

Charles E. Jones

Charles E. Jones continued his association with the Oriental Institute from a distance as a Research Associate with the Persepolis Fortification Tablet Project. For that project he completed and published a paper with Matthew W. Stolper “Fortification Texts Sold at the Auction of the Erlenmeyer Collection” in the online journal *Arta* (<http://www.achemenet.com/ressources/en-ligne/arta/pdf/2006.001.Jones-Stolper.pdf>).

Jones continued his editorship of Abzu (<http://www.etana.org/abzu/>), adding more than a thousand items to that database in the past year. Abzu now also has an RSS feed so users can be alerted automatically of new material added. Jones also constructed a blog “What’s New in Abzu” (<http://www.bloglines.com/blog/AbzuNew>) which gives a chronological account of all items entered in the database since September 2005. By the time this report appears in print there will be a significant addition to the corpus of digitized books made freely available by ETANA, the host to Abzu. As part of a USAID grant to assist Iraqi universities rebuild their archaeology programs and collections, Stony Brook University has digitized 181 cuneiform text publications and Mesopotamian archaeological site reports, including dissertations relating to archaeology in Iraq. Elizabeth Stone was the Principal Investigator for this grant. These texts are either out of copyright or Stony Brook has received permission to digitize them. We are pleased to report that Stony Brook is contributing these digital texts to the ETANA Core Texts collection for free access to anyone engaged in teaching and research. Archival copies of the scanned texts are held by the Stony Brook Libraries. If Stony Brook University digitizes more cuneiform text publications and site reports, it will contribute these to the ETANA collection as well. Stony Brook will catalog the digitized titles before sending them to ETANA. We anticipate the Core Texts available on the ETANA site will almost double by the end of the year as the result of the materials donated from Stony Brook.

Jones has remained editor of the IraqCrisis mailing list (<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>) that continues to be a useful tool for the distribution of information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from libraries, museums, and archaeological sites in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003. Following the Oriental Institute’s suspension of the ANE list (founded by Jones and John Sanders in July 1993), Jones joined a distinguished panel of moderators to rebuild the forum, now called ANE-2 (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ANE-2/>). All are welcome to join and participate.

During the past year Jones also completed and submitted bibliographies of the publications of Gene Gragg and Robert Biggs as his contribution to their respective festschrifts: *Papers on Semitic and Afroasiatic Linguistics in Honor of Gene B. Gragg*, edited by Cynthia Miller; and *Studies Presented to Robert D. Biggs, June 4, 2004*, edited by Walter Farber, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper.