On June 20, 2003, six of the seven member search committee charged with selecting a successor to Rudy Dornemann, ASOR Executive Director retiring in December, 2003, interviewed in the ASOR office in Boston, two finalists out of thirteen qualified applicants for the position. Ingrid Wood, former ASOR Treasurer, and until recently Vice President for MetLife (IT/AD for Customer Service Systems) was chosen. In so doing, the committee was signaling that they believed ASOR can best be led by a professional manager at this particular juncture in its history rather than an archaeologist.

It is well known that for the last several years, keeping ASOR in the black has been a challenge. The committee felt that the next Executive Director needed to have proven management experience, a good knowledge of finance, and a talent for fundraising. Ms. Wood has, in addition, a good knowledge of ASOR having served for a time as Trustee and Treasurer, as well as recent involvement with the Boston/New England Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt which she helped to recently revive.

The Predictive Index described Ms. Wood as follows: Ms. Wood “is an outgoing self-starter with competitive drive, a sense of urgency, and the ability to make decisions and take responsibility for them. She can react and adjust quickly to changing conditions or new situations and deal with them on her own initiative. Her drive is purposeful, directed at getting things done and utilizing the ability and cooperation of others in the process, and following up to assure timely completion. With her interest in, and understanding of, other people, she will encourage their development by delegating authority to them, with pressure for results. Competitive and ambitious, Ms. Wood sets high standards of achievement for the organizations she serves, and is concerned with the accomplishment of goals.” One can easily see that such an Executive Director of our organization will bring some of the changes we need, and can help move us to the next plane where we need to be. She has excellent contacts in Boston in general, and at Boston University specifically, but has indicated that for archaeological decisions she will, of course, defer to the scholarly experts around her.

As a senior IT and client relationship executive with extensive management experience, Ms. Wood supervised 150 IT professionals and oversaw budgets up to $34 million. She implemented large-scale product administration and customer service applications for distributed financial services divisions of a major U.S. insurer, and also supported the IT operational activities of a mutual insurance company’s former securities, mortgage, and real estate department (with an asset base of $22 billion). She spearheaded interdivision communications initiatives to integrate departments and to improve enterprise-wide operations.

Ms. Wood’s bachelor’s degree in chemistry is from Bryn Mawr and she has done additional graduate and professional training courses at Rutgers, Rochester, MIT, and Babson. She knows French, German, and Latvian, and even some rudimentary Arabic. Before
Committee on Archaeological Policy Report – Spring 2003

At the November 2002 ASOR Annual Meeting in Toronto, the Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP) approved affiliation for a total of 67 new and ongoing projects (32 field and 35 publication), with the following geographical distribution.

- Tunisia — 1 publication project
- Turkey — 1 field project
- Cyprus — 2 field & 5 publication projects
- Israel — 9 field & 13 publication projects
- West Bank — 2 publication projects
- Jordan — 19 field & 14 publication projects
- Syria — 1 field project

As in recent years, the trend has continued for the approval of two or three new projects with a comparable number of projects completing their final publication efforts.

This is obviously a difficult time to conduct fieldwork in the Middle East and a number of projects have been forced to scale down or postpone their 2003 field seasons. Despite the obstacles, most project directors will be busy this summer pursuing their research programs both at home and abroad. ASOR remains resolute in promoting continued research activity and on April 1, 2003 announced the following grant awards funded by the Torch Campaign:

- Susan Cohen — Excavations at Gesher — $1,200
- Robert Haak & Susan Sheridan — Byzantine St. Stephen’s — $1,200
- John Oleson — Huymayma Room at Aqaba Museum — $400
- Danielle Parks — Excavations at Kourion — $400

Dr. David Graf has returned to the U.S. following a very successful time in Saudi Arabia as a Fulbright Scholar from January through March 2003. Under David’s leadership, we continue to work on planning for fielding an ASOR sponsored field project in Saudi Arabia at some point in the near future.

As CAP continues its efforts to promote high quality, archaeological research, I trust that all ASOR members will reaffirm their commitment to this noble mission with increased support for ASOR, the Overseas Centers, and our Affiliated Projects. Now more than ever your support is needed.

