MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I took office as President of the Albright five years ago, I stated that we should prepare for an adventure involving new challenges and opportunities. Little did I know then how true that would be! Looking back, I think we can all take pride in what we have accomplished together.

Despite the downturn in the economy, we successfully completed a second National Endowment for the Humanities – NEH – Two-Million Dollar Challenge Grant, raising one million six hundred thousand dollars to which NEH contributed four hundred thousand dollars in matching funds. We are grateful to NEH for its continuing support.

One million dollars was for the renovation and endowment of the now renamed Joy Gottesman Ungerleider Hostel, and for updating the dining and common rooms, and the Garden Apartment, rebuilding the Wright Lab and expanding the Library. For this we thank the Dorot Foundation’s most generous support without which we would not have been able to carry out this major renovation, the first one since the buildings were erected in 1925. We also want to thank Albright Director Sy Gitin who initiated this project and saw it to its successful conclusion. Our Fellows now enjoy 21st century comfort in an early 20th century landmark-building complex, and carry out their scholarly work in our first-rate library and research facilities.

Continued on page 2 – Message from the President

The Eighth Trude Dothan Lectureship Series in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, took place from March 15-17, 2011. The Dothan Lecturer, Donald Redford, Professor of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies at Pennsylvania State University, delivered one his three lectures at the Ecole Biblique under the auspices of Al-Quds University.
The second million dollars was raised to endow the Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship. The first recipient of this newly established professorship is expected to take up residence at the Albright a year from now. We want to thank the Skirball and the Scheuer Foundations for their most generous support. We also want to thank Trustee Lydie Shufro for her leadership and commitment to this endeavor.

During this period, the management of the Albright endowment was radically changed to the immense benefit of the Institute. For this we are greatly indebted to Albright Chair, Vivian Bull who, with her talent and expertise, was responsible for this major improvement.

Over the past five years we also have completely revised the fellowship application process. This accomplishment is due mostly to the tireless work of Vice-President and Fellowship Committee Chair Joan Branham. We can now boast that we have a state-of-the-art application process that will make it easier to attract outstanding applicants. At the same time, Albright Director Sy Gitin continues to lead what is widely regarded as the largest and most successful fellowship program among American research institutes in the region.

To be sure, we continue to face economic pressures, as do all non-profits, but we should be encouraged that together we have accomplished a great deal. Not only have we been able to retire a $270,000 tax obligation to the Jerusalem municipality last year, but we also still managed to increase our endowment by a significant amount.

How is it possible to achieve this record of success during what have been terribly trying economic times worldwide? My response would be that we have done this by working together. Sure, we have disagreements about details from time to time. But none of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our Director, Staff and Trustees, and the generous financial support of US government agencies, private foundations and many friends of the Albright.

So, in this my last letter as President, I am pleased to say that the Institute's past is noble, its present status is strong, and its future exceedingly bright. To ensure that we continue on this positive trend, I invite you to consider a gift to the Albright at this time. Your contribution, large or small, will enable the Albright to continue fulfilling its mission to develop and disseminate scholarly knowledge of the Near East from prehistory to the early Islamic period. Our goals are indeed high and our reach broad, but as the results over the past five years have shown again and again, when we work together, nothing is impossible.

Appreciatively,

J. Edward Wright

---

**TWO MILLION DOLLAR NEH CHALLENGE GRANT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED**

The Albright Trustees are pleased to announce the successful completion of the second **Two Million Dollar NEH Challenge Grant**. The Albright raised one million six hundred thousand dollars, and NEH contributed four hundred thousand dollars in matching funds.

The first million dollars was used for the renovation and endowment of the **Joy Gottesman Ungerleider Hostel**, renamed in honor of the Albright's late Chairman and long time Trustee, and for the renovation of other facilities on campus.

The second million was to establish and endow the **Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship**, in honor of Sy Gitin on the occasion of his Silver Anniversary as Director of the Institute. This new professorship is open to internationally recognized senior scholars of all nationalities who have made important contributions to their field of study. The first appointee is expected to take up residence at the Albright in academic year 2012-13.

We want to express our thanks to the National Endowment for the Humanities for awarding the Albright this second two-million dollar challenge grant; to the Dorot, Skirball and Scheuer Foundations and Packard Humanities Trust for their major gifts; to Sidnie White Crawford, Linda Feinstein, Jonathan Rosen, Lydie Shufro, Philip and Bunny White for their leadership gifts; and to all those whose contributions, large and small, have helped meet the challenge.

Lydie Shufro, Chair Development Committee

---

**ALBRIGHT INSTITUTE RECEIVES A $249,767 BEQUEST**

The Albright Trustees gratefully acknowledge a most generous surprise bequest to the Albright Endowment from the Estate of George E. W. Petersen. Mr. Petersen died in Tucson on February 23rd, 2010. He was 101 years old. Little is known about him, other than the fact that he was a resident of Tucson and that he seemed to have been interested in the history of the ancient Near East and Biblical Archaeology. It seems that over a period of many years, he attended lectures on these topics given by Professor William Dever, who was teaching in the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Studies and the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Arizona. Mr. Petersen would have heard about the existence and mission of the Albright Institute from Professor Dever. This most generous gift perpetuates Mr. Petersen's legacy and links it to current and future generations of scholars at the Institute.

His name is engraved on the Endowment Plaque displayed at the Albright Institute in Jerusalem.

---

*Please visit our website today [www.aiar.org](http://www.aiar.org) and make an on-line contribution*
New Fellowships and an Expanded Outreach Program

This past year’s program, with more than eighty events, has been one of the most extensive and varied in recent years due in part to a broader than usual international mix of Fellows from the United States, Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, China, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, South Africa, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority. The presence of three senior scholars in residence – Annual Professor Mark Smith, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Andrea Berlin, and Glassman Holland Research Fellow, Annie Caubet – also significantly broadened the scope of research and intensified the scholarly interchange between Albright senior and junior Fellows.

New fellowships included the Reuben and Edith Hecht Foundation award, a two-month fellowship given to Canadian researcher Alexandra Sumner, a post-doctoral Fellow at the Hebrew University, whose project was “Simple Complexity: Inter- and Intra-site Comparison of Scraper Retouch Strategies and Their Implications for Human Behavior during the Levantine Middle Palaeolithic.” The Noble Group Fellowship program for Chinese students was expanded from two to three awards. The awardees were Bo Zhang of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Xiaoli Ouyang from Harvard University and Wu Xin from the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University.

The Kathleen S. Brooks Fellowship awarded to Ghassan Nagagreh was extended for a second year. Ghassan, a BA graduate of Al-Quds University, is pursuing his studies in an MA Anthropology/Archaeology program at Yarmouk University in Jordan. The extension was made possible by contributions from members of the Gezer Excavation project, where Ghassan has worked for two years.

Twenty-two of the sixty-three Fellows were stipended. They included the Annual Professor, three National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows, the Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow/Program Coordinator, four Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Fellows, three Noble Group Fellows, three Andrew W. Mellon Fellows, the Glassman Holland, George A. Barton, Carol and Eric Meyers, Getty Research Exchange, Reuben and Edith Hecht, and Kathleen S. Brooks Fellows. In addition, thirteen Fellows received ECA Associate Fellowship administrative fee awards. The total amount of awards was $356,000. Of the sixty-three Fellows, eighteen were from the US; seven dual US-Israeli citizens; three from China; three from England, two dual British-Israeli citizens; two from France, two from Italy, one each from Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Estonia, Germany, and Romania, ten Israelis and nine Palestinians.

Special events such as the Trude Dothan Lectureship and two mini-conferences added to the enormous success of this year’s program. The outreach program of video-conferencing lectures for students of archaeology at Al-Quds University, now in its second year, was expanded to include on-campus lectures by Albright Fellows at both Al-Quds and Birzeit Universities.

The Eighth Trude Dothan Lectureship Series in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, endowed by the Dorot Foundation, took place from March 15th to the 17th. The Dothan Lecturer, Donald Redford, Professor of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies at Pennsylvania State University, gave presentations in three different venues: “The Present State of Archaeology in Egypt: Problems and Priorities,” under the auspices of Al-Quds University at the École Biblique; “The New Excavations at Mendes, Egypt,” at the Hebrew University; and “The Origins of the Amarna Revolution: New Light and Old Theories,” at the Albright Institute. This third lecture will be submitted to BASOR for publication. The lecture series was a huge success, with more than six hundred participants attending the various lectures, receptions, luncheons and dinners.

More than one hundred twenty participants took part in two wide-ranging, provocative, and lively mini-conferences held at the Albright. The first, “Unearthing the Wilderness: A Workshop on the History and Archaeology of the Negev and Edom in the Iron Age” was organized in December by the Albright Carol and Eric Meyers Fellow Juan Tebes of Universidad Catolica Argentina. The following six papers were presented: “The Judean Desert Frontier in the 7th Century BCE: A View from ‘Aroer” by Yifat Thareani of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology; “The Egyptian Sanctuary in the Timna Valley Reconsidered” by Uzi Avner of the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies; “The Symbolic and Social World of the Qurayyah Pottery Iconography” by Juan Tebes; “Timna Site 2: Revisited” by Tali Erickson-Gini of the Israel Antiquities Authority; Local Production of Edomite Cooking Pots in the Beersheba Valley” by Liora Freud of Tel Aviv University; and “New Perspectives on the Negev and Neighboring Regions in the Beginning of the Iron Age” by Israel Finkelstein of Tel Aviv University. The second mini-conference, “Governing ‘Across the River’: Imperial versus Local Administration in the Persian Period,” was organized in February by NEH Fellow Andrea Berlin. Four papers were presented: “The Persian Period at Tel Kedesh: Chronology, Architectural Remains, and Associated Finds” by Andrea Berlin; “The Persian Period at Ramat Rachel: Chronology, Architectural Remains, and Associated Finds” by Oded Lipschits of Tel Aviv University; “A Survey of Achaemenid-era Coinages in Across-
the-River” by Haim Gitler of the Israel Museum; and “A Survey of Achaemenid Seals and Sealings in Across-the-River” by Baruch Brandl of the Israel Antiquities Authority.

Other Program Highlights included Reports on “Early Israelite Cult at Khirbet Qeiyafa” by Yosef Garfinkel, the Yigael Yadin Professor for the Archaeology of Israel, Hebrew University; on “The Sanctuary on Mount Gerizim: Observations on the Results of Twenty Years of Excavations” by Jürgen Zangenberg, Professor of Archaeology at Leiden University; on “The Archaeology of Tell es-Safi/Gath in Iron IIB (8th Century BCE)” by Albright Senior Fellow Jeffrey R. Chadwick, of Brigham Young University; and on “The Joy of Studying Idumean Ostraca” by Bezalel Porten, Associate Professor emeritus of the Department of the History of the Jewish People, Hebrew University.

