

ARIT NEWSLETTER

American Research Institute in Turkey



Number 58, Spring 2015

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This was a year of tremendous activity for ARIT, both in Turkey and in the U.S., as a series of World War I centennial conferences highlighted the scope and versatility of our programs. Hosted by the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Utah, these meetings approached the first global European war from a variety of new perspectives, including those of the Middle East. By our count eight of the participants in these conferences had been funded at one point or another in their careers by ARIT.

Other conferences illustrated new interdisciplinary, theoretical and technological approaches. Stanford's interdisciplinary conference in May of 2014 is a case in point. "Ottoman Topologies: Spatial Experience in an Early Modern Empire and Beyond" examined the conceptions and dimensions of space in the Ottoman period, from administrative and cultural perspectives to digital and mapping studies. All 24 presenters were ARIT affiliates, 14 of them former ARIT (8) and ARIT-NEH (6) research fellows.

ARIT and ARIT-NEH fellows also led and facilitated programs at four universities that are newly committed to Middle Eastern, Turkish, and Mediterranean Studies. The programs include University of Arkansas' [King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies](#), George Mason University's [Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies](#), and Stanford University's double commitment to [The Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies](#) and the [Mediterranean Studies Forum](#). New member the [University of Alabama, Birmingham](#) is developing capacity in Turkish language and Middle East Studies. These centers are providing the contexts for students and scholars to explore our increasingly complex world from multiple perspectives and supporting ARIT membership as a part of their programs. In fact, since 2013, ARIT institutional membership has grown by more than 25%, from 37 to 47 member universities and organizations.

The University of Arizona Center for Turkish Studies hosted a workshop called "Turkey in Theory" that focused on the wider relevance of Turkish studies in the social sciences. Scholars including one ARIT-NEH and four ARIT fellows presented topics concerned with international crime, political and cultural evolutions, and environmental transitions.

In these and other events, ARIT's foundational contribution to archeological, historical, social scientific, and humanities scholarship on the Turkish region is clear. All of us in Turkish regional studies have benefitted from ARIT support and training over the years, and the Institute continues to train the next generation of scholars dedicated to research in and about Turkey. Especially at this time in history, with so much culture heritage in the Middle East at risk of destruction, it is vital that ARIT's programs continue to remain strong, and we rely heavily on your support to maintain them.

Our deep thanks go to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the U.S. Departments of State and Education, the Council of American Overseas Research Centers for their efforts to foster U.S. research, training, and exchanges.

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ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

The **ARIT Digital Library** continues to grow and develop rapidly. We have almost completed our project to digitize the rare and/or unique material in the American Board library on the premises – though there are still later-period pamphlets and Armeno-Turkish journals to be done – and more of our emphasis has shifted to the digitization of the Board archives that are on deposit at the SALT research library and archives.

Work there continues apace under the direction of ARIT Librarian **Brian Johnson** and **Lorans Baruh**, the Director of Research and Programs at SALT. We have been fortunate to have a number of enthusiastic interns helping us to catalogue this material. SALT has found some interns; we have found others. Most recently, In the fall of 2014 a young German student, Nils Wiese, helped out for close to two months, and, for the winter-spring of 2015, we have had the assistance of two young Bulgarian PhDs in Ottoman history, Antoaneta Petkova and Tsvetelina Haralampieva. They had been at ARIT earlier doing PhD research on fellowships from the American Research Institute in Sofia, and came back this spring as interns with support from the Erasmus Program that allowed them to work half-time for four months.

We will continue to need support from interns as this digitization project continues. **Please spread the word. We are looking for interns** with some knowledge of the region, with an interest in its recent history, and with an affinity for the detailed and meticulous work that goes into preliminary cataloguing. We cannot offer a salary, but we can offer a pleasant work environment in the center of the city, and the guarantee that the work will be interesting and sometimes even exciting. We may even be able to offer accommodation in the winter months.



Interns Antoaneta Petkova and Tsvetelina Haralampieva doing preliminary cataloguing of archival materials at SALT.

