Harry A. Hoffner

Harry A. Hoffner's activities relating to the University of Chicago and the Oriental Institute continue to be what they have been since his retirement from faculty status in June 2000: working with Professor Theo van den Hout in the revising and editing of Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) drafts and approving the final form. Together with him and other staff members, he participates in the discussions relating to the design and functionality of the on-line version of the CHD (the eCHD). Most of his editing duties can be fulfilled from home, but consultations with Theo require trips into the office.

For the past five years Hoffner and Professor Craig Melchert of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have been preparing a large manuscript which will be a complete grammar of Hittite. It consists of two parts (probably to be produced as separate volumes): the first a systematically organized reference grammar; the second a set of graded lessons with assignments from the reference grammar, exercises, and vocabulary. Everything in this tutorial is keyed to paragraphs in the reference grammar. The work was vetted over a year ago by a select group of colleagues, and then thoroughly revised and augmented. It is now ready for the publisher and will appear in the new series "Languages of the Ancient Near East" (abbreviated LANE) published by Eisenbrauns.

He continues to contribute articles to journals and festschrifts, the latest being an article on the degenitival adjectives in Hittite, including those based upon numerals, to appear in the festschrift for Johann de Roos. Another article in press is a brief commentary on the famous Illuyanka Myth, which will form a part of the festschrift for Robert D. Biggs.

Hoffner does not speak as frequently at conferences as he did as an active faculty member. His next such commitment is the VI International Congress of Hittitology to be held in Rome next September. He attended the Fifty-first Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Chicago, but did not give an address.

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