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AMERICAN CENTER OF
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NEWSLETTER

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Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative — Further Steps Along the Path (2013)

Christopher A. Tuttle

The accomplishments achieved by the team of the Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative (TWLCRM) are captured below, and the different project subcomponents during this past year are outlined. An initial description was presented in the Winter 2012 *ACOR Newsletter* (Vol. 24.2)—available as a PDF on ACOR’s website. That article introduced this multi-component ACOR project, summarized the conceptual and practical development of the initiative between 2009 and 2012, and described some of the initial steps taken by the team during the first six months of fieldwork in the latter half of 2012. The closing of 2013 saw the completion of 18 months of work—currently funded primarily by the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation large grant and ACOR’s USAID Endowment.



View of the experimental “faux restoration” of five columns in the TWL Cella from the documentation photographs taken from multiple locations to assess the impact of the final presentation strategy on the landscape in Petra (TWLCRM photos by Qais Tweissi unless noted otherwise). Follow the project on Facebook—<http://www.facebook.com/TWLCRM>



Site plan of TWLCRM work zone outlined on a composite aerial photograph from the balloon photography collaboration with the University of California, San Diego in November 2012 (see *ACOR Newsletter* 24.2 for the story and full photo credit)

Documentation

A substantial portion of the work conducted throughout the year by the TWLCRM team focused on continuing the documentation efforts required for the standing portions of the Temple of the Winged Lions (TWL) and the many pieces from the building scattered throughout the excavation impact zone around the site. Led by the project Documentation Specialist Qais Tweissi, the team worked throughout the year to record the information required for the project by using a diverse range of techniques. Their efforts included expanding the basic documentation about the building and its components as required for the planned (re-)publication of the original excavation project by the American Expedition to Petra (AEP) under the late Philip C. Hammond, along with the results of the TWLCRM initiative. The recording of the present condition of the stone building materials helps in designing the required conservation interventions and final restoration plans. Surveying the entire TWL precinct assists with conceptualizing the final presentation strategy for the temple and its environs.

Quteiba Dusuki, a surveyor from the Department of Antiquities, spent several short seasons working on the site as part of the cooperative arrangement between ACOR/TWLCRM and the Department of Antiquities (DOA). Using a total station, he was able to extend the survey work to several other sectors around the

temple, thus helping the team to understand better the original organization of the precinct. The most important area on which he focused was the ascending propylaeum (grand entryway) that originally provided access to the temple from a bridge spanning the wadi alongside the colonnaded street in the city center to the south. The propylaeum area, despite its importance, does not appear to have been thoroughly recorded by the AEP, although a substantial portion had been excavated during that original project.

The surveying by Dusuki was aided by a number of other members of the team. In order to complete the survey, the previously excavated areas had first to be cleaned of the wind-blown and water-deposited soils that had accumulated during the past 30 plus years. An excavation team of trained junior archaeologists (Milena Zafirova, Ahmad Hasanat, Ameneh Ayedh Faqir, and Wajd Yousef Nawafleh) completed part of this work. Two new documentation team members also augmented the propylaeum survey with drawings and photographs: Jason Blanzly (Documentation Coordinator and Assistant Architect) and Ahmad Hasanat (Assistant Documentation Specialist). The propylaeum is very large and the documentation has not yet been completed—although the data gathered by the TWLCRM team has already yielded a new understanding about the different structural components and overall design of this important part of the TWL precinct.

The Documentation team (Qais Tweissi, Jason Blanz, Ahmad Hasanat, and Eman Abdelsalaam) also continued recording the many standing walls of the temple and its precinct and the scattered architectural elements recovered from the original excavation by photography and hand-drawing. Analysis of the data collected by these efforts continues to be undertaken by Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos (Lead Architect) to prepare and explicate the materials for publication. Team members Tweissi, Hasanat, and Blanz also expanded the project's use of new computer modeling techniques using photographs and drawings (such as Structure-for-Motion and other types of data modeling).

Landscape Rehabilitation

Work on the innovative Landscape Rehabilitation subcomponent also continued throughout the year. Through the efforts of the TWLCRM Local Team members, under the direction of Maria Elena Ronza (Project Manager) and Shaker Salama Faqir (Foreman), substantial progress was made in removing—and recycling when possible—the soil, rubble, and ashlar dumps from the original excavation impact zone around the TWL precinct. By the close of 2013, major changes had taken place in the work area.

