LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Having had the chance to see both ARIT Centers at work in Turkey this past summer, I am happy to report that all is well and running a fine course. I also had the opportunity to meet with both Tonies at once, as I have for the past several years, thanks to Tony Greenwood’s agreeability in making a quick trip to Ankara.

At ARIT in Istanbul, Tony continues to have as his trusty right hand Güldem Güneri. They, with help from an assortment of others, have doggedly brought good order to the impressive H. Kenneth Snipes Byzantine Studies Collection, now proudly and handsomely housed on the top floor at 5 Üvez Sokak in Arnavutköy. Much work still needs to be done, but the Collection has at last taken the shape that Douglas Mearns envisioned for his late friend’s library when he so graciously and generously donated it to ARIT last year.

I had the good fortune to attend an opening cocktail for the Snipes Collection this past June, an event that happily (for me) coincided with the biennial meeting of the Turkish Dernek. A number of friends of Kenneth were in attendance, and also as many Byzantinists as Tony Greenwood could muster. Please help us spread word about the Snipes Collection and the tremendous difference it has made in scholars’ abilities to pursue serious Byzantine research in Istanbul by providing rich holdings in such areas as textual editions, manuscript catalogues, journals, and perhaps especially the historian Michael Psellos. The meeting of the Dernek was again a smooth, efficient operation, thanks in large measure to Güven Arsembük, President of the Dernek, and presiding Chairman Haluk Abbasoğlu.

In Ankara, Toni Cross did not head off to the digs at Kinet Höyük (Hatay) this summer, as she has in past years. This was too bad for Toni, but I got to see much more of her than I usually do from my nearby base at Gordion. Toni’s full-time assistant, Cennet Köse, continues to carry out her many duties with poise and professionalism, as can be attested by anyone who comes to ARIT-Ankara.

A special treat for me this year was to renew my acquaintance with ARIT-Ankara resident Dr. Maya Vassileva, the first Mellon-ARIT Fellow from Bulgaria. To see this bright and book-starved archaeologist reveling in the holdings of our library brought home to me once more the importance of this special program that is helping to repatriate East European scholars into the orb of western scholarship. For ARIT’s participation in the Mellon Exchange, we need to thank, as for so much else, Dr. Mary Ellen Lane, Executive Director of CAORC.

All best wishes to you all for the fall, the winter, and the New Year.

G. Kenneth Sams
ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

On June 23 the Institute held a reception to make public the existence of the H. Kenneth Snipes Byzantine Studies Collection. It was a bit early for a proper opening as only about 75% of the collection had then been catalogued, but it signaled that work on the collection was substantially finished. It was scheduled to coincide with our Dernek meeting, so that the Dernek members and academics with interest in the field could learn about this new resource. About 80 persons attended the event. In the fall there will be a more publicized opening for the Friends and for the general interested public.

The Türk-Amerikan İlimi Araştırmalar Derneği held its bi-annual meeting without incident in mid-June. Amendments to the by-laws were approved that made official the new addresses of the Institute in Istanbul and in Ankara. Elections brought in a new Executive Board, which now consists of Professor Güven Arsebük (President), Tony Greenwood (Treasurer), Professors Haluk Abbasoglu, Ali Alparslan, and Mehmet Genç.

The Fellowship Committee of the Dernek met in late April to award two post-doctoral and six doctoral research grants to Turkish scholars at Turkish universities. Post-doctoral grants were restricted this year to applicants from the fields of archaeology and art history. Below is a list of the awards the Committee made:

POST-DOCTORAL:
Dr. Metin Ahunbay, Istanbul Technical University, “Investigations at Binbirkilise and Ayateklia”
Dr. İnci Delemen, Istanbul University, “The Naip Tumulus at Tekirdağ”