David W. McCreery, CAP Chair

Cont’d from page 1

working for MetLife, she worked for New England Mutual Life Insurance Co., the University of Rochester, and Johnson & Johnson. Having been driven by the bottom line all these years, Ms. Wood now looks forward to being motivated by the mission of ASOR which she sees bringing more meaning into her life. The search committee asked her to prepare, in the next month or so, a specific plan/proposal for the ASOR Executive Committee of what she would like to do. She emphasized to the committee the importance of ASOR having a clearer identity among its publics and the need for “racheting up its deliverables.” We certainly wish her well and look forward to the strengthening of ASOR that her leadership will bring.

Ms. Wood’s appointment is now subject to successful contract finalization as well as the formal approval of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

Those who wish to communicate with her may do so by email at: iewood@att.net

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Near Eastern Archaeology Has a New Editor

ASOR’s Committee on Publications is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Sandra Scham as the new editor of *Near Eastern Archaeology*. She takes over the reins of the journal on July 1, 2003. Dr. Scham has wide-ranging experience in several disciplines related to those of NEA. She has dug and surveyed on several archaeological excavations in the Near East and has been active at ASOR Annual Meetings. We are confident that she will be able to bring NEA to new heights as she realizes several new initiatives generated by herself and by COP.

Scham received her Ph.D. in 1999 from The Catholic University of America in anthropology and has published in the areas of anthropology, biblical studies, and Syro-Palestinian archaeology. She has spent several years in Jerusalem and Amman, where she was affiliated with both the Albright Institute and ACOR. While in Jerusalem, she taught at Jerusalem University College. She now lives in Washington, D.C.

Before doing her doctoral work, Scham worked for seven years as an Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, D.C. This was followed by ten years as a Pension Law Specialist in the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. Needless to say, this background gives her a unique knowledge of the U.S. labyrinth of government granting agencies, upon which she hopes to capitalize for several NEA initiatives.

Since receiving her degree she has been contract teaching at the University of Maryland and is a Consulting Editor for Archaeology magazine, the outreach journal of the Archaeological Institute of America. She has participated in planning, organizing, and funding conferences and workshops on several topics, especially in the area of Palestinian-Jordanian-Israeli cooperation in archaeology. Her most recent major activity has been Project Coordinator for the Wye River People to People Grant, U.S. Department of State, Recognizing and Preserving the Common Heritage of Israel and the Palestinian National Authority—A Plan for Cross-Cultural Education and Community Involvement in the Development of Historical and Archaeological Sites.

Her publications cover an impressively wide range of topics: Egyptian archaeology, Chalcolithic finds in Palestine, sacred space in Palestinian archaeology, the politics of archaeology in the Middle East, ancient memory in modern thinking, the book of Judges, the archaeology of common people (disenfranchised), and archaeological survey. She is primarily an anthropological archaeologist but has, as she says, a continuing concern with biblical

Outreach and Regional Meetings

The Outreach Committee’s (chair, Gloria London) new plan to extend ASOR’s Outreach programming beyond the Annual Meetings is a good one. The first regional Teachers’ Workshop, organized by Suzanne Richard (Chair, ASOR Regional Societies), took place on April 12, 2003, following the regional meetings of the Eastern Great Lakes Biblical Society (SBL/CBA/ASOR), which were held in Erie, Pa. The Workshop, titled “The Archaeological Process: How we know what we know about the past,” attracted sixteen teachers (K-12) from the vicinity (a number of people drove around 50 miles to attend). The Workshop participants received, without cost, eight hours of Act 48 (continuing education) credits from Gannon University.

As the accompanying photo illustrates, Dr. Elizabeth Bloch-Smith—the plenary speaker at the regional conference—graciously stepped in at the last minute to replace Judith Cochran, who had fallen ill. Cochran’s excellent book for teachers, *Archaeology: Digging Deeper to Learn about the Past*, was the text used by Bloch-Smith to help teachers apply the principles of archaeology to the classroom. In the afternoon session, Richard led a tour of a Khirbet Iskander Exhibit at the Museum, followed by a “hands-on” session on pottery restoration at the Gannon University Institute for Archaeological Research. Participants gave the Workshop high marks, many hoping for a follow-up session next year. The success of this Workshop underscores the interest in and need for such Outreach at the regional level.