Soil Dump 1 and several smaller, unnumbered dumps have been completely removed from the landscape and recycled. Soil Dump 2 is also nearly finished and some work on removing the largest soil Dump 4 was also started. Stone Piles 2, 3, and 4 have all now been fully removed from the landscape; these were carefully sorted by stone type and the materials relocated and organized. Most rubble has been retained for reuse later in gabions and other future backfilling efforts. All identifiable architectural elements (ashlars, moldings, etc.), including those from the Lapidaries 1–4, have been recorded, catalogued as needed, and shifted to storage areas to await their final disposition. The architectural elements that will remain visible have all been consolidated into the existing footprint of a single area (Lapidary 1).

A few statistics will help underscore the amount of work accomplished in this subcomponent by the TWLCRM Local Team. Removal of Soil Dump 1 alone yielded nearly 2.5 metric tons of ceramic fragments (amounting to more than 500,000 sherds, all of which were examined by TWLCRM Ceramologist Tali Erickson-Gini!). During the first 18 months of fieldwork, nearly 3,500 ashlars were removed from the impact zone, and all have been recorded by a trained team of women from the local communities. Most of these ashlars have been carefully reburied, alternating with layers of clean fill recycled from the soil dumps, in an old AEP excavation trench (indicated on the plan by the nickname “The Hole”). Erin Addison (Landscape Architect) also continued the bi-annual vegetation cover surveys in the TWL impact zone. Her recording of the changes in both the types and extent of the plant species has revealed important information about how archaeological work affects the fragile environment in Petra.

Conservation

The first new subcomponent to become active during this period was the Conservation Team, led by Christina Danielli (Lead Conservator). This was after nearly three years of preparation that involved thorough study of the current condition of the architecture and the forms of degradation present, analyzing the different types of building materials (e.g., mortars, grades of sandstone, etc.), and determining the correct types of consolidation products, as well as mortar ingredients and mixtures to be employed for the different



Lead Conservator Christina Danielli consolidating the inscribed surface of a carved sandstone block known as the “Dusarios Altar,” recovered originally in Petra in the 1960s but lost since the 1980s and rediscovered during cataloguing of material from the TWL impact zone (photo by Milena Zafirova)



Section of the interior face of the Temple North Wall upon completion of the first conservation campaign

circumstances found inside the TWL precinct after testing. All interventions were planned based on internationally accepted best practices along with the specific contexts of the construction materials and techniques employed in Petra.

Work on implementing the necessary stabilizing interventions began in March 2013 with a team of international and local conservators and conservation technicians (Christina Danielli, Francesca di Giandomenico, Rosaria Damiano, Francesca Procaccini, Mohammad Fraij, Milena Zafirova, and Wajd Yousef Nawafleh). The work by the Conservation Team on the TWL was made possible in part through the gracious sponsorship of Royal Jordanian Airlines, which donated the round-trip flights for the international conservation specialists.



Assembling the lightweight “faux restoration” columns; image by Qais Tweissi awarded Grand Prize in the World Monuments Fund 2013 photo contest

The focus of this first two month campaign was the interior face of the North Wall of the Temple Cella. This wall was determined by Danielli and the rest of the TWLCRM team to be a priority due to its advanced state of degradation. During a nine-week period (March–May), the Conservation Team cleaned the wall of the detritus that had accumulated since the original 1970s excavation, removed salts, stabilized the flaking and scaling stone surfaces, sealed cracks, conserved a few in situ examples of original plasters, and treated all surfaces with consolidants. They also installed deep hydraulic mortars which serve to prevent water from percolating between the ashlar, increase the wall’s overall stability, and add an absorption layer that helps reduce the efflorescence of damaging salts on the building stones themselves. Finishing mortars were then emplaced using a sculpting technique that helped integrate the new work aesthetically into the visual integrity of the extant original

materials. Some additional cleaning and consolidation work was also undertaken on columns still standing in the Temple Cella.

Presentation Strategy

The second new project subcomponent to become active in 2013 was related to developing the final Presentation Strategy. The TWLCRM Team met in autumn 2012 to decide on the minimal extent of restoration (*anastylosis*) which would be needed to meet all of the Presentation Strategy goals, such as the structural needs of the building, as well as the educational/didactic, aesthetic, and environmental impacts. The decision was made to restore a small cluster of five of the original first-storey columns in the Cella to an approximation of their original heights with the appropriate capitals. Two columns from the West Colonnade were selected which would be crowned with original Nabataean-Corinthian capitals and three columns on the northwest corner of the Cultic Podium



Team members carving capitals out of polystyrene for the “faux restoration”



Casting of the plaster drums for the “faux restoration” of the columns

would be restored and crowned with a combination of original and replica “Winged Lions” capitals (thus returning these eponymous creatures to their rightful place!).

