

Newsletter

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES

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The Queen's University Coffin Project: Update

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CANADA

A year ago we presented an initial piece on the acquisition of fragments of a number of coffins by Queen's University. Queen's offers the only Master-level of Art Conservation (MAC) program in Canada. This update describes the coffin types and summarizes the Art Conservation Program's current and upcoming research.

An article outlining the coffins' provenance and their journey from Egypt to Queen's will appear in a forthcoming festschrift published by the JSSEA in honour of Ted Brock.

Coffin Project Goals

- To carry out multi-phased and multi-partnered interdisciplinary research encompassing areas of study in: ethical, historical, iconographical, textual, materials composition and construction, conservation analyses and practice.
- To provide conservation students at Queen's University with a unique experiential learning opportunity to study and conserve Egyptian materials.

The Fragments

Between the years 2014-2015, over 140 coffin fragments were donated to the MAC Program at Queen's. The material has been identified as belonging to three coffins, one Dynasty 25 coffin (ca. 700 BCE) and two Yellow Type V coffins (ca. 950 BCE). The fragments' overall condition varies – some appear in good stable condition, while others exhibit extensive signs of deterioration including soiling, cracking, and paint loss.

Dynasty 25 coffin (AA2190.A)

Fragments comprising parts of the face, chest, foot/pedestal, and trough with text running down the sides. A cursory examination of the texts suggests they include the standard htp-di-nswt offering formula. The Dynasty 25 coffin is of a type attested at Akhmim. An example of this type that closely resembles the Queen's example is in the Budapest Museum of Art, No. 1995.1-2 The large pedestal is characteristic of 25th Dynasty coffins.

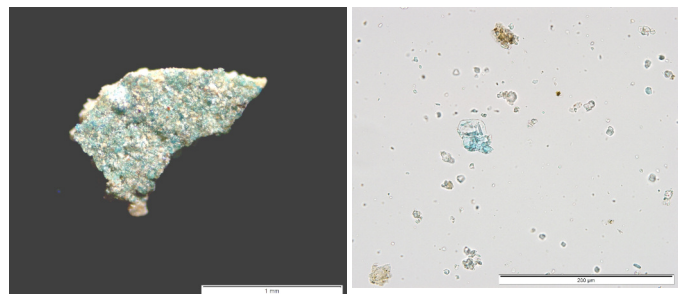
Yellow Type V coffin (AA2190.B)

Two substantial fragments, comprising the entire lid. The hands and foot are missing.

Yellow Type V coffin (AA2190.C)

The face and a significant portion of the chest, including the wesekh collar and protective wings covering the breast, along with other fragments. A pair of nicely-crafted hands are among the fragments but are detached from the lid.

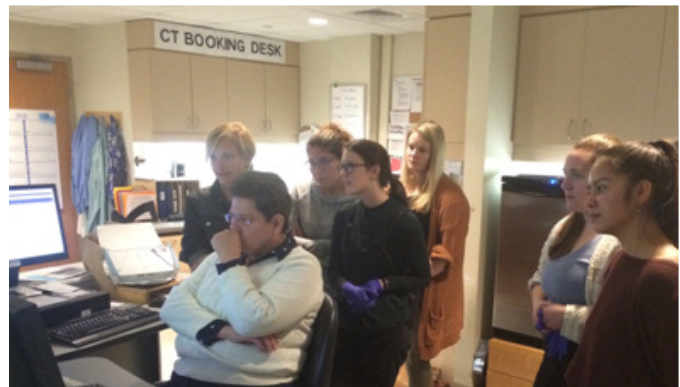
Yellow Coffins (945 – 890 BC) are commonly found at Thebes, although some have been attested at Memphis. A key indicator for a Type V coffin is the red stola (mummy braces).



Egyptian Blue pigment (left) unprepared/unmounted on glass slides, incident light, 40x, & (right) mounted on glass slides, (Cargille Meltmount®, n=1.539 or n=1.662), plane polarized light (PPL), 400x, images by V. Kablys

Recent Findings

Over the past year, research has focused on the Dynasty 25 coffin. Highlights include the identification of various pigments and joinery techniques, as well as the generation of 3D models.



Students reading CT scans with radiology technician, image by A. Anastassiades



AA2190.A, image by V. Kablys

Materials Analysis

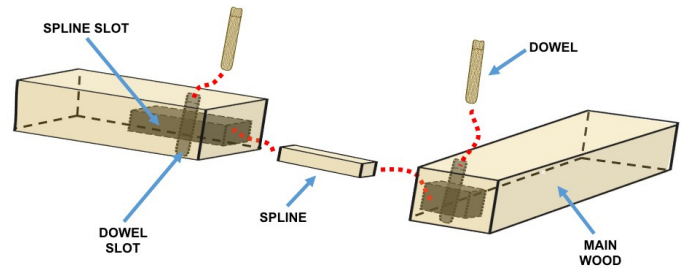
Decoration: pigments

The presence of an Egyptian Blue (calcium copper silicate) and iron earth pigments were identified using microscopy (PPL, XPL), Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy, x-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectroscopy, and scanning electron microscopy (SEM). Analyses were carried out in the Department of Art History & Art Conservation, and the Department of Geology, at Queen's University,

Construction: splines, dowels, fill material

Fragments were CT (computed tomography) scanned in the Department of Radiology at Kingston General Hospital. This provided insight into the coffin's interior construction. The scans reveal the presence of three different wood species, and the use of spline and dowel joints.

