Bedal Presiding
M. Ibrahim, J. D'Angelo, M. Weigl, R. Chadwick, M. Sharp-Joukowsky, J. Ramsa

Archaeology of Religion and the Sacred II

Y. Rowan Presiding
A. Dolan, P. M. Michèle Daviau, T. Fries, J. F. Strange

ASOR ANNUAL MEETING 2006

Business Meetings

Wednesday

3:30–5:00pm Committee on Annual Meeting & Program (CAMP)
3:00–3:30pm Lindstrom Fellows Organizational Meeting
5:00–6:00pm Program Committee (CAMP)
6:00–7:00pm Regional Affiliations Committee
8:30–10:30pm Welcome Reception

Thursday

7:00–8:30am Bulletin of ASOR (BASOR) Editorial Board
7:00–8:30am Near Eastern Archaeology (NEA) Editorial Board
7:00–8:30am Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan
7:00–8:30am ASOR Saudi Arabia Committee
10:45am–12:45pm Committee on Unprovenanced Texts
12:45–2:00pm Madaba Plains Project Reception
12:45–2:00pm Student Association Luncheon
12:45–2:00pm Discussion on Governance & Membership Issues
2:00–4:00pm ASOR Development Committee
2:00–4:00pm ASOR Baghdad Committee
7:00–8:00pm Public Lecture at the Smithsonian

Friday

7:00–8:30am Outreach Committee
7:00–8:30am ASOR Honors and Awards Committee
7:00–8:30am ASOR Lecture Series Committee
8:30–10:30am ASOR Damascus Committee

8:30–10:30am AIAR Fellowships Committee
8:30–10:30am ASOR Executive & Finance Committee
10:30–12:00pm AIAR Executive Committee
12:45–2:00pm Madaba Plains Project Staff Consultation
1:30–4:30pm AIAR Board of Trustees
2:00–4:00pm CAARI Executive Committee
2:00–6:00pm ACOR Board of Trustees
4:00–6:30pm ASOR Committee on Publications (COP)
4:00–6:30pm ASOR Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP)
4:15–6:15pm ASOR Institutional Member Representatives
6:00–7:00pm CAARI Reception
7:00–8:30pm Presidential Forum
8:30–10:00pm President's Reception & Presentation of Awards

Saturday

7:00–8:30am ASOR Members Meeting
8:00am–4:00pm CAARI Board of Trustees
8:30–9:30am ASOR Membership Committee – Combined
8:30am–12:30pm Tell el Hesi Board & Publications Committee
9:30–10:30am ASOR Membership Committee
12:45pm–2:00pm Program Committee
2:00–5:00pm ASOR Board of Trustees
2:00–4:00pm ASOR Canada
4:00–5:30pm AIAR NEH Fellowships Committee

2006 ASOR ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

NOVEMBER 15 - 18 ♦ WASHINGTON, D.C.

Preregistration Deadline: November 1, 2006

MEMBER ID # _____
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Check box if you have applied for membership in the past 30 days

Last Name _____ First Name _____

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My check or money order payable to ASOR is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

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- \$25 \$100
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REGISTRATION FEE [check appropriate box(es)]:

- Member Registration \$125
 Nonmember Registration \$150
 Student Registration \$65
 Retired Member \$80
 Spouse / Partner Registration \$80
 S/P's Name: _____

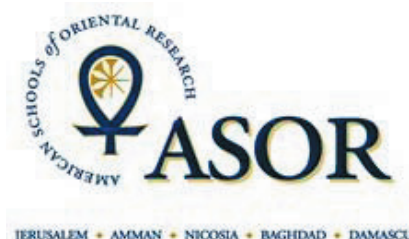
S/P's Institution: _____

One Day (date): _____

- Member Registration \$70
 Nonmember Registration \$50
 Student Registration \$45
 Retired Member \$50
 Spouse / Partner Registration \$50



MAIL FORM TO:
 ASOR Annual Meeting Preregistration
 ASOR at Boston University
 656 Beacon St., 5th floor
 Boston, MA 02215-2010
 FAX: 617-353-6575



INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS OF ASOR

ASOR would like to thank the following Institutional Members for their continuing support which makes it possible to fulfill our mission of promoting research into the peoples and cultures of the Near East.

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Grace Theological Seminary
Harvard Semitic Museum
Illinois Wesleyan University
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
La Sierra University
Loyola Marymount University
Lutheran School of Theology
Lycoming College
McCormick Theological Seminary

Metropolitan Museum of Art
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
New York University
North Carolina State University
Pennsylvania State University
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Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia
Smith College
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Southern Adventist University
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Southern Methodist University (Perkins School of Theology)
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Wake Forest University
Wellesley College
Wesley Theological Seminary
Willamette University
Yale Divinity School

New Institutional Members:

George Washington University
Sacred History Society
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

ASOR Annual Meeting Junior Scholars Luncheon

"Near Eastern Scholarship – Open and Accessible in the 21st Century"

a discussion with Dr. Sarah Witcher Kansa
about open and accessible scholarly communication

Thursday November 16th, 12:45–2:00pm at the F St. Deli, Washington, DC

Once again student members and recent Ph.Ds active in ASOR will have an opportunity to meet formally for lunch. The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) recently called upon university counsels, boards of trustees, and provosts "to provide aggressive support for the principles of fair use and open access, and to promote awareness and use of Creative Commons licenses." At the Junior Scholars Lunch, we will discuss these changes and how junior researchers can best position themselves to profit from this important transition toward open scholarship. We will also launch the "Junior Scholar Open Archaeology Prize," a new initiative to build awareness of open access research and enhance the prestige and community recognition of open scholarly communication. Please check the ASOR web page where new details on this lunch will be posted.

Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize Awarded

The W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem is pleased to announce the winner of the fifth annual competition for the Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize. This award offers \$500 for the best published article or paper presented at a conference by a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian and Biblical Archaeology. Authors may be of any nationality, but the article or paper must be in English.

Last year's winner was **John D. M. Green**, Institute of Archaeology, University College London. His paper was titled "**Anklets and the Construction of Gender and Age in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age Southern Levant.**" It was presented at the 2005 Annual Meetings of the American Schools of Oriental Research, in the "World of Women: Gender and Archaeology" session. In addition, it will be published in a forthcoming book, *Women in Antiquity, Women in Archaeology*, edited by S. Hamilton, R. D. Whitehouse and K. I Wright and published by UCL Press, London.

The Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize was established in 2001 by Professor William G. Dever and Mrs. Norma Dever in memory of their son Sean.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assistant Professor in Modern Hebrew Literature Penn State Jewish Studies Program and Department of Comparative Literature

Penn State announces an assistant professor, tenure-track, position in Modern Hebrew Literature seen in its comparative and historical development from its revitalization in the nineteenth century to contemporary texts. Preferred start date fall 2007. Position shared between the Department of Comparative Literature, where tenure will be located, and the Jewish Studies Program. While Penn State offers an Undergraduate Minor in Hebrew, in which this faculty member would participate, the responsibilities of the position are more broadly defined. They include contributing to the instructional, research, and service missions of Jewish Studies; engaging in the development of the Hebrew language curriculum; and participating in instruction, research, and service in the Comparative Literature graduate and undergraduate programs. Requirements: Ph.D. in Hebrew, Comparative Literature, Jewish Studies, or other relevant field; research specializations to include any aspect of modern Hebrew literature in its historical and comparative dimensions; relevant teaching experience; native or near-native command of Hebrew and English. Knowledge of one or more other literatures, such as Yiddish or Arabic, would also be welcome.

Send letter of application, c.v., and the names and addresses of three references to Ms. Rhonda Decker, Box O, Jewish Studies Program, 108 Weaver Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802.

Applications may also be sent by e-mail to rx4@psu.edu or by fax to (814) 863-7840. Screening of applications will begin November 15, 2006, although all applications will be considered until the position is filled. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

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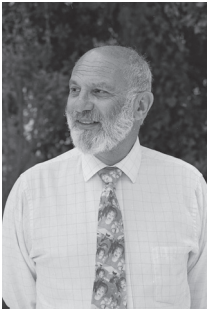
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The Iron Age Cemetery at Tell Halif

Oded Borowski

Emory University

Annual Professor

During my tenure as Annual Professor (2005–2006) at the Albright Institute, my research project was “The Iron Age Cemetery at Tell Halif.” The goal was to analyze the finds and prepare the materials for publication in the Lahav Research Project (LRP) Final Reports Series (Lahav III). The materials I examined came from several different excavations conducted by Joe D. Seger, David Alon, and myself during the years 1972, 1976, 1977, and 1988.