DOCTORAL:
Yılmaz Çolak, Kırıkkale University, “The Politics of Culture in Turkey: A New Nation and Identity, 1923-1960”
Şevket Dönmez, Istanbul University, “The Middle Black Sea Region in the Context of Anatolian Cultures: Early Bronze Age Pottery and Small Finds from the Excavations at İkiztepe”
Gürsel Gândöğdu, Ankara University, “Voter Behavior in Turkey in the post-1980 Era”
Nurcan Özgürl, Istanbul University, “The Yörük’s of Macedonia”
Turgut Haci Zeyrek, Istanbul University, “The Houses of Perge in the Context of Domestic Architecture in Roman-Period Anatolia”
Nalan Soyarkı, Bilkent University, “The Construction of Citizenship in a Modernizing Context: The Raising of Political Consciousness in Early Republican Turkey”

The following lectures were delivered at the Institute between late February and late June:
Dr. Nusin Asgari, former Director of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum, “Marble Workshops in the Quarries of Proconnesus (Marmara Adası): Prefabrication and Mass Production in the Quarries of Late Antiquity”
Professor Carter Findley, History, Ohio State University, “Fantasy and Reality: Ahmed Midhat and Fatma Aliye’s Hayal ve Hakikat”
Professor Suraiya Farooqi, History, Munich University, “18th Century Ottoman Craftsmen: Problems of Social Organization”
Professor Selim Deringil, History, Boğaziçi University, “Images of Empire: The Ottoman Empire in 19th Century World Fairs”
Dr. Dariusz Kołodziejczyk, ARIT-Mellon Fellow, “The Northern Frontier from the 16th to 18th Centuries: Ottoman Castles in the Present Day Ukraine”

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ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The Friends celebrated the beginning of spring by organizing a tour down to Heraclea ad Latmos, Labranda and Iassos in late March with Dr. Turgut Saner of Istanbul Technical University. Spring had definitely not sprung, however. We woke up to snow on the heights of Mt. Lamos above us, and rain absolutely poured on us almost the entire time (except for the hour or so we were actually walking on the ancient road up the mountain). Rarely has a group been so thoroughly soaked! We had real troopers with us though—almost everyone got off the minibuses to help push them through thigh-high mud to get up to Labranda, only to be rewarded for their efforts by fog so dense when we got there we couldn’t see the monuments 10 feet in front of us, let alone the view. We have slides to prove it.

With an itinerary and on-site guides worked out in consultation with Jeanne Mrad (we cannot thank her enough) at CMAT, including the expertise of Necip Ben Lazreg, Anne Somai, and Doug Welle, FARIT took off on
a week long tour to Tunisia over the Kurban Bayrami in April. Highlights included the Roman sites of Bulla Regia and Dougga, the mosaics of the Bardo Museum, dinner at the Dar el Jeld, and the Souk in Tunis itself.

After a hiatus of 9 years, the Friends, led by Professor Suna Güven of METU, were finally able to go back to Nemrut Dağı this year. Some things have changed for the better: the hotels were better, access to the sites is easier, the food was better, and the Atatürk Dam now gets thrown in for good measure. This was the first time in four tours to the Southeast over the last 12 years that a good number of the FARITs did not come down with stomach problems.

The Fourteenth Annual FARIT Dinner was held in early May at the Kemer Country Forest Lodge, just outside of Istanbul near the Uzun Kemer aqueduct. There was a relatively small turnout of 110 persons (due to scheduling problems), which was too sad because the food and entertainment were superb, and the raffle and the auction produced an exceptional income.

At the end of June, the Friends went to Uzbekistan for eight days. They were led, as in 1994, by David Roxburgh of Harvard University. This time, by Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara, they added Shahri-Sabz to the itinerary. They found creature comforts much improved, and major restoration projects (some of them questionable) under way on many of the monuments.

In early July, the Friends went off on a long weekend to Kinet Höyük, and to castles and sites in the Antakya area. They were led around the site by the head of excavations, Marie Henriette-Gates of Bilkent University, and then spirited off by Scott Redford, of Georgetown University, who took time off from the dig to show the Friends some of his favorite sites (and restaurants) in the region, including the Sokullu Mehmet Paşa complex at Payas, the Monastery of St. Simeon the Younger outside of Antakya, the Tunnel of Titus and Vespasian at the Port of Seleucia, and the awesome castles at Anavarza and Sis.