For example, the following images and diagrams illustrate that coffin AA2190.A was assembled using a spline and dowel system, with the slots bulked and secured with a probable calcium-based fill material.



AA2190.A.1-20 Joinery Diagram by V. Kablys

3D Rendering

The CT scanning also allows for the generation of 3D images, and offers the potential of producing a virtual reconstruction of the coffin.

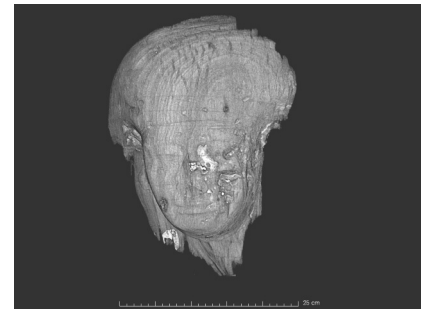
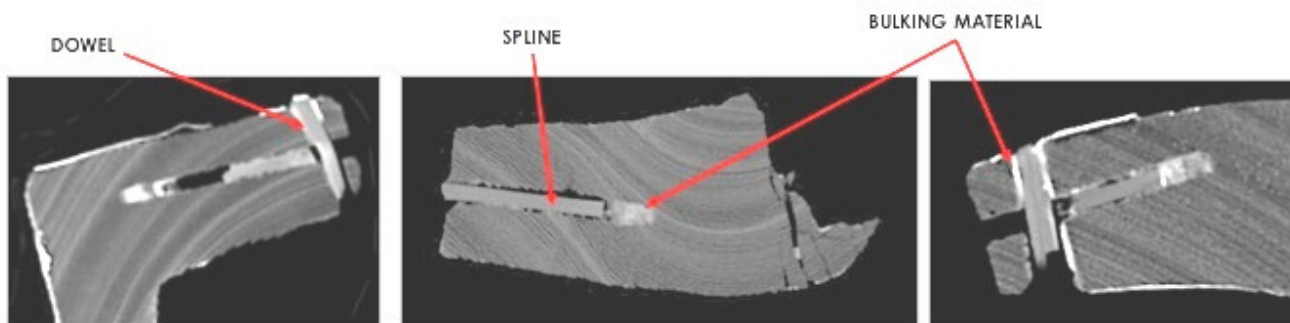


Image by V. Kablys

Upcoming Research

- Plans for this year include further study of the Dynasty 25 coffin in the following areas:
 - historical background and provenance
 - micro-CT (computed tomography) scanning to investigate the wood species
 - photogrammetry to capture 3D images of the coffin's surface



Images by V. Kablys

Rexine's Dig Diaries July 2017

Friday, July 7, 2017 5AM

I left Toronto a week ago today and arrived in Egypt while it was enduring a heat wave. (48 degrees) I was lucky to have a lovely travelling companion in Jean Li, a young professor from Ryerson. The trip on Egypt Air was fine, just long. The plane had a large number of families with children on board and I had a chatty four year old beside me who used me as his listening board when his uncle on the other side of him slept or pretended to sleep. If I closed my eyes he poked me and continued talking. Finally in Cairo, we were met in the airport by a charming Egyptian and hustled through immigration and customs, taken

to the duty free where we could load up on alcohol for the dig and driven to downtown Cairo to our hotel.

The City View Hotel occupies floors five and six of a building overlooking Tahrir Square. Our room had 4 single beds. Although small for three people the room had everything we needed. The AC worked, the toilet flushed, the beds were comfortable and we had the 4th bed to hold our luggage. We could squeeze past one of the beds to just open the balcony doors a little and enjoy a hot but magnificent view of the square, We could see the museum and the Nile Hilton and a little sliver of the Nile river and be entertained by the huge volume of Cairo traffic.

Our little hotel put out an excellent breakfast and we could order food or drinks at any time. The advertised Wi-Fi was very iffy and I could never get through. I have attached a photo of our bedroom in the hotel before we pulled in all the luggage. My bed is on the wall with the desk (you cannot see it). We put our luggage on the middle bed.

We spent three nights at the hotel. I stayed inside most of the time since the tendonitis in my ankle prevented me from walking very far. We did however one day take a taxi over to the Nile Hilton Ritz Carlton for lunch and to enjoy the cool atmosphere. The gigantic flower arrangements were eye-popping gorgeous. We sat and watched the flower designer set up a new display that included amaryllis, roses, and orchids. The three of us wished that we had brought our cameras.

Carol has asked the Antiquity department for an extension into July and we expect the answer on Tuesday. We are going to the dig house to wait.

