

ACOR Newsletter

أخبار أكور



Vol. 24.1—Summer 2012

Fifteen Years of Research in Madaba—the City of Mosaics

Debra Foran

The Tell Madaba Archaeological Project (TMAP) was designed to investigate the development of centralized institutions and state-ordered societies in central Jordan. One of the project's main objectives was to define the role of an urban center within the larger context of a regional settlement network. Madaba presented the perfect opportunity to explore such a relationship and test prevailing theories on the subject. TMAP's 14th season has just been completed and, to date, 11 separate occupation phases have been identified. Our excavations at Madaba have also prompted survey work at four neighboring sites that will assist us as we begin examining Madaba as an urban center and assessing its relationship to the surrounding settlements.

The modern city of Madaba sits on top of the ancient remains that form an acropolis and a low-lying tell in the center of town. The first seasons of TMAP, under the direction of Timothy P. Harrison, then of the University of Chicago, were devoted to documenting the site's topography and collecting surface finds. During the 1996 season, a small team from the University of Chicago also excavated a large bulldozer cut on the south side of the tell. This work exposed remains that date to the Early Bronze Age (late 4th millennium B.C.) and the Iron II period (9th century B.C.).



Tell Madaba's West Acropolis; all images courtesy of Tell Madaba Archaeological Project (TMAP)

In 1998, Tim Harrison, by then based at the University of Toronto, began excavations on the city's west acropolis. This area of the site had been previously mapped and several large structures had been identified. The level of preservation in this area was first documented in the early 1980s when bulldozing activity uncovered two Late Byzantine mosaics. These pavements were initially thought to belong to a series of shops, but further excavations, under the direction of TMAP, revealed that they were actually part of a large residential complex.

From 1998 to 2004, TMAP functioned primarily as a research project that allowed graduate students to collect data and conduct their own original research. I became director of the project in 2006, at which point the focus of the project changed slightly to put more emphasis on undergraduate education. For the past seven summers, students from the University of Toronto have been given the opportunity to participate actively in TMAP research and gain valuable field experience.

Bronze and Iron Age Madaba

The earliest and most prominent feature on the west acropolis is the monumental fortification wall that runs north-south through the area. In certain places it stands 5 m high and measures 7 m thick. This structure is clearly the result of multiple rebuildings and renovations that occurred over several centuries. The exterior face of the wall most likely dates to the Late Hellenistic period, while the interior represents the earliest construction phase. The wall is founded directly on bedrock, indicating that it most likely began as a mudbrick structure with a stone foundation. The fill that seals the base of the wall contained only Early Bronze Age ceramics. Thus the initial construction of the wall may be contemporary with the remains excavated by Tim Harrison on the south side of the tell.

During our 2011 season, we made an effort to document further the extent of the city wall. To that end, we opened a new field to the north of the original excavation area on the west acropolis. After removing the extensive accumulation of modern debris, we exposed the top of the fortification wall. We mapped, drew, and then reburied the feature, as the owner of this plot of land intended to use the space as a car park.



Late Bronze Age imported stirrup jar (Height 12 cm)

Although Madaba's importance during the classical, post-classical, and early modern periods is both fascinating and thought-provoking, it is the city's Iron Age history that formed the focus of the initial explorations on the west acropolis and continues to interest much of the scholarly community today. Textual sources stress the importance of Madaba throughout the Iron Age and the city is mentioned several times in the Old Testament as well as local epigraphic sources, particularly the Mesha Stele.

A large structure dating to the early Iron I period (early 12th century B.C.) was built immediately on top of the Early Bronze Age fill at the base of the fortification wall. This monumental building is made up of large walls constructed of single boulders built against the inner face of the fortification wall that marks its western limit. The finds include an imported stirrup jar dating to ca. 1300 B.C. and the remains of several Iron I storage jars. The walls of this Iron I building were used as the foundations for an Iron IIA (10th century B.C.) building that followed the same plan as the earlier structure.

