
François Gaudard

The 2012–2013 year has been particularly productive, rewarding, and successful on many levels for **François Gaudard**. He finished checking and completing the last letter of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (CDD), namely, S (542 pages), adding about 150 new pages to the final file. Moreover, after eighteen years of extensive work on every aspect of the CDD, first as a research assistant and then as an associate editor, Gaudard was particularly pleased and proud to see the completion of the original plan of the project for which he invested so much of his time and career (see separate CDD report).

Another highlight of the year was the official launch of both a Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC, Madrid) website and an Oriental Institute webpage dedicated to the Mummy Label Database (MLD). Gaudard, who is the co-founder and co-editor of both the MLD and the “Death on the Nile” project, wrote and developed the MLD webpage for the Oriental Institute website (see separate MLD report).

In July 2012, Gaudard lectured on the various scripts and stages in the development of the ancient Egyptian language for the University of Chicago Egyptology summer class “Ancient Egyptian Language, Culture, and History,” taught by Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer. On August 29, 2012, Gaudard, together with Janet H. Johnson and our new colleague Brian Muhs, organized a public roundtable on “Digital Demotic,” hosted by the Franke Institute for the Humanities of the University of Chicago, in order to discuss the future of the CDD (see separate CDD report). On November 16, 2012, he presented a paper entitled “The Mummy Labels in the Oriental Institute Museum” at the first “Bridges between Life and Death: On Funerary Practice in Graeco-Roman Egypt” conference, hosted by the Oriental Institute (see separate MLD report). In April 2013, he was invited as a guest lecturer for the class “Writing Systems and Decipherment,” taught by Christopher Woods. On June 6, 2013, Gaudard, together with Janet H. Johnson, participated in the University of Chicago “Knowledge Fair: A Celebration of Leaders in Philanthropy,” which was an event to recognize the generous support of University donors and to give them the opportunity to interact and learn more about research and projects at our University (see separate CDD report).

As was the case during the past years, Gaudard served as an editorial consultant for Egyptology articles published in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (JNES) and the *Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities* (JSSEA). He was also able to attend the sixty-fourth annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), held in Cincinnati, Ohio, from April 19 to 21, 2013.

During the year, Gaudard had the following articles published: “Birds in the Ancient Egyptian and Coptic Alphabets,” in *Between Heaven and Earth: Birds in Ancient Egypt*, edited by

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Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer, pp. 65–70 (Oriental Institute Museum Publications 35; Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2012); “Pap. Berlin P. 8278 and Its Fragments: Testimony of the Osirian Khoiak Festival Celebration during the Ptolemaic Period,” in *Forschung in der Papyrussammlung: Eine Festgabe für das Neue Museum*, edited by Verena M. Lepper, pp. 269–86 (Ägyptische und Orientalische Papyri und Handschriften des Ägyptischen Museums und Papyrussammlung Berlin 1; Berlin: Akademie-Verlag, 2012).

Other publications by Gaudard are now in press, including: “A Demotic-Hieratic Mummy Label in the Museu de Montserrat,” which will be published in a Festschrift honoring a colleague, and “Rosetta Stone,” in *Encyclopedia of Ancient Greek Language and Linguistics* (EAGLL), edited by Georgios K. Giannakis (Leiden: Brill). Gaudard has also been working on various new articles, including one focusing on an unknown aspect of the god Seth, which is now ready and will be published in a forthcoming Festschrift honoring a colleague. In addition, he was also invited to contribute an article to another Festschrift, and continued to work on several of his long-term publication projects.