The variety of material that comes up in the AB archives is endless. Just as an example, below is an eye-catching document that recently surfaced – an affidavit filed in 1924 by the ABCFM in Boston, comprising four different documents affixed to each other and bearing the seals of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the U.S. Department of State, accrediting as its representatives a list of 46 individuals in Turkey.



Director Tony Greenwood, Librarian Brian Johnson and Photographer Sevil Üzrek exam the seals on the ABCFM affidavit from 1924.

We are happy to report that further material has gone on-line in recent months. Now available on-line at SALT are some 450 mission station reports, ranging chronologically from 1880s down into the 1930s (with an emphasis on the post-war years), including reports not found elsewhere. They can be accessed directly from the ARIT digital library or from the SALT website. Over the course of the summer we are putting up part of the photograph collection, and a special collection of material relating to the Riggs family.

At the heart of ARIT's mission are its **fellowship programs**. A number of these are run out of our Turkey offices, and some – the **Hanfmann and Mellink Fellowships** and the **Toni Cross Aegean Exchange Program** – have their own dedicated funding. However, our **Dernek Fellowship Program**, the oldest of them and the one which funds Turkish scholars at Turkish universities for research in Turkey on Turkey, has always depended on funding directly from the ARIT budget. For the last past two years there has been no money available there, and unfortunately a search for private sector support in Turkey has not yet borne fruit. We have been worried that this valuable program, which of all our programs reaches by far the largest audience in Turkish academia, was doomed to die out after over 40 years. So I am delighted to report that the **Friends groups in Istanbul and Ankara** have agreed to step in and help out, allowing us at least for the current year to advertise four doctoral research fellowships. We hope that we'll be able to

find the money to increase the number of these fellowships in the next few years, and put the program back on its old footing.

In late April the Dernek jury, including for the first time a representative from the Ankara Dernek, evaluated some 18 applications and made awards for the projects listed below. Interestingly, for the first time in many years, almost all the strong applications were in Ottoman history; there were few applications in archeology and art history.

Ms. Zeynep Altok (History Department, Boğaziçi University) *Sixteenth-Century Biographies of Poets and Ottoman Elite Identity*

Mr. Uygur Aydemir (Faculty of Art and Social Sciences, Sabancı University) *Between Constitution and Autocracy: Public Discontent in the Ottoman Empire Preceding the First Parliamentary Experiment of 1876-1878*

Ms. Ebru Sönmez (History Department, Bilkent University) *Envisioning Hussein the Martyr and Karbala in the Cultural Memory of Early Modern Ottoman Muslim Society*

Ms. Firuzan Melike Sümertaş (History Department, Boğaziçi University) *The Role of the Greek Orthodox Community in the Transformation of the Urban Structure of 19th-Century Istanbul*

At the same time we also continue to try to find funds here in Turkey to support ARIT's fellowship programs in the U.S. **Last year the Friends launched a major drive** for this purpose (see the FARIT section of the newsletter), seeking to raise money for **fellowships in the name of John Freely**. This drive continues, and with close to \$15,000 raised so far, it is poised to enter a second phase this fall. We will be sending out more information at that time, and hope you will continue to provide your support.

Lectures and conferences are by nature one of the staple programs of any academic institution. The ARIT lecture program is important not only because it gives our fellows and associates a chance to discuss their work their resident colleagues, but because it brings together visiting scholars with their Turkish colleagues, and the resident Anglophone community with the academic community. The lectures listed below were all delivered last fall and early spring.