The first phase of my work involved describing each of the twelve excavated burial caves, including the physical appearance, special features, and exact measurements of each cave. I then analyzed the pottery and small finds. Since the excavations were conducted by different researchers under the auspices of various institutions, the pottery and objects had been stored at different locations and were somewhat problematic to find. The materials were stored at two locations at Kibbutz Lahav, at the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) storage facility in Beit Shemesh, and in the basement of the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. Unfortunately, because of the passage of time, a number of finds could not be located. It is possible, however, that the missing items will be recovered sometime in the future. An additional problem involved locating some of the plans, sections, and the pottery and object drawings originally drawn by the IAA following my work in 1988. Only some of them were located in the IAA archives; the rest will have to be reproduced.

The next phase of work involved preparing pottery plate descriptions. Each piece was described according to a format developed for the LRP final publications. The final report will include 15 pottery plates, three object plates, and other illustrations. The analysis of the data provided a basis to formulate conclusions that fall in the category of “Cultural and Historical Observations.” This includes a discussion of the cemetery’s location, the date and architectural profile of the tombs, the burial population, and burial and cultic customs. Another chapter is devoted to special finds.

Generally, the cemetery was in use between the 10th and 7th centuries BCE, and its location suggests that it was the final resting place of Tell Halif inhabitants. While all of the burial caves belong to the bench-type tomb, each displays different features including the number and design of the benches and repositories. The design of two tombs suggests that they

were originally intended for only one burial and later underwent changes to include multiple burials. Because the tombs were disturbed either in antiquity or in modern times, no clear stratigraphy could be defined; however, the materials recovered provide some indications concerning burial procedures. Tomb design and certain ceramic vessels suggest that the burial procedures involved the preparation of the body, most likely including washing it with water.

My stay at the Albright greatly facilitated the completion of my research. The staff was tremendously helpful. Being at the Albright allowed me to locate and examine materials I needed for my project and provided me with opportunities to meet with scholars who have similar interests. For this I would like to thank the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. State Department for their support of the Annual Professorship. Thanks are also due to Emory University for providing me with a research leave.

Ethnicity and Exchange during the Israelite Monarchic Period



Carolina Aznar

Harvard University

National Endowment for the
Humanities Fellow

During my NEH Fellowship at the Albright Institute this year, I expanded my doctoral research on ethnicity and exchanges during the Israelite Monarchic Period (ca. 1000–586 BCE) and began to prepare my dissertation for publication. As an extension of my doctoral research, I conducted petrographic analyses of storage jars from several sites, including jars from Tel Jemmeh and Tel Mique. I spent a good part of my time using the library resources of the Albright Institute, the École Biblique, and the Institute of Archaeology at the Hebrew University. In addition to preparing my dissertation for publication, one of the most beneficial aspects of my residence in Jerusalem was the opportunity to present my research results at three research institutes: the W. F. Albright Institute in Jerusalem, the Department of Maritime Civilizations and Archaeology at Haifa University, and the Kimmel Center for Archaeological Science at the Weizmann Institute. In my workshop at the Albright, I gave a general overview of my research results on ethnicity and exchanges during the time of the Israelite Monarchy. In my seminars at Haifa University and the Weizmann Institute, I presented two parts

of this research in greater detail: the Phoenician-Philistine exchanges at the former and the centric transfers at the latter. Thanks to these presentations, I was able to get extremely valuable feedback on my research from scholars from all over the region: from archaeologists Sy Gitin, Eilat Mazar, Ayelet Gilboa, Amihai Mazar, Trude Dothan, Sam Wolff, Michal Artzy, and Ezra Marcus to historian Nadav Kashtan, and scientists specializing in laboratory analysis of archaeological data Uzi Smilansky and Steve Weiner.

This feedback has widened the scope of my approach in several ways. First, my book has a new chapter on land ownership and trade in the Ancient Near East. Although there is only minimal information available about these aspects of life in ancient Israel, archival material from Mesopotamia provides the requisite background for interpreting the results of my petrographic analyses. Based on this information, I suggest that the Phoenician exports to ancient Israel consisted mostly of wine and that this commercial activity was carried out as a private enterprise. Second, in order to understand the relevance of the analyses of the storage jars in the study of these ancient exchanges, I have also included in my book a discussion on ancient maritime trade and shipwrecks in the eastern Mediterranean. Although the original manuscript of my dissertation included some evidence from several shipwrecks, it became clear that a more detailed discussion on this topic would be necessary in order to fully understand the implications of the shipwreck data. Third, my book also includes an examination of storage rooms excavated in the thirteen major sites studied (Horvat Rosh Zayit, Tell Keisan, Tell Abu Hawam, Rehov, Beth Shean, Megiddo, Gezer, Tel Batash, Lachish, Beersheba, Tel 'Ira, and Ashdod) in which groups of storage jars have been found. This information provides insights into the scale of commercial exchanges.

As a follow-up to my research this year, I plan to expand the scope of my petrographic analysis to include a study of store jars from Philistia and the Iberian Peninsula in order to broaden my analysis of commercial contacts between the eastern and western parts of the Mediterranean Basin.

Toward a New Discipline of Archaeo-Papyrology: A Case Study from Byzantine Palestine



Scott Bucking
DePaul University

National Endowment for the
Humanities Fellow

My project focused on developing both a theoretical and a methodological foundation for the creation of a new discipline of archaeo-papyrology. Archaeo-papyrology is a synthesis of two fundamentally related disciplines—archaeology and papyrology—that have historically developed along very separate paths. It seeks to give full recognition to the material identity of excavated papyri¹ and to foster the development of approaches

to interpreting such texts that take account of this identity. Unlike traditional papyrological studies, which have relied mainly on philological approaches to constructing meaning, archaeo-papyrology combines archaeological and philological approaches. The result is not only more robust and contextualized interpretations of excavated texts, but also a fundamental shift in the way in which these texts are conceptualized as objects of study. Creation of this new discipline builds upon some recent work in papyrology that has begun to recognize the material identity of the papyri. However, because mainstream papyrology has been largely unreflective about its own theoretical and methodological workings, the implications of recognizing this identity have not been fully realized.

To illustrate the methodological underpinnings of archaeo-papyrology, I have developed a case study from Byzantine Palestine, using a Greek writing exercise, hereafter referred to as O. Elusa 1. This exercise is part of a small group of ostraca excavated in 1997 by Goldfus and Fabian from a pottery workshop at Elusa in the Negev. One way of establishing a link between the writing exercise and the activities at the pottery workshop is through the use of red ink to perform the exercise. None of the other ostraca found at the site are written in red ink, which appears to have been restricted to the production of jar labels; nearly half of the labels found on fragmentary jars at the pottery workshop are written in this color ink. Therefore, it may be that O. Elusa 1 is related to the need to label jars at the workshop and served as some sort of practice or training for this purpose. Moreover, while papyrologists and historians of ancient education continue to view writing exercises from the Roman and Byzantine Near East chiefly as the products of formal schools, the archaeological context of O. Elusa 1 reminds us that there were other types of settings in which such exercises were being produced.

This brings us back to the larger issue of seeing papyri also as archaeological objects. The proposed discipline of archaeo-papyrology takes a step toward fully embracing this material identity of texts—both in theory and in practice—and reintegrating papyri into the archaeological network of agents and artifacts. It also offers a much-needed complement to the largely philological approaches that have historically determined the ways in which meaning is constructed from these texts.

¹ Texts also written on parchment, wooden tablets, and fragments of pottery and limestone (*ostraca*) are collectively referred to as “papyri,” and it is in this broader sense that the term is being used here.