Workshops were given by Glassman Holland Research Fellow Annie Caubet, Honorary General Curator of the French Patrimony and former Head of the Ancient Near Eastern Department of the Louvre Museum, on “A Re-evaluation of Arslan Tash Ivories” and by Annual Professor Mark Smith of New York University on “Warrior Culture in Early Israel.” Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow Joe Uziel, and AIAR Post-Doctoral Fellow Itzhak Shai, both of Bar-Ilan University, spoke on “The Tel Burna Archaeological Project – A Report on the First Two Seasons of Fieldwork.” Getty Research Exchange Fellow Fabrizio Benente, of the University of Genoa, gave a presentation on “Pottery as Evidence of Medieval Mediterranean Trade: New Archaeological Data from the Tirrenian Area (Liguria, Corsica, Tuscany, and Sardinia), X-XIII Centuries.” Talks were given by Noble Group Fellows: Bo Zhang presented his findings on “Ancient Mesopotamian Geographical Tradition as Reflected in Cuneiform Texts”; Xiaoli Ouyang traced the “Economic Role of the Palace Based on the the Sin-kasid Archive from Southern Mesopotamia in the Nineteenth Century BCE”; and Wu Xin spoke on “The Near East, Central Asia, and China: Cultural Interaction and Transmission during the 4th to 2nd Centuries BCE” and “Kyzyltepa (Uzbekistan) 2010: Survey and Excavation.” Andrew W. Mellon Fellows Alexander Panayotov of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences gave a presentation on “Mapping the Jewish Communities of the Byzantine Empire: Models of Existence and Co-existence of Religious Minorities in a Christian Society”; Amar Annus of the University of Tartu, Estonia, spoke about “The Political Inversion of Religious Narrative: The Case of the Marduk Ordeal”; and Catalin Pavel, an independent scholar from Romania, described his research on “Anatolian and Levantine Archaeology between Interpretation and Description – Troy and Tel Migne.” Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellows’ presentations included: “Tell Taannek 1963-1968: The Early Bronze Age Pottery” by Mark Ziese of Cincinnati Christian University; “The Kingdom of the Book: Textual Production and Social Formation in Ancient Judah” by Nathaniel Levtow of the University of Montana; “Monotheism in the Late Biblical Period: A Case Study in Chronicles” by Matthew Lynch of Emory University; and “Dinner at Dan: Zooloarchaeological Evidence of Trends in Cultic Feasting at Iron Age Tel Dan” by Jonathan Greer of Pennsylvania State University. George A. Barton Fellow Kyle Keimer of the University of California, Los Angeles, spoke on “The Impact of Ductus on Script Form and Development in Monumental Northwest Semitic Inscriptions.” National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows Elizabeth Bloch-Smith of St. Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, gave a presentation on “The Book of Judges: A Commentary,” and Karen Stern of Brooklyn College, City University of New York, spoke on “When the Medium is the Message: Mortuary Graffiti and Jewish Cultural Identity in the Late Ancient Levant.”

The highlight of the field trip program was the five-day study tour of Cyprus organized and led by Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow/Program Coordinator Joe Uziel of Bar-Ilan University in which eleven Albright Fellows participated. Joe’s detailed report appears elsewhere in the Newsletter. Local field trips included visits to twenty-nine sites: Mount Zion Excavations, Megiddo, Beth Shearim, Kom al-Hajar, Qasr al-Muqayyar, Rehov, Samaria, Sepphoris, Gamla, and Jerusalem (the Haram al-Sharif, Dome of the Rock, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Western Wall Tunnel, and Archaeological Park), Herodium, Lachish, Tel Zayit, Beth-Shemesh, Dor, Sephoris, Jerusalem (the Hasmonean and Roman periods), and Tel Rehov. Visits were also made to the Israel, Bible Lands, and Rockefeller Museums, and to the Institute of Archaeology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Social events of note were the annual reception at the Director’s home for Albright Appointees and Staff; the AIAR Annual Appointees’ Thanksgiving Luncheon, for which Chef Hisham M’farrah prepared his traditional mouth-watering za’atar rolls and sumptuous turkey with trimmings for fifty-four guests organized by Senior Fellow Oded Borowski of Emory University and his wife, Marcia during the first semester; and by Annual Professor Mark Smith of New York University and NEH Fellow Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, during the second semester. Appointees’ Evenings with Guest Scholars were held with guests Raz Kletter, a Docent of Helsinki University; Aren Maier, Professor of Archaeology, Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University; Christopher Tuttle, Associate Director of the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), Amman;
Other Guest Scholars were Donald Redford, Professor of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies at Pennsylvania State University and this year’s True Dothan Lectureship Series Lecturer, and Jodi Magness, Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The outreach program to Al Quds University included six presentations: three video-conferencing lectures by Albright Senior Fellow Oded Borowski, Emory University, on “The Phase IV Excavations at Tell Halif”; Amnon Ben-Tor, Professor Emeritus, Hebrew University, on “The Excavations of Bronze and Iron Hazor”; and Gabriel Barkay, External Lecturer, Bar-Ilan University, on “The Excavations at Tel Lachish in the Late Bronze and Iron Ages”; and three lectures given on-campus, by Albright Getty Research Exchange Fellow Fabrizio Benente, University of Genoa, on “Islamic and Byzantine Pottery as Evidence of Medieval Mediterranean Trade in North Italy”; Albright Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellows Jonathan Greer Pennsylvania State University on ‘Dinner at Dan: Evidence of Sacrifice and Feasting in the Iron II Sacred Precinct at Tel Dan’; and Mark Ziese Cincinnati Christian University on “Tell Taannek 1963–1968: The Early Bronze Age Pottery. A lecture was given at Birzeit University by Albright National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Andrea Berlin, Boston University, on “The Hellenistic Good Life: A Study of the Villa at Tel Anafa.”

Other aspects of the outreach program included the Director’s participation as a member of a select committee of the Israel Academy of Sciences that is currently evaluating the discipline of archaeology and its impact on the culture and history of Israel. He also hosted two groups at the Albright: one from the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago led by former Albright Fellow and current Albright Trustee Yorke Rowan, and the other, a group of Archaeological Tours participants led by Albright Trustee Linda Feinstein. Albright National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Andrea Berlin of Boston University, gave lectures on “Identity Politics in Early Roman Galilee” at the Second Groningen Qumran Institute Symposium in the Netherlands on the topic of “The Jewish War against Rome (66-70/74): Interdisciplinary Perspectives,” and on “Something Old, Something New: Native Cultures under Ptolemaic Rule” at the conference on “Networks in the Hellenistic World: The Evidence of Ceramics,” sponsored by the Universities of Köln and Bonn. She also spoke on her joint excavations with Albright Trustee Sharon Herbert, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, at Tel Kedesh at a one-day symposium of the Israel Antiquities Authority and Hebrew University, and on “Daily Life in Hellenistic Israel” at the Graduate Seminar for the University of the Holy Land held at the Hebrew University. In addition, she conducted an all-day seminar on imported pottery of the Classical period for thirty archaeologists from the Israel Antiquities Authority. Albright Senior Fellow Oded Borowski of Emory University, gave two lectures, both on “Daily Life in Biblical Times,” for the Graduate Seminars of the University of Holy Land and the Zinman Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa. Albright’s Getty Research Exchange Fellow Fabrizio Benente of the University of Genoa gave a presentation on “Genoa and Mediterranean Trade (XI–XIII Centuries): An Archaeological Point of View” during a Symposium at the Italian Cultural Institute in Haifa, which he helped organize in conjunction with the Israel Antiquities Authority, the Italian Embassy in Tel Aviv, and the Italian Institute of Culture, under the auspices of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Annual Professor Mark Smith of New York University gave a lecture for students in the Department of Hebrew Language of the Hebrew University, entitled “Can We Date Judges 5 Linguistic and Cultural Considerations?” National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow Karen Stern of Brooklyn College gave two lectures: one for the faculty seminar in the Department of Classics at Tel Aviv University on “Tagging Sacred Space: Graffiti and Devotional Practice in the Synagogue of Roman Dura Europos,” and the other for an M. A. Seminar on “Identity, Community, and Violence: Jews, Christians, and Pagans in Late Antiquity” in the Department of History of the Hebrew University on “When Methods Make Meaning: Evaluating Evidence for Jewish Culture in Roman and Christian North Africa.”

NEH Fellow Karen Stern of Brooklyn College was provided with an unexpected opportunity to share her academic interests on mortuary graffiti of the Roman and Byzantine periods with a wider than usual audience in a National Public Radio broadcast. Also participating were Israeli archaeologists Boaz Zissu of Bar-Ilan University, Jonathan Price of Tel Aviv University, and Emma Maayan Dror of Haifa University. Their story provided an invaluable opportunity to inform people of the range of archaeological work being conducted throughout Israel and elsewhere in the region. The story was aired on the weekend edition of NPR’s “All Things Considered” on 6/19/2011 and attracted widespread responses, contributing to the broader public understanding of historical demography and cultural and religious identity in the ancient Middle East.

To honor Albright Senior Fellow Trude Dothan on the occasion of the publication of her Deir al-Balah excavation report in the Qedem series and of her popular volume on the subject by the Israel Museum, the Dorot Foundation requested that the Albright Institute facilitate the distribution of these volumes to a number of institutions worldwide that were interested in receiving copies but would not normally have purchased them. The Albright identified thirty such institutions in North and South America, Europe, and Asia, and through the Israel Exploration Society arranged for these institutions to receive the volumes. The Dorot Foundation covered all costs. The facility. The project undertaken by the Director and head of maintenance Ashraf Hana continued with the reorganization of the Albright’s storage space in the attics of the main building and the Director’s House. The Bab edh-Dhra and Rumeith pottery from the pre-1967 excavations stored in the Albright attics and the Bab edh-Dhra pottery loaned to the Israel Antiquities Authority were transferred to the Department of Antiquities of Jordan. This was achieved with the support of the director of the Bab edh-Dhra excavations, Thomas Schaub, by means of a special export license from the IAA obtained by the Albright Director. The costs of packing, shipping, and insurance were covered for by the Department of Antiquities of Jordan arranged for by the then Director, Ziad Al Saad. A second shipment consisting of seven boxes of ASOR archival materials was sent to the ASOR office in Boston. The material included ASOR excavation and administrative correspondence from the 1950s-1960s, Nelson Glueck’s 1932 controversial correspondence about the Shilo excavation, the Jerusalem building correspondence from 1924, correspondence on relations with the government of Jordan, and...
From the Archives, Field trip, 1984/85
l-r: Ralph Doermann, Andrea Berlin, Jodi Magness, Brian Hesse, Paula Wapnish, Paul Jacobs, and J. P. Dessel above.

In the old city of Jerusalem with Hillel Geva standing
l-r: Mark Smith, Liz Bloch-Smith, Bo Zhang, Nat Levtow, Jonathan Greer and Andrea Berlin

Haram el-Sharif

The Western Wall Tunnel

Ramat Rahel
l-r: Oded Borowski, Jonathan Greer, Jennifer Greer, Bo Zhang, Xiaoli Ouyang, Amar Annus, Andrea Berlin, Marcia Borowski, Yuval Gadot, Catalin Pavel.

City of David
W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research
Appointees, Residents and Staff, 2010-2011

Back Row: From left: Director Sy Gitin, Gardener Faiz Khalaf, Assistant to the Director Helena Flusfeder, Senior Fellow Stephen Pfann, Miqne Staff Jay Rosenberg, Chief Librarian Sarah Sussman, Research Fellows Ross Voss and Baruch Brandl, Senior Fellows Loren Crow, Shimon Gibson, Jeffrey Chadwick, Anna de Vincenz, and Eliot Braun, Research Fellow Deborah Cassuto, Senior Fellow Aren Maeir.

Middle Row: Housekeeping Staff Nuha Khalil Ibrahim, Cherie Gitin, Research Fellow Claire Pfann, Senior Fellow Samuel Wolff, Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow/Program Coordinator Joe Uziel, George A. Barton Fellow Kyle Keimer, Noble Group Fellows Wu Xin, Bo Zhang, and Xiaoli Ouyang, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow Nathaniel Levтов, Research Fellow Richard Teverson, Miqne Staff Irina Zeltser and Marina Zeltser, Alexandra Drenka, and Katharina Streit, Chef Hisham M’farreh.


Seated on carpet: Librarian Kate Masliansky, Research Fellow Alexander Zukerman, Library Computerization Staff Diana Steigler, former Albright Trustee and Fellow Jodi Magness, Kitchen and Housekeeping Staff Nawal Ibtisam Rsheid.