A series of large tripartite buildings, dating to the Iron IIB (9th century B.C.), were constructed over the Iron IIA remains. These pillared buildings also incorporate the fortification wall into their architecture. These structures date to the period when King Mesha is said to have rebuilt the city after he reclaimed it from the Israelites. The final phase of Iron Age occupation dates to the late Iron IIB (8th century B.C.) and consists of a few poorly constructed buildings. This occupation phase indicates that, by this time, Madaba had ceased to be a thriving urban center and now played host to a small, ephemeral community.

A thick layer of sheet wash seals the Iron Age remains on the west acropolis, indicating that the site was abandoned for an extensive period of time after the 8th century B.C. This accumulation of silt that trickled down from the top of the acropolis



Remains of Iron IIB Pillared Building



Iron Age plaque figurine of a nursing mother (Height 7 cm)

carried with it a striking number of artifacts, including a number of cultic objects such as stone altar fragments and ceramic figurines and plaques.

The Classical City

Madaba features prominently in various historical and religious texts that recount the conflicts that occurred in the region during the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C. Our work has succeeded in exposing substantial remains that date to the

Late Hellenistic period. A series of large stone walls, between 2 and 3 m wide, formed a complex of rectilinear structures that may have been defensive in nature, a fact that would correspond well with the turmoil the region seems to have experienced at this period. Inscriptional and numismatic evidence also indicate that Madaba was part of both the Nabataean Kingdom and, later, the Roman Empire. Our excavations on the west acropolis have confirmed this by exposing the remains of a large Early Roman/Nabataean residential complex and a considerable amount of Nabataean painted fine wares, as well as other characteristically Roman ceramics.

Madaba is, of course, famous for its elaborate mosaic floors that decorated the city's elite residences and churches during the 5th to 8th centuries. The city reached its greatest extent during this time and became the seat of a bishopric.



Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Residential Complex

When excavations were begun on the west acropolis, we expected to find substantial remains from this period. However, it seems that Madaba's most recent inhabitants successfully removed almost all traces of the Late Byzantine occupation on the upper mound, save for a small fragment of a mosaic pavement. When excavations were undertaken on the lower mound, where mosaics had originally been found in the 1980s, the 6th/7th century material that had previously eluded us was finally exposed. The remains of a large domestic complex built against the exterior of the city's fortification wall were exposed over the course of six field seasons. This elaborate residence was built around a flagstone-paved courtyard and was equipped with a sophisticated water collection system.

The Founding of Modern Madaba

The latest remains on the site date to Madaba's resettlement by nomadic Christian tribes from Kerak in the late 19th century. These new inhabitants, whose descendants still reside in the city today, first established themselves in a series of caves in the valley opposite the ancient mound. This initial settlement was followed by the construction of more permanent homes on top of the Late Byzantine ruins on the mound itself. Our excavations have uncovered the remains of temporary structures, such as stone platforms and grain silos, that may be associated with this transition to more permanent occupancy. There are also the remains of more substantial buildings on Madaba's west acropolis. In addition to two large houses originally belonging to the Sawalha family, an arched wall line was preserved along the crest of the upper mound. Large foundation trenches were cut into earlier levels to secure these arches, which formed the support for a building that was never completed.

Reflecting on 15 Years of Research

The last 15 years of work on Madaba's west acropolis confirm the site's extensive history and have succeeded in documenting occupation phases that were previously unidentified. It would be wonderful to be able to excavate Madaba's tell in its entirety, but the modern inhabitants would surely take exception to this. As excavations on the west acropolis come to a close, we now turn our attention to processing and analyzing the thousands of artifacts that have been collected from our excavations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made our work at Tell Madaba possible, in particular all of the students and staff who have contributed to the project over the years, the University of Toronto for its logistical assistance, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for its financial support. None of this work would have been possible without the continued encouragement and participation of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, especially the Madaba office and its staff. Finally, I would like to thank the people of Madaba. Our work in this city has significantly impacted their lives, we hope, in a positive way. The early mornings, sometimes very late nights, the clouds of dust from our sieves, and the ear-piercing shouts associated with archaeological fieldwork have certainly been disruptive and our neighbors have borne them graciously. They have also welcomed us into their community and their homes. For this, they will always have our undying gratitude. Thank you, Madaba!

