

Janet Johnson

Janet Johnson spent much time during the past year working on the Demotic Dictionary (see separate report), including preparing a brief resume of the history, goals, and status of this project for the winter *Oriental Institute News & Notes* (issue 208). She also continued to work and lecture on topics related to women in Pharaonic and Hellenistic Egypt; her article on “Gender and Marriage in Ancient Egypt” for the conference *Ehe als Ernstfall der Geschlechterdifferenz, Herausforderungen für Frau und Mann in kulturellen Symbolsystemen*, held in Würzburg, Germany, appeared this year. Also appearing this year was her section on “Self-Identity in Ancient Egypt” for the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded website “Teaching the Middle East: A Resource for Educators,” which was prepared through the Oriental Institute Museum Office and which went fully operational this year (see separate report; see <http://teachmiddleeast.lib.uchicago.edu/>). As a result of this year’s special exhibit *Visible Language*, she turned her attention to the development of writing in ancient Egypt, writing catalog entries on “Egyptian Hieroglyphic Writing,” “Egyptian Demotic Script,” and a “Demotic Annuity Contract” in the Oriental Institute collection (and the exhibit) for the catalog *Visible Language: Inventions of Writing in the Ancient Middle East and Beyond* and giving a lecture entitled “Origins, Development, and Impact of Writing in Ancient Egypt” for the associated Public Education symposium *Inventions of Writing*. She sponsored two young Swiss scholars who have Swiss National Science Foundation fellowships to spend three years each here in Chicago researching the development of the ancient Egyptian language. She also served as an “outside reviewer” for cases considering faculty promotion to tenure for institutions both in the United States and abroad. She served on various committees for the Oriental Institute, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the Program on the Ancient Mediterranean World in the Department of Classics, as well as serving as a member of the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt, the American Egyptological professional organization.