Appointees and staff not in photo: Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow Matthew Lynch; Andrew W. Mellon Fellows Amar Annus, Catalin Pavel, and Alexander Panayotov; Glassman Holland Research Fellow Annie Caubet; Carol and Eric Meyers Doctoral Dissertation Fellow Juan Tebes; Getty Research Exchange Fellow Fabrizio Benente; R. and E. Hecht Fellow Alexandra Sumner; Kathleen S. Brooks Fellow Ghassan Nagagreh; Senior Fellows Ibrahim Abu-Ammar, Marwan Abu Khalaf, Oded Borowski, Gerald Finkielsztejn, Garth Gilmour, Jaimie Lovell, Pierre de Miroshedj, Hani Nur el-Din, Anson Rainey, Stephen Rosenberg, Benjamin Saidel, Yuri Stoyanov, Hamdan Taha, Dieter Vieweger; Post-Doctoral Fellows David Ben-Shlomo, Amir Golani, Salah Houdalieh, Laura Mazow, Ianir Milevski, Nava Panitz-Cohen, Hamed Salem, Itzhak Shai; Research Fellows Amit Dagan, Malka Hershkovitz, Bronwen Manning, Khader Salameh, Issa Sarie; Library Computer Consultant Avner Halpern; Maintenance Staff Ashraf Hanna; and Groundsman Lutfi Mussa.
The Middle Ground: Epipaleolithic Technological Diversity in the Levant and the Transfer from Late Upper Paleolithic Hunting and Gathering to Neolithic Agriculture

Archaeological evidence from the Levant suggests that during the Terminal Pleistocene and following the end of the Upper Paleolithic (UP) (40,000-20,000 years before present-BP), hunter-gatherers began to settle in and around semi-permanent communities. Known as the Epipaleolithic (20,000-10,200 years BP), one indication of the adoption of this lifestyle is the abundance of very small stone tools referred to as microliths that were hafted into composite tools and used for hunting and harvesting. At the same time, new developments gradually emerged in economy, artistic expression, semi-permanent architecture, settlement and social organization, all of which served the needs of the populations immediately preceding the Neolithic (10,000-4,400 year BP), a time typically characterized by agriculture and permanent structures. It is the technology associated with the shift from mobile hunting and gathering during the UP and the sedentary lifestyles beginning in the Epipaleolithic that is the focus of the present research.

This research seeks to understand the technological changes and innovations associated with the later stage of the Upper Paleolithic moving through to the early Epipaleolithic in the southern Levant. Specifically, I am working to identify technological trends that were coeval with shifts in subsistence patterns between earlier mobile hunter-gatherer populations living during the late UP and those of the first Epipaleolithic socio-cultural groups that immediately followed. Of importance are the specific technological strategies employed by cultural groups spanning both periods and what commonalities and, more specifically, what variations are expressed in stone tool production. These differences often represent important nuances that demarcate technological systems along socio-cultural and environmentally determined lines. The initial phase of what is anticipated to be a long-term and increasingly expansive (with regard to the gradual inclusion of more sites spanning the late UP and early, middle and late Epipaleolithic) research program has begun with the in-situ comparative study of refitted stone cores from the site Shunera XVI, located in the western Negev. In general, I am investigating the extent to which technological strategies play a part in the relationship between technological innovation, changing subsistence patterns, and an increasingly rich Epipaleolithic cultural landscape.

Decades of research in the Levant have revealed important developments that took place during the Epipaleolithic. At the same time, debates exist concerning the preceding UP, ranging from the interpretation of technological assemblages, to the meaning of the UP in the Levant with regard to early human migration and development, and cultural evolution. As a result, we have a detailed picture of some aspects of the relationship between the two periods, while others remain unclear.

The present research provides a detailed picture of specific technological mechanisms that supported the shift from small groups of mobile hunter-gatherers to large, interconnected farming communities. It is thought that Epipaleolithic cultural change, including that associated with the origins of agriculture, was fuelled by climatic fluctuations and toolkits are often indicators of this change. It is therefore vital to consider more carefully the small and often over-looked technological nuances that exist within the archaeological evidence and the significant role these small changes play in influencing or even creating new adaptive strategies. I am examining artificial evidence in context of the climate, landscapes, and the technological expressions of emerging socio-cultural complexity. I suggest that the advent of agriculturally based societies represents the culmination of a stream of important, yet often very minute, technological innovations at the beginning of the Late UP. This research provides insights into how the flexibility and timely adaptation of methods for stone tool manufacture characterize populations faced with the needs of a fluctuating environment.

Alexandra Sumner, University of the Witwatersrand R. and E. Hecht Trust Fellow

Monetary Role of Silver and Its Administration in Ur III (c. 2112-2004 BCE)

Mesopotamia: A Case Study of the Umma Province

I worked on two projects during my year at the Albright. One project was a critical edition of about ninety cuneiform tablets housed at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts. Most of them date to the Ur III period (c. 2112-2004 BCE) in Mesopotamian history, but some to the Old Babylonian (c. 2000-1600 BCE) and Neo-Assyrian periods (c. first half of the first millennium BCE) as well. An article co-authored with another scholar, “The Mesopotamian Collection in the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts,” will appear in the Cuneiform Digital Library Journal by the end of 2011.

My other project focused on revising my dissertation into a book provisionally entitled Monetary Role of Silver and Its Administration in Ur III (c. 2112-2004 BCE) Mesopotamia: A Case Study of the Umma Province. It traces the movement of silver as recorded in administrative documents written in Sumerian and coming from Umma, which has produced the largest corpus (close to 30,000 texts) from the best-documented epoch in Mesopotamian history. In doing so, my book explores what monetary functions silver fulfilled in this provincial economy. In addition, it demonstrates statistically that four members of the gubernatorial family, each in turn, controlled the revenue and expenditure of silver in this province for a certain period of time.

This book consists of six chapters. Following the introduction is a chapter that summarizes the basics of Ur III Mesopotamia and the Umma province and sets the stage for discussions in Chapters Three to Five. Chapter Three breaks down the silver revenue in Umma chiefly according to the various industries, products, or uses associated with individual payments. These payments made to the government best illustrate the function of silver as a means to discharge obligations. Chapter Four concentrates on the four major recipients of silver previously identified and investigates the silver expenditures they incurred. Their largest expenditure turned out to be two types of taxes, kashde’a and mashdara’a, paid to the crown. As it was disbursed by the provincial administration, not only did silver continue to serve as a means of payment to fulfill Umma’s obligation toward the king, it also became transformed into a medium for storing wealth as the royal taxes delivered sometimes assumed the form of objects. Chapter Five is dedicated to merchants who exercised a unique, dual role in the movement of silver. Although they received as purchase funds significant amounts of silver from the Umma administration, they paid back even more and thus made a net contribution to the overall silver revenue of the province. A scrutiny of the non-silver products entrusted to them versus those they supplied to the government is crucial for explaining how they were able to do this. The so-called merchant accounts testify most compellingly to the role of silver as a standard of value, and documentary evidence of merchants in general hints at the function of silver as a medium of exchange.

Chapter Six concludes the book. The monetary function of silver proved essential to the smooth running of the institutional economy in Umma by injecting some desirable flexibility in an otherwise redistributive, tightly controlled, and highly centralized economy. On the other front, all four officials who received and expended the vast majority of silver payments in Umma stemmed from the gubernatorial family. Moreover, two of them succeeded as governor years after their control over the silver ended. These findings suggest that the control over silver in Umma might have been intended as a warm-up exercise for future governorship and reserved only for those in line to take over as governor.

Xiaoli Ouyang, Noble Group Fellow
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University
Nearly a half-century ago, the Joint Concordia-ASOR Excavations took to the field at the site of Tell Taannek. The site is located approximately seven km southeast of Tell el-Mutassellim (Megiddo) on a steep hill projecting into Merj ibn ‘Amir or Jezerel Valley. Three seasons of work in 1963, 1966, and 1968 were carried out by a large and diverse team of researchers, students, and hired laborers under the charge of Paul Lapp, then director of the American School in Jerusalem. A deep sample was drawn from this 4.5 hectare (11 acre) ruin-mound, revealing an occupation history that extended from the Early Bronze Age (EBA) to the present.

The goal of my research is to establish a temporally sensitive sequence of EBA site residues, based upon paper and photographic records from the Joint Concordia-ASOR Excavations and upon the preserved ceramic corpus. Issues of continuity and change within these residues make it possible to draw out inferences regarding chronology, technology, and trade in the southern Levant.

Several specific tasks were accomplished this spring that help me edge closer to this goal. These include: locating, retrieving, and reviewing a sample of approximately 2,000 ceramic sherds from the storerooms at Birzeit University; photographing, labeling, and filing these digital images; reviewing the ceramic sample and comparing it with a catalogue of data produced in 1996-1997 (as part of my PhD dissertation); collecting personal observations and new photographs of Tell Taannek through visits to the site and its hinterland; initiating a search of other publications for ceramic parallels; fixing the scope, shape, and destination of the final report; confering with other scholars with expertise in the EBA of the region; and, presenting illustrated lectures of my work to the academic communities at the AIAR and at al-Quds University.

As is often the case, unexpected turns emerged over the course of the award period. For example, it soon became obvious after my arrival that access to the original field notes for an extended period of study would be difficult. Moreover, as these notes and sketches were made in diary form with lead pencil and on wood-pulp paper that is now almost 50 years old, it seemed wise to capture these ever-increasingly fragile documents in digital form. This proved to be no small task, but was accomplished in the end. Every page from every field-book from every season at Tell Taannek was digitally photographed in high resolution, adjusted, labeled, and collated into an electronic library.

Emerging preliminary conclusions suggest that three distinct EBA strata emerge from Tell Taannek. The first is faint, but is clearly linked to a robust development of EB I settlement in the region. The second is marked by the construction of monumental defenses at Tell Taannek and the arrival of an elegant tradition of pot making (North Canaanite Metallic Ware). The third appears pensive andretreating. The defenses are strengthened — unsuccessfully, given the presence of ashy debris — as yet another foreign pot-making tradition (Khirbet Kerak Ware) makes a short-lived appearance.

Plans to publish the final report of the EBA strata from Tell Taannek are moving forward. A summary of the architecture and ceramic evidence from the EB II-III domestic area, Field B, will be presented at ASOR’s annual meeting this fall.

I am grateful for the kind support of many individuals who have provided assistance, insight, and encouragement in recent days. These include Hamed Salem, Nancy Lapp, Elliot Braun, Amir Golani, Raphael Greenberg, the AIAR staff, and, of course, my wife Vicki.

Mark Ziese, Cincinnati Christian University
Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow

### Local Pottery Traditions in the Iron Age Negev and Edom

During my fellowship at the Albright, I investigated the three local pottery traditions that existed in the Negev, southern Transjordan and northwestern Hejaz during the Iron Age (ca 1200-600 BCE), known as Qurayyah (also Midianite ware), Negeve and Edomite wares. My research focused on the main characteristics of these wares (form, decorations, iconography and provenance), taking a predominantly archaeological point of view, although using historical and anthropological data to support the main hypotheses. This being my second fellowship tenure at the Albright, I have only words of gratitude to the Carol and Eric Meyers Fellowship donors, the Albright staff, and particularly the Director, Sy Gitin.

Several pottery samples from the Negev area were the subject of my examination. The samples consists of (presumably) Qurayyah, Negeve and Edomite wares from the Iron Age fortress at ‘En Hazeva and the smelting site of Givat Hazeva; and Qurayyah pottery from Timna Site 2. These are kindly provided by Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologists Yigal Yisrael and Tali Erickson-Gini respectively. The samples were sent for petrographic analysis to be carried out by Mario Martin, a researcher in the project, “Reconstructing Ancient (Biblical) Israel: The Exact and Life Sciences Perspective, directed by Israel Finkelstein (Tel Aviv University) and Steve Weiner (Weizmann Institute of Science), and funded by the European Research Council. My appreciation goes to Prof. Finkelstein for accepting the study of these pottery samples as part of his project.