ACOR's Named Fellowship Program

Ever since its founding in 1968, ACOR has strived to bring scholars to Jordan both to conduct their own research into the region's rich archaeological heritage as well as to collaborate with Jordanian students and colleagues. In the early years, ACOR's director alone served in this role, although the center quickly became a facilitator for many North American and other foreign archaeological teams working in Jordan. Beginning in 1971 and continuing for about 20 years, about a dozen graduate students were awarded the W.F. Albright Fellowship by ASOR and they conducted their research at ACOR, but ACOR clearly needed its own fellowship program.

ACOR's fellowship program began in 1980 with the first fellowships funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), a program that continues to this day. Later ACOR obtained fellowships funded by various government agencies, such as the U.S. State Department through the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). Although these fellowships have been extremely productive investments, ACOR realized that all such fellowships depended on the uncertain vagaries of the U.S. political climate.

Therefore, beginning in the mid-1980s, ACOR obtained funding from private external sources for the Shell, Teagle, Dodge, and Winnett Fellowships. Although such support was obviously welcome, it was again dependent on outside sources and none of these fellowships continued past the early 1990s. The obvious need was to create fellowships funded in perpetuity from ACOR's own endowment, independent of external sources. These are now called "named" fellowships, since most were established to honor individuals who have contributed to ACOR in some significant way.

The first named fellowship was the Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship, established in 1989. Jennifer was a young archaeologist who worked on various projects in Jordan between 1974 and 1987. Her tragic death from cancer at age 36 in 1987 led her colleagues and friends to establish this fellowship in her memory. Because Jennifer had been an inspirational teacher of students in the field, and given the difficulty of North American students to fund their initial fieldwork, the Groot Fellowship was specifically earmarked for beginners in archaeology. The program has been an enormous success, having now awarded 59 fellowships over the past 23 years while building an endowment of about \$100,000. Many Groot Fellows have gone on to careers in archaeology, and a few have even become project directors as well as ACOR board members many years later.

The second named fellowship arose from similar sad circumstances. The Kenneth W. Russell Fellowship commemorates a young American scholar who also worked in Jordan for many years, particularly at Petra, where he was much beloved by the local Bedouin. In 1992 Ken was about to launch a major ACOR excavation on the North Ridge in Petra, when he suddenly died after a short illness, just 41 years old. His vision proved extraordinary, as the subsequent work revealed a magnificent church, beautiful mosaic floors, and a precious hoard of carbonized papyri (the "Petra Papyri"). Ken's colleagues, friends, and family endowed a multi-purpose fellowship in his memory, alternating between Jordanian students

and students of any nationality. Thirteen such fellowships have been awarded to date. Since 2009, the endowment also funds an annual Tawjihi Prize, a cash award to the male and female students from Umm Sayhoun (Petra region) who achieve the highest score on the national Tawjihi examination.

In 1996, the Harrell Family Fellowship was established by Edgar Harrell, who served with distinction as the President of ACOR's Board of Trustees from 1986 to 1988. Ed had previously headed the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) program in Jordan, and his family members had often volunteered on archaeological field projects. As Ed told me when the fellowship was established, his family decided to build this endowment in lieu of annual Christmas gifts to one another. The fellowship is specifically earmarked to support the research in Jordan of graduate students from any nationality and to date 16 have been awarded.

The Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship was set up in 1999. Pierre became Director of ACOR in 1991 at a critical moment for the institution. The First Gulf War had left ACOR essentially bankrupt and with a huge mortgage on the recently completed permanent facility in Amman. Pierre, soon joined by his spouse, Patricia, as Associate Director, worked tirelessly to fundraise for ACOR. By the end of their 15-year tenure in 2006—Pierre being the longest serving director in the history of the institution—ACOR's debt had been retired, the mortgage had been paid off, the building had been improved and expanded, and ACOR possessed a several million dollar endowment. The Bikai Fellowship is designed to support graduate students of any nationality to conduct research at ACOR for one to two months. Fifteen such awards have been granted thus far.