Mr. Turhan Turgut (Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society and Country Representative in Turkey) "Central Powers Propaganda by Post in WWI"

Prof. Bülent Arıkan (Department of Ecology and Evolution, Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences, Istanbul Technical University) "Between a Hard Place and a Rock: Modeling the Bronze Age Climate Change and Human Impacts in the Malatya Plain (Eastern Anatolia)"

Prof. Michael Reynolds (Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University) "The East's Eastern Front: Ottomans and Russians in the Great War"

Prof. Jane Hathaway (Department of History, Ohio State University) "Secrets of an Ottoman Chief Harem Eunuch: Hacı Besir Aga's "Secret" Lighthouse and Unknown Circumstances of His Death"

Prof. Günder Varinlioğlu (Art History Department, Mimar Sinan University) "Living on an island in Late Antiquity: Boğsak and its Settlement"

Prof. Carole Woodall (History Department and Women's and Ethnic Studies Program, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs) "1920's Constan Town: The Invasion of Jazz and the Urban Transnational"



Carol Woodall talks about jazz in Istanbul in the 1920s.

Finally, as always, **we are extremely grateful to the individuals and institutions who have donated books** to the ARIT library over the past six months. In particular, for their large, many volume donations, we thank **Alan Fisher, Brian Johnson and Joseph Szyliowicz**.

We also thank the following individuals: **Yusuf Ayönü, Yavuz Dizdar, Dimitris Drakoulis, Jane Hathaway, Brian Johnson, James Meyer, Kahraman Şakul, İnci Tunay, and Brett Wilson**. And the following institutions: **Alevilik Araştırmaları Dergisi, American Research Center in Sofia, Boğaziçi University, İSAM, İstanbul Büyükşehir Belediyesi, Küveyt Türk Bankası, and 29 Mayıs University**.

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ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The Friends of ARIT continue to be a steadfast source of support for the Institute in Istanbul, both through the money they raise for ARIT causes and through the help they give us in publicizing our activities and reaching out to a wider audience in the city. Many of the members of **the Steering Committee** have been involved in ARIT activities for years; in some cases this involvement spans decades, right back to the founding of FARIT in the 1980s. The current committee consists of **Gary Caldwell** (President), **Caroline Finkel**, **Nedret Butler**, **Lucienne Thys-Şenocak**, **Beate Becher**, **Aylin McCarthy**, **Başak Kızıldemir**, **Jim Uhl**, and **Neslihan Tonbul**, with **Peter Graham**, who has unfortunately left Istanbul, continuing to help out from afar. They are committed to ARIT through a love of the city and region, and a belief that serious scholarship is essential for it to be properly understood and appreciated. They meet at ARIT every month to plan upcoming tours and social activities, and to develop and pursue projects to raise funds for the Institute. They produce a brief newsletter every month to advertise past and future activities (thanks to Peter Graham), and a **Facebook page** to connect to a wider public (thanks to Gary Caldwell).

The activities put together by the Steering Committee over the past six months have been an interesting mix of old and new. Most were repeats of previously popular tours, though almost always some new element was thrown in. They began in early October with the traditional (18th-year running) trip by boat to the **castles at the mouth of the Black Sea**, as much an opportunity to get some fresh sea air, enjoy wonderful views, and celebrate with a great lunch the opening of the new fishing season, as it is an opportunity to learn about 18th- and 19th-century Ottoman fortifications. This was followed by another old favorite, a **bus trip to the old lighthouses** at the four corners guarding the entrances to the Bosphorus. This venture was followed by yet another favorite, a trip led by small craft enthusiast **Gencer Emiroğlu** to the **newly reopened Maritime museum**, with its stunning display of the Sultans Caiques, and then from there to the **Rahmi Koç Museum of Technology**, which has recently made significant additions to its small craft exhibits.



Gencer Emiroğlu in front of one of the Caiques at the Naval Museum

In the late fall, **Dr. Çiğdem Maner** (Koç University) led the Friends on a quick weekend trip to two of the leading sites of the Southeast, the spectacular Commagenes' burial site on top of **Nemrut Dağı**, and the 9th-millennium BC site of Göbeklitepe, the oldest man-made structure yet discovered, with superb architecture and animal rock carvings that are revolutionizing our understanding of the Neolithic. Also visited in **Urfa** were the archaeological museum, the fine Roman-period mosaics recently discovered in **Ha-leplibahçe**, and the famous **Halil Ür Rahman Mosque** and the **Sacred Pool of Abraham**.