Research also involved my participation in a three-day excavation at Timna Site 2, under the direction of Dr. Erickson-Gini. The dig covered a 20 m x 6 m area abutting an unexcavated building, probably a New Kingdom smelting site. The finds consisted of large quantities of copper ore, slag and animal bones. Some ash floors were found, most likely the remains of copper-related metallurgical activities in the site. Also, large numbers of pottery fragments were discovered, a few of them identified as Qurayyah pottery sherds with bichrome decorations.

A key aspect of my research at the Albright was to investigate the symbolic and social world of the Qurayyah pottery iconography. Hallmarks of the Qurayyah pottery include the painted representation of schematic human figures and birdst identified as ostriches. I studied possible parallels in human and avian iconography in the pottery, rock art and reliefs of the southern Levant, Arabia and northeastern Africa. It is possible that the Qurayyah pottery iconography represents an amalgamation of motifs found in the wider cultural area of Arabia and northeastern Africa, supplemented by Levantine themes and Eastern Mediterranean cultural elements. The human figures might have evoked local chieftains or sorcerers in scenes related to hunting, an iconography fitting well into the predominantly tribal societies of the southern margins of the Levant in the late second millennium BCE, with emerging elites eager to connect themselves with the “civilization” centers of the time, particularly Egypt. The ostriches could have been seen as tribal symbols of war, hunting and power related to the emergent local rulers.

Lastly, I organized and chaired the conference, “Unearthing the Wilderness: Workshop on the History and Archaeology of the Negev and Edom in the Iron Age,” where the main issues involved in the study of the Negev and Edom in the Iron Age were discussed by five prominent researchers — Uzi Avner, Tali Erickson-Gini, Israel Finkelstein, Liora Freud, Yifat Thareani — and myself. The workshop was a complete success and the Albright seminar room was packed. The lectures were very stimulating and interesting, presenting new data and interpretations. After each lecture, a lively, friendly discussion developed between the lecturers and the many attendees. The proceedings of the conference will be published in the Ancient Near Eastern Studies Supplement series, Peeters Press (Leuven).

Juan Tebes, Universidad Catolica Argentina
Carol and Eric Meyers Doctoral Dissertation Fellow
ZOOARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF CULTIC FEASTING AT IRON AGE II TEL DAN

As part of my larger biblical and archaeological investigation of the role of sacred feasting in the cult of ancient Israel in the Iron Age II, primarily during the 9th and 8th centuries BCE, I had the privilege of examining some of the unpublished material from Tel Dan’s “sacred precinct” (Area T) prior to and during my fellowship period. Specifically, I examined the contents of seven distinct deposits of animal bone, ceramic, and material remains from Area T that I argue are the remains of sacred feasts. From this analysis, several patterns of non-random distribution were observed that suggested a contrast between the activities of the feasters of the courtyard on the one hand, and the feasters of the western chambers on the other. Further, these differences—concerning ratios of sheep and goats to cattle, right-sided to left-sided bones, and meaty long bone fragments to “foot” bones—exhibited a high degree of correspondence with the archaeological reflexes predicted from priestly prescriptions regarding sacrifice and feasting in the Hebrew Bible, suggesting that the courtyard was the stage for the sacred feasts of the offerers and that the western chamber area was the domain of priests. Change in practice over time was also observed, perhaps indicating that the precinct became an increasingly regulated environment.

While the correspondences between the archaeology of Area T and the biblical texts regarding priestly portions and consumption within the precinct do not demand a Yahwistic context for these cult feasts, they are congruent with such a setting and may increase its plausibility—especially when viewed in light of other potential evidence of Yahwistic practice, such as an altar kit found in T-West containing the same implements described for temple and tabernacle rituals in the biblical texts including a bowl that may have been used in distinctive blood manipulation rites. Moreover, if the basic narrative of the biblical account—namely, that an Israelite king (re)settled Yahwistic cult centers in the North when a temple stood in Jerusalem—is granted any degree of historicity, then the convergence of the “monologues” of texts and archaeology would seem to suggest that these events were indeed Yahwistic cult feasts carried out during the days of the Israelite kings. As such, this study of sacred feasts at Tel Dan may provide a snapshot of the Yahwistic royal cult in motion, inviting further exploration of these remains as well as a close look at relevant companda from other sites and related textual traditions.

The results of this analysis are included in my completed doctoral dissertation “Dinner at Dan: A Biblical and Archaeological Exploration of Sacred Feasting at Iron Age II Tel Dan” (The Pennsylvania State University, 2011) and will be incorporated in subsequent publications. I am most grateful for the financial support of the Educational and Cultural Affairs Division of the US Department of State and for faculty support from The Pennsylvania State University. I am also thankful for the generous access to material provided by the current director of the Tel Dan excavations, David Ilan and close interaction with one of the original Area T supervisors, Ross Voss, as well as other members of the Tel Dan team, especially Dalia Pakman and Gila Cook. I am further indebted to the Albright staff, my doctoral advisors B. Halpern and Gary Knoppers, my animal bone mentor Brian Hesse (may his memory be a blessing), my other committee members Don Redford, Gonzalo Rubio, and Pat Shipman, and, above all of these, my wife Jennifer.

Jonathan S. Greer, The Pennsylvania State University Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow

THE IRON AGE SANCTUARY OF KITION BAMBOULA, CYPRUS

The Ivories from the Palace of Arslan Tash, Syria

Discovered by the Swedish Cyprus expedition in 1929, and excavated in 1976-1989 by a French team, the sanctuary on the Bamboula Hill was active from 900 BC to ca. 250 BC. Material remains of the cult include altars, local and imported ceramics from the Levant, statues of votaries, terracotta figurines and Phoenician Ostraca.

I am the general editor of a volume on this subject and also responsible for essays on the structures and the terracotta figurines. Other contributions to the volume include essays on votive sculptures (M. Yon), ceramics (S. Fourrier), stone anchors (H. Frost), Phoenician inscriptions (M. G. Amadasi) and metallurgy (E. Dardaillon).

During my stay at the Albright (AIAR) from November 2010 to February 2011, I made significant progress in understanding specific features of the Bamboula, thanks to the exceptional resources of the libraries in Jerusalem. Visits to comparable sites under the guidance of the excavators and exchanges of views with a number of scholars were also a great help.

Of particular relevance to my project were the discussions on such topics as cultic installations, votive offerings, ceramic assemblages, and especially the association between sacred space and industrial activities: the remains of metallurgical activities in the immediate vicinity of the temple are a well attested feature in Cyprus, notably at Kition Kathari (another area in Larnaca, excavated and published by Vassos Karageorghis). It was illuminating to observe a comparable association at the site of Tel Safit (Tell es-Safit)-Gath. My attention has been drawn to another economic activity in the sanctuary: textile weaving and dyeing may have taken place within the compound of the Bamboula complex, as evidenced from the finds of a series of unbaked clay loom weights stored together in a jar, and a number of stone vats. The sanctuary at Kition Bamboula remained in the same place for almost 700 years and cultic practices underwent several changes. The earliest level (ca. 900 BC) revealed a stone altar with a depression on top, possibly used for blood sacrifices. Ca 600 BC, stone basins and vats may be evidence of the use of liquids in the ritual. Around 500 BC, offerings of meat and terra cotta figurines were burnt into open hearths built over plstered platforms. Part of my time in Jerusalem was spent on documenting evolution in ritual practices which possibly linked them in some ways to the political history of Cyprus.

The Arslan Tash ivory project was undertaken in cooperation with Giorgio Affani (University of Bologna), Elisabeth Fontan (Louvre, Paris) and Francois Poplin (Natural History Museum, Paris). The ivories are dispersed between Paris, Aleppo, Karlsruhe, Hamburg, New York and Jerusalem and my stay at AIAR was used for the examination of the pieces housed in Jerusalem.

Arslan Tash was excavated by a French expedition in 1929. The capital of a local Aramaean kingdom, it was conquered by the Assyrians and became the seat of a provincial governor. A palace of the early Assyrian period yielded a hoard of ivories, the booty taken over by Hazael, King of Aram (Damascus) in the 9th century. The ivories, depicting motifs including the “lady in the window,” genies holding flowers, the birth of Horus and a cow with a suckling calf, were attached to wooden pieces of furniture, beds, thrones and chests. Later ivories excavated at Samaria and Nimrud have since broadened our understanding of Phoenician/Levantine art. Current research on ivory working is oriented towards the localization of regional workshops, tracing local rendering versus canonic iconographic themes and reconstructing types of furniture or artifacts. My own approach includes technical examination of debitage and carving techniques and was conducted in cooperation with the archaeozoologist Francois Poplin (Museum of Natural History, Paris).
WARrior CULTure IN EArLY ISRAEL

As Annual Professor in the spring of 2011, I pursued two projects. The first was entitled “Warrior Culture and Its Poetic Commemoration: Studies of Human and Divine Warriors in Homer and the Early Biblical World.” This study investigates the literary representations of warrior practices, values and attitudes in the Iliad, the Ugaritic texts and Mesopotamia, as well as early Israel. “The Warrior Culture of Ancient Israel” was the subject of my workshop at the Albright.

In the Introduction, the central theoretical problem of the topic is addressed, namely, understanding warrior culture in both its literary representations and its cultural reality. The Introduction also works out the central topics of warrior poetry (pre-battle and post-battle practices and the notions and values of warriors), as well as the archaeological and iconographical contexts of the topic (under the rubrics of burials and warriors; arrowheads and battle; animal bones and hunting; and iconography of human warriors).

The first major part of the work offers a broad view of three pairs of warriors in Mesopotamia (Gilgamesh and Enkidu), Greece (Achilles and Patrokllos) and Israel (David and Jonathan). Particular attention is devoted to various inversions of gender notions and representations with respect to human male warriors and divine female warriors. The second major part surveys the representation of human and divine warriors in the Ugaritic Texts, specifically in Aqhat, the Rephaim texts and the Baal Cycle. Special attention is given to Anat and Astarte; the latter has not been the subject of a substantial treatment and this gap is addressed in this context. In Aqhat, the relationship between the warrior goddess and the young male warrior is crucial. Goddesses are the more common divine patrons of warriors. The Rephaim texts also mark special commemoration of warriors at ancient Ugarit, a tradition known in ancient Israel but not embraced in its later historiography.

The next section turns to the early Iron Age context of warrior poetry in Israel. Methodological concerns are again key, specifically the problem of dating early Israelite poetry (or at least its traditions). The treatment of the composition of the poem in Judges 5 is central to the problem of understanding the human and divine warriors of Israel, in both the Iron I period (the date of many of the traditions of the poem, if not also some of its composition) and the early Iron II (when the poem was composed in more or less its present form “for God and country”). A similar treatment is given to the lamentation in 2 Samuel 1:19-27, for the values and attitudes that it conveys about warriors in Israel. The final part of this section turns to the cultural settings for warrior poetry in Early Israel. An effort to combine clues from the poetry with hints from inscriptions is made in order to reconstruct the settings for the production and transmission of early warrior poetry, as well as the “disappearance” of old warrior poetry in monarchical Israel. The goal is to offer a credible reconstruction of one segment of life in Iron I Israel based on textual and archaeological data. I expect to complete the research and editing of the book by the end of next summer, and I plan to submit the manuscript by the deadline of December, 2012.

My second project is a commentary of the book of Judges that I have undertaken with Elizabeth M. Bloch-Smith (for the Hermeneia commentary series). This work is related to the first project, which provides some sense of military leaders in early Israel that may inform some of the traditions about biblical “judges.”

Mark S. Smith, New York University
Annual Professor

TEXTS PRODUCtION AND DEStRUCtION IN THE HEBREW BIBLE AND THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

The deliberate destruction of texts dates back to the beginnings of writing in the ancient Near East, and has been associated for millennia with acts of iconoclasm and violence against human beings. The Hebrew Bible, itself historically targeted for destruction, contains several narrative accounts of such practices (e.g. smashing tablets in Exodus 32, burning a scroll in Jer 36). Text destruction in antiquity, however, was unlike text destruction in modernity in fundamental ways. In the ancient Near East, writing was a ritualized activity that could embody divine and human subjects in textual form, and the production and destruction of inscribed monuments was often identified with the creation and destruction of cities, gods, people, and the world itself.