Qais Tweissi offered a radical and—to our knowledge—unique idea to test the restoration proposal: he suggested that we build the columns on a one-to-one scale in their original location using lightweight materials in order to see if the end product would in fact meet all of the desired goals. Tweissi spent the next few months training a local team to make all of the life-sized column elements out of lightweight materials. The drums were cast in plaster using molds; they were made hollow to reduce their weight (ca. 60 kgs each versus the 350+ kgs of the original stone). The capitals were constructed using layered sheets of polystyrene and the details were then carved in polystyrene and affixed to the blank capitals. The drums and capitals were painted and textured with realistic patinas.

The extant portions of the original columns inside the Temple Cella were then prepared so that they would not in any way be damaged by the installation of the “faux” columns on top of them. The two original West Colonnade columns lean severely and this problem had to be solved so that the lightweight replicas would stand at true in order to look like the originals. The successful solution was to build wooden supporting frames around the columns where needed and install wooden platforms on top of all the columns to buffer the points of contact and bear the weight.

This innovative, experimental archaeology effort was unveiled at a public event on 18 May 2013 at the site. The entire TWLCRM team and invited guests—including ACOR Board President Randolph Old and new board member Anne Dunn—were able to see with their own eyes one of the final products resulting from the team’s efforts. Tweissi’s concept and vision proved to be enormously successful: the “faux restoration” did prove to the expert team that this concept for the Presentation Strategy would work. Perhaps of even more importance, however, was the impact that the visual reality experience had on the Local Team members. Here, rising some 6+ meters above their heads was undoubtable proof of where their hard labor was leading. This event was a watershed moment that allowed many members of the surrounding local communities participating in the TWLCRM to own the initiative. The success was celebrated by festivities on the site and the presentation of the new TWLCRM T-shirts designed by Tweissi.

Social Engagement

The central subcomponent of the TWLCRM is the initiative’s use of a Social Engagement model that aims to involve members of the local communities in as many aspects of the project as possible. The ultimate goal is to lay local, grassroots foundations for a sustainable preservation ethos in Petra functioning at both the cognitive and practical levels.

The core elements of the Social Engagement strategy are a combined hiring and pay scale system developed by Ronza and the author. The hiring system is egalitarian, gender-blind, and allows for multiple rotations for individuals in coordination with other members of their family units. The pay scale is applied to all team members and allows for advancement based on skill acquisition, commitment to the project, and other standard criteria. This system utilizes a first-come roster system to register local community members who request participation in the project. The roster is organized by communities, tribes, family units, and in part by gender.

This system allows the Local Team to be constituted from as wide a cross-section of these categories as possible for each field season. It also allows team members to rotate through multiple field seasons themselves or in conjunction with other family members. All of the team members receive both employment and training in different types of skill sets (based in part on their own initiatives).

A few statistics will demonstrate the impact within the local communities of the Social Engagement model used by the TWLCRM. During the first 18 months of fieldwork, the TWLCRM created more than 500 employment and training opportunities fulfilled by some 260 individuals. Women represented 59% and youths (under the age of 30) about 75%. A full 100% of the participants derive from communities defined in Jordan as known poverty centers.

Public Outreach

The most significant Public Outreach effort developed by the TWLCRM during this period was the launching of the project’s Facebook page in May 2013 (www.facebook.com/TWLCRM). The page can be visited by everyone (one does not need to have a Facebook account). The timeline feature of Facebook is used to tell the story of the TWL and TWLCRM through regular posts. At the time of writing this article, the project page has approximately 1,400 followers from around the world and they regularly engage with the posts; best of all, many of the followers are from the area of Petra.

Two of the TWLCRM team members won prestigious photographic contests this year with images related to the initiative (see related images here). Tweissi was a Grand Prize winner in the 2013 World Monuments Fund photo contest. Ahmad Hasanat was the first-place winner for his submission category in the 2013 Archaeological Institute of America’s annual amateur photography contest (Tweissi was also first place in his submission category, but with an image not related to the TWLCRM).

In early 2013, an article about the TWLCRM Initiative, written by the author, was featured in the inaugural issue of the new peer-reviewed *Journal of Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies (JEMAHS)*. Papers were presented in 2013 by TWLCRM team members (Tuttle and Ronza) on the project at the 12th International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan (ICHAJ) in Berlin, Germany and the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Annual Meeting (Ronza) in Baltimore, Maryland. The TWLCRM was also nominated during this period for the 2014 Archaeological Institute of America’s Best Practices in Site Preservation Award (winner still to be announced).