The James A. Sauer Fellowship was created in 2005 to memorialize a crucial figure in ACOR's early history. Jim served as ACOR's first long-term director between 1975 and 1981 and he had a far-sighted vision for ACOR. ACOR had been based in rented buildings in Amman and he envisioned a large multi-functional facility that ACOR would build and own outright. This vision was realized under his successor, David McCreery, in the 1980s. Jim later worked at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University before his untimely death in 1999. His friends, family, and colleagues established an endowment for an annual Sauer fellowship that, like the Russell, would support in alternate years Jordanian and non-Jordanian graduate students. Seven Sauer Fellowships have now been awarded.

The first award exclusively reserved for Jordanian students appeared in 2007 and is the Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship. Nan Frederick ably served on the ACOR Board of Trustees for many years. She and her husband, Francis Wenger, endowed the fellowship to assist Jordanian students, particularly those studying Jordan's cultural heritage, with the cost of their education. Nan died in 2011, a few years after Francis passed away. Six Frederick-Wenger Fellowships have now been awarded by ACOR, and the scholarship title now honors both their memories.

The generosity of Bert and Sally de Vries created another named fellowship in 2008. Bert has worked in Jordan since 1968, served as director of ACOR between 1988 and 1991, and

has directed the Umm el-Jimal Project for nearly four decades. The Bert and Sally de Vries fellowship enables undergraduate or graduate students of any nationality to participate on an archaeological project or conduct research in Jordan. Since its inception, the endowment from this award has already funded five de Vries fellowships.

The MacDonald/Sampson Fellowship was established in 2009 through the generosity of Burton MacDonald and his wife, Rosemarie Sampson. Burton has worked as an archaeologist in the region for over 40 years and has directed a series of important regional surveys in central and southern Jordan since the 1970s. A beneficiary of ACOR support throughout these projects, Burton and Rosemarie established a fellowship earmarked for Canadian students to reside and work at ACOR or provide travel funds for research or fieldwork elsewhere in the country. This fellowship was especially welcome, since many other ACOR fellowships are limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Four MacDonald/Sampson Fellowships have been granted thus far.

Also in 2009, soon after ACOR's 40th anniversary, the ACOR Board of Trustees initiated the ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarships in response to a clear need. This effort was led by several trustees to support Jordanians students in cultural heritage. This award may be renewed for a second year to students who demonstrate excellent academic progress. Ten students have benefited from these scholarships to date.

Another area in which the ACOR board perceived a real need was to assist archaeological projects in the crucial publication phase. As is well known, the field of archaeology is littered with unpublished field reports, in part because of the difficulty in raising funds after the completion of fieldwork. Therefore, the ACOR Publication Fellowship was inaugurated in 2011. It is open to senior scholars or advanced graduate students seeking to complete a final publication. Unlike most other named fellowships, however, funding for this award is derived from

ACOR's operating budget, not from a dedicated endowment. Nevertheless, it is hoped that one or two awards will be available annually to fund residency at ACOR for such scholars. ACOR plans to create an endowment for this award.

In 2011, ACOR also created another award to assist Jordanians through its Jordanian Travel Scholarships for the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR). This award is intended to enable two Jordanian scholars to present research papers at this important scholarly venue in the U.S., as historically it has not been frequented by many Jordanian colleagues. The first two Jordanian recipients (a graduate student and a university lecturer) attended the ASOR meeting in San Francisco with the assistance of these awards in 2011 and the plan is to continue this program as long as funding is available. The awardees are chosen from the pool of applicants by ASOR.

All other ACOR fellowships and scholarships are selected from applications submitted to the ACOR Fellowship Committee. All told, some 134 named fellowships have been awarded by ACOR since 1989. Since nearly all of these are fully funded from individual endowments held in trust by ACOR, they will be awarded in perpetuity. These fellowships, mostly in modest amounts from \$1,200 to \$3,500 per award, have advanced the educational and research goals of many American, Jordanian, and other international students over the past two decades. ACOR can be justly proud of its named fellowship program, which has played an often crucial role in launching the careers of entire generations of archaeologists working in Jordan. We hope that these named fellowship endowments will continue to grow and thus support future generations of young people, and we welcome additional named endowments so we can continue to meet the needs of scholars and students.