Suzanne Richard
Don’t Miss ASOR in Atlanta!

Grand Hyatt
19–22 November, 2003

It’s going to be Hot! Hot! Hot!

• Opening Plenary Lecture on Wednesday Evening by Colin Renfrew on ethical issues surrounding the trade in antiquities

• Thursday evening Public Lecture on Jewish mercenaries in ancient Egypt by Edward Bleiberg of the Brooklyn Museum, followed by a reception and tour at the Michael C. Carlos Museum exhibit on Jews in Egypt at Emory University

Plus!

A full schedule of sessions, involving:

• an all-day, international workshop on the Araba Project on Wednesday
• ancient texts and inscriptions
• the geography of the ancient Near East, from Anatolia to Egypt and beyond
• the archaeological time periods, from prehistory to modern
• a wide range of issues, such as archaeological ethics and antiquities, gender concerns, archaeological preservation and presentation
• a presidential panel on excavating in today’s Middle East
• various types of finds, from ceramics to ground- and chipped-stone tools
• technology and web-based computer database use in archaeology
• numerous workshops

Cont’d from page 3

and textual studies. “My research, publications and teaching background have all been inter-disciplinary combining anthropological, historical and traditional Near Eastern and biblical archaeological approaches. My dissertation, which I defended in November of 1999, explores the issues of pastoralism and the development of complexity in proto-historic periods in the Near East.”

Her vision for NEA matches that of COP. Of particular interest to her is the prospect of establishing and maintaining a liaison between biblical, Near Eastern, and anthropological archaeological approaches. In a recent article she proposed that the Bible might be creatively used as an ethnocentric analogy for interpreting the material culture of Bronze and Iron Age Palestine by examining the artifacts, architectural remains, and geography of sites in conjunction with relevant biblical passages and linguistic analyses of Hebrew expressions in those passages.

Along with the regular types of articles and article series that NEA readers know well, she would like to include synthetic articles written by one person but covering a single problem or issue associated with several sites, such as four-room houses, etc. She would also like to include articles on the importance of archaeological work in our region to modern populations—in other words, heritage presentation. Scham will make NEA her primary “job” and will bring to it considerable energy and commitment. From ASOR’s perspective she is an ideal fit for its outreach needs.

All future manuscripts submitted to NEA should be sent to: Dr. Sandra Arnold Scham, Editor, Near Eastern Archaeology, 3125 Quebec Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. Tel.: 202-363-6094. E-mail: neaedit@asor.org

Larry G. Herr
Chair, ASOR Committee on Publications

ASOR RECEIVES HIGH MARKS

In a recent issue of Sightings (6/26/03), Margaret M. Mitchell addressed the news, broken on June 18, that the inscription on the “James Ossuary” is now believed to be a fake. The following excerpts from her article give ASOR high marks for upholding its policy on the preservation and protection of archaeological resources by refraining from entering the debate.

Excerpts from “Grave Doubt about the ‘James Ossuary’”

-- Margaret M. Mitchell

... The director of the Israeli Antiquities Authority (IAA), Shuka Dorfman, had announced the findings of a 12-member panel that, while the “James Ossuary” itself is ancient, the inscription on it is a modern fake. The IAA report states that, based upon paleographic and chemical findings, “The letters postdate the patina and cut through it ... The inscription appears new, written in modernity by someone attempting to reproduce ancient characters based on existing examples.”

While U.S. news outlets present the results of the IAA’s three-month investigation as yet another stage in a “he said/she said” debate over the artifact’s authenticity, it is clear that the burden of proof has now shifted onto those who would try to maintain that this ossuary deserves the serious attention of early Christianity scholars.