The Steering Committee of the Friends had set itself ambitious fundraising goals for 1997-1998, hoping to raise extra money to cover most of the cost of integrating the Snipes Bequest into the Institute collection. With the success of the trips listed above, it looks like this goal will be substantially met. This is doubly good news, as it means that the Friends will not have to reduce the amount of the donation it has been giving every year for non-U.S. citizen fellowships.

ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

This fall has brought a flurry of visitors, all of whom received the grand tour of the library and hostel. As the proud guide, I always stress that, except for most (but not all) of the books, just about everything is a donation. This includes the hostel itself; the Branch had no guest quarters until the Ankara Friends began annual contributions toward the rent and utilities of a second flat. All its furnishings, too, are gifts, from the refrigerator, delivered by the US Embassy on a hot summer day less than 24 hours after the old one died (we are still grateful), to champagne flutes, for the use of scholars receiving degrees or tenure while in residence. The extra seating brought out for lectures consists of "endowed" chairs, each bearing a small plaque with the name of its donor. I confess to being more hinderance than help during set-up, because I cannot resist checking every plaque and reminiscing about the donor. In short, we are grateful to many institutions and individuals, whose generosity frequently goes beyond the expected.

Late this spring we were pleasantly surprised (i.e., stunned) to receive substantial donations from Jess Canby, Gerd Grace, and Patricia Bülutt, and her husband Mustafa, have just retired after 18 years at the school on Incirlik Air Force Base in Adana. Pat remained a faithful Friend of ARIT even though distance prevented her from attending more than two events during her decade of membership. As a final kindness, she stopped by the Ankara Branch to say goodbye before leaving Turkey.

With Jess Canby's admonition in mind, we combined these donations to obtain something useful for resident scholars, library patrons, and the staff: the upgrade of three computers, two in the office and one in the hostel, to the standards currently recommended by the University of Pennsylvania, and the installation of dedicated phone lines in both the library and the hostel. A hostel guest may now receive a phone call while another is on e-mail or Internet. And anyone wishing to make hostel reservations may contact administrative assistant Cenett Köse directly at her new e-mail address: arit3@tr-net.net.tr.

The Branch received donations in kind as well as in cash. In August, an urgent plea went out for a small desk for the librarian, who was attempting to enter data into the computer while holding the book in her lap. Two long-time Friends of ARIT, Carol and Dave Self, not only gave us the perfect desk, they delivered it themselves (including the final leg up two winding flights of stairs). Now that's Friendship! Two other good Friends, Ron Tickler and
Steering Committee member Pat McGill, presented us with porcelain mugs bearing representations of objects in the Ankara Museum of Anatolian Civilizations (set of six, EBA through the Selçuks). And finally, a donation of especial interest to hostel guests. The father of Shoshanna Matney, a 1997/1998 Fulbrighter and long-term hostel resident, gave us subscriptions to two publications that would help our scholarly guests keep abreast of life in the outside world: the Sunday New York Times and (ahem) People magazine. Every guest who arrives at the hostel, tired body and spirit after a long field season or an overseas flight, is grateful to Edward Matney.

Scholars who present ARIT lectures are donors as well, giving generously of their time and, most of all, their knowledge. Special thanks are thus due to the four speakers who in May, 1998, presented our 18th Annual Lecture Series, co-sponsored by USIS-Ankara and the Turkish-American Association:

Ayşe Gürsan Salzmann, University of Pennsylvania Museum and Bilkent University, "Ethno-Archaeological Research at Yassihöyük (Gordion),"

Christine Kimbrough, New York University, "Textiles in the Ancient Near East,"


Suna Güven, Middle East Technical University, "Augustus and the Res Gestae."