The new wooden structure built to protect the site at Göbeklitepe

The winter months saw a repeat of **Dr. İnci Türkoğlu's** popular **walking tour of Üsküdar**, including in addition to the great classic mosques of the area lesser known monuments such as the modern **mosque of Şakirin** and the **dönme cemetery of Bülbülderesi**. In December Dr. Türkoğlu also led a group on a quick day trip to **Edirne**, one of our favorite places to examine the development of early Ottoman mosque architecture. A highlight of the trip was a visit to the newly restored synagogue.



The newly restored synagogue in Edirne

The spring opened with a repeat of **Claire Karaz's** **walking tour of the historic areas of the city along the Marmara Sea from Küçükayasofya to Yenikapı**, focusing on the many Armenian churches in the region. A special feature of the tour was the visit to the Armenian Patriarchate to see the extraordinary collection of textiles and other ecclesiastical objects newly opened as a museum. Later in March Dr. Türkoğlu took the Friends on a weekend visit to Bursa, complete with the **requisite İskender Kebab meal** and visit to

the old **Ottoman baths in Çekirge**. Afterwards the group moved on to İznik (Nicaea), where, after traipsing through the muddy streets, they were treated to a lovely tea break in the home of long time Friends Gary and Linda Caldwell.



In İznik, the ‘restored’ Aya Sofya and the newly discovered underwater basilica

The last tour of the early spring was to **the battlefields of Gallipoli**, a particularly meaningful excursion on this occasion, the 100th anniversary of the campaign. Timed to avoid the immense crowds that were brought in by the official celebrations, the Friends were lucky to have beautiful weather on an early weekend in April. Under the knowledgeable guidance of **Dr. Adam McConnell** (Sabancı University), they stayed at a simple *panisyon* in Sedulbahir, had a simple fish meal by the water, and focused only on the battle sites and the history of the campaign. The weekend was capped by a meal, tour and tasting at the Suvla Vineyards nearby in Eceabat.

All FARIT tours and activities are budgeted to produce a small amount of profit to be used for support of the Institute. Conscious of the financial difficulties ARIT is currently fac-

ing, as fellowship time rolled around this spring **FARIT reached deep into its savings** to produce a larger than usual amount of support for ARIT fellowship programs. The donation was split between programs in the U.S. and in Turkey. For the U.S. program, **FARIT donated \$11,000** to be used to support two worthy non-U.S. citizen applicants; for the Turkey program, **FARIT donated \$6,500**, to be used to keep alive the Dernek program for fellowships for Turkish Ph.D. candidates, a program which has been inactive for the past two years due to the lack of funds.

In addition, as a separate activity, **the Friends continued a drive for fellowships for non-U.S. citizens in the name of John Freely**. In its first stage, which began last fall, the drive raised \$13,000. A second series of activities is now being planned for the year to come. They can use your support for this cause! **It’s easy to donate**: just follow the link at <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/AnnualFund.html>.



FARIT group in front of the Martyr’s Memorial

ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

ARIT was particularly busy in preparation for the **20th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists** (EAA) through the end of the summer and the beginning of the fall in Turkey. Over two thousand archaeologists attended the EAA meetings, which took place in Istanbul in September 2014. Ankara director **Dr. Elif Denel**, along with **Dr. Matthew Harpster** (Birmingham University, UK), organized a session entitled, “From Turkey to North America: Scholarly Discourse on the Archaeological Heritage of Turkey”, which focused on the history of international archaeological collaboration in Turkey and its subsequent contributions to Turkish archaeology. Session participants included **Prof. Ash Özyar**, **Prof. Ann Killebrew**, **Dr. Evrim Güven**, **Prof. Timothy Harrison** and **Dr. Murat Akar**, **Dr. Scott Branting** and **Dr. Sevil Baltacı-Tırpan**, **Dr. Fahri Dikkaya**, **Dr. Peri Johnson**, **Dr. Laurent Dissard**, **Dr. Günder Varinlioğlu** and **Dr. Elif Denel**. Their papers focused on a variety of topics, ranging from

the ongoing archaeological work in Turkey to the impact of the American Board on the archaeology of Turkey. Topics that particularly related to the history of ARIT were Dr. Varinlioğlu’s discussion on the roots of American archaeological interest in Turkey in Byzantine studies and Dr. Denel’s summary of ARIT’s growth over the past half-century.