With the support of an ECA fellowship at the Albright Institute this year, I have been investigating the ritual and political dimensions of text production and destruction in the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East. My project draws from theoretical perspectives on rites and writing to classify an array of literary and archaeological evidence of text destruction practices in Mesopotamian, Egyptian, and Levantine sources from the third, second, and especially first millennium BCE.

My goals while in residence at the Albright this spring have been to complete several articles on this topic and to formulate the core of a monograph that will 1) provide an overview of this widespread and understudied phenomenon in the ancient world, and 2) identify and explain its patterns, distribution, cultural significance, and relationship to similar traditions preserved in the Hebrew Bible.

I focus on text destruction as a way to better understand the correlations between iconic and textual modes of representation and to gain insight into the iconic, numinious nature of writing in antiquity. The inseparable links between iconism and textuality are explicit in the earliest statutory inscriptions from third millennium Sumer and Akkad, as well as in second millennium Assyrian and Babylonian inscribed iconography and first millennium Levantine alphabetic monuments. Close associations between iconism and textuality also influenced the scripturalization of Israelite religion in mid-first millennium BCE Jerusalem. These associations are reflected in the way the destruction of texts came to accompany (and eventually outpace) the destruction of images as a preferred mode of attack on representations of divinity and social groups in religions and cultures of ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean origin.

Evidence for ancient text destruction practices falls into two categories: 1) literary evidence, including historical narratives and curse formulae that depict deliberate, ideologically motivated violations of inscribed objects, and 2) archaeological evidence, including text-artifacts that were deliberately and selectively damaged in ancient times. My forthcoming publications examine this evidence and classify the variety of ways in which law codes, written oracles, loan documents, monumental stelae, inscribed statuary, and treaty tablets were burned, smashed, buried, immersed, consumed, hidden, erased, and rewritten. I locate the production, deployment, and violation of scrolls and inscriptions within a broad continuum of ritualized social dynamics associated with cult image construction and destruction, treaty formation and warfare, and birth and burial. I argue that the destruction of texts in the ancient Near East was a ritualized, strategic deployment of violence that targeted scribal representations of social relations and textual embodiments of political power.

A study of text destruction practices in antiquity must take into account not only the semantic content and historical background of ancient text-artifacts but also their archaeological context and material form. In this respect, the research I have pursued at the Albright combines literary and archaeological approaches to the study of Israelite religion.

Nathaniel Levtow, University of Montana
Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow
GOVERNING “ACROSS-THE-RIVER”

I spent my year at the Albright studying the Persian-period building and remains that Sharon Herbert and I have excavated at Kedesh. The original construction was oriented to the east, with a colonnaded entry court and two interior courtyards. It is similar in size and plan to the Persian-period Residency at Lachish. In both, columns graced the entry court, although at Kedesh these comprised long shaft sections rather than drums. Similar plans do not, however, indicate similar functions. Indeed, my goal here was to study the finds for clues to our building’s function as well as the cultural and political leanings of its occupants.

I first investigated the initial construction date, for which the best evidence was our 248 fragments of Attic pottery. I was helped by Professor Kathleen Lynch of the University of Cincinnati, an expert on Athenian pottery of the 6th to 4th centuries BCE. We discovered that 25% of the pottery dated from c. 510/500-480 BCE, 4% dated from c. 480-430 BCE, 58% dated from c. 430-330 BCE, and the remaining 13% dated from c. 325-275 BCE. In the earliest group, half of the vessels are lekythoi (oil flasks) and half table vessels, while almost all of the pottery in the later three groups is small bowls and drinking cups.

This led to several conclusions. First, there were people living at Kedesh by c. 500 BCE, early in the Achaemenid era and well before the large satrapy of Babylon and Across-the-River was divided. Second, as at other Levantine sites with Attic pottery, the range of shapes were not suited for a Greek dining or drinking party. Rather, the forms fit local habits and uses, suggesting that the users were native. Third, the later 4th century BCE pottery suggests that there was not a substantial gap in the use of the site after its Persian-period occupants vacated in the wake of Alexander’s victory at Issus in 332 BCE.

In our excavations, we also found two conical glass seals, a green jasper scarab, and one clay sealing. One seal depicts the Persian king holding two opposing animals; the other depicts the Phoenician deity Melqart in the same pose. On the underside of the scarab is a finely carved head of a dignitary. The clay sealing depicts two animals rampant against a tall stylized sunflower. Detailed study with Baruch Brandl of the Israel Antiquities Authority resulted in several conclusions. First, the technique, material, subjects, and style of the depictions on the seals and the scarab are Phoenician, probably from Tyrian workshops. Second, the seal that impressed the clay sealing is almost identical to several used on tablets in the 5th century BCE Murasu archive from Nippur. Third, since the sealing had bound papyrus, the person whose seal made the impression likely came to the Levant, wrote and sealed the document there. Fourth, since there are six references to Tyre and Tyrians in Murasu archive tablets but none to the site of Kedesh, this person likely came from Nippur to Tyre, and his eventual document (with its clay sealing) was brought to Kedesh from there.

These and other discoveries suggest that under the Achaemenids, Kedesh was a Tyrian commercial and administrative center, built to facilitate that city’s control of Upper Galilee. A clear view of the extent of Tyrian power and influence here inspires reflection on their cultural, economic, and political relations with other peoples living here, especially Judeans. The structure at Kedesh dominated Upper Galilee during the time that the Chronicler was working, a point with implications for understanding that writer’s worldview and his reworked version of Biblical history.

Andrea M. Berlin, Boston University
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow

IMAGINE THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Within the extensive scholarship on the Silk Routes, a trade and communication network that covered the entire Asian continent and the Mediterranean world since the late first millennium BC, very few works address in a systematic manner the formative stage of this network. My main project at the Albright constitutes the first step of my attempt towards a systematic investigation of the early developmental stage of the Silk Routes in order to explore the complexity and dynamism of the inter-cultural relations among the Mediterranean world, Central Asia, and China prior to the flourishing of trade among these regions in the 2nd century BCE. The initial result of my research has been presented at a workshop at the Albright and in my recently completed article “Imagining the Ends of the Earth: Textual Geographies and Archaeological Realities in the Greek, Persian, and Asian Limes of the Mid-First Millennium BC.”

In Greek and Chinese literature of the 5th to 4th Century BCE, there is a sudden and respective interest in certain peoples living on the edges of the known worlds. Written sources describe the existence of humans of unusual wealth and high moral standards, or those who live a well-supplied Utopian-like life. The laudatory nature of the descriptions, which are unlike conventional portrayals of the “other” in Greek and Chinese texts, prompt questions on whether these roughly contemporaneous accounts have anything to do with each other and historical reality. My study draws upon Greek and Chinese literature, and archaeological material from China, Central Asia, and Iran to offer affirmative answers to these questions. I suggest that the common chronology of these texts and their respective interests in the people at the end of the earth are not accidental, but rather reflect a singular moment in time when long-distance interactions increased between China and the Near East. The appearance of traders from Central Asia, along with their compelling wealth, within the Greek and Chinese spheres may have inspired the Greek and Chinese authors’ creation of the fascinating people at the end of the earth.

Aside from this project, I have also worked on the revision of my book and three articles. The book (entitled tentatively Persia and the East) draws upon the archaeological material, historical sources, administrative texts, and works of art from the Near East and Central Asia. It explores the political and socio-economic relations between the Achaemenid Persian Empire (ca. 550-330 BCE) and its eastern territories, especially Central Asia. One article, “Persian History and Battle Representations in Achaemenid Art” (under review), discusses the political conflicts between the Persian imperial power and its subjects/antagonists in Central Asia, Egypt, and Greece through an examination of the depiction of military scenes in Achaemenid art. Another one, “Clay Seals from the Middle Iron Age Citadel at Ulug Depe (Turkmenistan)”, (co-authored with Olivier Lecomte, forthcoming in Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran und Turan, 2011), is a first hand study of the glyptic material excavated from Ulug Depe.

I also spent part of my time at the Albright processing the data from my field project in Uzbekistan, which is a joint project between the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University, and the Institute of Fine Arts of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The site, called Kyzyltepa, is the largest Iron Age site in north Bactria.

Part of the result of this work has been presented at an Albright workshop and will be published in an article – Рисокопи Кеибатепе: Археологике иследования в Узбекистан (“Kyzyltepa Excavation,” co-authored with Leonid Sverchkov and Nick Boroffka, forthcoming in Archaeological Researches in Uzbekistan, 2011).

Wu Xin, Noble Group Fellow
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University
WHEN THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE: MORTUARY GRAFFITI AND CULTURAL IDENTITY IN BETH SHE’ARIM AND THE LATE ANCIENT LEVANT

Karen Stern

The necropolis of Beth She’arim, carved into the hills of the southwestern Galilee, preserves unparalleled archaeological evidence for Jewish populations of the late ancient Levant. Broader interpretations of the cemetery’s burials and their associated epitaphs have shaped multiple debates about the ascendant role of Talmudic rabbis in late antiquity, the centrality, or lack thereof, of Palestine to Jews of the Mediterranean diaspora, and the diversity of religious populations in the ancient world.

Despite widespread attention to many features of Beth She’arim, excavators and scholars have ignored hundreds of examples of ancient textual and iconographic graffiti that adorn the interior walls, ceilings, and doors of the catacombs. These include texts in Greek and Semitic scripts and rough depictions of birds, lions, menorah symbols, and human figures in combat. I have long suspected that these graffiti, while commonly dismissed, served as rare vestiges of otherwise unattested cultural practices of populations who buried and commemorated their dead inside the necropolis.

My time at the Albright has enabled me to test this hypothesis; I have spent four months collecting, re-examining, and analyzing the contents and placement of textual and figural graffiti throughout the catacombs. This study has revealed, moreover, just how common were these types of graffiti throughout the region – not only inside Beth She’arim, but also in Jerusalem and the Shefelah. Collective examination of these ancient graffiti, from multiple regions of modern Israel, leads me to conclude that graffiti in mortuary contexts are not accidental or slapdash like earlier excavators assumed. Careful attention to repeated patterns in their contents and placement, rather, suggests that they should be interpreted differently – as vestiges of multiple genres of otherwise unattested commemorative practices once conducted around and inside ancient Levantine tombs.

My research at the Albright included six distinct stages: 1) identification and collection of previously published examples of ancient mortuary graffiti from Beth She’arim and regional burial caves; 2) identification of graffiti from Beth She’arim and elsewhere, which were omitted from previous publications; 3) photography of published examples of graffiti, with regular and infrared cameras to determine if graffiti retained additional unreported information; 4) collection of local comparanda to determine if mortuary graffiti from Beth She’arim demonstrate an isolated or regional phenomenon; 5) design of databases to organize information about graffiti content, distribution, and placement; 6) development of methodological frameworks to interpret regional graffiti. I have fulfilled many of these objectives, but will continue to photograph graffiti throughout the summer of 2011.

Before arriving at AIAR, I anticipated that my research would focus primarily on examples of ancient graffiti discovered in the Beth She’arim necropolis. Research conducted while at the Albright, however, highlighted just how common were regional mortuary graffiti; my databases now incorporate information from Beth She’arim and several other burial complexes. I ultimately plan to make contents of the databases digitally accessible to others with comparable interests.