S. Thomas Parker
Chair, ACOR Fellowship Committee

**2012 ACOR Travel Scholarship Recipients for
ASOR Annual Meeting in Chicago:**

Shatha Abu Khafajah (Hashemite University)
*The Roman Theater of Amman: Accumulated Meanings vs.
Renovation Projects*; joint paper with Rama Al Rabadi

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

**If you would like information on
how to set up a fund in memory of
or in honor of a colleague, mentor,
loved one, or even your own family,
please contact ACOR Director,**

Dr. Barbara A. Porter
at acor@acorjordan.org

In Memoriam: Safwan Al Tell (1938–2012)

Dr. Safwan Al Tell passed away on 3 October 2012. He served as the Director General of Antiquities of Jordan from 1991 to 1995, a time of considerable archaeological activity in the country. His studies included a B.A. from Istanbul University (1964), an M.A. in Archaeology and Art History from the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University (1968), and Ph.D. in Byzantine and Islamic Art and Archaeology from Istanbul University (1974). From 1970 until his retirement in June 2012, he held various appointments at the University of Jordan where he was Professor of Islamic and Byzantine Art and Archaeology. From 1982 to 1985, he was in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as the Assistant Secretary General for the Association of Arab Universities. He is buried in Irbid, the city of his birth. The ACOR community extends our sympathy to his family.

Critical Language Scholarship Arabic Language Program at ACOR—Summer 2012

ACOR hosted 40 American undergraduate and graduate students for the 2012 Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) summer intensive Arabic language institute in Jordan. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs (ECA). ACOR organized the eight-week course in partnership with the Qasid Institute. ACOR has hosted nearly 300 students through this program over seven summers.

The 2012 CLS program ran between 13 June and 11 August. As Ramadan began on 20 July, the students had the opportunity to experience the special atmosphere of fasting and feasting during the Holy Month.

The Academic Director, Dr. Ghazi Abuhakema, is a professor of Arabic at the University of Charleston. He brought to the program a new Levantine dialect curriculum and an emphasis on preparation for the oral proficiency interview (OPI). OPI is a standardized oral interview test to measure verbal communication ability in another language. The CLS students are evaluated with this interview immediately before and immediately after the eight-week program. The progress of the students in the 2012 program in terms of their speaking ability was truly impressive. Dr. Abuhakema noted that ten students rose two proficiency sublevels and ten others jumped three sublevels, as evaluated by the OPI, and that achieving the latter in eight weeks is a major feat.

The CLS program was overseen by Sarah Harpending, ACOR Assistant Director. Noel Rivera was the academic assistant and he is now pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Freiburg in Germany. The program coordinator was Elizabeth “Basma” Guthrie, who is a graduate student at George Washington University. Both Noel and Basma were part of the ACOR

CLS staff in the summer of 2011, and Basma is also an alumna of the CLS program in Tunisia (2007) and Jordan (2008).

In 2012, ACOR introduced a new element of cultural immersion with a weekend home stay with host families in the badiya area of northeastern Jordan, outside the city of Mafraq. Our partner for this was the Jordan office of the School of International Training (S.I.T.), an American study-abroad program. One CLS student commented “I have been to the Middle East three times before, but living with my host family in the badiya was the first time I was forced to communicate only in Arabic. I left Mafraq with many new friends and a second family.”

ACOR was also fortunate in 2012 to have a talented group of young Jordanians who served as Speaking Partners. They met with the students every afternoon and held structured 30-minute one-on-one conversations. This had the effect of greatly improving the CLS students’ speaking ability in both modern standard Arabic (MSA) and dialect. The Speaking Partners also tutored the students and accompanied them on social outings in Amman and around Jordan.

Overall, the 2012 CLS program was very successful. Many of the staff and the Speaking Partners had worked with the program the year before and were thus experienced in the CLS system. A final element of the success of 2012 was the Ramadan experience, and the enjoyment the students drew from going out into the busy and warm summer nights in Amman.