The Branch library has always remained open throughout the summer, to serve those dedicated scholars who have only this time for serious research. Their number has been growing steadily, and this year the Branch had 73 library patrons in June, 89 in July, and 64 in August, an unprecedented number for the summer. We were especially happy to welcome students and faculty from universities in Konya, Erzurum and Antakya. The hostel was full as well, with 11 guests in June, 12 in July, and 21 in August. Providing our regular range of scholarly services a challenge during the summer, when one or the other of our three-person staff is certain to be gone, not on holiday but to an excavation.

Thanks to Machted J. Mellink, past president of ARIT, Braidwood and Braidwood, Excavations on the Plain of Antioch (1960) has moved from our Most Wanted List to a library shelf. Readers may be assured that any of the following will receive an equally warm welcome:

BSA (Annual of the British School at Athens), volumes before 60 (1965)

Loud, G. The Megiddo Ivories, OIP 52 (1939)
Pallis, A. Greece's Anatolian Venture and After (1937)
Schaeffer, Claude F-A., ed. Ugaritica (Paris, 1939-1979) vols. 6 & 7 only

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ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

Charlie Gates, president of the Steering Committee, spent the 1997-1998 academic year on sabbatical at Cambridge University. Patricia Ülkü, a founding member of the Friends, served as Acting President during Charlie's absence. She was ably assisted by Treasurer Melissa Kunstadter, Secretary Jan Kilner, and members Bill Archibald, Andrew Cortez-Greig, Pat McGill (also a founding member), John McKennan, and Marie Ricciardone. Thanks to them, and to Honorary President Joan Parris, the Friends had a successful program of activities.

In February, more than 50 Friends signed up for Term II of our Seminar on the History & Archaeology of Turkey:
1. The Neolithic Period, Dr. Roger Matthews, Director, British Institute of Archaeology
2. The Early Bronze Age, Dr. Geoffrey Summers, Middle East Technical University
3. The Assyrian Colony Period, and
4. The Hittite Empire, Dr. Norbert Karg, Bilkent University. We are most grateful to the teachers who gave the classes, and to the participants who faithfully attended on consecutive Sunday evenings.

In April, the Friends moved from the far past to the immediate present, when Eric Schneider spoke on "The European Union, the United States, and Turkey." A professor of international law at the University of Baltimore Law School, Eric taught a graduate course on the European Union as a Fulbright exchange teacher at METU this spring. Both he and his wife Roz have been stalwart Friends since an earlier Fulbright in 1989, when
they stayed at our hostel. FARIT President Charlie Gates interrupted his sabbatical to return to Turkey and lead a group of Friends on a trip to the lesser-known sites of Cappadocia. Undeterred by the occasional late-March snow flurry, participants visited the Japanese excavations and garden at Kaman-Kale Höyük; the Selçuk monuments of Kırsəhır; the Bektaşı derviş tekke at Hacibektaş; the Açıq Saray, a Selçuk caravansary; rock-cut Byzantine monasteries at Gümüş; the Niğde Archaeological Museum; the Roman pool near Kemerhisar (ancient Tyana), and the Middle Bronze Age site of Acemhöyük.

In April, Chris Lightfoot accompanied the Friends on a day trip to Amorium, southwest of Ankara. Chris is the director of excavations at this Byzantine site, capital of the theme of Anatolikon and headquarters for a major part of the Byzantine army. The third most important city of the Byzantine Empire during the reign of Michael II (820-829), a native son, Amorium was besieged and sacked by an Arab army in 838.

Our longest trip was to the city of Van and environs in early June, led by Geoff Summers of METU. Under his expert guidance, forty-two Friends visited Van Kale; the Urartian citadel at Çavuştepe; the mediaeval castle at Hoşap, and the Urartian site of Ayanis northeast of Van city, currently under excavation. For many, however, the highlight of the trip was the afternoon on Aktaşar Island, with ample time for all to admire the splendid Church of the Holy Cross, and for the hardy to swim in Lake Van.