Sunday, July 9, 2017

On the 3 hour drive south to el Faschen we drove past our antiquity site which we haven't seen in five years. From the car windows we could see the holes left by the looters. Our mission is to assess the damage, tidy up where we are able, fix up the work buildings on the site and make a plan for the future. We drove slowly through the very poor village that bordered the site, smiling at the villagers as they gathered to stare at us. We reached the river and found the tiny ferry waiting. There followed a rejigging of cars trucks and donkey carts before we were all in and ready to go. The dig house is across the river from the site.

I am now sitting here in a luxurious villa in the large town of el Faschen. The villa sits on a narrow dirt road with the back facing the Nile in an obviously high end part of town. The neighbouring villas are very ostentatious with expensive cars parked outside. Carol shares the ownership of this villa with a colleague from the US and an American teacher who has taught in an Egyptian private high school for many years, and has now taken a job teaching in Albania. He is a collector of beautiful antique furniture, paintings, ceramics, etc., especially from the Ottoman era and when he gave up his huge apartment in Cairo he had all his treasures trucked down here to furnish the villa. The house looks like an Art museum. He also changed some of the rooms around and added more bathrooms. The place is more like a B and B than a dig house; but it is truly beautiful. Unfortunately for us, he closed in most of the balconies with antique windows that are hard to open. There still is one balcony left overlooking the garden and the Nile. The garden has grown since we were here last. The mango and lemon trees, laden with fruit, are higher than the house. Much of our view from the balcony is



Our street in el-Faschen

blocked by the foliage, but the birds love it. Yesterday the AC repairman finally came from Beni Suef, and spent the entire day here drilling holes through concrete walls. He was installing new air conditioners and attempting to fix others. Though it is still hot, last night we actually slept in the cool. We are still waiting for the Wi-Fi man to arrive and connect us.

I have a delightful senior lady from California as a room mate so we can compare arthritic joints and any other interesting ailments we can come up with.

Friday, July 14, 2017

Sorry I have taken so long to write. I have been waiting for photos. I just found out that the camera I grabbed to bring does not have a memory card in it. Oh well, maybe I can borrow one.

We are having another heat wave. It is going up to 48 degrees today. The young crew have gone off on a whole day trip to the Fayoum. I was going to go until I heard that I would probably spend about 8 hours sitting in the van, some of it while the others trekked off into the desert or up and down archaeological mounds. Staying back at the house in the cool working on pottery sounded better.

I walked around the second floor where my room is and took some pictures of the villa. (I did not know about the memory card then.) Although the place is beautiful, there are a few functional issues. For instance, our huge tiled bathroom with the latest rain shower, and a second hand shower head arrangement over the tub, has a little flaw. The first time that I stepped into the tub and turned on the water the whole metal contraption popped off the wall, hit me on the head and landed with a clatter in the bottom of the tub! Apparently it is held up with little suction cups and you have to hold it on tight against the wall as you turn on the water. I am not even going to mention the fact that there is no shower curtain and the water sprays all over the floor. The solution here is a squeegee.

I do love the antique doors in the villa. Our collector friend has wonderful taste in antiques and has replaced all the doors with old Egyptian hand-carved wooden doors. Each one is different but none of them has a handle either inside or outside. They have a long metal key hanging out of one of the holes. Our bedroom door slammed shut behind me yesterday as I was going down for dinner and we were locked out. It is extremely easy to be locked in or out. Consequently most of us leave our doors partly open. The good news is that the keys are the same and fit all the doors.

We have Mahmoud again as the major domo of the house who



The drive to Hiba

looks after our every need. He has even offered to do my laundry so I don't have to go up the stairs with my injured ankle to the third floor laundry room. We also have a sensational cook who is on holiday from the French House at Luxor. How lucky can we be? Every single meal tastes wonderful and has dashed any hope of losing some weight over here. He has made the best kushari that I have ever had in Egypt. The girls have taken photos of all his dishes as he brings them in and plan to make a calendar of his meals with recipes. I don't know if he will part with his recipes.

Last night we celebrated with a barbeque for getting our extension permit and we start work tomorrow at the site. The temperature will be 110 degrees.

Work Day Sunday, July 16, 2017

I don't think I have ever been this hot in my life. It is humid here! Everyone is complaining about the heat wave, especially the Egyptians. I suspect that it is the increase in vegetation around the site that has caused this. They give the daily temperature here but not the humidex. It must be off the map. I am sitting at my table melting.

Because of the heat everyone, including our driver, our two armed policemen and the truck full of soldiers, happily agreed to leave an hour earlier in the morning (5 AM instead of 6 AM) so that we could leave the site at 12 noon. By noon it is 108 degrees Fahrenheit and I am very ready to get back to air conditioning. Despite the heat I have a great set up for doing pottery. I have a large solid wooden table. It is a little too high for my chair but I solved that by using a large plastic bag containing the dig's supply of toilet paper as a cushion. It is the perfect height and I discourage any attempt by anyone to take out a roll. We do have a very adequate loo available to us. My area is shaded with a multi-coloured canopy/tent, the kind that is used by the local people for weddings and funerals. It protects me from the sun but it also stops any breeze that might wander by. I am placed between the large storage magazine and 2 caravans each of which have AC and are used by the registrar who enters everything into a database and the human remains specialist. I also have large screened tables set out for drying pottery. Sherds are coming into me from all areas of the site for dating.