This research will appear in a series of upcoming publications. These include “Graffiti as Gift: Reading Graffiti as a Mortuary Practice in the Late Ancient Levant,” in The Gift in Antiquity, edited by Michael Satlow, Wiley Blackwell (forthcoming) and an article that shall compare the history of Jewish populations throughout the late ancient Mediterranean. An Introduction to the Archaeology of the Crusades. The Presence of Italian Medieval “Comuni” and Italian Merchants in the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem

Fabrizio Benente

The Crusader movement swept the area of the Mediterranean between the 11th and 13th centuries and was a meeting point of spirituality and ambitious material gain. In essence, it was the ideal representation of a “Frankish” society, but also of a Mediterranean society. The geographic, political and cultural centrality of Jerusalem and the Holy Land were prominent aspects of such societies for about two hundred years.

Archaeological research of this period enables us to reconstruct the material culture of these societies, their social structure, commercial strategies, choices and defensive settlements in a new geographic context and with a new awareness of the difficulties of day-to-day life.

During my time at the Albright, I worked on a book on the archaeological aspects of “The Crusaders in the Holy Land,” paying particular attention to the presence of Italian Medieval “comuni” and Italian merchants. The study has been offered to an Italian publisher and will be published in an educational series for universities.

The proposal of an Introduction to Crusader Archaeology reflects international archaeological research in which the Medieval Mediterranean is examined from different perspectives: its complex society, material culture and ideology. It not only provides an overview of the most important archaeological research currently being conducted in Israel, but also reflects a wide range of research options, presenting archaeology as one means of investigating the “global” aspect of an ancient society.

The Getty Research Exchange Fellowship provided me with the opportunity to co-organize a Conference in Haifa, Contacts and Trade During the Crusader Period - Haifa Oct. 21, 2010. The conference proceedings volume will be published in 2011 and will be edited by Dr. Edna J. Stern (Israel Antiquities Authority) and myself.

My stay in Israel and at the Albright was extremely valuable. I was able to devote myself full time to research, writing and reporting; and I greatly benefited from working in an extremely friendly and well-organized environment, without the many usual, and secondary duties that characterize my work at the University of Genoa and in Italy.

Fabrizio Benente, University of Genoa

Getty Research Exchange Fellow

Karen B. Stern, Brooklyn College (CUNY)
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow
Ten Albright Fellows and one spouse participated in the March study tour of Cyprus led by Frerichs Fellows/Program Coordinator Joe Uziel. They included Andrea Berlin, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Deborah Cassuto, Amit Dagan, Xiaoli Ouyang, Wu Xin, Mark Smith, Bo Zhang, Mark Ziese, and Vicki Ziese. After landing at the Larnaca airport on Wednesday, the group’s first stop was the ancient site of Kition, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith explained the history of the fortifications and the sacred precinct which includes a series of temples. The earliest ones, dating to the Late Bronze Age (13th Century BCE), were linked to the copper industry; and the latest, the impressive Phoenician temples dedicated to Astarte, displayed a monumental entrance, and carvings of ships that are still visible on the ashlar masonry.

In Larnaca, we visited Kition Bamboula and the museum, which contained extraordinary finds from the region, including a reconstruction of an olive oil press found in a salvage excavation. Afterwards, we drove to Nicosia, where we visited the Cyprus National Museum, which offered an excellent exposure to the cultural treasures of Cyprus. Two of the more breathtaking exhibits were the pottery models from the Early Bronze Age depicting scenes of daily life, and the wall of approximately 2,000 clay figurines and statues that were found in the Archaic sanctuary at Ayia Irini. We later visited the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI), where we met the CAARI staff, fellows, and Tom Davis, the director, who explained the history of Institute, and introduced us to the development of Cypriote archaeology.

On Thursday, Tom Davis, our guide for the day, took us to Northern Cyprus to visit a number of important sites. First, on the western coast, we stopped at Soli on the gulf of Morphou, where there was a Roman period theatre and a basilica with a mosaic floor depicting birds, animals and geometric designs. Continuing on to Vouni, we visited the Persian period palace with a large stele perched up over a beautiful view of the ocean.

From Vouni, we headed east, passing through Kyrenia, where the 16th century CE castle houses the remains of a 4th century BC Greek merchant shipwreck, and then continued on to Salamis. Established in the late second millennium BCE, Salamis served as the capital of Cyprus during the classical periods, and has many beautiful remains from the Hellenistic and Roman periods (4th Century BCE-6th Century CE) including bathhouses, a basilica and a Roman villa. From there, we moved on to the Royal Tombs at Salamis that date mostly to the first half of the first millennium BCE, and include impressive architectural remains, and some of them have horses and chariots buried at their entrance. Afterwards we toured Enkomi, which was a major Late Bronze Age polity and port city (16th-12th Centuries BCE), which is identified with Alasia mentioned in documents of the Late Bronze Age, including the Amarna Letters.

On Friday, Tom Davis took us to Paphos, our base for the remainder of the trip. The first stop was Amathous with the remains of the Agora, baths, the Roman Temple and the very large basins.

Continued on page 16 – Tour of Cyprus
From Amathous, we traveled to Kourion, where we saw the very impressive Roman and Byzantine remains, including the evidence of an earthquake in the mid-4th century AD. On our way to Paphos, we stopped at Petra tou Romiou for a quick view of the sea, from where Aphrodite was supposed to have risen.

On Saturday morning we drove to Lemb, a Chalcolithic site occupied between 3,000 and 2,500 BCE. Amit explained how the village was reconstructed according to the archaeological evidence from the period, with the aim of testing how the remains found in archaeological excavations reflect the process of abandonment, and how long after abandonment did structures remain standing. From Lemb, we returned to Paphos, where Andrea led the group, first to the Tomb of the Kings, with burials of prominent citizens of Paphos from the 3rd century BCE to the 3rd Century AD. The tombs display many different architectural elements, including Egyptian-style porticos in front of some of them. At Nea Paphos, Andrea showed us several villas with mosaic floors depicting different mythological stories, including the Baptism of Achilles and the Labyrinth of Theseus and the Minotaur.

On our last day in Cyprus, we traveled back across the southern coast of the island, first stopping at Kouklia, Palaepaphos – the ancient location of Paphos before it was moved to Nea Paphos in the Classical period. The remains include the sanctuary of Aphrodite, which demonstrates the continuity of cult at the site for over 1,500 years, from the Late Bronze Age until the 4th century AD.

Later, we continued down the coast to the Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates. The sanctuary is just west of the ancient town of Kourion along the road that leads to Paphos. It was one of the main religious centers of ancient Cyprus, where Apollo was worshipped. While the site was established much earlier, the majority of the monuments are from the first century AD. Afterwards, we met with Alison South, who showed us the two sites she and her husband, Ian Todd had excavated – Kalavassos Tenta and Ayios Dimitrios. Tenta is one of the earliest settlements in Cyprus, dating to the 7th and 6th millennium BCE. Circular housing complexes discovered at the site reveal the detailed planning of the settlement. Across the road, at Ayios Dimitrios, a Late Bronze Age site (14th-13th Centuries BCE), initiated as a salvage excavation, there were very impressive remains of ashlar masonry and as well as pottery, including huge basins and pithoi buried in the ground.

The last site we visited was Khirikotia, an Aceramic Neolithic site occupied between 7,000 and 5,700 BCE, with round dwellings and outer defensive walls. Once again, this site – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – shows the complexity of Neolithic society in Cyprus.
IN MEMORIAM
Brian Hesse
1944-2011

On April 2, 2011 the ASOR community far too soon lost a friend, scholar, and pioneering archaeologist Brian Hesse, to a short battle with pulmonary illness at the age of 66. He is survived by his wife Paula Wapnish – an accomplished scholar with whom Brian collaborated on many projects – and their daughter Arielle.

If influential contributions to the transformation of disciplines are a measure of one’s scholarly merit, Hesse’s publications are such. Brian combined faunal evidence with familiarity with the ethnology of husbandry, and put his own stamp on the study of the ancient Near East. Before Hesse, bones were never properly sampled, but after his work the quantification of grain- and legume-production is impossible, except possibly through the osteological analysis.

Perhaps Hesse’s most controversial work concerns pig-avoidance in Israel. Years ago, many thought that the Israelite taboo on pig occurred late and within an elite context. Hesse established that it was early, often discontinuous with contiguous cultures and not necessarily ecologically-conditioned. While he himself was always mindful of the complexity of questions that must be addressed and cautious in his implications of these observations, his seemingly modest achievement disproved influential theories about the development of Israelite culture.

Brian taught at the University of Alabama-Birmingham (1979-2003) and served as Chair of Anthropology there (1998-2003), before his remarkable success in shaping the Jewish Studies Program at The Pennsylvania State University, as director and as professor in Jewish Studies, Ancient Mediterranean Studies, and Anthropology from 2003 until his loss. As mentor to many students at these institutions and others, Brian’s commitment was manifest in many ways, from taking time for unofficial mini-lessons on the lab white-board, to careful editing of Brian’s commitment was manifest in many ways, from taking time for unofficial mini-lessons on the lab white-board, to careful editing of Brian’s own work, Animal Bone Archaeology: From Objectives to Analysis (1985), co-authored with Paula Wapnish. He was at the crest of a methodological wave in this field – and although since the 1970’s, many have spoken of the “new archaeology”, Hesse was one of the few to implement it.

Among his innovations to Near Eastern archaeology were the ability to determine herding strategies in a particular site, and the relations of a site with surrounding pastoralists in terms of importing animals for meat and by-products. His fieldwork – at Tel Miqne, Tel Ashkelon, Tel Dan, and Tel Batash, among others – created an enormous body of primary data. As archaeologists and historians continue to struggle with ways to model the economy of the ancient Near East, Brian’s research assumed immense dimension – it is our first lever into domestic economy, since the quantification of grain- and legume-production is impossible, except possibly through the osteological analysis.

Perhaps Hesse’s most controversial work concerns pig-avoidance in Israel. Years ago, many thought that the Israelite taboo on pig occurred late and within an elite context. Hesse established that it was early, often discontinuous with contiguous cultures and not necessarily ecologically-conditioned. While he himself was always mindful of the complexity of questions that must be addressed and cautious in his implications of these observations, his seemingly modest achievement disproved influential theories about the development of Israelite culture.

Brian taught at the University of Alabama-Birmingham (1979-2003) and served as Chair of Anthropology there (1998-2003), before his remarkable success in shaping the Jewish Studies Program at The Pennsylvania State University, as director and as professor in Jewish Studies, Ancient Mediterranean Studies, and Anthropology from 2003 until his loss. As mentor to many students at these institutions and others, Brian’s commitment was manifest in many ways, from taking time for unofficial mini-lessons on the lab white-board, to careful editing of dissertation research even into his final days. His methodology pushed students to ask well-defined questions in their quest for data, often reframing historical problems within anthropological contexts, and to think in new directions. Many of his former students have gone on to become zooarchaeological specialists at digs across the Middle East.

In most cases, one would claim no academic is indispensable. To our great regret, Brian was.

Baruch Halpern and Jonathan Greer
Pennsylvania State University

THE LIFE AND WORK OF ANSON F. RAINNEY
(JANUARY 11, 1930 – FEBRUARY 19, 2011)

The foreword to The Sacred Bridge concludes by recalling Genesis 6:4 and a time when there were giants in the land. Anson Frank Rainey belonged to a bygone era when giants walked the land, and I cannot help but feel that one of the giants has passed away, Anson Frank Rainey.

Rainey was a long time friend of the Albright Institute where he was a Senior Fellow and a former Annual Professor. He had an undergraduate BA in History from UCLA (1956) and did his PhD at Brandeis University. After graduating from Brandeis, he came to Israel and became a Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and Semitic Linguistics at Tel Aviv University where he taught from 1964 until his retirement in 1998. He also taught Historical Geography at the Jerusalem University College, which was always close to his heart because its founder G. Douglas Young had first encouraged him to remain in Israel and teach there. After his retirement at Tel Aviv University, during the later years of his life, he taught as adjunct professor at Bar-Ilan University (2002-07). He began his work in archaeology as a volunteer with Yohanan Aharoni at Ramat Rahel and Arad; he later served as an Area Supervisor at excavations like Lachish, Gezer, Arad, and became a Staff member for excavations at Beer-sheba, Tel Michal, Tel Gerisa, and Tel Harasim. His translation and revision of Aharoni’s classic works, especially The Historical Geography of the Holy Land, were labors of love for his teacher.