On Saturday evening, May 30, Ambassador Mark Parris and his wife Joan, our Honorary President, kindly hosted the annual Friends of ARIT dinner at their Residence. Presenting the program this year was C. Brian Rose of the University of Cincinnati, who serves on the ARIT Board of Directors. Brian spoke on current work at Troy, with emphasis on the Classical-period excavations that he directs. Everyone present agreed that the talk was superb (all the more impressive in that Brian did not once mention the Trojan War!), and the dinner delicious. For this, we owe our thanks to the speaker, and to our hosts.

NOTE ON SENDING BOOKS

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1998-1999 ARIT FELLOWSHIPS

ARIT – UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Asma Afsaruddin, Middle East Studies, University of Notre Dame, “The Qur’an Commentary of Al-Tha’labt.”

Ronald Gorny, University of Chicago, “Excavations at Çadir Höyük in Central Turkey.”

Karen Kern, Middle East Studies, Columbia University, “State Intervention and the Decline of the Authority of the Family.”

Timothy Matney, Anthropology, Whitman College, Urban Planning in the Middle and Neo-Assyrian Periods at Ziyaret Tepe in the Diyarbakır Province.”

Blanche Menadier, Classics, University of London, “A Catalogue of Votive and Small finds from the Graeco-Roman Sanctuary at Troy.”

Peter Mentzel, History, Utah State University, “Railroads and Society in the Ottoman Empire and Early Republican Turkey.”

David Reese, Field Museum, University of Chicago, “Analysis of Archaeozoological Remains from Izmir-Area Sites and from the Kaş Shipwreck.”

Steven Rosen, Archaeology, Ben Gurion University, “The Lithic Workshop at Titrış Höyük.”

Lisa Schwartz, Consumer Economics, Cornell University, “Women in the Labor Force in an Emerging Turkish Industrial Center.”

ARIT – UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Christopher Dole, Anthropology, Case Western Reserve University, “Self, Identity, and Religious Healing in a Turkish Squatter Community.”

Barak Kalfuss, Middle East Studies, Harvard University, “Education and Nationalist Identity in Mono-Party Turkey, (1923-1950).”

Margaret Lynch, Geography, University of Texas, Austin, “Geographical Visions of Ankara.”

Anastasios Papademetriou, Near East Studies, Princeton University, “Non-Muslims in Ottoman Society: the Greek Community of Istanbul in the 16th Century.”
Lynn Rainville, Archaeology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, “Early Bronze Age Social Dynamics in Ancient Mesopotamia as Revealed through an Analysis of Micro-Debris.”

David Reisman, Religion, Yale University, “The Reception of Ibn Sīnā’s Metaphysics: the Arabic Commentaries, Refutations, and Defenses.”

Marguerite Wiese, Center for Middle East Studies, Harvard University, “The Life and Reign of Osman II.”

ARIT—NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS


Robert Morrison, Middle East Studies, Columbia University, “Science in the Religious Thought of Nizām al-Dīn Nisābūrī (d. 1329 AD).”

Fariba Zarinebaf-Shahr, History, University of Illinois, “The Social Transformation of Istanbul during the Eighteenth Century.”

SAMUEL H. KRESS FOUNDATION – ARIT PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Julie Edens, Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, “Pottery, Culture Contact, and the Uruk Expansion at Hacı Nebi Tepe, Turkey.”

Çiğdem Eissenstat, Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles, “Domuztepe and its Neighbors.”

Bahaır Yıldırım, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, “The Ninos Reliefs from the Roman Civil Basilica of the South Agora of Aphrodisia in Caria.”

NORTH AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ARIT FELLOWS

Rajna Klasar, Musicology, University of California, Berkeley, “Impact of Female Composers and Singers in the Development of Şarkı Genre and Performance Practice.”


Yücel Yanıldag, History, University of Cincinnati, “Ottoman Prisoners of War in the Great War.”