2014 Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists

Back in Ankara, **our hostel** continued to be busy with occupants, as we housed 22 scholars from July to the end of December. While two were Turkish scholars, sixteen came from American institutions. Other countries represented by our guests were Canada and Israel. Ten of these guests were doctorate students and the rest were assistant, associate or

full professors in different universities. These scholars carried out research on a wide variety of topics, ranging from contemporary political science to ancient metallurgy or epigraphy, and did so with the support of fellowships from Fulbright, CAORC and ARIT.

Ankara ARIT held the **W.D.E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellowship** competition as usual in December 2014. The selection committee recommended three Turkish scholars with applications on a very wide range of topics. The winner plan on carrying out their research in Greece during the summer months of 2015:

Professor Nesibe Özgül Turgay (Department of Music and Art of Performance, Yıldız Technical University) *The Analysis of Form, Mode and Technique in the Repertory of Tabakhaniotika / Tabakhaniotika Repertuvarında Form, Makam ve Usul Analizi*

Ms. Melis Cankara (History and Theory of Architecture, Yıldız Technical University) *An Unusual Blend and a Bitter Complication: Muslims and Christians Ex-Changing Houses in Rethymno after the Treaty Lausanne / Sıradışı Bir Karışım, Acı Bir Müdahale: Lozan Antlaşması ile Müslüman ve Hristiyan Halk Arasında El Değiştiren Resmo Evleri*

Ms. Çilem Yavşan (Archaeology Department, Çanakkale Onsekizmart University) *The Bone Tool Industry at the Late Sixth/Early Fifth millennium B.C. Settlement at Smintheion in the Troad: A Typological, Technological and Functional Approach / Troas Bölgesi M.Ö. Geç 6. Bin/Erken 5. Bin Smintheion Yerleşiminde Kemik Alet Endüstrisi: Tipolojik, Teknolojik ve Fonksiyonel Bir Analiz*

However slowly, Ankara's **Toni M. Cross Library** continues to grow with books, manuscripts and off-prints, acquired mainly through donations and exchange with other institutions. Between the months of June and December, **our librarian, Özlem Eser** added 142 books and offprints our Library collection. We also received 287 issues of 57 titles of periodicals, 209 of which were gifts.

We are grateful to our donor institutions: **Australian Archaeological Association, Batumi Archaeological Museum, Hazar Strateji Enstitüsü, Packard Humanities Institute, The Vehbi Koç and Ankara Research Center (VEKAM), the Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology, and the Mediterranean Civilizations Research Institute at Akdeniz University in Antalya.**

We are also grateful to our individual donors: **Andrew Goldman, Ann E. Killebrew, Çiğdem Önal Emiroğlu, Douglas and Vicdan Kittelson, Elif Denel, Gus W. Van Beek, Hatçe Baltacıoğlu, İhsan Çetin, Irene Giviashvili, Ivan Pavlu, Melih Arslan, Murat Arslan, Mustafa Uysun, Peter Ian Kuniholm, Ron Tickfer, Serim Denel, Sochihiro Omura, William T. Loomis, Tuğba Tanyeri Erdemir and Aykan Erdemir.** Of particular importance for us are the books which **İhsan Çetin**, husband of late Toni Cross, donated to our Toni M. Cross Library from the collection of Toni Cross herself.

Ms. Eser continued to prepare our duplicates to donate to various archaeology programs in Turkish universities. We are also in the process of adding the Archaeology Department at the Osmaniye Korkut Ata University and the Mediterranean Civilizations Research Institute at Akdeniz University in Antalya to our steadily growing list of institutions. We would be happy for further **donations of manuscripts and journals** either in ARIT's Ankara or Philadelphia office. Those that do not find a place on our library shelves will certainly find a valued space in the library collection of a university or institute in Turkey.