We also have a dig kitten, the smallest and skinniest cat I have ever seen, who has adopted us. He follows us everywhere hoping for food and acting particularly cute. The young students are falling for his charms and I suspect he might leave with one of them.

The goal this season is to assess the damage done by the recent looting and to make a plan for the future.

Ferry Monday, July 17, 2017

Our villa is on the west Bank of the Nile in the town of el Faschen while the archaeological site (el Hibeh) is across the river on the East Bank. We live on River road a few minutes from the ferry landing. Every morning our little convoy arrives at the landing along with huge trucks carrying limestone bricks, vans full of workers, pedestrians, donkey carts, bicycles, three- wheeled cars, and the ever present motorcycles with many that have mini-wagons attached so they can carry many people or lots of stuff. Yesterday we shared the ferry with a brightly-coloured kiosk jingling with dresses, hair bows and trinkets all attached to a motorcycle. The girls were yearning to get out of our van and shop but we are so tightly crammed in that we can't open the doors of our van. As more and more vehicles cram on to the ferry we say a little prayer that we make it alive across the river. Even before the ferry docks the young men on motorcycles jockey for the best position to zoom off the ferry. Then the bigger vehicles untangle themselves and drive off. We drive through the narrow winding bumpy street of the village adjoining our site. At the early hour in the morning, just as it is getting light, the villagers get up and walk their cows, water buffalos, and goats to their pastures which might be a few miles away

from the town. I am always surprised by the number of cows and goats that are walking on the main highways, seemingly undeterred by the cars and trucks whizzing by them. At 5 PM the animals make the return trip back to their home in the village.

I am not supposed to talk about the dig but I have been given permission by the director Dr. Redmount to mention two very strong and courageous female dirt archaeologists who are fearless as they map the tunnels, robber pits and caves occurring in the limestone hills on the site.

The ancient town site of El Hibeh was founded in the Third Intermediate Period (circa 1070) on a limestone outcrop that was riddled with natural crevices and caves that were perfect for building tombs. A little extra carving and enhancement here and there and you had yourself a perfectly acceptable tomb. There are many tombs in the caves still with their stone sarcophagi in situ and it is these that have attracted ancient as well as modern robbers who dig additional tunnels to get to the treasure. In fact, very recently, one of these tunnels collapsed killing the looter inside. One of our inspectors told us that he had to help retrieve the body.

Dr. Jean Li from Ryerson University in Toronto and two male doctoral students were in charge of a robot (a special camera on wheels) that was equipped with various cameras and gadgets that could rotate and send pictures back to a hand held computer. The robot was tethered to a rope so that it could be pulled back from the tunnel. (The male students were only here for a couple of days after which we reverted back to an all female team.) The robot could be sent into a tunnel remotely and the computer could operate its lights and its camera in order to reveal any treasures or dangers ahead. If the way ahead was free of cobras, scorpions and crumbling ceilings, then Jean and her comrade Brooke Norton, a graduate student from Berkley would crawl in. Brook has a connection to Canada; she has dug with Canadian teams in the Dakhleh oasis and in Jordan. These two young women crawled on their bellies or on hands and knees over limestone chips through tiny holes while carrying lights, measuring tapes, and video cameras in order to measure the depth of the tunnels and assess whether any were worth excavating in the future. After the first day when they returned to the camp with bruised and bleeding knees and elbows from crawling across the rocks, they were delighted to hear that knee pads and masks were available. Their enthusiasm, energy and courage are remarkable.

I know the police guarding them are worried about them. One day they managed to go 27 meters into one long tunnel. They were inside 45 minutes and the police were very edgy watching the rope



Our view of the cliffs across the river

disappear slowly into the hole. In another tunnel they encountered wasps' nests along with their angry owners; the camera had not detected them. You can imagine how quickly the girls made their exit.

They come back dusty and dirty but exhilarated. The rest of us wimps worry about them. You would not catch me crawling into those crevices even if I were 40 years younger. Jean has wonderful pictures and perhaps back in Toronto she can be persuaded to give a talk for the SSEA.

Sunday, July 30, 2017

We seem to be in a perpetual heat wave here with high humidity. I had to stop using sun block on my face since I perspired so much that it ran into my eyes. I was working with only one useable, squinty eye one morning before I gave it up. A cold wet Toronto sounds really good right now. We are, however being really spoiled by the major domo Mahmoud. Every day, soon after we have trooped wearily back from work he brings us ice-cold, freshly-made lemonade or freshly-squeezed mango juice. He picks the mangoes from the tree in the garden. It is such a wonderful treat. Often, he has taken our laundry, washed it and returned it to our rooms neatly folded. We don't mind that the underwear and socks are inevitably mixed up and the owners have to make the rounds of the rooms in order to identify their own.

I have finally taken some time to walk around the villa and take some pictures of the lovely décor. I especially love the "Do not touch room" with its treasures.

Monday, July 31, 2017

This is my last day in Egypt. I am being picked up at 10pm and taken to the airport. I leave at 2am in the morning.

I have left some information dangling - like the kitten. Yes, he convinced us that he must go home with someone, and he actually had three people willing to take him. Brook was the main candidate and she brought the kitten back to the villa to keep him safe. We all had name suggestions and finally the name Taharqa (an Egyptian Pharaoh) won out. Taharqa soon made himself comfortable in Brook's room with her two other room mates. He recognized his litter box immediately and even slept through the night without bothering anyone other than choosing to sleep on Kea's pillow right beside her ear. Taharqa soon became king of the villa visiting other rooms whenever the door was opened. He especially liked the kitchen where he charmed treats out of the kitchen staff.

I thought it was difficult to bring a pet back to the USA but apparently not so. In order to travel he needed to visit a vet in Cairo for

shots and a health checkup. He was given his own passport and a carrying case. Brook phoned the airline and arranged for Taharqa to travel in a special hold for animals. She was flying Lufthansa to Frankfurt and then a thirteen hour flight to San Francisco. We were relieved to hear that she and the cat arrived safely in San Francisco. We are all anxiously waiting for news from Brooke about Taharqa and how he is settling in his new home. I will attach photos.

The other news is that Robert Yohe arrived for the last three work days to check on the mummies that have been thrown out of tombs by looters on the site. He found some that were in a vulnerable condition, put them in a wheelbarrow and brought them up to our storeroom. They have all lost their heads and hands to the looters. Apparently there is market of mummy heads and hands. Who knew?

The last day at the villa was spent finishing up reports, packing to go home and doing an inventory of dig tools. We are all tired but we feel we accomplished what we set out to do so we are happy. It was a good season- just hot.



A view of the moon from our villa

Toronto Chapter Report (August 15th, 2017)

The Toronto Chapter had another successful year in 2016-2017. The spring season finished with two wonderful lectures from Dr. Dimitri Laboury (University of Liège, Belgium) "Painters and Painting in the Theban Necropolis during the 18th dynasty" and Thomas H. Greiner (PhDc, University of Toronto) "Blue like the Night Sky: Lapis Lazuli in Ancient Egypt". The theme for the summer season this year was sites of interest to Egyptology, but often little known by Egyptophiles. The series included four lectures: Dr. Lyn Green (President, SSEA) "Ballat: City of the Oasis", Anissa Malvoisin (PhDc, University of Toronto) "Meroe: The Capital of Kush", Gayle Gibson (Royal Ontario Museum) "Tanis: The Second-hand Capital and its Untouched Royal Tombs" and Dr. Steven Shubert "Wet and Wild" the Nilotic Mosaic at Praeneste". Dr. Steven Shubert's lecture will take place on Wednesday, September 13th.

The Toronto Chapter also gathered to enjoy our annual New Year's Party on Saturday, July 8th. Attendees enjoyed a delicious Middle Eastern buffet at the Hotel Novotel and a lecture by Gayle Gibson. A good time was had by all.

There are a number of wonderful events planned for the 2017-2018 schedule. On Friday, September 15th we will host our annual movie night! Please join us for Egypt at the Movies (film TBA) with lively discussion.

The upcoming lectures for 2017-2018 include: Guillaume Bouchard Labonté (PhDc, Université du Québec à Montréal) "Dialogue or coercion: social pressure in Ancient Egypt" on November 6th, Carla Mesa Guzzo (PhDc University of Toronto) "Maces and Daggers from the Royal Ontario Museum's Egyptian Collection" on January 12th, Dr. Jitse Dijkstra (University of Ottawa) on the Khnum Temple Graffiti Project on February 23rd, Dr. Mary-Ann Pouls Wegner (University of Toronto) "Birth and Rebirth in the Abydos Landscape" on March 23rd, Dr. Sarah Symons (McMaster University) "Shadows and Droplets: timekeeping instruments from Ancient Egypt" on April 13th and Dr. Adela Oppenheim (Metropolitan Museum) on work at Dahshur on May 11th. Mark your calendars!

Beginning in late September, Dr. Lyn Green will offer a four-week course for the Toronto Chapter, "Peasants, Priests and Pharaohs:

A Day in the Life". The course fees are \$100 for SSEA members, \$125 for non-members and \$50 for students. If you are interested in receiving further information, including specific dates, please contact the Toronto Chapter at <Toronto@thessea.org>.

The Annual Meeting of Ontario Members (AMOM) will take place on Wednesday October 18th, 2017 at 6:30 pm. This meeting will approve the Toronto Chapter financial statements 2016-2017, set the Toronto Chapter budget 2017-2018, and elect the executive for 2017-2018. Refreshments will follow the meeting. We need the participation of all Ontario Members, please plan on attending!