Typology of wheelbarrows awarded first place in the 2013 Archaeological Institute of America photo contest (photo by Ahmad Hasanat)



Royal Jordanian Sponsorship of the TWLCRM Initiative

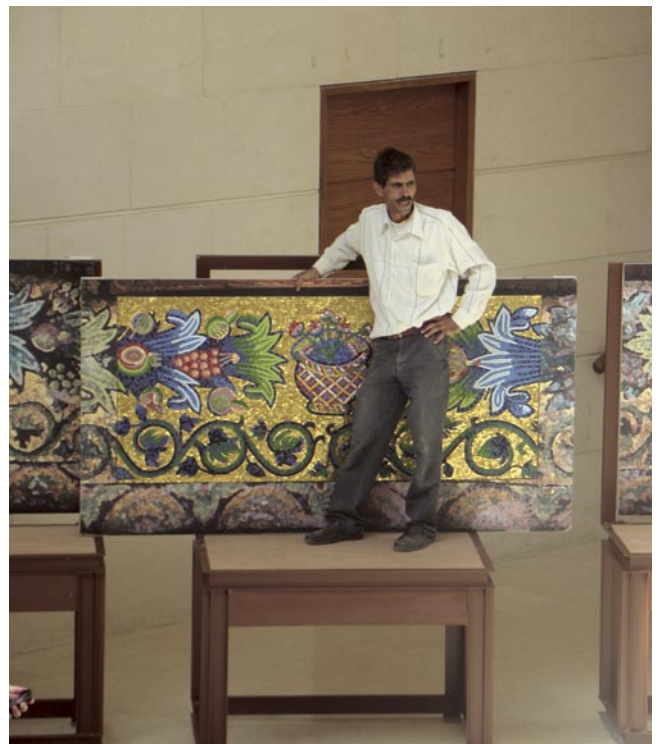
In 2013, Royal Jordanian's sponsorship supported the TWLCRM by providing tickets from Rome for several conservation specialists, including Christina Danielli, the Lead Conservator. She spent time in Petra in March, May, and December to discuss and implement the carefully planned conservation work. The Lead Architect, Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, traveled from Athens in May and December for essential meetings in Wadi Musa with technical team members, and they exchanged fruitful ideas and created many architectural drawings. Thanks to this sponsorship, M. Elena Ronza was also able to deliver a paper at the ASOR Annual meeting in Baltimore in November on the community engagement aspects of this initiative. ACOR would also like to acknowledge—on the part of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan—the RJ sponsorship given to the 12th International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan (ICHAJ) in Berlin in May 2013. For that conference, many attendees from Jordan flew to Berlin and back on the convenient Royal Jordanian flight, including Chris Tuttle and M. Elena Ronza who delivered papers on the TWLCRM projects and highlighted the social engagement aspects of the initiative. We proudly announce at all ACOR public events this sponsorship arrangement for the TWLCRM and note that this travel funding has in turn allowed ACOR to re-allocate resources to preserve the temple. Indeed RJ—the national flag carrier of Jordan and a oneworld alliance member—is ACOR's preferred airline and we proudly display their banner in ACOR's lecture room. ACOR is grateful that this sponsorship was renewed for 2014.

Barbara A. Porter

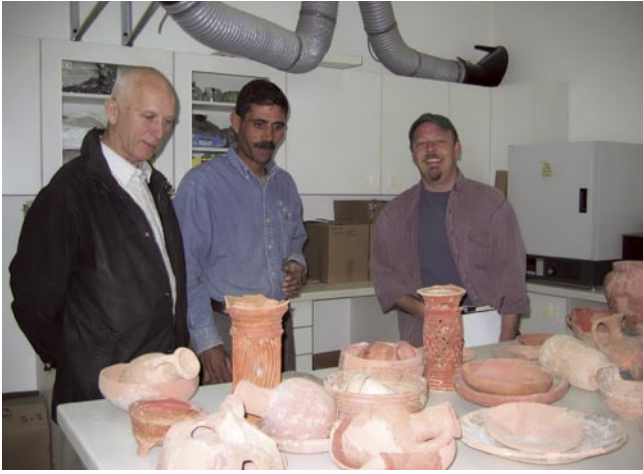
ACOR Conservation Technician Naif Zaban and the ACOR Conservation Cooperative (ACC)