Unfortunately, next year ACOR will not be hosting the CLS program again. For the next three-year cycle, the CLS program will be administered by the U.S. non-profit organization American Councils.

Sarah C. Harpending

CLS 2012 Staff

Site Director: Sarah C. Harpending
Academic Director: Dr. Ghazi Abuhakema
Academic Assistant: Noel Rivera
Program Assistant: Basma Guthrie

CLS 2012 Speaking Partners

Noor Hasan Abu-Rajab *
Abdel Razzaq Ben Tarif
Bassam Al Khataybeh
Sarah Sameer Ramadan *
Zaid Al Rawadieh
Hanin Samara *
Manar Jihad Al Shatarat *
Jamil Al Thawahrih *
Ahmed Ali Za'reer

* Also worked with students for the CLS Jordan Summer 2011 program

CLS 2012 Participants

Laura Brantley	Karen Lickteig
Michael Brill	Martin Margolis
Daniel Brown	Nicholas Martino
Naji Bsisu	Amanda Michetti
Ayesha Butt	Jessie Milstead
Jordan Daniels	Gideon Moorhead
Julie DeSoto	James Murphy
Nora Elmeligy	Saba Naseem
Imani Franklin	Erik Nesse
Andrew Freeland	Jeremy Pearson
Rupinder Garcha	Elizabeth Perego
Tsega Gebreyesus	Elizabeth Pillion
Ashton Gelat	Lili Sarayrah
Holly Gerrity	William Schlanger
Christina Gordon	Zachary Smith
Salman Haji	Benjamin Smuin
Amy Jensen	Sami Sweis
Miriam Keep	Miriam Tinberg
Beth Kroman	Brian Wemple
Courtney Lesoon	Clara Wool



CLS Jordan 2012 staff, students, and speaking partners; photo by Barbara A. Porter

Sami Habayeb Retires from the ACOR Board of Trustees

With sincere reluctance, after his strong insistence, the ACOR Board of Trustees accepted Sami Habayeb's resignation in June 2012. Sami has served on the board since 1991 as one of its legal advisors. Together with Terry Christensen, Sami has been responsible for keeping us out of trouble, maintaining our corporate governance procedures and documentation, while also looking for ways to improve the way we are governed. He has been a major contributor to this effort and for that and much more, we are thankful for his service to ACOR. The main contribution Sami made was the successful registration of ACOR as a non-profit organization in Jordan, which was a complicated and seminal issue we struggled with for some time.

Obviously, over the many years that Sami served on our board, he contributed much that was within and outside of his legal expertise. Sami is an experienced lawyer and a confidant to many successful businessmen and bankers in Amman. He has also been an active participant in the legal and business communities during the growth of Jordan. He was born in Haifa in 1923 and after his law studies was called to the Palestine Bar in 1948, the Syrian Bar in 1949, and the Jordanian Bar in 1966. He worked in Lebanon and Syria before establishing his legal practice in Jordan in 1966. Besides his legal practice in Jordan, Sami served on several Arbitration Boards in Paris and Brussels and represented several embassies in Amman. A man of his skill, experience, and background will be sorely missed.

Sami's wife, Lily, has been a welcome addition to the ACOR events that they have attended. With his retirement from the ACOR Board of Trustees, Sami and Lily can spend



Photo by Adib Habayeb

more time with their three children and seven grandchildren, but rest assured, we shall keep inviting them to our events with the hope that they will remain in our sight as well as in our minds. Thank you, Sami!