Montréal Chapter report, summer 2017

The 2016/2017 season was a most eventful one! Indeed, we've had no less than 7 public lectures, 4 member's lectures and a full day seminar, as well as 4 special events: a guided visit of the Egyptian collection of the Redpath museum led by our vice-president Prof Jean Revez, the Chapter's annual general assembly (AGM), our annual benefit supper, and, to finish the season in style, our annual pique nique.

The 1st public lecture was by Perine Poirion, PhD student (Université du Québec à Montréal [UQAM] and Paris-Sorbonne) back on September 14, 2016 at the cultural affairs bureau of the Egyptian consulate in Montréal. Its title was "La titulature royale comme marqueur idéologique : le cas des pharaons de la Troisième Période intermédiaire", a rather academic topic, but wonderfully popularized by our most excellent PhD candidate. The following 4 public conferences were held in various rooms of UQAM. On October 11, another UQAM PhD candidate, Guillaume Bouchard Labonté gave us "Par la force et le dialogue : exercer et subir les pressions normatives en Égypte ancienne", on how the common Egyptian of the New Kingdom should react when faced with dissidence within a very codified society. A fascinating and quite uncommon topic! Then, on January 18, we received the visit of Prof Xavier Maldague of the Electric Engineering Department of the Université Laval (UL) and member of the Scan Pyramid Project who introduced us to the intricacies of infrared vision and how it can be used to probe cultural artifacts, including Egyptian pyramids. His talk was titled "Vision infrarouge pour l'étude du patrimoine culturel: principes et études de cas". Then, from Toronto University came Prof. Katja Goebis, well known within our Society. Generous of her time in town, she gave us two public lectures: "Aspects of Kingship in the Middle Kingdom Coffin Texts" on March 23, and on the following day, "Mythical role play – Some considerations on the importance of performance in the transmission of Egyptian myths". The first conference saw the discussion continue in a quiet nearby bistro. The year's very last public conference was held on May 2, back at the Consulate. From Toronto, thanks to our annual student exchange, came Thomas H. Greiner who presented his fascinating, and colorful, work in a lecture titled "Le Bleu du Ciel nocturne : Le Lapis Lazuli en Égypte ancienne".

Our AGM was held on October 19, 2016. After the standard annual activities and financial reports, we proceeded to the re-elections of Prof Jean Revez as Vice-President, Nicole Brisson as Secretary and Treasurer and Michel Gervais as Councillor. The empty seat unfortunately remains so. The Executive is completed by Cloé Caron, President; Dr. Brigitte Ouellet, Councillor and yours truly, Dr. Jean-Frédéric Brunet, Councillor; whose seats were not up to election this year. The only new face this year is our liaison in Québec City / UL, Martine Dumais, who replaces Samuel Dupras, currently studying in Belgium. Also around this time, the winners of the 2016 Elizabeth K. Daimsis scholarship were proclaimed: Cloé Cormier and Geneviève Denis, two UL students, were able to join many other SSEA members for the Scholar's colloquium and annual symposium in Toronto.

The members lectures were all held at the Maison de l'Afrique. First came our long-time friend Denis Goulet, Egyptophile, back on

Finally, a very special thank you to the 2016-2017 Toronto Chapter Executive (Sami Akhnoukh, Maureen Britsch, Deirdre Keleher, Erin Kerr, Hanna Kurnitzki-West, Dr. Ronald Leprohon, Arlette Londes and Zoë McQuinn) for all their hard work!

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Toronto Executive, please contact us at <Toronto@thessea.org>.

Collegially,
Deirdre Keleher

November 23. In recognition for his work for the Society (notably within the In search of ancient Egypt in Canada project), Denis was officially consecrated as an honorary member of the Chapter. The conference, which turned out to be the last of his life, was titled "Amour et sexualité au temps des pharaons" The evening was a truly highly emotional moment for Denis who knew he was soon to leave for the West. Yet his unyielding enthusiasm still shone through and totally overshadowed his dark fate. The following members lecture, on January 11, played on a much lighter side with the visit of Dr. Caroline Rocheleau, Curator of Ancient Art, North Carolina Museum of Art. Her talk was titled "Égyptologie en coulisse: La recherche en musée et la collection égyptienne du North Carolina Museum of Art" and introduced her audience to the unseen backstage of Museum life. The third members' conference this year was given by our most beloved Vice-President, Prof. Jean Revez on February 10 with the title "L'univers de l'enfance en Égypte ancienne, entre insouciance et responsabilité", it was about growing up in Ancient Egypt. Right after Prof. Revez most interesting talk came our annual benefit supper which theme was childhood. And quite a few members attended, some of whom had brought their children with them. A very happy evening, the joy of childhood uplifting each and every one! And to boot, a profit was made for the Society!

I'll finish this year's report with its climatic height, the visit of Prof Dimitri Laboury (Université de Liège, Belgium). He gave us a public lecture (3rd of April, "L'art d'Akhénaton, de l'hallucination occidentalocentriste à la lecture historique"), a members' lecture (April 5, "La Mission Archéologique belge dans la Nécropole Thébaine") and a full day seminar (April 8, "Tradition et créativité : Pour une étude de l'« intericonicité » dans l'art de l'Égypte antique") The first of these lectures introduced us to a new reading of Amarna art, ideally expunged of its occidental bias; the



Denis Goulet (1942-2017) with the coffin of Nennouen-n-ef

second one was about the latest discoveries in Theban Tombs 29 (Amenemope) and 96 (Sennefer); and finally the seminar introduced the lucky partakers to a new conceptual tool, that of intericonicity.