... Serious New Testament scholars rely on experts to assist their interpretation of archaeological materials. The American Society (sic!) for Oriental Research (ASOR) in its 1995 Statement of ASOR Policy on Preservation and Protection of Archaeological Resources “<www.asor.org/policy.htm> stipulates that “ASOR members should refrain from activities that enhance the commercial value of such artifacts and thus contribute indirectly to the illicit market, for example, publication, authentication, or exhibition.” Consequently, the artifact...
The Great Debate
Tammi J. Schneider
Claremont Graduate University

The topic of whether archaeological evidence supports a kingdom of David and Solomon similar to that presented in the Bible was the topic of ASOR’s “Great Debate,” which took place on June 1 and was co-sponsored on the UCLA campus by the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology. Lawrence Stager of Harvard University upheld the “traditional” chronology, namely that archaeology does indeed confirm the notion of a strong kingdom under Solomon, complete with “Solomonic” urban architecture at a number of cities in ancient Palestine. Israel Finkelstein of Tel Aviv University took the approach, for which he is one of the major proponents, that the architecture traditionally attributed to Solomon actually belongs to the historic horizon of the Omrides in the ninth century.

The Great Debate was part of a series of events co-sponsored during the 2002-2003 academic year by ASOR as a result of a newly formed committee on public lectures. The mandate for the committee is to raise ASOR’s profile by holding a series of public lectures throughout the country. As the literature over the past several years has shown, the topic slated for this debate has generated a good deal of discussion and intense exchange. The Great Debate was different in that it was intended from the beginning for the general public. Recent articles in Science magazine announcing Amihai Mazar’s 14C dates at Tel Rehov made the event even more timely.

The Great Debate drew a crowd of more than three hundred people and was designed as a proper debate. It began with a short introduction by Tammi Schneider, who briefly explored available sources of information and the data involved in the discussion and related issues. Both participants then delivered half-hour position pieces. Following a short break, the crowd returned and each contestant asked five questions of their opponent, with only three-minute responses allowed. The speakers then had fifteen minutes to summarize their position before they fielded questions from the audience.

The points made by the speakers were not completely new to those involved in the archaeology of ancient Israel. Stager stressed how the destruction layers related to Shishak form the backbone of the traditional chronology. He demonstrated how shifting those destructions results in gaps at some sites for which no other reasonable explanation makes sense. Finkelstein began his presentation by dismantling the foundation upon which the traditional chronology is based. He then brought in more recent archaeological evidence which raises further issues with the traditional approach, such as the pottery from Jezreel and the recent excavations at Megiddo that he directs. Finally he proposed his lower chronology through which much of the architecture traditionally attributed to Solomon becomes Omride in origin.

Mazar’s 14C dates constitute the newest material presented, so new in fact that the Great Debate apparently provided the first public forum for its discussion in America. Not surprisingly, Stager noted, especially in the context of an ongoing exchange about where and how the 14C lab work was done, that the dates “prove” the traditional approach. Finkelstein’s response to the 14C dates concerned the process of interpreting them, what they actually say, and how archaeologists need to work with physicists to understand the

The gathering audience before the Great Debate began.

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THE W.F. ALBRIGHT INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH (AIAR), JERUSALEM

Annual Professorship: $30,000 award. The stipend is $14,200 plus $15,800 for room and half-board for appointee and spouse at the Institute. Open to post-doctoral scholars in Near Eastern archaeology, geography, history, and Biblical studies. U.S. citizens are eligible for entire award. Non-U.S. citizens may apply but, by U.S. law, are only eligible for non-governmental funds (totalling $15,000). Residence at the Institute is required. Appointment: 10 months. The professorship period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships: $40,000 award for 12 months ($60,000 to be available — 1 & 1/2 awards) Open to scholars in the fields of ancient Near Eastern studies including archaeology, anthropology, geography, history, philology, epigraphy, Biblical studies, Islamic studies, religion, art history, literature, philosophy or related disciplines holding a Ph.D. (or equivalent) as of January 1, 2004, who are U.S. citizens (or alien residents residing in the United States for the last three years). Research project must have a clear humanities focus. Research period: four to twelve months (stipend varies with the duration of the fellowship — maximum stipend is $40,000 for 12 months). Residence at the Institute is preferred. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.

Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow and Program Coordinator: $19,000 award. The stipend is $10,900; remainder ($8,100) is for room and half-board at the Institute. Open to pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral scholars specializing in Near Eastern archaeology, geography, history and biblical studies. Recipient is expected to assist the Albright’s Director in planning and implementing the Ernest S. Frerichs Program for Albright Fellows. Residence at the Institute is required. Research period: 10 months. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.

George A. Barton Fellowship: $7,000 award. The stipend is $2,950; remainder ($4,050) is for room and half-board at the Institute. Open to seminarians, pre-doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients specializing in Near Eastern archaeology, geography, history, and biblical studies. Research period: 5 months. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.

Samuel H. Kress Fellowship: $16,500 award. The stipend is $8,400; remainder ($8,100) is for room and half-board at the Institute. Dissertation research fellowship for students specializing in architecture, art history and archaeology. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, or North American citizens studying at U.S. universities. Residence at the Albright Institute is required. Research Period: 10 months. Research project must have a clear focus on art history or architecture. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.

Samuel H. Kress Joint Athens-Jerusalem Fellowship: $15,000 award. A joint fellowship for research at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens and at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem. The stipend is $7,250; remainder ($7,750) is for room and half-board at the two institutions. Pre-doctoral research fellowship for students specializing in art history, architec-

ture, or archaeology who are U.S. citizens, or North American citizens studying at U.S. universities. Residence at the Albright Institute is required. Research period: 10 months (5 months in Athens, 5 months in Jerusalem). The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside Greece and Israel. Application deadline: October 24, 2003.

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships (ECA): a. Junior Research Fellowships: $48,000 for three awards — $16,000 each. The stipend is $7,900; remainder ($8,100) is for room and half-board at the Institute. Open to pre-doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients in Near Eastern Studies who are U.S. citizens. Residence at the Institute is required. Research period: 10 or 5 months (stipend varies with the duration of the fellowship — maximum stipend is $16,000 for 10 months) The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: October 17, 2003.


Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowships: $34,500 for three awards ($11,500 each). The fellowships are open to Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, and Slovak scholars. Candidates should not be permanently resident outside the six countries concerned, and should have obtained a doctorate by the time the fellowship is awarded. Candidates must be reasonably fluent in English. Fellows are expected to reside at the Albright if room is available. Each fellowship is for three months, during one of the following periods: September 1, 2004 - November 30, 2004; December 1, 2004 - February 29, 2005; and March 1, 2005 - May 31, 2005. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Application deadline: April 2, 2004.


Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Fellowships for Advanced Multi-country Research:* Eight awards of up to $6,000 each, with an additional $5,000 for travel. Open to scholars pursuing research on broad questions of multi-country significance in the fields of humanities, social sciences, and related natural sciences in countries in the Near and Middle East and South Asia. Doctoral candidates and established scholars with US citizenship are eligible to apply as individuals or in teams. Preference will be given to candidates examining comparative and/or cross-regional questions requiring research in two or more countries. Application deadline: December 31, 2003. For information and application, write to: The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), P.O. Box 37012, NHB-East Court CE-123, MRC 178, Washington D.C., 20013-7012. (tel: 202-842-8636; E-mail: caorc@caorc.si.edu; Web: http://www.caorc.org).

*Award subject to availability of funds.

For further information and application forms visit the Albright’s web site at: http://www.aiar.org or contact Dr. Jodi Magness Department of Religious Studies CB #3225 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3225, USA Phone: (919) 962-3928 Fax: (919) 962-1567 E-mail: magness@email.unc.edu.
2004–2005 FELLOWSHIPS
THE AMERICAN CENTER OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH
(AMMAN)

Deadline for all applications is February 1, 2004

The Kress Fellowship in the Art and Archaeology of Jordan: One or more three- to six-month fellowships for pre-doctoral students completing dissertation research in an art historical topic. History of art is defined to include: art history, archaeology, architectural history, and in some cases classical studies. Applicants must be Ph.D. candidates and U.S. citizens or foreign nationals who have matriculated at U.S. institutions. The maximum award for six months is $14,000. Subject to funding.