His own work, The Sacred Bridge (2005) is an unmatched masterpiece of historical geography. He had incredible energy and passion for the land. He also seemed to be an itinerant traveller who was invited as a Visiting Professor at Harvard University (1976-77), the University of Pennsylvania (1983-84; 1988-89; 1995-96), UCLA (2001), Konkuk University in Seoul (2002), and the University of Melbourne (2002). Professor Rainey published over two hundred books and articles. His research ranged across the languages (Egyptian, Ugaritic, Akkadian, Hebrew), geography, history, and the society of the Near East. His contributions are too varied and numerous to rehearse. Many of his publications are seminal works in the field beginning with his dissertation published in Hebrew as The Social Structure of Ugarit (1967), later abbreviated in English as “The Scribe at Ugarit, His Position and Influence” (1969). His four-volume contribution on the grammar of the Amarna letters, Canaanite in the Amarna Letters (1996), established him as the doyen in this field. His research on Amarna was also seminal to pushing forward our understanding of the Hebrew verbal system, beginning with his article on “The Ancient Hebrew Prefix Conjugation” (1986), and he combined this research with historical geographical insights to reshape the origins of Hebrew in “Redefining Hebrew – a Transjordanian Language” (2007). Anson was among the most generous people to students and younger scholars, though he was also infamous for not suffering fools gladly. Rainey took the work of scholarship and teaching seriously, and he was at home in the land both as a geographer and an archaeologist. The Albright Institute will sorely miss this advocate for archaeology and the study of the land.

Anson is survived by his wife Tsipi and his son Yoni.

Bill Schmiedewind, UCLA
Patricia O’Connor Seger 1942-2011

Patricia O’Connor-Seger passed away on June 6, 2011 of complications associated with Alzheimer’s in her home in Starkville, MS. She was 68 years old. Patty was the wife of past Albright President, long time Trustee and now Honorary Trustee Joe D. Seger, and was herself a strong supporter of the Institute. In celebration of Patty’s life a memorial service was held with friends and family at Woodlands Academy Chapel in Lake Forest, IL, on July 30th.

Patty’s rich life began on October 31, 1942 in Highland Park, IL where she lived until joining the Convent of the Order of the Sacred Heart at the age of 17. She was a nun for 16 years – a time during which she earned a BA from Barat College in Lake Forest, IL, and an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, MI. It also was during this time that she created and directed Desighouse (1972), a graphic design and photography studio. She continued working with this venture after moving to Starkville, MS, even while teaching classes in Animation and Digital design for Mississippi State University’s Department of Art and serving as the Art Director of the Computational Design Lab at the NSF/Engineering Research Center also at MSU. She later created its successor, NewIDEAS, in 1995.

The sons of two past directors of the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research – Carlson Bull and the late Sean Dever – traveled to Starkville to study Digital Design with Patty. One of her specialties was corporate logo design. She created more than 100 logos for U.S. businesses and organizations, winning numerous awards for her work. Patty’s creativity found many other outlets as well. She authored two books and did the layout and design for many others. She designed numerous exhibits and modules of varying scales and subjects for display both domestically and abroad. Her photographs, fine art work, painted ceramics, and handcrafted jewelry are broadly distributed.

Patty became a part of the archaeological community in Israel after joining the staff of the Lahav Research Project as photographer in 1976, when Dan Cole introduced her to the project director and her future husband, Joe Seger. Patty brought her characteristic creativity to the dig camp, planning special activities and celebrations that made dig life fun. If I am not mistaken, Patty started the trend of the dig T-shirt with her “Lahav– Dig It!” design in 1976. She also set a standard for archaeological field photography that I have yet to see equaled on any project on which I have participated.

In all things Patty brought a creative spirit and the eye of an artist. I remember fondly Patty’s contagious laugh, her demand for perfection, her quirky work eccentricities, her generous invitations into her and Joe’s home, her refreshing (brutal) honesty, some startlingly visionary moments, and her genuine passion for each of her many pursuits.

Joe D. Seger, her husband of twenty-nine years whom she loved and admired, his four children, and four sisters and five brothers survive Patty.

Oleg Grabar 1929-2011

Oleg Grabar, a past Director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, died on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at his home in Princeton, New Jersey. He was 81 years old. An eminent and prolific scholar of Islamic art and architecture, he was a professor at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey (1990-1998), and also taught at Harvard University (1969-1990), and at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (1954-69). Born in Strasbourg in 1929, he was the son of the renowned Byzantinist André Grabar. He studied at the University of Paris, Harvard University (A.B. 1950) and Princeton University (Ph. D. 1955). Grabar’s Ph. D. at Princeton was in Oriental languages and literature. His thesis was on the ceremonial art of the Umayyad court, which ultimately led to a lifelong fascination and engagement with early Islamic Jerusalem resulting in multiple publications. From 1960 to 1961, he served as Director of the William Foxwell Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, then known as the American School of Oriental Research. He was often in Jerusalem, continuing his research on the Dome of the Rock or as a representative of UNESCO. While in Jerusalem with his wife Terry completing research on his monograph on early Islamic Jerusalem in the fall of 1994, he returned to the Albright on September 16 for a reception in his honor. Two years later in 1996, he completed and published The Shape of the Holy: Early Islamic Jerusalem.

The noted author of more than 30 books and a myriad of articles, Grabar transformed the field of Islamic art, architecture and archaeology. His Formation of Islamic Art, the two-volume Pelican history of Islamic art and architecture and monograph on the Dome of the Rock are standards in the field. As professor of Islamic Art, he mentored generations of scholars. I was privileged to have him as my Ph.D. thesis advisor at Harvard. His inexhaustible spirit, humor and enthusiasm energized the field.

He is survived by his wife Terry, his son Nicolas, and three grandchildren.

Lois Ruth Glock 1919-2011

Lois Ruth Glock passed away on June 5, 2011, following a very short illness. She was born and raised in the Midwest and her first trip to Jerusalem was to work with her husband Al on the Tell Taanach excavations in 1966-68. The Glocks spent 30 years in Jerusalem. They continued work on publications but also taught and worked with Bir Zeit University, as well as with several other organizations, but they continued their association with the Albright Institute.

Lois was a special friend to Bob and me for many years, and to many folks who lived and worked at the Albright.

Lois was unusually blessed with vigorous health and abundant energy. She spent her last years with her daughter and family in New Jersey. She will be remembered for her many activities with the Lutheran church and her continuing concern for peace and justice in the Middle East.

She is survived by her four children, eight grandchildren, five siblings and a host of extended family and friends.

Vivian Bull
ELEVENTH ANNUAL SEAN W. DEVER MEMORIAL PRIZE 2012 CALL FOR PAPERS

The William F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem announces the 2012 Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize call for papers. This prize provides $650 for the best published article or paper presented at a conference by a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian or biblical archaeology. Authors may be of any nationality but the article or paper must be in English. Co-written or co-presented pieces may be submitted if all the authors or presenters are doctoral candidates; the prize, if awarded, will be divided equally among authors/presenters.

All submissions must include the author’s academic affiliation, mailing and email addresses and phone number. Please indicate the department in which the author is enrolled and the expected date of graduation. Submission of conference papers must include the name of the conference and the date on which the paper was presented. Submission of published papers must include the full bibliographic citation. Print submissions must be received no later than December 31, 2011; electronic submissions will not be accepted. The prize will be announced on Sean’s birthday, March 9, 2012.

Send six (6) print copies to:
Mr. Sam Cardillo
W. F. Albright Institute of Archeological Research
P.O. Box 40151
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Email: cardillo@sas.upenn.edu.

Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize Committee: Carol Meyers and Beth Alpert Nakhai, cochairs; Aaron Brody, Seymour Gitin and Joe D. Seger, members; Norma Dever and J. Edward Wright, ex-officio.


The William F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research – AIAR – is a private, non-profit educational research institution registered as a tax-exempt 501©3 organization in the United States. All contributions are tax deductible.

WEST BANK EXCAVATIONS PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS
We are pleased to add to the list of projects affiliated with ASOR, which appeared in the recent Albright Program Brochure, two publications of West Bank excavations currently in progress:

- The Joint Expedition to Tell Balata/Shechem, E. Campbell, Drew-McCormick Archaeological Expedition;
- The Excavation of Tell er Ras on Mount Gerizim, Robert J. Bull, Drew University.

FRIENDS OF THE ALBRIGHT
I wish to become a “Friend of the Albright” in support of the ongoing activities and programs of the Institute, and of the important role of the Albright as a premier center of American scholarship.

Annual Membership Categories

Student .......................................................... to $49
Associate ...................................................... $50 to $249
Friend .......................................................... $250 to $499
Director’s Circle .......................................... $500 to $999
President’s Council ................................. $1,000 to $2,500
Special Gifts . . . information available upon request

Enclosed is my tax deductible annual contribution in the category of ______________________________
Name: ____________________________________
Address: ____________________________________
City______________ State_____Zip code________

Become a “Friend of the Albright” today!
Please make check payable to the
“AIAR/Friends of the Albright” and mail to:
Sam Cardillo, Comptroller
Albright Institute of Archaeological Research
P. O. Box 40151 • Philadelphia, PA 19106
or make a contribution on-line at:
www.aiar.org

visit our website today:
www.aiar.org
Honor Roll

We thank the National Endowment for the Humanities for its award of a second Two Million Dollar Challenge Grant, to which it contributed $400,000 in matching funds. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions made by the individuals and foundations listed below, whose support helped the Institute meet the challenge.

For the Renovation and endowment of the Joy Gottesman Ungerleider Hostel and renovations of other facilities on campus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Grants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dorot Foundation</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>G. Ernest Wright Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packard Humanities Trust</td>
<td>$76,000</td>
<td>*individual donors listed below: $4,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Appeal *individual donors listed below</td>
<td>$23,278</td>
<td>Matthew Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Camp</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Dan Master</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alumni Appeal Donors FY 2007/08, 08/09, 09/10

- **$1,000 and more**
  - Oded Borowski
  - Crawford H. Greenwalt
  - Jonathan Rosen
  - Carolyn & James Strange
  - Ed & Keeley Wright

- **$500 to $999**
  - John Camp
  - Sidnie Crawford
  - Herschel Shanks
  - Jane Waldbaum
  - Philip White

- **$100 to $499**
  - David Aune
  - Bernard Bell
  - Jeffrey Blakely
  - Aaron Brody
  - Vivian Bull

- **$501 to $1,000**
  - Vivian Bull
  - John Petersen

- **$101 to $500**
  - Peter Machinist
  - Joe D. Seger
  - Barbara Wright

- **up to $100**
  - Sy Gitin
  - David Boraas
  - Catherine Cole
  - William Dever
  - Larry Geraty

- **G. Ernest Wright Lab. Donors**
  - Patric Miller
  - Jean Morison
  - Daniella Saltz
  - Karen Seger
  - Margaret Wright

**For the Endowment of the Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship**

- **$1,000**
  - Oded Borowski
  - Joan Brannam
  - Vivian Bull
  - Norma Kershaw
  - Jodi Magness
  - Lee Seeman
  - Joe D. Seger
  - Mark Smith
  - Ron Tappy
  - Ed Wright

- **$500**
  - Susan Ackerman
  - Susan Cohen
  - Harris Gordon
  - Steven Kaplan
  - Gary Knoppers
  - Peter Machinist
  - Carol & Eric Meyers
  - Beatrice & Zachary Powell

- **$101 to $499**
  - J. P. Dessel
  - Norma Dever
  - Irving and Barbara Ginsberg
  - Barry Gitlin
  - Allan W. Schuman
  - Herschel Shanks
  - Arnold Spier
  - Joseph Sterman

- **up to $100**
  - Jeffrey Blakely
  - Aaron Brody
  - Joseph Gitin
  - Amy Miller
  - Betty Miller
  - Marc D. Miller
  - Todd & Deborah Miller
  - Bruce & Deborah Powell
  - Enid & Louis Ryen
  - Herbert Zimmer
CONGRATULATIONS TO:


- **Petr Balcarek**, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow (2009–2010), on the publication of his article, “‘Atiqot 64,” in *Excavation of the Embriaci Tower*, in *Genoa in the XII and XIII Centuries: New Data from the Giornata di Studi in memoria di Guido Farris*, *Ceramica a Genova tra Medioevo e Rinascimento: Atti della fornace Saettone ad Albissola*.