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Communal Order in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Early Christianity



Daniel K. Falk
University of Oregon

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow

My research project is a comparative study of community order and organization in the Dead Sea Scrolls and in Early Christianity, ultimately to be published as a monograph. Although striking similarities between the two communities have been noticed since the early publications of the Dead Sea Scrolls—especially with regard to leadership offices, authority structures, initiation and disciplinary procedures, and their common life based on voluntarism—there has not yet been a full-scale systematic study comparing the two. For both communities, scholars have also proposed influence from Hellenistic voluntary associations. But whatever the historical influences on their way of life, the community (or communities) represented in the Dead Sea Scrolls viewed their communal life as in accordance with the divine order. For this reason, my study focuses on trying to explain the significance for these religious communities of their organizational patterns. This takes seriously the nature of both communities as voluntary communities: we must presume that these ways of life worked for those who joined. What meaning did these ways of life have for the members? How did they understand their distinctive identity? Since both communities also saw themselves as heirs to the heritage of Abraham and true Israel, exploring these questions is intimately concerned with how they interpreted Scripture and how they identified themselves in relation to their sacred traditions. My study will focus on trying to explain why these communities described themselves the way they did. What meaning did it have for them to depict their communal life in terms of models derived from Scripture?

During my five-month tenure as an NEH fellow at the Albright Institute, I worked on one aspect of the project: the nature and status of Scripture in the Second Temple period and its use and interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls. Discussion of my research with other scholars at the West Coast Qumran Working Group (Portland, OR) in October convinced me that I needed to rethink the status and function of Scripture in Second Temple Judaism. The predominant model of Scripture as a basically static and clearly defined text that is then interpreted by communities appears to be rather inappropriate to the Second Temple period. More appropriate is a model from the field of comparative religions, especially in the work of William Graham and Wilfred Smith. These scholars describe a dynamic model of living traditions that function in various authoritative ways in relation to specific religious communities. Such an approach fits much better the data from the Dead Sea Scrolls where there are multiple textual types used side-by-side, flexible boundaries to the body of authoritative traditions, and a remarkable freedom in adapt-

ing and interpreting scriptural traditions. The research I have completed on this question will form an important section in my introductory chapter.

I also presented a paper to the Jonas C. Greenfield Scholars' Seminar at the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls in Jerusalem on this history of research on community order at Qumran, methodological issues, and initial studies with regard to models of judicial courts and interpretations of successors to Moses's authority. I have benefited from discussions about my research with numerous scholars in various fields. The most important benefit of this period of research in Jerusalem was the opportunity to make two excursions to the site of Qumran, to view artifacts from Qumran at the Ecole Biblique and the Israel Museum and to spend several days studying key Dead Sea Scroll manuscripts in the laboratory at the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book.

The Funeral Kit in Early Bronze Age Canaan



Jill Baker
Brown University

E. S. Frerichs Fellow/
Program Coordinator

My goal this year was to expand the research of my Ph.D. dissertation, *The Middle and Late Bronze Age Tomb Complex at Ashkelon, Israel: The Architecture and the Funeral Kit* (Brown University, 2003) to include a study of contemporary and Early Bronze tombs and burials in Canaan. In my dissertation, I defined a Middle and Late Bronze Age Canaanite mortuary practice, which I designated the "funeral kit." A summary of the funeral kit at Ashkelon appeared in the article titled "The Funeral Kit: A Newly Defined Canaanite Mortuary Practice Based on the Middle and Late Bronze Age Tomb Complex at Ashkelon" in *Levant* 2006.

The funeral kit includes a relatively predictable set of ceramic and nonceramic grave goods that were deposited with the deceased at the time of burial, based on the multiple intact burials found in the Middle and Late Bronze Age tomb complex at Ashkelon. These grave goods consisted of essential items that were integral to the funerary ceremony and mortuary rites and were not deposited in the tomb in order to convey personal characteristics or social status.

During the funerary ceremony, it is likely that a meal was held in honor of the deceased, and the ceramic vessels of the funeral kit represent the deceased's portion of that meal. The deposition of food and drink into the tomb may also have been intended to provide sustenance for the deceased's spirit while making the transition from this world into the next and/or functioned as an offering to the ancestors.

Based on my initial research on burials from Ashkelon, I determined that predictable deposits of funerary items could be observed in all of Middle and Late Bronze Age Canaan. In addition, regional variations could be observed in

the composition of the funeral kits. For example, in certain geographical areas, funeral kits contain a larger number of imported Mycenaean ceramics, while other regions exhibit a greater quantity of imported Cypriot material. The results of this study will be submitted for publication in the coming months.

As for tombs and burials in Early Bronze Age Canaan, using Ashkelon as the model, I examined published reports for chamber tombs at sites such as Bab edh-Dhra, Beth Shean, Dan, Jericho, Lachish, Megiddo, and Ain es-Samiya to name a few. Based on this research, I made several observations: (1) a funeral kit was employed during all phases of the Early Bronze Age; (2) the basic components of the funeral kit remained the same throughout the EBA; (3) the funeral kit is not necessarily indicative of socio-economic realities or social complexity; (4) the EBA funeral kit probably functioned as part of a funerary banquet and represents that aspect of the funerary ritual. During the EB I–III periods some regional variation was evident with regard to the vessel types that were incorporated into the funeral kit. The EB IV period, however, exhibited greater regional variation among the ceramic typologies, but the kit as a whole was in keeping with the seven ceramic families developed by Dever. Even though there was regional variation, it seems that intra-site ceramic typologies remained consistent among the burial groups. During the EBA, very few ceramic assemblages included imported wares and were mostly composed of domestic wares. Based on the research conducted this year, the development of the funeral kit can be followed from Early Bronze Age I through Late Bronze Age II. I expect to produce an article for publication summarizing these findings. This research will also serve as the basis for a chapter that will be incorporated into a monograph on the Bronze Age funeral kit in Canaan.

Archaeological Evidence of Horses and Chariotry in the Land of Israel during Iron Age II



MiYoung Im
Bar-Ilan University

George A. Barton Fellow

My project involved analyzing and presenting the archaeological data on horses and chariots from ancient Israel. Although I examined earlier evidence, my primary focus was on Iron Age II (1,000–586 BCE), the First Temple period.

Horses and chariots are mentioned in written sources that deal with military campaigns throughout the ancient Near East during the Iron Age. They are widely represented in Assyria, Egypt, and Cyprus by monuments, paintings, and artifacts. The research on horses and chariots in these countries has in some instances included data from Israel, which has added some knowledge to our understanding of the subject.

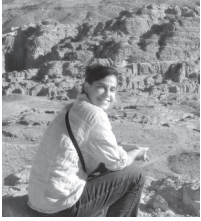
Also, there are numerous references in the Bible to horses and chariots, such as those to King Solomon (1 Kings 5:6). And while there is archaeological evidence from ancient Israel, little research has been carried out on the subject of horses and chariots. This obvious gap in the military history of ancient Israel stimulated my interest and led me to a study of osteological finds, horse figurines, accessories for decoration and harnessing of horses, and chariot models and fittings.

Not many osteological remains of horses exist in Israel. Only three horse bones have been identified among the 22 equid bones from Area S, Level III at Lachish, which date to 760–701 BCE. In my current study, I was able to include 842 horse figurines, one chariot model from Tell Jemmeh, and 20 wheel figurines. In addition to 23 figurines of 11th–9th centuries BCE and 52 figurines from unidentified strata, 767 figurines could be dated to the 8th–7th centuries BCE. Among them, most figurines, that is, 713, were found at Judean sites. Very little archaeological evidence of harnessing equipment dating to the Iron Age II has been found. In particular, most of these objects were described in the past as having other functions, or as “unidentifiable” artifacts. These include two horse bits, one ivory frontlet, and three ivory eye blinkers from Tell el-Far’ah (S), one bronze eye blinker from Lachish, two bronze eye blinkers from Megiddo, another bronze eye blinker from Beth Shemesh, and a poll decoration from Moza. Objects described as possible bronze bells that are from Tel Batash, Lachish, and Megiddo may have been used for horses. These artifacts are similar to those from Assyria and Cyprus dated to Iron Age II, which indicates that they were most likely contemporary. As for their function, the representation on horse figurines, although very crude, indicates that horses during Iron Age II had bridles and accessories.