In ACOR there is a small museum display with panels describing past projects. The only person depicted many times on them is Naif Zaban. Naif first became involved with archaeology as a young man because he lived near the Amman Citadel. He is the second of nine children and was born in Jerusalem when his father served there with the Jordanian army. In 1988 he came to the attention of Mohammed Najjar, one of the co-directors of the joint expedition of the Department of Antiquities (DOA) and the École Biblique et Archéologique Française (EBAF) on the citadel, along with Fawzi Zayadine and Jean-Baptiste Humbert. Beginning in 1990, Najjar worked with the ACOR Temple of Hercules project funded by USAID, and Naif was part of the core technical team that he assembled. Those years encompassed the First Gulf War when foreigners had to leave Jordan, so Najjar and Naif were the ones left to continue the work alone. Together they spent endless hours processing vast quantities of pottery. Naif recalls putting his hand to various tasks during these early years on the citadel and also assisting Ken Russell in the next phase.

Naif was also an integral part of ACOR's Petra Church excavations which began in 1992. Robert Schick, a Petra Church co-director, and Naif were responsible for fixing up Nazzal's camp in the basin area of Petra for the dig house before the excavations started. During the excavations, Naif remembers observing Tom



Naif Zaban at the Jordan Museum during the installation of the fall 2010 special exhibit entitled *The Umayyad Mosaics of the Dome of the Rock: A Closer Look*, which included reproductions of an arcade spandrel created by the Mosaic Centre in Jericho (photo courtesy of the Jordan Museum)



Jean-Baptiste Humbert (EBAF) with Naif Zaban and Chris Tuttle in the ACOR lab examining Amman Citadel ceramic material conserved by Naif (photo by Barbara A. Porter, April 2007)

Roby and Livia Alberti on site during the mosaic stabilization and conservation and in the afternoon, Noël Siver conserving objects in Nazzal's camp where Khairieh Amr was working on the pottery. Much of his learning was through careful observation. Zbig Fiema, another co-director of the Petra Church excavations, noted that Naif was a great help to him and was always very resourceful. Naif was a witness to the discovery of the Petra papyri in early December 1993. He recalls the moment when Hammoudi Nuweija said "Stop! There is writing on them!"

Another project that Naif was involved in was at Humayma under the direction of John Oleson. He worked with conservator Judy Logan and archaeologist Rebecca Foote and was able to demonstrate his extraordinary skill when he restored several delicate Abbasid-period (8th century) ivory furniture panels, which will be on display in the Islamic section of the Jordan Museum. I was told that one person working on these minute ivory fragments did not think anything could be done but Naif persisted in his quiet methodical way and produced miracles—indeed virtually complete carved panels.

Naif continued to work in the field in Petra with Patricia Bikai on the North Ridge project and due to the extensive amount of ceramic material uncovered there in the two Nabataean tombs under the Ridge Church, he started working continuously in 1998 in the ACOR lab to restore that pottery. He married in that year and he and his wife now have five children. Patricia Bikai commented that during her subsequent excavations in Bayda until 2007, he was her right-hand person and foreman. He also undertook various projects in that location including consolidating the grand walkway in the Amti Canyon. She recalled the time when Naif was tested against a Brown University team and their computer program designed to find joins between marble inscription fragments and he beat the machine!

In 2007, the ACOR Conservation Cooperative (ACC) was created, based on Naif's talents, in order to help other projects in Jordan with their conservation needs. It seems appropriate that the first major endeavor for the ACC was to restore ceramic material from the 1988 Amman Citadel excavations. As part of the ACC, Naif was also seconded to the Jordan Museum for several long periods on and off from November 2009 to July 2013. He worked



Naif Zaban in the ACOR Conservation Lab treating wall plaster fragments found in the Ayn Gharandal fort by the University of Tennessee team under Robert and Erin Darby (photo by Barbara A. Porter, September 2011)

with many people at the museum but the person who coordinated most of his activities was Fatma Marii, the head of conservation with whom he had already worked closely in the 1990s on the Petra Church mosaic floors. At the Jordan Museum, Naif helped on many things, such as Byzantine mosaic floors and furnishings (i.e., pulpits, chancel screens, walls) and even completely new projects, such as early 20th century Hijaz railway cars and a railway track.