Randolph B. Old, ACOR Board President

ACOR Board of Trustees at June 2012 Meeting in Amman



Board Members present at the ACOR Board meeting. First Row (left to right) Henry Christensen III, Mohammed Asfour, James R. Wiseman, Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, S. Thomas Parker, Nancy Lapp; Back Row: Bert de Vries, Hazem Malhas, Øystein S. LaBianca, Megan A. Perry, Susan E. Alcock, Leila Sharaf, John P. Oleson, Abdelelah Al Khatib, Edward W. Gnehm, Jr., Randolph B. Old, Moawiyah M. Ibrahim, Barbara A. Porter (ex officio); photo by Christopher A. Tuttle

Artemis A. W. Joukowsky Recipient of ACOR Distinguished Service Award

On 20 July 2012, Artemis Joukowsky received the ACOR medal and citation honoring his years as ACOR President. The ceremony took place at his home in Providence, Rhode Island, and his wife, Martha Sharp Joukowsky, shared in the special event when Randolph B. Old, ACOR President, made the presentation on behalf of ACOR and his fellow trustees. The award ceremony was to have taken place in San Francisco at the time of the ACOR November 2011 board meeting, but at the last minute Arte Joukowsky could not attend, hence the delay.

The gathering in Providence allowed for exchanges of stories and the chance to reflect on the many interconnections with ACOR and Jordan. Randy Old sent a message to his fellow board members describing the presentation and an outpouring of congratulations ensued—*Alf Mabrouk* to Arte Joukowsky for his role as ACOR's seventh and longest serving board president.

Barbara A. Porter



Randolph Old presenting ACOR Award to Artemis Joukowsky; photo by Liz Lussier

ACOR Distinguished Service Medal

Presented to

Artemis A. W. Joukowsky

By the American Center of Oriental Research, Amman, Jordan

In recognition of his extraordinary efforts as President of the ACOR Board of Trustees
1992–2011

He has inspired and supported ACOR for two decades in an ever-changing world, contributing to the institution's strength, sophistication, respect, and momentum.

Presented on the occasion of the ACOR Board of Trustees Meeting in San Francisco
November 2011

Fellows in Residence (January–June 2012)

National Endowment for the Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellows

Karen Britt, Art History Program, University of Louisville;
Eudokia: Byzantine Palestine and Arabia hath no better Patron
than an Empress Scorned

J. Glenn Corbett, Independent Scholar; Mapping the Mute
Immortals: Thamudic Inscriptions and Rock Drawings in
Context



Karen Britt



Elena and Joey Corbett

ACOR-CAORC Post-Doctoral Fellows

Katherine Adelsberger, Environmental Studies, Knox College;
Small-Scale Hydrologic Interactions on the Dhiban Plateau

Björn Anderson, Art History, Minnesota State University, Moor-
head; Negotiating Identity in Nabataean Arabia

Karen Britt, Art History Program, University of Louisville;
Eudokia: Byzantine Palestine and Arabia hath no better Patron
than an Empress Scorned

Elena D. Corbett, History, Behrend College of Penn State Univer-
sity, Erie; A Canvas for the Nationalist Mind's Eye: Antiquity,
Landscape and Hashemite Narratives of Jordan

Patricia Fall, Geographical Sciences, Arizona State University;
Long-term Formation of Natural and Human Landscapes in
the Middle East

Nancy Lapp, Museum Curator Emerita, Pittsburgh Theological
Seminary; Final Publication of the Tell er-Rumeith Excavations
of Paul W. Lapp in 1962 and 1967



Katherine Adelsberger



Nancy Lapp



Björn and Erin Anderson with their son Lars

Jason Rech, Geology, Miami University; Assessing the Early Holocene Wet Phase in Southern Jordan: A Case Study from Wadi Hasa

ACOR Publication Fellow

Steven Falconer, School of Human Evolution & Social Change, Arizona State University; Early Bronze IV Village Life During Urban Collapse in the Southern Levant: Publication of the Tell Abu en-Ni'aj Excavations

ACOR-CAORC Pre-Doctoral Fellows

Syed Junaid Quadri, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University; Islam, Tradition and Reform: Hanafi Scholars in the Middle East and Beyond

Theodore Van Loan, History of Art, University of Pennsylvania; 'Umar's Bargain: Image Making and Image Beholding in Early Islam