The horses drawn on pithos sherds from Kuntillet Ajrud clearly show that they were in use with chariots. Although it is not certain whether the renderings by Assyrian artists reflect Judahite chariots or depicted them as stylized chariots of Assyrian kings, a ceremonial Judahite chariot with eight-spoked wheels and military carts appear on the Sennacherib Lachish relief. Actual chariots and carts found in the tombs at Salamis may be useful in reconstructing such vehicles with a three-dimensional perspective. The Judahite chariot has a square box resting on a pole with a yoke, and attachments for harnessing four horses. Although parts of chariots have been found in Israel, such as linchpins and chariot fittings, since they are dated to earlier periods, they do not significantly contribute to our understanding of the chariots from the Iron Age II. While the seals with horses and riders or a chariot found at northern sites bear the images of mythological creatures, seal impressions found at Judean sites, dating to the 8th century BCE, only have the depiction of the “prancing horse.” The latter has been interpreted as the representation in Hebrew of a person’s name “Susi,” meaning a horse.

The final stage of my research has focused on this archaeological evidence as it relates to additional literary sources from the Bible and from neighboring countries in order to understand the function of horses and chariots in military and social contexts in the land of Israel.

The Appeal of History: Assertion of Christian Identity in the Muslim World



Lisa Mahoney
Johns Hopkins University

Samuel H. Kress Fellow

Throughout the existence of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, the commissioning and creation of art accompanied the struggle for and maintenance of land. These works ranged from large, public monuments to small, personal objects. In the absence of relevant texts from the period, the latter are particularly important documents for the study of Frankish private life and conceptions of the community's self-understanding during this period.

The strength of this assessment is manifest in a *Histoire ancienne jusqu'à César* manuscript made in Acre during the last decades of the thirteenth century (London, British Library, MS. Add. 15268). It is a manuscript that distinguishes itself in the quality of its pictorial program and, more important, the singular character of many of its compositions. The focus of my research at the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research was the motivation behind the commission of this chronicle, which recounts the history of the world from Creation to the reign of Caesar. Indeed, a close scrutiny of the miniatures suggests that it directly reflects the specific context of the manuscript's manufacture, and the particular statement its patron wanted to make as a result of that context.

The impetus for this manuscript's commission is announced, at least in part, by the frontispiece to this codex. Here one finds a full-page illumination containing theologically sophisticated references to the life, death, and Second Coming of Christ, all placed within and around a series of scenes depicting the beginning of Genesis. These allusions to Christ at the time of Creation serve to place the whole history of salvation emphatically before the viewer. Given its placement at the beginning of the manuscript, this single miniature also then asserts the parameters within which the events to follow are to be circumscribed.

Surrounding this miniature, however, is a border containing Islamic figures and Islamic decorative motifs. The presence of this imagery operates on many levels. For example, the Islamic motifs are explicitly borrowed from luxury objects and, as such, can be explained as an appreciation of eastern sumptuary art, imitated here to express the London manuscript's luxury status and to reflect or elevate the social prestige of its owner. The full meaning of these references to Islam, however, must be determined by way of their relationship to the exceedingly Christianized miniature they surround. By way of analogy with contemporary assertions of Christian identity found in other Frankish contexts and by way of comparison to similar environments of religious disparity and opposition, the miniature and its border can be understood to symbolize the religious confrontation taking place in the shared space of the Levant. In symbolizing

this confrontation, then, the layout of the frontispiece seems also to present the motivation for the decidedly Christian character of the manuscript being introduced here. That is, in this explicitly contested environment, the frontispiece distinguishes this history from Jewish and, more important, Muslim accounts and presents that very history as dramatically illuminated by a fundamental belief in salvation through Christ. At the same time, the reference to Muslims by way of the Islamic motifs that surround the main miniature picture symbolically and optimistically reflect the victory of Christianity over the enemies of Christ, both generally and in the religiously antagonistic world of the late thirteenth-century Levant.

I would like to add that the Director of the Albright and its staff have made my stay here particularly productive, offering everything from travel advice to the contact information of local scholars and providing always the delicious food and daily comforts that make work possible. For these reasons, and for making this institute a home, I wish to express my warmest appreciation.

On the East Mediterranean Contributions to the Origins of Coinage



Christine Thompson
University of California at Los Angeles

Samuel H. Kress Fellow

My research at the Albright centers on the relationship between 34 *Hacksilber* hoards excavated from thirteen Iron Age sites in Cisjordan and contemporary developments in trade and administrative practices that led to the development of the earliest coinages of Lydia and Greece c. 650–550 BCE. Many of the Cisjordan hoards contained *Hacksilber* grouped into linen-wrapped bundles that had been sealed with bullae. These bullae guaranteed both the unitized weight and purity of the bundled silver and thus recommended the sealed bundles as the immediate historical and conceptual antecedents of the earliest coinages of Lydia and Greece. The Cisjordan hoards also constitute the largest identified concentration of silver hoards in the ancient Near East in terms of both their geographical and chronological distributions and yet Cisjordan has no native source of silver. My research this year has focused on three chapters of my dissertation that deal with (1) the sources and purity of silver contained in the Cisjordan hoards, (2) the contexts of the Cisjordan hoards and what they can indicate about their functions, and (3) the development of a silver-based monetary economy in Cisjordan during the Iron Age and its connections to the silver sources, economies, indigenous peoples, and Phoenician and Greek colonists of the western Mediterranean.

The chapter covering the sources and purity of silver in the Cisjordan hoards is based on lead isotope analyses and

ED XRF and EPMA elemental analyses of approximately 200 samples taken from silver objects in the Cisjordan hoards.¹ This is the largest sample set collected from the region (and the only one from the Cisjordan hoards specifically); the results yielded unprecedented insight into some of the most controversial issues of research in biblical and classical studies as well as Mediterranean archaeology in general: did the search for silver motivate the Phoenicians to sail to the western Mediterranean as early as the 10th century BCE, did Greek colonists follow them there for the same reason, when did the exploitation of silver sources in the Aegean recover after a decline c.1200 BCE, and what are we to make of enigmatic biblical references linking Tarshish to overseas trade in precious metals? Lead isotope analysis is especially important for answering such questions as it offers the most effective means by which to identify the geological sources of silver used to make the *Hacksilber* found in the Cisjordan hoards. The samples from the Cisjordan hoards are of particular importance for addressing questions regarding the developments in trade relations between the eastern and western Mediterranean since they span the entire Iron Age and fit within a fairly precise and sequential chronological framework supported by an *ante quem* date for each hoard.

My second chapter is focused on detailing the contexts of each hoard with the aim of analyzing the function of each hoard at the time of deposition. Many of the hoards were never fully published, so I have spent a great deal of time meeting with living excavators and researching unpublished field diaries to better understand whether particular hoards belonged to, for example, private individuals or administrators, smiths or merchants, temples or tax collectors, and whether the hoards were buried with the intent of recovery. I have taken into account previous discussions of the criteria by which the functions of Bronze Age hoards might be inter-

preted² and applied them to the Iron Age Cisjordan hoards with the result that it has become necessary to establish new criteria for functional evaluation of the latter and to concomitantly address in depth the fundamental issue that these established categories are often not as mutually exclusive as they may appear.

1 The author took the samples and carried out EPMA at the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology at MIT, while the Kress Foundation and INSTAP provided the funding for TIMS and ED XRF to the Isotrace Laboratory at the University of Oxford, formerly directed by Z. A. Stos.

2 For example, J. Bjorkmann (1994) *Hoards and Deposits in Bronze Age Mesopotamia* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Ph.D. dissertation); A. B. Knapp, J. D. Muhly, and P. M. Muhly (1988) "To Hoard Is Human: Late Bronze Age Metal Deposits in Cyprus and the Aegean" in *Report of the Department of Antiquities, Cyprus Part I* (Nicosia), 233–64.

Images of Jerusalem in Hugeburc's *Vita Willibaldi* (8th century CE)



Rodney Aist

University of Wales at Lampeter

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow

My research at the Albright Institute this year has served to advance my Ph.D. studies currently being undertaken at the University of Wales at Lampeter on Christian pilgrim texts on Jerusalem during the Byzantine and Early Islamic periods. In particular, I am doing research on Willibald of Eichstätt, an Anglo-Saxon pilgrim, who visited Jerusalem in the 720s CE. Fifty years later, now the venerable bishop of Eichstätt (Germany), Willibald

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The fourth annual Presidential Forum will turn our attention to ASOR's past, as we hear several short presentations that highlight the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls and ASOR's involvement in their publication and dissemination, as well as provide highlights of ASOR's history from a new exploration into our archives.