As I write this report, we are finalising the 2017/2018 season, which will doubtlessly prove to be just as rich and diverse! Be sure to join us if you're around!

Calgary Chapter Report

The Calgary Chapter of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities has had a very successful year in securing guest lecturers for the 2016 – 2017 lecturing season. For the first time in 13 years, we hosted a guest lecturer for every single talk – given Calgary's lack of a University-level Near Eastern Department, this is quite an accomplishment.

We started off the year by hosting Dr. Jehan Joseph Bastawros presenting a talk on the Coptic Period in Egypt. Through her use of multimedia, she was able to take us through the highlights of Coptic history and its iconography. In November, we hosted Dan Bruce for a talk entitled, "In the Footsteps of Amelia Edwards – a Modern Day Tour of the Monuments of Egypt". The talk centered around a survey of Egyptian sites Mr. Bruce had visited in his many journeys to the country. His charismatic way of speaking entertained us as he told us of his travels. Unfortunately, our December 'movie night' had to be cancelled due to a tragic accident which affected the family of one of our executive – our membership was certainly sympathetic to the short notice.

In February, the Chapter hosted our long-time academic advisor, Dr. Mary MacDonald, presenting her research at Dakhla Oasis. Her talk, "Update on the Neolithic Sheikh Muftah Culture of Dakhleh Oasis and its Mysterious Clayton Rings, and New Insights into Desert Travel in Early Pharaonic Times", was presented with a lot of enthusiasm and provided a lot of insight into the Oasis' developments that took place in the Predynastic and Old Kingdom. Many of our membership extended their appreciation for arranging this talk. As one of our members stated, "(The lecture) truly was amazing. I had never really considered what was happening in the Oases when the kings were ruling the Nile Valley. Mary has given me a lot to think about".

In March, we hosted Dr. Kevin McGeough from the University of Lethbridge as he presented his research on the public and its fascination with ancient Egypt in modern cinema

. In his usual style, Dr. McGeough portrayed the topic in a somewhat humorous fashion to make the material relatable which made the lecture very enjoyable and memorable.

In April, we hosted Dr. Nancy Lovell from the University of Alberta with her talk, "X-Rays and CT scans of the University of Alberta's Egyptian Mummy". We were eager to learn the latest results of the scans of the UofA's Ptolemaic mummy. In late May, Thomas Greiner from the University of Toronto travelled to Alberta to present to us his latest research on that famous blue stone in ancient Egyptian contexts, lapis lazuli. We hope that he returns after his PhD program to speak to us about some of his conclusions of this lapis lazuli research.

At the beginning of May, the executive was delighted to hear from another guest lecturer that was going to be travelling to Calgary in June. So, for the second year in a row, we had a special 'June Guest Lecture' as Dr. Jacke Philips delivered a talk on the latest excavation results of the Giza town of Heit el-Ghurab. It was a really illuminating talk as Dr. Philips explained the living conditions in this pyramid town.

Unfortunately, I must end this report with some sad news. In May of 2016, our long-time friend and SSEA volunteer, James Morrison, told us that he could not continue in the role of the Calgary's Chapter Treasurer due to his wife's health. Mr. Morrison has been a fixture of our society for well over 20 years and has been an integral part of the Calgary executive for 15 years. Doing anything from taking door admissions to managing our website, Mr. Morrison seems to have helped out in any way possible and the Chapter wished him well. Sadly, we have been informed that Mr. Morrison's wife has succumbed to her illness this past March. We, the executive of the Calgary Chapter and the SSEA National Trustees, wish to express our greatest condolences to him and his family as they go through this difficult time.

-Nicholas Wernick
03-Aug-2017

2017 Annual General Meeting of the SSEA/SÉÉA

Every year, on the weekend of the Annual Symposium and Scholars' Colloquium, the entire voting membership of the SSEA/SÉÉA hold their ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in Toronto to elect the Board of Trustees which governs the Society through the parent, "national" organization ("Head Office") and pass the Society's budget and approve the financial statements.

The national organization organizes the Annual Symposium and Scholars' Colloquium and all publications, including the *Journal* and *Newsletter* and maintains the database of members. All members of any chapter of the SSEA or SÉÉA are members of the national organization and entitled to vote. If you cannot attend the Annual General Meeting of The SSEA/SÉÉA, you may also send a proxy, using the salmon-coloured form, which will be mailed to you. The AGM will be followed by a reception.. This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on **November 3rd 2017** from 5:30pm. A reception will follow.

Schedule for the 2017 AGM Weekend

Thursday, November 2nd 7:15pm – Lecture to support the Sally Katary Scholarship.

