Janet Johnson

This year Janet Johnson attended two major conferences: the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (held this year in Seattle) and the 25th International Congress of Papyrology (held in Ann Arbor, Michigan); she was one of the regional coordinators for the Papyrology meetings, organizing a side trip from Ann Arbor to Chicago for about thirty participants, enabling them to visit both the Field Museum and the Oriental Institute Museum, where a special exhibit on Greek and Egyptian papyri was set up for them. She also gave lectures on "Women in Ancient Egypt: Legal Equality, Social Differentiation, and Symbols of Sexuality and Fertility" (for the Chicago chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt) and "Cleopatra as CEO: Bureaucracy and Scandal in the Hostile Takeover of a First Century (BCE) Multinational" (for the Illinois Classical Conference). She submitted the manuscript of her article "Gender and Marriage in Ancient Egypt," which will appear in the proceedings of a conference on marriage organized by the theological faculty of the University of Würzburg in 2007. She collaborated with Wendy Ennes and others in the Museum Education Office working on a Web site tentatively entitled Teaching the Middle East aimed at high school students and teachers; Jan's portion of the project discusses "Self-identity in Ancient Egypt." The work on the Web site is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She was appointed Associate Editor of the Journal of Near Eastern Studies, published by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago, and has learned first-hand the detailed efforts involved in bringing such a journal to press. While serving as the Oriental Institute representative on the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt, she also served as co-chairman of its Ad Hoc Committee for Governance and Ad Hoc Governance Implementation Committee, working to restructure this growing organization. As usual, much of her time was spent working on the Demotic Dictionary, detailed in a separate report.