✦ Eric Meyers, President of ASOR, will offer a glimpse into some memorable moments in ASOR's past.

✦ Westin Field, President of the Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation, will offer insights into his ongoing work on the "authorized" history of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

✦ George Kiraz—a longtime ASOR exhibitor, Syriac scholar, and founder and publisher of Gorgias Press, whose father was involved with the purchase of some of the Dead Sea Scrolls—will tell us of his father's involvement and describe his recent work on the subject.

✦ Rachel Hallote, SUNY-Purchase, ASOR CAMP chair, has worked on archival material for her recent book on Frederick Bliss, published by Gorgias Press, and will describe a few ASOR archives items.

The President's Reception and Presentation of Awards will follow the forum from 8:30–10:00pm.

dictated his Holy Land travels to a younger relative, the nun Hugelure. Notwithstanding Hugelure's essential role in the resulting composition of the *Vita Willibaldi* (also known as *The Hodæporicon of St Willibald*), the text encapsulates the authentic voice of Willibald from the perspective of an elder bishop looking back upon his adventures as a young man. It is this question—Willibald's image of Jerusalem—that is the focus of my dissertation.

The project is divided into two parts. The first section addresses Willibald's individual descriptions of the holy places of Jerusalem. Willibald begins his circuit of Jerusalem with a description of the Holy Sepulchre—"place where the Holy Cross was found," the "place of Calvary" and the "tomb of the Savior." Willibald then describes the Church of Holy Sion, the "portico of Solomon" (the pool of Bethesda), a column associated with the funeral procession of St. Mary, her tomb in the Jehoshaphat Valley, a church "where Jesus prayed before his passion," and the Church of the Ascension. Two aspects of Willibald's description are worth highlighting. First, Willibald associates the restoration of his sight after two months of blindness to the place "where the Holy Cross was found." Although the commemoration was traditionally located inside the basilica of St. Constantine, the text suggests that Willibald is describing a *locus* outside the church. In comparing the description with the testimonies of Adomnán, Epiphanius, and Daniel the Abbot, it appears that Willibald is actually referring to the related commemoration of the miraculous healing, also associated with the Helena legend, which occurred when the Holy Cross was placed upon a deceased (or mortally ill) person. Together, the sources indicate that a column located somewhere near the entrance of the church was a prominent feature on the Christian landscape of early Islamic Jerusalem. Second, Willibald's reference to the column associated with Mary's funeral, which commemorated a confrontation between the Jews and the Apostle, has been variously and incorrectly located by a number of scholars. However, the evidence of Epiphanius and the *Armenian Guide*, as well as the context of Willibald's own description, clearly places the marker just outside the eastern gate of the city. Once the column is correctly located, it becomes apparent that Willibald is describing a logical walking route through Jerusalem. His route, which then parallels that found in other texts, such as Sophronius and the *Armenian Guide*, appears to reflect the standardized pilgrim circuit used by Christians during late Byzantine and early Islamic periods.

The second section of the dissertation looks at Willibald's overall image of the city. In short, in spite of his one-time intimacy with the city, Willibald viewed Jerusalem as a remote and distant place. His pilgrimage to Jerusalem had been an arduous experience, characterized by a number of personal hardships and accentuated by issues of culture, religion, and politics, and from the vantage point of Eichstätt, the distance to Jerusalem was measured by the obstacles that separated the Western pilgrim from the walls of Jerusalem. The city as positioned on the eastern peripheral edge of Willibald's mental map, an image which contrasts significantly with the traditional view of Jerusalem as the center of the world.

The Genesis Apocryphon of Qumran Cave 1 in Light of Early Jewish Exegesis on the Patriarchal Narratives



Daniel A. Machiela
University of Notre Dame

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow

The Genesis Apocryphon of Qumran Cave 1 (1QapGen) has received a surprisingly small amount of scholarly attention to date, prompting my study of its text and exegetical traditions while an ECA Fellow at the Albright.

The first stage of my project, and that which occupied the majority of my time in Jerusalem, entailed the production of a new edition of the scroll's text. The need for a new text of this scroll is particularly acute, owing until quite recently to a lack of widely accessible photos. Hence, most currently available editions are genetically linked back to the original publications, all of which were preliminary in nature and at times inadequate.

Using several sets of photographs, I have been able to finish a complete transcription of the Aramaic text (21 columns, some very fragmentary), an English translation, and an extensive set of textual notes. The latter include all available readings to date (where there is disagreement)—something previously unavailable. In many instances, tenuous readings have been assured or altered, while in other places new text altogether has been readable. I hope this edition will prove both useful and serviceable to scholars interested in the Genesis Apocryphon. In addition to working with this text, I have begun an ancillary study of the use of geography in a section of the scroll recounting Noah's division of the inhabited earth among his sons and grandsons (cols. 16–17).

Some of the textual findings have been exciting, such as a new phrase at the beginning of Genesis Apocryphon 14.17. Here the words "one to the south of the land, and one to the north of the land" are readable on the infrared photographs. This obscure phrase has allowed a reconstruction of the general content of the entire column, which finds a thematic parallel in Jubilees 10. In both texts, a story is told about the settling of Noah's sons throughout their respective portions of the inhabited earth, indicating that here we have a reference to one son—Ham—traveling to his allotment in the south (i.e. the modern continent of Africa), while the other—Japheth—goes to the north (i.e. the continent of Europe). "The land" thus refers to Asia, or more specifically to the Levant.

Other new readings are less revealing, but important nonetheless. Some of these even come from the earliest columns, published by Nahman Avigad and Yigael Yadin in 1956 (cols. 2, 19–22) and combed through by numerous scholars since then. Among these is a replacement of the word *הלכנו* ("we have crossed over") with *הלכנו* ("we have gone out") in 19.13, and the reading *חכמתי* ("my wisdom") in place of *אנתתי* ("my wife") in 19.24.

One of the most enjoyable parts of my time at the Albright was writing the introduction to my text edition, in

which I recount the early days of the discovery, opening, and publication of the Genesis Apocryphon, which was initially named simply “the fourth scroll.” The Albright (then ASOR in Jerusalem) played a significant role during this formative time, with John Trever and William Brownlee, the two ASOR fellows then in residence, being entrusted by the Syrians of St. Mark’s Monastery to examine and photograph the scroll. It was they who first comprehended the importance of the four scrolls, and it was thrilling for me to work on the fourth scroll in the library where those exciting events took place, nearly sixty years ago. In addition, the libraries and kind help of scholars available in Jerusalem have made the Albright an ideal place to spend a year of research.

Processes of Ceramic Change and Continuity: Tel Batash in the Second Millennium BCE as a Test Case



Nava Panitz-Cohen
Hebrew University

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow

Pottery studies in Israel in the past have mainly focused on aspects of chronology, regionality, and ethnicity within the “culture-history” paradigm. Alternative research agendas, however, have attempted to use pottery to explore other issues, including social, economic, and political relations. These involved methodological approaches that provide an entrée into areas of research that have developed mainly within the framework of processual and post-processual archaeology. Analyzing pottery according to form characteristics, technological developments, and styles of decoration, as well as quantifying pottery assemblages, investigating regional dispersion, and conducting provenience studies, provide insights into patterns of change and continuity that can offer a “behind-the-scene” perspective of thought and ancient behavior.

During the period of my ECA Fellowship at the Albright and within the framework of my doctoral research, I focused on the study of technology, ethno-archaeological analogy, and the application of anthropological and archaeological theory. I applied these to the well-established ceramic database compiled from the evidence of twelve seasons of excavation at Tel Batash (biblical Timnah) located in the Shephelah, that is, the low hills of Judah. The assemblages date from the Middle Bronze IIB to the end of Iron Age I (Strata XII–V), a period of some 700 years, and include numerous complete vessels recovered from a series of destruction levels. Quantitative, typological, and technological analyses were applied to thousands of vessels and sherds in addition to conducting petrographic provenience studies. Capacity and comparative studies of the distribution of finds were also conducted using the data from two completely excavated houses of the Late Bronze Age. A contextual approach based on the historical

and geo-political background of the Shephelah during the second half of the second millennium BCE formed the core of this analysis. Of particular importance was the study of the workings of the city-state system and the impact of Egyptian domination, all of which played an important role in understanding the mechanisms of ceramic change and continuity.