Most of his ACC efforts take place in the ACOR Conservation Lab created with a grant from ASHA (American Schools and Hospitals Abroad) in the early 1990s and for which upgrades to the equipment are funded by ACOR's USAID "Petra" Endowment. In these past seven years, Naif has conserved material from more than 35 projects (including ACOR's own) and for several museums. Thanks to permissions granted by the Department of Antiquities, he has restored ceramic vessels of a wide range of periods and locations, i.e. Iron Age (Amman, Khirbet Ataruz, Khirbet Mudayna, Pella); classical periods including Nabataean and Roman (Humayma, Petra, Tall Abu Sarbut), and Islamic and medieval (Bayda, Pella, Khirbet Sheikh Issa, Tawaheen al Sukkar). This pottery has ranged from small cups to huge storage jars and hundreds of pieces (and thousands of sherds) have benefited from Naif's care. Naif has also cleaned coins from a multitude of sites and this work will ultimately assist final excavation publications (e.g., Aqaba Castle, Bir Madkhur, Jerash, Humayma, Tall Madaba, and multiple projects in Petra).

In recent years he worked again for a period of time at the Petra Church on the renewed conservation efforts (fall 2011 to spring 2012) taking him back to a place he had worked twenty years before. Another past project recently revisited is the Byzantine Church at Darat Al Funun, the center which showcases art, archaeology, and architecture in Amman. During a brief period in summer 2012, Pierre Bikai and Naif returned, at the request of Suha Shoman, to place a capital on top of one of the columns. Naif again undertook the stabilization of the remaining sections of the mosaic floor that he had consolidated during the excavations directed there by Pierre Bikai in 1993. From Darat Al Funun at the tip of Jebel Luweibda he could look across to the Amman Citadel where his unconventional and intriguing career started.

Barbara A. Porter

American Center of Oriental Research: 2014–2015 Fellowship Awardees Announcement

National Endowment for The Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Kate McClellan (Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Mississippi State University) Reviving Himas: Conservation and New Multispecies Tradition in Jordan and Lebanon

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship

Elise Friedland (Classical and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, George Washington University) Seeing the Gods in Roman Arabia

Scott Greenwood (Political Science, California State University, San Marcos) The Politics of Climate Change, Governance and Water Security in Jordan

Kate McClellan (Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Mississippi State University) Reviving Himas: Conservation and New Multispecies Tradition in Jordan and Lebanon

ACOR-CAORC Fellowship

Kathleen Bennalack (Anthropology, University of California, San Diego) Collapse or Adaptation? The Pottery Neolithic of Southern Jordan

Alexander Brey (History of Art, Bryn Mawr College) Images of Hunting in the Umayyad Empire

Mary Pancoast (Anthropology, University of Virginia) From Victim to Citizen: The Production of “Real” Refugees in the Resettlement Process from Jordan to the United States

Tareq Ramadan (Anthropology, Wayne State University) An Archaeology of the Political Economy of Umayyad Syria: Re-examining State Formation through an Examination of State-produced Inscribed Material Culture

Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship

Blair Heidkamp (Undergraduate, Archaeology, College of Wooster) Eastern Badia Archaeological Research Project

Juan Pinto (Undergraduate, Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Brigham Young University)

The Ad-Deir Monument and Plateau Project

Judyta Olszewski (Undergraduate, Near Eastern and Classical Archaeology, Wilfrid Laurier University) Khirbat al-Mukhayyat Archaeological Project

Harrell Family Fellowship

Anna Hendrick (Graduate Student, Architecture, North Carolina State University) The Roman Aqaba Archaeological Park: Shelter and Visitors Center

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship

Vladimir Troyansky (Graduate Student, History, Stanford University) Integration and Resistance: North Caucasus Refugees in Ottoman Transjordan, 1878–1914

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship

Laurel Appleton (Graduate Student, Anthropology, East Carolina University) Petra North Ridge Project

Burton MacDonald and Rosemarie Sampson Fellowship

Tracey Eckersley (Graduate Student, Byzantine Art and Architecture, University of Louisville) Putting Christians on the Map: Topographic Mosaics from Late Antique Jordan as Representations of Authority and Status

Kenneth W. Russell Fellowship

Zakariya Na'imat (Ph.D. Student, Department of Classical Archaeology, Bonn University) The Economic Role of the Umayyad Qusur in Southern Levant

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Enas Kiwan (Graduate Student, Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Iron Age II Grinding and Ground Stones from the Northern Part of Central Jordan: A Case Study from Jneneh/az-Zarqa

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship

Fadia Abedrubh (Undergraduate, Industrial Engineering, German Jordanian University) University Study

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship

Fadhiah Abu Ghieganah (Archaeology, University of Jordan) Safaitic and Nabataean Inscriptions in Nabataea, the Sinai, and the Arabian Peninsula

Ghose Al Shebli (Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Ammonite Pottery in North Central Jordan: Jneneh Case Study