Steven Falconer and Patricia Fall



Jason Rech and Alysia Fischer with their children, Eva and Eli



Syed Junaid Quadri



Theodore Van Loan

ACOR Annual Appeal Results 2011 and 2012

Funds and Endowments	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012
Annual Fund	\$32,480	\$42,743
Annual Library Support	\$12,234	\$7,005
ACOR General Endowment	\$4,125	\$4,807
ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship Fund	\$7,827	\$20,334
Anne C. Ogilvy Memorial Library Endowment	\$3,625	\$3,800
Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship Endowment	\$1,625	\$1,781
Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship Endowment	\$1,860	\$1,597
Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Memorial Educational Fellowship Endowment	\$25,200	—
Jennifer C. Groot Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$2,950	\$1,634
Harrell Family Fellowship Endowment	\$1,200	\$2,950
MacDonald/Sampson Fellowship Endowment	\$3,361	\$1,960
Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$1,483	\$300
James A. Sauer Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$5,179	\$2,875
Petra Papyri and Other Publications Fund	\$150	\$300
Petra Church Conservation Initiative	—	\$225
Publication Fellowship	—	\$1,000
Total	\$103,299	\$93,311

Donations to ACOR (January–June 2012)

General Donations to the Annual Fund: Raouf S. Abujaber; Mohammed and Karen Asfour; William G. and Penelope K. Bardel; Julia Bradford; Patricia M. C. Briska; George and Emma Christopher; Susan Cogan; DePaul Student Group through the auspices of Warren Schultz; Susan B. Downey; Lawrence T. Geraty; Bernard J. Grisez; David Hale; Ellen Porter Honnet; Regine Hunziker-Rodewald; Herbert Krosney; The Lawrenceville School through the auspices of Cara Hyson; Marianist Province of the U.S. through the auspices of Paul E. Fitzpatrick; Michel Marto; John McDonald and Caroline Chester; Mary S. Merrill; Don and Jeannette Nadler; Astrid Nunn; Randolph B. Old; Barbara Reeves; David and Sarah Roberts; Elizabeth Barlow Rogers; Barbara C. Sampson and W. L. Hamilton; Betty H. Sams; Warren C. Schultz; Cynthia L. Shartzter; Adelaide and Henry Smith in honor of Nancy Lapp; John G. Turner and Jerry G. Fischer; Gail Vander Heide; James R. and Margaret L. Wiseman

Annual Fund Donations for Library Support: Leigh-Ann Bedal; Council of Independent Education Exchange (CIEE) through the auspices of Allison Hodgkins; Ellen Porter Honnet; Warren C. Schultz

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George M. Landes, Professor Emeritus of Union Theological Seminary in New York City, was a signer of ACOR's original Certificate of Incorporation from the State of Delaware in May 1970 and an ACOR founding trustee. He served as ACOR First Vice President from 1970 to 1979. This spring he generously donated many issues missing from the ACOR Library holdings of *Biblical Archaeology Review* and *Old Testament Abstracts*. Gifts that fill such gaps are very much appreciated. The continued connections with those who helped create ACOR are still very important to ACOR today.

Sanctuary of Lot at Deir 'Ain 'Abata in Jordan

Excavations 1988–2003

by Konstantinos D. Politis

This newly published book (2012) by a former ACOR fellow is the final report on many years of excavation and restoration at the Byzantine monastery and church site of Lot's Cave in the Ghor es-Safi in the Jordan Valley. It is a well-illustrated, hardback volume (ISBN: 978-9957-557-04-1) with 600 pages and includes 1058 illustrations; now available from the Jordan Distribution Agency (jdabooks@aramex.com) and sold at ACOR along with other publications about Jordan.

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June 2012 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees held their annual spring meeting in Amman on 7 June 2012 at ACOR. Sami Habayeb and William Bardel of the class of 2012 chose to retire, but all other fellow class members were re-elected as the Class of 2015. Ambassador Edward Gnehm, Jr. joined the Board as a member of the class of 2014. James Wiseman assumed the position of Treasurer. Elizabeth Barlow Rogers and Henry Christensen III agreed to serve as co-chairs of the Development Committee. On 6 June, Senator Leila Sharaf hosted board members and friends for a dinner. On Friday 8 June, a trip was arranged to Petra to show firsthand ACOR's recent work at the Petra Church and the Temple of the Winged Lions, and the day ended with a board dinner at the ACOR project house in Wadi Musa.

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