My analysis of the typology, technological developments, and provenience of the Batash assemblages suggests a shift in the mode of production at the point of transition from the Middle to the Late Bronze Age. This was a shift from a more centralized and redistributive industry operating in the framework of large fortified urban centers, to a noncompetitive, dispersed household workshop industry. This shift also represents an adaptive strategy that continued to operate during the course of the 15th–14th c. BCE, in light of the continuing lack of central authority of the city-state system and economic pressure exerted by Egyptian rule. During the course of the 13th c. and into the early 12th c., a more innovative change was noted in ceramic production, which I understand was the result of the tightening of Egyptian rule during the 19th–20th dynasties and the increasing involvement of Egypt in pottery production, as well as the gradual disintegration of Canaanite social cohesion. Late Bronze Age pottery, a key feature of Canaanite material culture, is a major factor in considering the process of maintaining Canaanite identity during the peak of Egyptian rule and its disintegration.

Petrographic analysis has shown that in LBI–IIA (16th–14th centuries) the majority of pottery at Batash came from the region of the Kingdom of Gezer, while in the 13th c. a shift occurred, and provenience studies indicate that half of the pottery came from a more western and southern venue, possibly the Kingdom of Gath or Lachish. This source becomes the dominant one in the Iron Age I, indicating a return to a more centralized production mode that was most likely controlled in some way by the Philistine cities. The Canaanite and Philistine ceramic traditions coexisted with a substantial degree of typological and particularly technological interaction.

The results of this study have emphasized that there is no direct correlation between historical events and pottery change or continuity, but rather, complex mechanisms ranging from environmental to cognitive are behind these processes.

The Book of Job in the Byzantine and Slavic Middle Ages



Iskra Vladimirova Hristova-Shomova
Sofia University, Sofia, Bulgaria

Andrew W. Mellon Fellow

The purpose of my study was to explore the place of the book of Job in the general framework of Christian religious practice and thought, especially in the Orthodox tradition. However, the book of Job could not be understood or

studied adequately without taking into account its Jewish roots and its context in the Hellenistic Jewish world.

I began my research on the book of Job with a study of two manuscripts of the book kept in the Rila Monastery in Bulgaria, which contain the Slavic translation of the *catena* of the book of Job, that is, the biblical book, accompanied by commentaries of about 20 Church fathers. I prepared an edition of the text, accompanied by Slavic-Greek and a Greek-Slavic indexes and a linguistic study of the Slavonic translation. However, in the course of my work on the Slavic text, when compared with the Greek original text, I realized that there were many unsolved questions about the Septuagint version of the book of Job and its origin. Thanks to the kindness of archbishop Aristarchos in Jerusalem, I had a unique opportunity to explore simultaneously two of the earliest and most precious Greek manuscripts of the book of Job, both of them containing marvellous illuminations. The first is kept in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem (ms. Agiou Taphou #5), dating from the 13th century, containing 117 miniatures; the second ms. (Sinaiticus #3), is from the 11th century and contains 24 miniatures. An excellent recently published facsimile edition of this manuscript was sent specially to Jerusalem by archbishop Damianos, the Abbot of the monastery "St. Catherine" in Sinai, so that I could study it.

As a result of my research during the period of my Mellon Fellowship, I plan to trace the history of Job in the following manner. There were two quite different versions of the book of Job. One of them is a tale about a righteous and wealthy man who lost everything because of the treachery of Satan, but in the end, his health and possessions were restored by God. This is the apocryphal book, *The Testament of Job*. The other version can be likened more adequately to Plato's dialogues, as it is written in a dialogue form. This is the biblical book of Job, which can be defined as a religio-philosophical poem about human existence and the existential relations between man and God. *The Testament of Job* is preserved only in one Coptic, four Greek, and three Slavic manuscripts, and the dates of its composition still remain unknown. However, some parts of it are preserved in different Hebrew and Aramaic sources: for example, in the *Targum of Job*, in the *Babylonian Talmud*, and in some *Midrash* texts.

The biblical book of Job represents a considerable literary and poetic achievement. The two ancient translations of the Hebrew text of the scriptures, the Greek one—the *Septuagint*—and the Aramaic translation—the *Targum*—appear within a relatively short period of time of each other. These two translations offer quite different approaches to the Hebrew text. The two main characteristics of the *Targum* are: (1) it does not usually reproduce the poetic expressions of the Hebrew text; (2) it aims to eliminate all phrases, which are reminiscent of the anthropomorphism of God. On the contrary, in the *Septuagint* translation of the book of Job, the poetic features of the text are not only preserved but even enhanced further, and moreover, in the Greek text, the Lord appears with more human features, due to the emphasis on his human characteristics. Christianity, which is an offspring of the *Septuagint*, has to face the same theological problems, posed by the inherited tradition of God's anthropomorphism, but it solves it by the doctrine of incarnation. This is well demonstrated in the miniatures in the manuscripts of the book of Job, where the scenes representing God's manifestations (*The Theophany*) always depict the Son and never the Father.

The Byzantine tradition represents two principal versions of the *catena*; one of these versions has been translated into Slavic. The text of the Slavic version offers some additional phrases that are included in the main biblical text and appear as part of it. These phrases are not usually reproduced and discussed in the critical editions. I didn't think that I could find parallels to these phrases, but to my surprise I was able to find some of them in the ms. Sinaiticus 3, where they are written in small majuscule letters between the lines of the biblical text. These phrases were intended to serve as a kind of explanation of the biblical text, but in some cases the Slavic translator understood them as a part of the biblical text. In this way, my work on the Greek manuscripts of the book of Job during the tenure of my Mellon Fellowship at the Albright Institute allowed me to bridge in important ways the Greek and Slavic textual traditions of the book of Job. The results of this work will be fully integrated in my future publications and monograph on the history of this biblical book in the Byzantine and Slavic Middle Ages.

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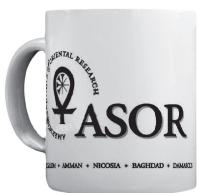
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The Oriental Influences on the Early Martyr Cults of the Lower Danube (3rd–4th Centuries): A Historical, Archaeological, and Iconographical Approach



Octavian Bounegru
“Al. I. Cuza” University, Iasi, Romania

Andrew W. Mellon Fellow

The main focus of research during my fellowship period at the Albright Institute was to develop a database of literary sources for martyrdom in the eastern Mediterranean, especially from the period c. 250–303 A.D. and to investigate the archaeological evidence for early Christian martyr crypts.

The cult of Christian relics follows a very old Greco-Roman tradition. Although evidence for the cult of holy relics can be found in the second and third centuries AD, its beginning is more accurately linked to the rule of Constantine (306–337 AD). The time of Justinian (527–565 AD) saw a dramatic increase in the number of sacred relics stretching from Palestine to Germany. There was a movement, confirmed by the hagiographic texts, that aimed to multiply the number of relics (of any given saint). This fact is explained by the attempt of believers to rectify a perceived injustice made to the saints and forgotten a long time ago.

In the lower Danube region and the western Black Sea coast, the martyr cults are attested by important archaeological discoveries, including the remains of a martyr crypt (*martyrion*) in a Christian basilica in the ancient city of Halmyris from the early fourth century. Halmyris was the site of a celebrated martyr cult. According to the *Vita Sanctorum*, two individuals—Epictetus, aged 64, and his companion As-

tion, aged 35, who were likely in origin from some place in the Greek East, possibly Bithynia—journeyed to Halmyris. In 290 AD the *dux* of the province of Scythia, Latronianus, came on an official visit to inspect the works of the town and was informed by officials that there were two Christians living in the village who were leading the people astray from the sacrifices due the Roman gods. The two martyrs were thus condemned and decapitated, as ordered by the governor, and were buried in a secret location near the town. Later, a *presbyteros* moved the remains of the two martyrs to a new tomb, perhaps in the very crypt discussed below.

Excavations conducted by Mihail Zahariade of the Archaeological Institute in Bucharest and myself from 2001–2002 in the northwest part of a site in the center of Halmyris revealed the remains of a large three-aisled early Christian Basilica, with a *narthex* and *diaconicum* on the south side. The date of the original construction may well have been the first half of the fourth century. A crypt was discovered under the altar. The eastern wall of the mortuary room was completely covered by a painted fresco applied over a thick layer of plaster. The bones of the two martyrs were found in a fragmentary state, distributed in both rooms. The anthropological analysis indicates two individuals, one probably in his sixties (Epictetus) and the other around 40 (Astion), exactly as related in the martyr act.