ARIT MELLON FELLOWS 1998

Pál Fodor, History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest and Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Piliscsaba, Hungary, "Ottoman Attempts at Modernizing State Finances: the Crucial Years (1588-1593)"

Maya Vassileva, Institute of Thracology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, "Phrygia: the Thracian Perspective"

Gabriel Pirický, Institute of Oriental and African Studies, Slovak Academy of Sciences, "Modernist Interpretations of Islam in Turkey: the Case of Fethullah Gülen"

Viorel Panaite, History, University of Bucharest, Romania, "Ottoman Law of Peace and War. A Comparative Study of the Relations between the Porte and the Tributary States in Southeastern Europe (15th-17th Centuries)."

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REPORT ON ARIT - MELLON FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

A NOTE ABOUT THE MELLON FELLOWSHIPS.

In 1993, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation established a fellowship program to enable Czech, Hungarian, Polish, and Slovak scholars in the humanities and allied social sciences to carry out research at institutes of advanced study in other countries. Bulgarian and Rumanian scholars are now also eligible to participate. The 1998-1999 cycle will fund short-term residencies for up to three Mellon Research Fellows at each of thirteen designated institutes in Austria, England, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, and including ARIT in Turkey.

The fellowships are intended to serve scholars who have already obtained a Ph.D. degree or have equivalent experience and who wish to undertake a specific research project at one of the participating institutes. The Council of American Overseas Research Centers coordinates the Mellon initiative. Individual research centers administer the programs.

TURKISH SOURCES RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE, 16TH - 17TH CENTURIES

Dr. Maria Ivanics, Altai Studies, Joszef Attila University, Szeged, Hungary

First of all, I wish to express my gratitude to the Mellon Foundation for the three month scholarship. This scholarship is among one of the few in Hungary available for researchers over forty. It is important to emphasize this fact as this generation has practically never had this opportunity to carry out large-scale research abroad. By now they are too old to apply for any of the many scholarships.

Supported by the Mellon scholarship program, I could stay in Istanbul for three months, working seven days a week. I was granted research permission in five months and the residence permit, which was necessary for the access to the mosque libraries, in two and half weeks.

My accommodations at ARIT-Istanbul were very important to me. Antony Greenwood and his two assistants helped me a lot in settling in. I developed friendly relationships with researchers who also stayed there from several other universities. We helped each other in our research.

Evening talks proved to be an excellent chance to refresh my knowledge of English. I could make very good use of the Institute’s small library, which has a fair selection of reference books and journals needed for my research. I could copy and take home several journals with me for our department. I listened to different lectures: two in American, two in German, and one at the French Institute. These lectures offered me the occasion to get acquainted with the representatives of Istanbul’s scientific life, whom I cannot meet at conferences.

In these three months I carried out my research in several places. The main results were:

In the Prime Minister’s Archives I examined the 97 volumes of the 16th and 17th century muhimmé defterler and gathered the orders sent to the Princes of Transylvania and the Crimean Khans.

In the Topkapı Sarayı I mostly found Transylvanian materials, and, unfortunately, much fewer letters of homage than I previously hoped. As these letters were written in Hungarian, many more Hungarian documents may be found there when this archive group becomes open for research.

In the Suleymaniye and Nuruosmaniye mosque libraries I was searching for unpublished chronicles and correspondence books describing the historical events of the second half of the 17th century. All in all, I found seven such sources, and I had microfilms made of them.

The support of the Mellon Foundation made it possible for me to have photos of everything I needed. I also asked for copies of Turkish sources that, though not closely associated with my research area, lend themselves to reading and represent different types of script so they are well applicable in teaching. I could also buy new or reprinted books for the department.

I think these three months represent an important stage in my career. As this was the first occasion when I could devote all my time to research without any other worries, I stayed in Istanbul for the whole period and tried to make the best possible use of time. In Hungarian universities research leave is unknown, though it is not inconceivable that in some years’ time it will be introduced in the system. Returning back to my Institute I will give a report on my research in Istanbul to call their attention to the activities of the Mellon Foundation.

Number 26, Autumn 1998
Published for the Alumni and Friends of the Institute
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