Cariman Laban (Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Natural environment in Safaitic inscriptions: symbolic significance study of fauna and flora vocabularies

Rania Nazzal (Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Conservation of Ancient Theaters in Jordan and Modern Use: The Case of Bait Ras Roman Theater

Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Trust Annual Tawjihi Prize for Students in Umm Sayhoun

2013 Recipients

Ateyat Mousa Salman

Ziyad Salem Suwelim

Remembering Kenneth W. Russell

Close friends and family of Ken Russell (1950–1992) formed a trust in 1993 to honor the memory of the bright young archaeologist. His early career in Jordan included working with the late Philip Hammond on the Temple of the Winged Lions which is now being studied again as part of the TWLCRM initiative. Russell is part of the history of ACOR having been involved in ACOR projects on the Amman Citadel and Islamic Ayla. He unexpectedly died just before launching a new excavation at Petra at a Byzantine church. The excavations, sponsored by ACOR, nevertheless proceeded as planned and revealed not only a beautifully preserved church but also its incredible and unique cache of 6th century papyri. The trust honors his memory and his love of Jordan and its people. It now funds an annual prize for the male and female students with the highest high school graduating (*tawjihi*) scores from the Bedul community in Umm Sayhoun and scholarships in alternate years for a Jordanian student in fields related to archaeology and cultural resource management and a non-Jordanian coming to the country for fieldwork or other research.

S. Thomas Parker



Glenn (Joey) Corbett handling questions from the ACOR audience

Public Lectures at ACOR (Fall 2013)

September 25—Glenn J. Corbett (Director of the Wadi Hafir Petroglyph Survey and Former ACOR NEH Fellow), “Messages from the Desert: New Insights into Thamudic Inscriptions and Rock Drawings from Jordan’s Wadi Ramm”

October 30—Győző Vörös (Hungarian Academy of Arts), “The Excavations of Machaerus” and Book Launch for *Machaerus I. History, Archaeology and Architecture of the Fortified Herodian Royal Palace and City Overlooking the Dead Sea in Transjordan—Final Report of the Excavations and Surveys 1807–2012* (Milan: Edizioni Terra Santa, 2013) along with a display of selected Jane Taylor photographs, including the cover image of the book



Győző Vörös, Jane Taylor and Father Massimo Pazzini, OFM, Dean of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum, Jerusalem

ACOR Study Tour—*Jordan In-Depth* (October 2013)



From left: Herb Stetzenmeyer, Marie-Claude Stetzenmeyer, Lita Semerad, Ann Boon Rhea, Pat Kaufman, Sally Strazdins, Karen Bowden, Vicki Sherman, Virginia Kanick, Dick Stevens, Ann Syring, Barbara Porter (study leader), and Nasser Abu Al Khair (tour guide) on penultimate day of study tour (all photos courtesy of Barbara A. Porter)

Eleven congenial travelers joined this program and had the opportunity to be given several special, behind-the-scenes tours. A highlight was Widad Kawar’s invitation to visit her museum-in-progress, *TIRAZ-Home of Arab Dress*. At sites, we benefited from the expertise of Ignacio Arce at Hallabat, Chris Tuttle in Petra, and Bert de Vries at Umm el Jimal. The latter visit was combined with an afternoon at the nearby Zumot vineyards—close to the Syrian border—on a beautiful fall day and in the company of ACOR fellows and friends. The trip started with the new Jordan Museum and there Herb Stetzenmeyer was able to see the display of ceramic vessels he had uncovered in a Middle Bronze tomb at Pella during the College of Wooster’s spring 1967 season. At ACOR, he was reunited with Mohammed Adawi, the excavation chef, who came to work for ACOR the next year.

Fellows in Residence (July–December 2013)

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship

Morag Kersel, Anthropology, DePaul University; *The Lives of Pots: Grave Goods, Excavated Artifacts, Looted Items and Collected Objects from the Early Bronze Age Mortuary Sites on the Dead Sea Plain, Jordan*

ACOR-CAORC Fellowship

Theresa Dazey, Middle Eastern History, Indiana University; *Between Isolation and Assimilation: Circassian Settlers in the Jordan Valley, 1878–1939*

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship

Micaela Sinibaldi, Cardiff University; *Settlement Patterns in the Crusader Period Lordship of Transjordan: A Historical and Archaeological Study*

Sarah E. Wenner, Ancient History, North Carolina State University; *Petra Pool and Garden Project and the Udhruh Survey*

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Craig A. Harvey, Roman Archaeology, University of Victoria; *The Wall-heating Pipes from the Humayma Garrison Bathhouse*



Morag Kersel



Micaela Sinibaldi



Theresa Dazey with her husband, Jason Dazey

ACOR Jordanian Travel Scholarship for ASOR Annual Meetings

In 2010, ACOR initiated a new scholarship to provide two travel scholarships to assist Jordanian scholars to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) which takes place every November in the United States in a different city each year. This conference provides the chance for the Jordanian participants to meet colleagues and learn about new projects in the countries under the remit of ASOR.