The Halmyris finds are important because they represent the earliest attestation of a martyr cult in the lower Danube region. They provide a clear overview of the development of martyr cults in the immediate aftermath of the Diocletianic persecutions in 290 AD. The Halmyris crypt seems to have been an important place of pilgrimage during the fifth and sixth centuries in the Lower Danube, very likely one of the few such places in the Balkan-Danubian regions. The Halmyris martyr cult represents a unique case in early Christian archaeology, where a literary account is confirmed by such a range of archaeological, anthropological, and epigraphical evidence.

Teacher's Workshop at the 2006 ASOR Annual Meeting in Washington, DC

DAILY LIFE AND TRADE IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST: WHAT ARCHAEOLOGY CAN TELL US

Teachers' Workshop Sponsored by The American Schools of Oriental Research and The Smithsonian Institution
November 17, 2006, Department of Anthropology, Rose Seminar Room 339, Smithsonian Institution

Elementary and High School teachers will have the opportunity to learn how archaeologists have reconstructed the ancient history of the Near East. The all-day workshop for teachers in the Washington DC area will feature a program that focuses on the Bronze and Iron Age periods in Jordan and the Mediterranean, through lectures, online educational activities, and lesson plans. This workshop is part of a continuing effort to encourage teachers to include Near Eastern archaeology in their curriculum. Participants in the teachers' workshop will learn how to use archaeological methods to analyze artifacts in order to answer research questions. This workshop is sponsored by ASOR's Outreach Committee and requires separate registration. For more information on participating, please contact Ann Kaupp at (202) 633-1917.

The presenters include members of the ASOR Outreach Committee including: Ellen Bedell, Kimberley Connors, Stefanie Elkins, and Neal Bierling. Don Ortner, the Smithsonian Institution, and Renata Wolyneć, the BLM Pennsylvania "Project Archaeology" coordinator, Edinboro University, will also give presentations.

W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research Appointees, Residents, and Staff, 2005–2006



BACK ROW (L–R): Director S. Gitin, Adam Gitin, Resident Pat Neu, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow Nava Panitz-Cohen, Research Fellow Deborah Cassuto, Senior Fellow Eliot Braun, Miqne Staff Viviana Moscovich, Groundsman Lutfi Mussa, Gardener Faiz Khalaf, Research Fellow Eric Tully.

MIDDLE ROW (L–R): Research Fellow Kent Reynolds, Maintenance Staff Ashraf Hanna, Cherie Gitin, Senior Fellow Shimon Gibson, Assistant to the Director Helena Flusfeder, Post-Doctoral Fellow Stephen Pfann, Senior Fellow Anna de Vincenz, Samuel H. Kress Fellow Christine Thompson, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow Octavian Bounegru, Adriana Bounegru, former Acting Institute Manager Sami Najjar, Research Fellow Baruch Brandl, Library Computer Consultant Avner Halpern, Chief Librarian Sarah Sussman, Chef Hisham M'farrah.

FRONT ROW (L–R): Kitchen and Housekeeping Staff Nuha Khalil Ibrahim, Miqne Staff Moshe Ben-Ari, Senior Fellow Trude Dothan, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow Rodney Aist, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Carolina Aznar, Annual Professor Oded Borowski, Marcia Borowski, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Scott Bucking, Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow/Program Coordinator Jill Baker, Institute Manager Nadia Bandak, Miqne Staff Marina Zeltser, Kitchen and Housekeeping Staff Nawal Ibtisam Rsheid.

ROW ON CARPET (L–R): Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow Dan Machiela, Jodi Machiela, Micah and Sophia Machiela.

APPOINTEES AND STAFF NOT IN PHOTO: Administrative Consultant Munira Said, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Daniel Falk, George A. Barton Fellow MiYoung Im, Samuel H. Kress Fellow Lisa Mahoney, Andrew W. Mellon Fellows Przemyslaw Dec and Iskra Vladimirova Hristova-Shomova, Senior Fellows Marwan Abu Khalaf, Garth Gilmour, Aren Maeir, Hani Nur el-Din, Hamdan Taha, Steven Weitzman, Samuel R. Wolff; Post-Doctoral Fellows Ibrahim Abu-Ammar, Susan Cohen, Mohammad Ghosheh, Salah H. Houdalieh, Laura Mazow, Stephen Rosenberg, Hamed Salem; Research Fellows David Ben-Shlomo, Amir Golani, Malka Hershkovitz, Wasfi Mohammed Kailani, Ianir Milevski, Tim Moore, Elaine Myers, Claire Pfann, Khader Salameh, Issa Sarie', Christopher Tuttle, Ross Voss, Anabel Zarzecki-Peleg, Alexander Zukerman.

ASOR Mesopotamian Fellow Report 2005–2006

Unpublished Old Babylonian/Middle Bronze Age Tablets from Alalakh (Level VII), their Archival Context, and their Chronological Implications

Jacob Lauinger
(University of Chicago)

The aim of my research trip as ASOR's Mesopotamian Fellow for 2005/2006 was to copy unpublished Old Babylonian tablets from Alalakh in the Hatay Archeological Museum's collection and to collate other published tablets. This research is for the dissertation I am currently writing in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. In this dissertation, I am re-analyzing the Old Babylonian/Middle Bronze Age tablets from Alalakh from an archival perspective, and in order to most accurately characterize the archives, I must study all the tablets, published and unpublished, which formed them.

Alalakh is located in the Amuq valley, near the great bend of the Orontes in what is now the Hatay Province of the Republic of Turkey. The site was occupied for almost the entire second millennium, and Sir Leonard Woolley, who excavated Alalakh in the late 1930s and again after the Second World War, uncovered eighteen successive levels of occupation. Two in particular, levels VII and IV, dating to the Old Babylonian and Middle Babylonian periods, respectively, yielded several hundred tablets each. Unfortunately, it has been difficult to discuss the archeological context of these tablets as the findspots of many were inaccurately published while others have lost their excavation numbers. In a visit to the British Museum in the summer of 2004, I studied unpublished

excavation cards which allow me to re-associate these tablets and excavation numbers and thereby accurately identify the findspots.

However, during a visit to the Hatay Archeological Museum two years before, I had also discovered sixty-nine unpublished tablets. At that time I was able to catalog these tablets but not to study them properly. For my archival analysis of the Old Babylonian corpus to be comprehensive, I wanted to incorporate this unpublished material, and



This is a caption for the first picture of Old Babylonian tablets from Alalakh.

so I was grateful to be able to return to the Hatay Archeological Museum under the auspices of ASOR's Mesopotamian Fellowship.

I stayed in the city of Antakya, where the Hatay Archeological Museum is located, for the duration of my trip, arriving in the last week of September and leaving in the middle

of December. I worked exclusively in the museum, where the acting director, Faruk Kılınc, and the museum archeologist, Aslı Tunca, who oversaw my study, provided me with all the assistance that I required. I am very grateful to both of them.

During this time, not only did I copy all of the unpublished Old Babylonian tablets that I had not yet studied but I also found several more boxes containing 220 fragments. These fragments are of particular interest because they are all envelope fragments, and, since my return, I have been identifying the published or unpublished tablets that these envelopes once contained. I find this avenue of research especially intriguing because envelopes occupy a somewhat marginal place in ancient Near Eastern studies, with previous scholarship typically focusing on the variant writings or sealings that are preserved on the envelope. With their narrow chronological and geographical focus, however, I hope to use the Old Babylonian Alalakh envelopes as evidence for an historical argument. During the Old Babylonian Period, Alalakh belonged to the empire of Yamhad's sphere of influence, and the tablets contained in envelopes were generally drawn up at the court of Yamhad or involved members of this court. By using the envelope fragments to identify these tablets and then by comparing them, I hope explore how relations between Alalakh and Yamhad changed over the course of several generations.

I am very grateful to ASOR for having had the opportunity to complete this research trip. Apart from the fortuitous if unexpected discovery of the

new envelope fragments, the results of my research have allowed me to incorporate the unpublished material into my dissertation and thus put my archival analysis of the Old Babylonian Alalakh tablets on much more solid ground. Approaching these tablets from an archival perspective has already afforded me new insights into both Alalakh's foreign relations and the organization of its palace administration.

