

## Foy Scalf

On November 17, 2012, **Foy Scalf** presented a paper with Helen McDonald on the Oriental Institute Integrated Database Project at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Chicago. The panel was organized around the theme of “Topics in Cyber-infrastructure, Digital Humanities, and Near Eastern Archaeology.” In addition to hosting a forum for a number of interesting papers, the occasion brought together Magnus Widell, Chuck Jones, and Foy Scalf, the successive librarians for the Oriental Institute for the past thirty years! Foy gave another presentation on the Integrated Database to an enthusiastic delegation from the University of Michigan on May 17, 2013, who visited the Oriental Institute in preparation for their own database migration in the near future.

Despite the time commitments related to work on the Integrated Database Project for the Research Archives, he found time to dedicate toward his research interests in Demotic studies. He has joined Friedhelm Hoffmann, Franziska Naether, and Ghislaine Widmer in compiling the *Demotistische Literaturübersicht*, a biannual annotated bibliography of all work conducted in the field of Demotic studies. *Demotistische Literaturübersicht* 33 was completed in February 2013 and will appear in the next issue of the journal *Enchoria*. In addition, he presented several papers and publications during the course of the year on matters of religion in Late Period Egypt.

At the invitation of guest curator Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer, Foy presented a paper on “The Organization of the Sacred Animal Cults for the Ibis and the Falcon in Ancient Egypt” for the Birds in Ancient Egypt symposium on November 10, 2012, at the Oriental Institute. That lecture presented an overview of the information found in his chapter “The Role of Birds across the Religious Landscape of Ancient Egypt” that appeared in the Oriental Institute’s special exhibit catalog *Between Heaven & Earth: Birds in Ancient Egypt*, edited by Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer (Oriental Institute Museum Publications 35; Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2012). He also authored several object entries for the catalog, including an interesting *ba*-statue showing the deceased with falcon body and human head. He and Rozenn plan to co-author an article on the *ba*-statues in the Oriental Institute Museum and compare them with the currently known corpus in the published literature.

In April, Chicago hosted the sixty-fourth annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, where Foy gave a paper based on research from his dissertation entitled “A Reception before Osiris: Illustrating Demotic Funerary Texts.” In this paper, he argued that the variation found in the illustrations and texts of a certain class of Demotic funerary manuscripts suggest that they were at times composed from memory, rather than copied in a scriptorium as often supposed. A more detailed account of the philology on which this argument is based will be presented at the upcoming meeting of the American Philological Association.

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