The Colloquium and Symposium are now grouped together as paid events. One fee pays for the entire weekend.
Entry fees: \$85 SSEA Members; \$95 Non-members ; \$45 Non-member English ; \$40 Student members. A discount of \$5 is available

for all categories with advance registration.

Friday, November 3rd, 9am to 4:30pm – Scholars’ Colloquium Day 1; held in 5 Bancroft Ave.

Friday, November 3rd, 5:30 pm onward – Annual General Meeting of the SSEA/SÉÉA; This event is held in room 323, 4 Bancroft Ave.

Saturday, November 4th, 9am to 5pm – 41st Annual Symposium, held in room 1050, 5 Bancroft Ave.

Sunday, November 5th, 11am to 4pm - Poster Session and Scholars’ Colloquium Day 2; held in 5 Bancroft Ave.

AEGYPTUS: Egypt under Roman Rule

Our 41st Annual Symposium

This autumn, the SSEA/SÉÉA will hold our Annual Symposium on the topic of “AEGYPTUS: Egypt under Roman Rule”.

This year’s symposium, held in conjunction with our Annual General Meeting and Scholars’ Colloquium has been scheduled for **NOVEMBER 4th, 2017**. This event is ticketed; a fee for entry is required. All events will be held on the campus of the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Assemblée Générale Annuelle de la SSEA/SÉÉA

L’assemblée générale annuelle des membres de la SSEA/SÉÉA se tient chaque année à Toronto lors de la même fin de semaine que les symposium annuel et colloque. On y élit l’ensemble des administrateurs (*Trustees*), lesquels gouvernent l’organisme parent, « national », de la Société (“*Head Office*”) ; aussi, on y adopte le budget de la Société et approuve les états financiers..

L’organisme national organise le Symposium annuel de même que le Colloque, s’occupe de toutes les publications nationales, incluant le *Journal* et le *Newsletter* et maintient la liste des membres. Tous les membres de tous les chapitres de la SSEA/SÉÉA sont aussi membres de l’organisme national et ont droit de vote. Si vous ne pouvez être présent lors de l’assemblée, vous pouvez aussi voter par procuration (*proxy*), en retournant le formulaire couleur saumon qui vous sera envoyé. Cette assemblée aura lieu le **3 Novembre 2017** à 17h30. Une réception suivra.

Horaire de la Fin de Semaine de l’Assemblée Générale

Jeudi 2 novembre, 19:15h – Conférence. (Il s’agit d’un événement payant pour soutenir la Bourse Sally Katary).

Le Colloque et le Symposium sont maintenant les événements payant. Les frais d’entrée seront de : \$85 Membres SSEA ; \$95 non-membres ; \$45 étudiants non-membres ; \$40 membres étudiants. Un rabais de 5 \$, sera applicable sur toutes les catégories, en cas de inscription hâtive.

Vendredi 3 novembre, 9h à 16h30 – Premier jour du Colloque; Au 5 Bancroft Ave.

Vendredi 3 novembre, débutant à 17h30 - Assemblée générale annuelle des membres de la SSEA/SÉÉA; Au local 323 du 4 Bancroft Ave.

Samedi 4 novembre, 9h à 17h – 41e Symposium annuel - À l’amphithéâtre 1050 du 5 Bancroft Ave.

Dimanche 5 novembre, 11h à 16h – Deuxième jour du Colloque et Session d’Affiches; Au 5 Bancroft Ave.

AEGYPTUS: Egypt under Roman Rule

Notre 42e Symposium Annuel

Cet automne, la SÉÉA/SSEA tiendra son symposium annuel sous le thème “ AEGYPTUS: Egypt under Roman Rule ” (“*Egypte sous le domination romain*”).

Le symposium de cette année, qui aura lieu en marge de notre réunion annuelle des membres et du Colloque, se déroulera le **4 NOVEMBRE 2017** sur le campus de l’université de Toronto à Toronto au Canada.

COLLOQUE ET SESSION D’AFFICHES 2017

Cette année, les présentations du Colloque et de la session d’affiches se dérouleront de 9h à 16h30 le 3 novembre puis de 11h à 16h le 5 novembre au 5 Bancroft Ave. La présentation formelle des affiches se fera au début de la deuxième journée. L’horaire détaillé pour chaque jour sera disponible en ligne, sur le site de la SSEA/SÉÉA : www.thessea.org. Ces événements sont gratuits et ouverts à tous.

The opinions expressed in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities. Are you a member of the SSEA? The SSEA/SÉÉA has Chapters in Calgary, Alberta, Montréal, Québec, Toronto, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia. The Chapters host lectures and events on Egyptological topics. Full Individual and Student Memberships in the Society includes a volume of the scholarly Journal of the SSEA and the SSEA Newsletter, and free or discounted admission to SSEA events. Associate Membership in the SSEA includes the Newsletter and free or discounted admission to events. Associate Membership is only open to members in provinces which have a Chapter. All categories of membership, excluding institutional members, are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting. To apply for membership, write to the address on the front of this Newsletter or email us at info@thessea.org. For updates, schedule changes, and further information, see the SSEA website at: www.thessea.org.