ACOR-CAORC Fellowship: Five or more two- to six-month fellowships for MA and pre-doctoral students. Fields of study include all areas of the humanities and the natural and social sciences. Topics should contribute to scholarship in Near Eastern studies. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is $19,400. Subject to funding.

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship: Three or more two- to six-month fellowships for post-doctoral scholars and scholars with a terminal degree in their field, pursuing research or publication projects in the natural and social sciences, humanities, and associated disciplines relating to the Near East. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is $25,000. Subject to funding.

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

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

Harrell Family Fellowship: One award of $1,500 to support a graduate student for participation in an ACOR-approved archaeological research project, which has passed an academic review process. Senior project staff whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. Open to enrolled graduate students of any nationality. Kenneth W. Russell Fellowship: One award of $1,500 to assist a student, in Jordan or elsewhere, in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, conservation, and related areas. In the 2004-2005 funding cycle this competition is open only to Jordanian citizens.

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship: One or more awards for one or two months of residency at ACOR during the period of June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2004. Open to graduate students of any nationality participating in an archaeological project or a research project in Jordan. The award includes room and board at ACOR and a monthly stipend of $400. This fellowship may be combined with the Groot or Harrell fellowships.

1. National Endowment for the Humanities/ARIT Advanced Fellowships for Research in Turkey, 2004 - 2005. ARIT/NEH Fellowships cover all fields of the humanities, including prehistory, history, art, archaeology, literature, and linguistics as well as interdisciplinary aspects of cultural history for applicants who have completed their academic training. The fellowships may be held for terms ranging from four months to a full year. Stipends range from $13,300 to 40,000. Deadline November 15, 2003.

2. ARIT Fellowships for Research in Turkey, 2004 - 2005. ARIT Fellowships are offered for research in ancient, medieval, or modern times, in any field of the humanities and social sciences. Post-doctoral and advanced doctoral fellowships may be held for various terms, from two to three months up to terms of a year. Stipends range from $4,000 to $16,000. Deadline November 15, 2003.

3. Samuel H. Kress Foundation/ARIT Fellowship for Research in Archaeology and Art History in Turkey for 2004 - 2005. Graduate level fellowships of up to $15,000 and tenures of up to one year will be offered for doctoral candidates in Art History or Archaeology matriculated at U.S. or Canadian institutions. Deadline November 15, 2003.

For further information please contact: American Research Institute in Turkey, University of Pennsylvania Museum, 33rd and Spruce Streets. Philadelphia PA 19104-6324. phone: (215) 898-3474. fax: (215) 898-0657. e-mail: leinwand@sas.upenn.edu. http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT

2004–2005 FELLOWSHIPS
THE AMERICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN TURKEY

British Academy Research Readerships and Senior Research Fellowships

The British Academy invites applications from scholars in the social sciences and humanities, based in the UK. These awards are aimed at established scholars in mid-career in UK universities, and enable successful candidates to undertake or complete a programme of research while relieved of their normal teaching and administrative commitments.

Up to 15 Readerships, tenable for 2 years, 7 Senior Research Fellowships, tenable for 1 year, and 1 Thank-Offering to Britain Fellowships are available, to be taken up from the autumn of 2004. The closing date for applications is 30 September 2003.

Further details and application forms: http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/readfell.html
“Debate” cont’d from page 5

results. Much of the question-and-answer session focused on the use and misuse of charred remains, both by labs and archaeologists.

The winner of the debate was clearly the audience. Finkelstein and Stager gave it their all, both in terms of scholarship and showmanship. ASOR also came out ahead, having presented some of its finest scholarship to the public and forging important relationships that we hope will continue with lecture co-sponsors and the general public. To a large extent, the field in general won as well. Questioning traditional assumptions, such as has been the case in the “Solomonic” architecture debate, forces all scholars involved to examine the material in a way not done previously and hopefully will force scholars to be more specific than generalizing in the future and more careful about interpreting what their data mean.

as well. Questioning traditional assumptions, such as has been the case in the “Solomonic” architecture debate, forces all scholars involved to examine the material in a way not done previously and hopefully will force scholars to be more specific than generalizing in the future and more careful about interpreting what their data mean.