My conclusions on the archives has also offered me a fresh perspective on the key tablets in the still-ongoing debate as to how many kings ruled Old Babylonian Alalakh. Here, my work suggests that one individual named Yarim-Lim, who is suggested to be a third king of Alalakh, was actually the son of the last king and did not in fact reign. The question of how many kings ruled Old Babylonian Alalakh is one of

the most exciting that an archival approach to the tablets can ask, as the answer will concern not just those scholars involved in Alalakh studies, but all historians of the Bronze Age Near East. Any conclusions as to the number of Alalakh's kings will play an important role in determining the relative chronology of Alalakh, and because of the city's circumstances – marginal, both geographically and politically, to the great Bronze Age empires – a relative chronology written for Alalakh will have a ripple effect that will be felt throughout the chronologies of the ancient Near East. ✨

This is a caption for the second picture of Old Babylonian tablets from Alalakh.



Plenary Session at the 2006 ASOR Annual Meeting in Washington, DC

Wednesday, November 15th
7:00–8:30pm
at the Capital Hilton

**Thieves of Baghdad:
 One Marine's Passion
 to Recover
 the World's Greatest
 Treasures**

Matthew Bogdanos
Colonel in the United States
Marine Reserves,
Plenary Speaker

Following the session there will be a reception and book signing. Col. Bogdanos' new book *Thieves of Baghdad* will be available for purchase.

Matthew Bogdanos, an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan, is a colonel in the U.S. Marine Reserves, middleweight boxer, and native New Yorker. Raised waiting tables in his family's Greek restaurant in lower Manhattan, he holds a classics degree from Bucknell University, a law degree and a master's degree in classics from Columbia University, and a master's degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marines in 1980, he left active duty in 1988 to join the District Attorney's Office—where New York tabloids call him "pit bull" for his relentless prosecution of criminals such as the 15-year-old "Baby-Faced Butchers" for their 1997 grisly Central Park murder and rappers Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Jamal "Shyne" Barrows for their 1999 shootout.

Recalled to active duty after losing his apartment near the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, he joined a multi-agency task force in Afghanistan and received a Bronze Star for counterterrorist operations against al-Qaeda. He then served in Iraq and the Horn of Africa as the head of that task force and received a 2005 National Humanities Medal from President George Bush for his work recovering Iraq's priceless treasures. He has returned to the DA's Office where he still boxes for the New York City Police Department Widows & Orphans Charity and continues the hunt for stolen antiquities. Royalties from his book, *Thieves of Baghdad*, go to the Iraq Museum



THE AMERICAN CENTER OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (AMMAN) ANNOUNCEMENT OF FELLOWSHIPS 2007–2008

Deadline for all applications is February 1, 2007

THE KRESS FELLOWSHIP IN THE ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF JORDAN:

One or more three- to six-month fellowships for pre-doctoral students completing dissertation research in an art historical topic: art history, archaeology, architectural history, and in some cases classical studies. Applicants must be Ph.D. candidates and U.S. citizens or foreign nationals who have matriculated at U.S. institutions. The maximum award for six months is \$18,500.

ACOR-CAORC FELLOWSHIP:

Three or more two- to six-month fellowships for MA and pre-doctoral students. Fields of study include all areas of the humanities and the natural and social sciences. Topics should contribute to scholarship in Near Eastern studies. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is \$20,200. Subject to funding.

ACOR-CAORC POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP:

Two or more two- to six-month fellowships for post-doctoral scholars and scholars with a terminal degree in their field, pursuing research or publication projects in the natural and social sciences, humanities, and associated disciplines relating to the Near East. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is \$26,200. Subject to funding.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) FELLOWSHIP:

One four-month fellowship for scholars who have a Ph.D. or have completed their professional training. Fields of research include: modern and classical languages, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence, philosophy, archaeology, comparative religion, ethics, and the history, criticism, and theory of the arts. Social and political scientists are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or foreign nationals living in the U.S. three years immediately preceding the application deadline. The maximum award is \$20,000.

THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION EAST-CENTRAL EUROPEAN RESEARCH FELLOWS PROGRAM:

Two three-month fellowships for scholars who have a Ph.D. or equivalent experience, pursuing research in any field of the humanities or social sciences that relates to the Near East. Applicants must be citizens of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, or Slovakia. The award is \$11,500.

JENNIFER C. GROOT FELLOWSHIP:

Two or more awards of \$1,500 each to support beginners in archaeological fieldwork who have been accepted as staff members on archaeological projects with ASOR/CAP affiliation in Jordan. Open to undergraduate and graduate students of U.S. or Canadian citizenship.

BERT AND SALLY DE VRIES FELLOWSHIP:

One award of \$1,000 to support a student for participation on an archaeological project. Senior project staff whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. Open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of any nationality.

HARRELL FAMILY FELLOWSHIP:

One award of \$1,500 to support a graduate student for participation on an archaeological project. Senior project staff whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. Open to enrolled graduate students of any nationality.

PIERRE AND PATRICIA BIKAI FELLOWSHIP:

One or more awards for one to two months residency at ACOR. It is open to enrolled graduate students of any nationality participating on an archaeological project or research in Jordan. The fellowship includes room and board at ACOR and a monthly stipend of \$400.

JAMES A. SAUER FELLOWSHIP:

One award for one month residency at ACOR. It is open to enrolled graduate students of U.S. or Canadian citizenship participating on an archaeological project or research in Jordan. The fellowship includes room and board at ACOR.

MACDONALD/SAMPSON FELLOWSHIP:

One award for six weeks residency at ACOR and participation on an archaeological project or research in the fields of Ancient Near Eastern languages and history, archaeology, Bible studies, or comparative religion. The fellowship includes room and board at ACOR and a stipend of \$600. It is open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status.

KENNETH W. RUSSELL FELLOWSHIP:

One award of \$1,500 to assist a Jordanian student, in Jordan or elsewhere, in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, conservation, or related areas. It is open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of Jordanian citizenship.

NAN FREDERICK AND DR. FRANCIS WENGER JORDANIAN EDUCATIONAL FELLOWSHIP:

One award of \$1,400 to assist a Jordanian student with the cost of their education. Eligibility is not limited to a specific field of

study, but preference will be given to study related to Jordan's cultural heritage. Open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of Jordanian citizenship.

CAORC, NEH, Kress, Mellon, Sauer, MacDonald/Sampson and Bikai Fellows will reside at the ACOR facility in Amman while conducting their research.

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THE CYPRUS AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NICOSIA) ANNOUNCEMENT OF FELLOWSHIPS 2007-2008

HELENA WYLDE SWINY AND STUART SWINY FELLOWSHIP:

One grant of \$750 to a graduate student of any nationality in a U.S. college or university to pursue a research project relevant to an ongoing field project in Cyprus; to be used to fund research time in residence at CAARI and to help defray costs of travel. Residence at CAARI is required.

ANITA CECIL O'DONOVAN FELLOWSHIP:

One grant of \$750 to a graduate student of any nationality enrolled in the U.S. or elsewhere to pursue research on a project relevant to the archaeology of Cyprus; to be used to fund a period of research time in residence at CAARI and to help defray costs of travel. Residence at CAARI is required.

Application Requirements: project statement; expected schedule of work; budget; curriculum vitae; two letters of recommendation. Deadline: February 1, 2007. Information & Submission of Applications: CAARI at Boston University, 656 Beacon St, Fifth Floor, Boston, MA 02215. Fax: 617-353-6575. Email: caari@bu.edu.

CAARI SENIOR SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE:

An established scholar who commits to stay at least 30 days in succession at CAARI, ideally in the summer, and to be available in evenings and weekends to younger scholars working there, in return for 50% reduction in residency rate. Must have PhD in archaeology or ancillary field for at least 5 years prior to visit, be fluent in English (but may be of any nationality), and be committed to mentoring students. Travel, other expenses not covered.

Application Requirements: Letter detailing the applicant's proposed schedule; summary curriculum vitae. Deadline: April 15, 2007. Information & Submission of Applications: Director, CAARI, 11 Andreas Demetriou St, 1066 Nicosia, Cyprus. Email: director@caari.org.cy.

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