Each applicant must submit an abstract of the paper they intend to deliver to the ASOR Program Committee. Abstracts should be submitted through the ASOR's website (www.asor.org/am) by February 15 of the year of the conference. For those interested in applying, it is recommended that session chairs be consulted but that is not mandatory. Contact should be made with the ASOR office in Boston (asor@bu.edu) to assist in the application process and ACOR also facilitates the arrangements for the awardee. The next ASOR meeting will take place in San Diego, California from 19 to 22 November 2014. ACOR and ASOR hope that many people will submit an abstract for 2015 and beyond and encourage both junior and senior Jordanian scholars to do so.



Sarah Wenner and Craig Harvey discussing Petra North Ridge ceramic material with Khairieh Amr in the ACOR museum space

ACOR/ASOR Travel Scholarship Recipients

2011 San Francisco

Zakariya Na'imat (Mutah University), "Early Islamic Shuqayra al-Gharbiyya on the Karak Plateau"

Reem Al Shqour (Ghent University), "The Excavations at Aqaba Castle: A Window into the Islamic History of Jordan"

2012 Chicago

Shatha Abu Khafajah (Hashemite University), "The Roman Theater of Amman: Accumulated Meanings vs. Renovation Projects"

Jehad Haroun (Department of Antiquities), "Initial Report of the Madoneh Survey"

2013 Baltimore

Ahmed Lash (Department of Antiquities), "The Graffiti at Qusayr Amra"

Hanadi Al Taher (Department of Antiquities), "Interpretation of Archaeological Sites through their Name"

Donations to ACOR (July–December 2013)

General Donations to the Annual Fund

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Annual Fund Donations given in honor of Barbara Porter by participants in ACOR's October 2013 Study Tour "Jordan In-Depth"

Virginia Kanick; Lita A. Semerad; Vickie Sherman; Sally Strazdins

Annual Fund Donations for Library Support

Karen Borstad; Henry Christensen III; Council of International Education Exchange (through the auspices of resident director Elena D. Corbett); Miriam Boraas Deffenbaugh and Ralston H. Deffenbaugh, Jr. (for the Roger S. Boraas Fund for the ACOR Library); Bert and Sally de Vries; Carol G. Forshey in memory of Harold Forshey; Lawrence Geraty; Ellen Porter Honnet; Martin Kurani; Nancy L. Lapp; John P. Oleson; Jean A. Peyrat; Maria-Louise Sidoroff; Bethany J. Walker; Rick and Paul Wimmer in memory of Donald Wimmer

The ACOR General Endowment

Lawrence Geraty

The ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship Fund

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Temple of the Winged Lions (TWLCRM) Initiative

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ACOR snowed in after the major December 2013 storm

ACOR Announcement



Christopher Tuttle and Mary Ellen Lane at a CAORC meeting in Istanbul (photo by Barbara A. Porter)

Christopher A. Tuttle, ACOR Associate Director in Amman, will move to Washington, D.C. in July 2014 to be the Executive Director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). He succeeds Mary Ellen Lane, who has been CAORC Executive Director since 1986. ACOR is one of the founding members of CAORC (www.caorc.org). ACOR wishes Chris Tuttle much success in this new position and Mary Ellen Lane a happy retirement. Both of them leave major legacies.

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November 2013 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees' fall meeting took place on 23 November at the Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel at the time of the ASOR Annual Meeting. Reem Atallah Habayeb and John H. Hall were elected to the Board of Trustees as members of the Class of 2016. There were many committee meetings organized by Board Chair Randolph B. Old and ACOR Director Barbara Porter, including Development chaired by Elizabeth Barlow Rogers and facilitated by Nanette Pyne, a consultant for CAORC. That meeting and the ACOR board dinner were attended by Mary Ellen Lane, outgoing CAORC Executive Director, who accepted the invitation to join the ACOR Board upon her retirement. The Board duly noted that Nisreen Abu Al Shaikh, ACOR Comptroller since 1995, now holds the position of Chief Financial Officer.

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