“High Marks” cont’d from page 4

in question was not displayed or discussed at the ASOR meeting in Toronto this past November …

In an astounding turn of events, it has emerged that the owner of the artifact, Oded Golan, is also the owner and purveyor of a second “discovery” (The “Yoash inscription”) published by Shanks’ Biblical Archaeology Review, also judged a forgery by the IAA panel in its report last week. The American press has not been as clear as their Israeli and international counterparts that Golan is under police investigation. Whatever the results of the Robbery Prevention Unit’s investigation, this dual affair has vindicated the wisdom of the ASOR standards. Scholars should be very cautious about basing serious research on “archaeological findings” of uncertain provenance and entrepreneurial presentation. And non-specialists need not, as my earlier column suggested, be manipulated by interpretive paradigms in which they might not wish to be complicit (such as Christianity Today writer Gordon Govier’s lament on the possible disqualification of the box which had “electrified Christians who suddenly had an authentic 2,000-year-old souvenir of the founder of their faith”).

Margaret M. Mitchell is Associate Professor of New Testament at the University of Chicago Divinity School and the Chair of the Department of New Testament and Early Christian Literature. Her latest book is The Heavenly Trumpet: John Chrysostom and the Art of Pauline Interpretation (Westminster/John Knox, 2002).

ASOR List-serve House Cleaning

In order to do a little house cleaning, we have erased the mailing list for the asor-l. Anyone previously subscribed to the asor-l discussion list will need to resubscribe after 10.00 am EST on Thursday July 3. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, and our thanks to those who offered constructive suggestions as to how we might avoid it, but some of the problems pre-date our moving the list to the Boston University server over three years ago.

To resubscribe send an email message to majordomo@bu.edu. The message should say:

subscribe asor-l

No subject line is necessary.
If you have difficult resubscribing, please email Chris Madell <cmadell@bu.edu>.

Annual Meeting Participants

If you would like to hold a reception or function at the Annual Meeting in Atlanta that requires catering, please contact Holly Andrews in the Boston office at 617-353-6576 or asorad@bu.edu

New from ASOR Publications

The Babylonian Entitlement nāras (kudurrus): A Study in Their Form and Function

by Kathryn Slanski
ASOR Books Vol. 9
Pp. xxii + 362. $29.95

Sotira Kaminoudhia: An Early Bronze Age Site in Cyprus

by Stuart Swiny, George (Rip) Rapp, Ellen Herscher
Archaeological Reports Vol. 8
Pp. xxviii + 600. $99.95

To order log on to: www.oxbowbooks.com or call 800.791.9354, or email david.brown.bk.co@snet.net
July 15–18, 2003
Judah and the Judeans in the Achaemenid Period, Heidelberg University. The conference aims to provide an interdisciplinary and interreligious forum for Biblical scholars, Historians and Archaeologists, for the discussion of this important period in Jewish History. It will take place in Heidelberg Universität from July 15th through July 18th 2003, in a form of a “round table” and a closed seminar, and only the participants and some invited guests will take part in it. Contact: Oded Lipschits <Oded.Lipschits@urz.uni-heidelberg.de>.

July 19–25, 2003

July 20–25, 2003

August 16–18, 2003
The First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. Tehran. Sponsored by the Office of Deputy Minister for Cultural Affairs at the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance Deadline for paper submissions: January 21, 2003. Contact: Secretariat of the First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. 1178 Engelab Ave. between Felestin St. and South St. 3rd Fl. Postal area code : 1315773411, Tehran, IRAN. Tel.: + 98 21 641 52 62. Fax : + 98 21 641 54 98. E-mail : contact@ficiva.org

August 23–26, 2003
Common Ground. Archaeology, Art, Science, and Humanities. The XVI International Congress of Classical Archaeology of the Associazione Internazionale di Archeologia Classica (AIAC), hosted by the Ancient Art Department of the Harvard University Art Museums, Cambridge, MA. Contact: Amy Brauer, e-mail: AIAC2003@fas.harvard.edu. Tel: 617-495-3393 32; Fax: 617-495-5506.