- **Vivian Bull**, AIAR Chair, and **Robert Bull**, former AIAR Director and current Honorary Trustee, on the birth of their 6th grandchild, Robert Alexander, born to Robert Camper Bull and Alexandra Kropotova, and brother to big sister Yana.

- **Ivan Biliarsky**, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow (2007-2008), on the publication of his books, *Word and Power in Medieval Bulgaria*, Leiden: Brill; *The Juridical Terminology of Public and Canon Law in Medieval Bulgarian Space* (Публично и канонистични терминологии в българското средновековно пространство), Varna; and *Tale of the Prophet Isaiah and the Creation of the Political Ideology of Early Medieval Bulgaria* (Сказание Илии и формирование политической идеологии на раннесредновековная България), Sofia.


• Katherine Strange Burke, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of her chapters on “Mamluk Jaffa: A Note” and “Early Islamic and Crusader Whole and Reconstructed Vessels from the Ganor Compound” in The History and Archaeology of Jaffa 1 (Jaffa Cultural Heritage Project 1, Monuments Archaeologica 26), eds. M. Pielstöcker and Aaron Burke, Los Angeles: Cotsen Institute of Archaeology; and of her report, “Islamic and Crusader Ceramics from Jaffa,” in the ASOR Newsletter 60/4.

• Aaron and Katherine Burke on the birth of their second child, Ian Samuel.


• Marcin Czarnowicz, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of his report, “Palestinian Imports and Imitations at Tell el-Farkha,” in the ASOR Newsletter 60/4.

• J. P. Dessel, W. F. Albright Fellow (1984-1985), Richard J. Scheuer Fellow (1985-1986), and current Albright Treasurer, on being awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to integrate his own research with other studies to show how rural villages affected the social landscape of Ancient Israel.

• Dana DePietro, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of his report, “Trade, Agency and the Politics of Consumption: Re-evaluating the Role of Coastal Sites in the Late Bronze Southern Levant,” in the ASOR Newsletter 60/4.


• Vladimir Doronichev, Glassman Holland Research Fellow (2007-2008), and Liubov Golovanova, Senior Fellow (2007-2008), on the publication of their article, “Beyond the Achaeulan: A View on the Lower Paleolithic Occupation of Western Eurasia” in Quaternary International XXX.


Continued on page 23 – Alumni News


• **Kathryn Gleason**, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (1995-1996), on being named a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects for her contributions to knowledge through archaeological research into the ancient origins of the profession of landscape architecture.


• **Jonathan Greer**, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow (2010-2011), on being awarded the ninth annual Sean W. Dever Memorial Prize for the best published article or paper presented at a conference by a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian and Biblical Archaeology for his paper, “An Israelite Miznáq at Tel Dan?”; and on being awarded his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University for his dissertation on the topic of zooarchaeological trends in cultic feasting on Iron Age Tel Dan.


• **Andrew Gross and Jill Aizenstein** on the birth of their son, Abraham Jerome.

• **Maria Rangelova Gurova**, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow (2009–2010), on the publication of her report “Dichotomy or Convergence of Prehistoric Agricultural Flint Tools (Tribulum): Case Studies from Israel and Bulgaria,” in the *ASOR Newsletter* 60/4.


• **Larry Herr**, Annual Professor (1995-1996), and **Denise Herr** on the birth of their first grandchild, Denton Warren Herr.


• **Michael Homan**, Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellow (1998-1999) and United States Information Agency Fellow (2000-2001), on being awarded the ASOR Membership Service Award.
• Salah Houdalich, Post-Doctoral Fellow (2000-2011), on the publication of his article, “Archeological Heritage and Related Institutions in the Palestinian National Territories 16 Years after Signing the Oslo Accord,” in *Present Past* 2.

• Alice Hunt, Joint Educational and Cultural Affairs/University College London Junior Research Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of her report, “The Assyrians at Tel Jemmeh: An Archeological and Archeometric Study of Assyrian Palace Ware” in the *ASOR Newsletter* 60/4.


• Morag Kersel, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow (2003-2004), on the publication of her article, “Maitland’s ‘Mesa’ Reassessed: A Late Prehistoric Cemetery in the Eastern Badia, Jordan” (with Yorke Rowan and G. Rollefson), in *Antiquity* 85 (327).

• Kyle Keimer, George A. Barton Fellow (2010-2011), on being awarded his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Archaeology from the University of California-Los Angeles with his dissertation on *The Socioeconomic Impact of Hezekiah’s Preparation for Rebellion*, and the publication of his chapter, “Area B: A Test Case for the Publication of the Kaplans’ Excavations in Jaffa,” in *The History and Archaeology of Jaffa* 1, eds. M. Peilstöcker and Aaron Burke, Los Angeles: Cotsen Institute of Archaeology.


• Paul Lesperance, George A. Barton Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of his report, “Objects and Symbols on the Sealings from Kedesh,” in the *ASOR Newsletter* 60/4.


Continued from page 24 – Alumni News


- **S. Rebecca Martin**, Samuel H. Kress Fellow (2003-2004), on her appointment as Assistant Professor of Greek Art and Architecture in the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Boston University.


- **Hani Nur el-Din**, Miquel Fellow (1989-1990), Research Fellow (1990-1997), Post-Doctoral Fellow (1997-2001), and Senior Fellow (2001-2011), on his appointment as Director of the newly established Jerusalem Archaeology Studies Unit of Al-Quds University’s Institute of Archaeology, located inside Damascus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem.


- **Susan Rotroff**, Senior Fellow (1999-2000), on being awarded the Archaeological Institute of America Gold Medal.


- **Seth Sanders**, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (2006-2007), on being awarded the 2010 Frank Moore Cross Award.


• **Kyle Smith**, Research Fellow (Fullbright) (2003-2004), on being awarded his Ph.D. in Religion from Duke University and on his appointment to a tenure-stream position in the Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto (St. George) and the Department of Historical Studies, University of Toronto (Mississauga).


• **Peter Stone**, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellow (2009-2010), on the publication of his report, “ Provincial Perspectives: The Persian, Ptolemaic, and Seleucid Administrative Center at Kedesh in a Regional Context” in the *ASOR Newsletter* 60/4.


• **Matthew Suriano**, George A. Barton Fellow (2006-2007), on his appointment as Assistant Professor in the Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park; and on the publication of his book, *The Politics of Dead Kings: Dynastic Ancestors in the Book of Kings and Ancient Israel*, Tübingen: Mohr.


under the Direction of D. Whitcomb and H. Taha,” in The Oriental Institute Notes and News 210; and “The First Season of the Joint Palestinian-Dutch excavation at Tell Balata” (with G. Van der Kooij) in Stories about Tell Balata, Ramallah: Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.


- **Christopher Tuttle**, Research Fellow (2005-2006), on his appointment as Co-Director (with S. E. Alcock) of the Brown University Petra Archaeological Project and as Project Director of the Petra Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative, which was awarded a U. S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation grant.


Warmest congratulations to
Helena Flusfeder – Assistant to the Director – and Hertzl Ben-Gur
on their marriage on October 27, 2011
glass photographic plates from the early 20th century excavations at Bethel, Petra, Tell el-Ful, Tell Beit Mîrsim, Ader, and Beth Zur, as well as and two DVDs of glass photo plate scans prepared by the École Biblique.

The upgrade of the telephone system at the Institute included the installation of a new digital system that provides an almost unlimited number of extensions for telephone connections in every room in the facility. Other improvements include voice-mail, an intercom, a new electronic system for opening the outside doors of the main building from the two offices, and the ability to contact every residence room from the offices, replacing the old bell ringing system.

The Library: Chief Librarian Sarah Sussman and Librarian Diana Steigler continued two ongoing special projects that have helped to advance the quality of the library offerings. The first is the reorganization of the Albright’s map collection and preparation for its digitization. The maps were reorganized in a more coherent subject order and placed in special acid-free cardboard cases. Using ultra-high-resolution digital photography, renowned photographer Ardon Bar Hama digitized fifty map sheets from the collection. This pilot project was funded by George S. Blumenthal of New York City. The Book and Journal Subscription Drive launched by Chief Librarian Sarah Sussman was most successful. Albright alumni and friends contributed either books that were on the desiderata list or funds to cover the cost of specific titles that were most needed, and a total of $4,550 was raised.

The Albright continued its assistance to thirteen ASOR-affiliated and Albright Trustees’ Excavation and Publication Projects, including: Tel Dor (A. Killebrew); Gezer VI: The Object Volume (G. Gilmour); Gezer VII: Fields II, IV, and VIII (J. D. Seger); Tel Gezer (S. Ortiz and S. Wolff); Kedesh (S. Herbert and A. Berlin); Lahav (O. Borowski); Marj Rabba-Har ha-Sha’awi West (Y. Rowan); Qana (T. McCollough); Sephoris Ein Zippori (E. and C. Meyers and J. P. Dessel); Southern Plain of Akko (C. Aznar); Tell Taanek (N. Lapp and H. Salem); Tell Zaharah (S. Cohen); and Tell Ze’aitah (R. Tappy). The Albright helped arrange for the drawing, inking, and photography of pottery and objects, pottery restoration, storage facilities, excavation licenses, and other excavation-related logistics. In the summer of 2010, ten American survey and excavation projects were in the field, including the five above-mentioned projects at Gezer, Lahav, Marj Rabba-Har ha-Sha’awi West, Qana, and Ze’aitah. The five other projects are Ashkelon (L. Stager and D. Master); An Iron Age Site in the Hesi Region (J. Blakely and J. Hardin); Jaffa (A. Burke and M. Pelstocker); Kabri (E. Cline and A. Yasur-Landau); and Kedesh (S. Herbert and A. Berlin).


The Funds raised by the Director for the Fellowship and outreach programs included $111,000 from private foundations and individuals in the US and the US Government, and $140,000 for the ECA grant renewal. Trustee Lydie Shufro completed the funding for the NEH $1,000,000 matching grant for the Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship. Trustee Norma Dever raised $5,881 in the Alumni Campaign for the installation of double-paned windows in the Balcony Apartment (formerly the Annual Professor’s apartment), and Trustee Linda Feinstone raised $2,400 from the Archaeological Tours Group she brought to the Albright, which was hosted by the Director. As a result of the Tour Group’s visit to the Albright, one of the participants contributed an additional $2,000.

The Albright continues to be one of the only institutions in the region where Israeli and Palestinian academics meet regularly with their foreign colleagues and participate in academic and social programs. This and the expansion of the Institute’s Fellowship and Outreach programs have greatly strengthened the Albright’s international approach to research in all aspects of Near Eastern studies. The success of the program depends greatly on the efforts of the Albright Trustees, especially the work of Joan Branham, Chair of the Albright’s Fellowship Committee, and the Institute’s loyal and dedicated staff. To all of them go our deep gratitude and thanks.

Sy Gitin

All photos courtesy of AIAR