September 1–3, 2003
Through a Glass Darkly: Magic, Dreams, and Prophecy in Ancient Egypt. An international conference open to all scholars and organised by the University of Wales Institute of Classics and Ancient History, Baskerville Hall, Hay-on-Wye, Powys, Wales. The topic of magic, dreams, and prophecy, within Ancient Egypt, is one whose time has come. The rural Wye valley in mid-Wales is the venue for a discussion of topics including the royal dreams of pharaohs, prophecies of the end-of-the-world, newly discovered books of dream interpretation, and magical objects such as knots and corn mummies. Contact: Kasia Szpakowska, Dept. of Classics and Ancient History, University of Wales Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, Wales, UK. Tel.: +44 (0) 1792 513104. Email: K.Szpakowska@swansea.ac.uk. Web: www.baskervillehall.co.uk.

October 17–18, 2003
Radical Archaeological Theory Symposium (RATS), hosted by the Anthropology Department at Binghamton University. Soliciting abstracts for presentations on two topics: 1.) Praxis and Archaeology and 2.) Building Methods in “Post-Processual” and Radical Archaeology. Contact: Email: RATS@binghamton.edu. RATS, c/o Bretton Giles, Anthropology Department, State University of New York at Binghamton, PO Box 6000 Binghamton, NY 13902-6000. Web: www.arch.soton.ac.uk (Dept).

November 6–8, 2003
Transeuphratene in the Persian Period: Powers, Societies and Religions. Institut Catholique, Paris. Contact: Secretary of the 6th International Conference, Institut Protestant de Theologie de Paris, 83 boulevard Arago, 75014 Paris, France (iptparis@wanadoo.fr ). E-mail: elayi-j@mediatechnix.com. Web: www.mediatechnix.com/transeuphratene/

November 19–24, 2003
ASOR Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, GA. Contact: www.asor.org/AM/am.htm. See ad on page 5.

November 22–25, 2003
SBL. Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. Contact: www.sbl-site.org.

January 2–5, 2004

February 20–22, 2004
SOMA 2004. The eighth annual meeting for postgraduate researchers in Mediterranean Archaeology, Trinity College Dublin. The symposium provides an informal setting for predoctoral researchers across Europe and beyond to come together to present and discuss their works in progress. Researchers from a wide range of archaeological and related backgrounds are invited and encouraged to participate. This year, the organisers hope to make the symposium inclusive of regions and time periods outside the eastern Mediterranean region, and the Bronze Age and Classical periods, which in the past have been the subject of strong focus. Researchers working on the Western Mediterranean, North Africa, and other time periods are strongly encouraged to participate. Contact: email: soma@tcd.ie; web: www.tcd.ie/Classics/soma/somahome.html

March 28–April 3, 2004
4th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East - 4ICAANE, Berlin. Contact: www.4icaane.de.

April 17–18, 2004
Decoming Divine: Concepts of Immortality in the Ancient World. The keynote speaker will be Walker Burkert. Contact Richard Short (short@fas.harvard.edu). Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be mailed to the following address by November 15, 2003: Dept of the Classics, ATTN: Graduate Conference, 204 Boylston Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138.

June 18–21, 2004
3d International Conference: “Hierarchy and Power in the History of Civilizations.” Co-sponsored by the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies and the Institute for African Studies, 30/1 Spiridonovka St., 123001 Moscow, RUSSIA. Tel.: + (7 095) 291 4119; Fax: + (7 095) 202 0786. E-mail: civ-reg@mfafr.ru. Contacts: Prof. Dmitri M. Bondarenko, Dr. Igor L. Alexeev, and Mr. Oleg I. Kavykin preferably by e-mail <conf2004@hotmail.com>, or either by fax (+ 7 095 202 0786), or by ordinary mail (Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 30/1 Spiridonovka St., 123001 Moscow, Russia). Tel: + 7 095 291 4119.

August 2–6, 2004
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