2015 Museum Symposium participants

Museum workshop presenters and organizers



Preparations for a workshop on museum security kept Ankara ARIT busy for the fall and the winter months. With a grant from the U.S. Embassy and assistance from **Dr. Christina Luke**, ARIT Ankara organized the first of a two-part program at the **24th Museum Rescue Excavations Symposium and International Workshop on Museology** (24. Müze Kurtarma Kazıları Sempozyumu ve Uluslararası Müzecilik Çalıştayı), which took place between March 23-25 at Şanlıurfa.

Museum security experts, **Lauri and Dr. Arthur Kingsbury**, provided a workshop on museum and site security for a large audience of directors and specialists from public and private museums in all regions of Turkey, as well as representatives from the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums in the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. **Katherine Van de Vate**, the Cultural Attaché of the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, also participated in the audience for the workshop, which took place during the afternoon of March 23. We are now working closely with the Embassy and the General Directorate for further workshops on a number of contemporary issues concerning the safety and management of cultural heritage in Turkey and neighboring countries.

The year of 2014 ended with a big change for Ankara ARIT. One of our assistants, **Pelin Gürol Öngören**, moved on to a teaching position in the fall of 2014 as Assistant Pro-

fessor in the Department of Art and Design at TOBB University of Economics and Technology. Dr. Gürol Öngören received her Ph.D. in the Department of Architectural History at Middle East Technical University (METU) in 2012, where she specialized in the significance of museums in



Dr. Pelin Gürol Öngören speaking at ARIT

modernity and early Republican identity through the formative years of the Turkish Republic in early 20th century. She discussed some of the results of her research in a lecture delivered in Ankara ARIT in fall of 2014. We greatly appreciate Dr. Gürol Öngören's invaluable contributions during the twelve years in which she worked in ARIT and wish her the best in her new responsibilities as a researcher and teacher in her new academic environment.

Ankara ARIT's good fortune persists with **Çiğdem Önal Emiroğlu** as Dr. Gürol Öngören's replacement. Ms. Önal Emiroğlu has a degree in philosophy from METU and comes to us with work experience in the Netherlands Institute for Higher Education in Ankara (NIHA), which closed its doors at the end of 2014. In addition, Ms. Önal Emiroğlu is a skilled translator, as she has translated numerous manuscripts from English as well as Ottoman into Turkish.

ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

After four years in Ankara, **Ambassador Francis Ricciardone** and **Mrs. Marie Ricciardone**, the Honorary President of the Ankara Friends of ARIT, departed from Ankara. We are grateful for their strong support and will certainly miss them both. In addition, long-time Friends Committee member and supporter **Ron Tickfer** retired from his teaching position at DODDS George C. Marshall High School and relocated to the U.S. for the winters. Nonetheless, we are happy that Ron will return to Ankara during the summer months, so that his strong and vital presence among the Friends will continue. **Judy Mandel** joined the Friends Committee early in the fall, when she arrived in Ankara with her husband **Lawrence Mandel**, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy. **Ambassador John Bass** and his wife **Holly Holzer Bass** also arrived in Ankara later in the fall. We are most grateful that Ms. Bass has agreed to become the Honorary President of the Ankara Friends of ARIT in spite of her very busy schedule.

One topic that frequently emerges in the Steering Committee meetings during the fall is a wish to establish fellowship funds by the Ankara Friends. Yet funds raised in Ankara have not proved sufficient for establishing a fellowship of our own. As such, the Committee decided to contribute to

the **ARIT Dernek Fellowships** this year from the funds raised by the Friends in Ankara. We hope that this will begin a tradition of regularly contributing to the Istanbul Dernek Fellowships in order to maintain the long-lasting ARIT legacy of providing support to students and scholars in Turkey.

As usual, Friends of Ankara ARIT Steering Committee member **Ahmet Yayböke** prepared a divine spread of food for the **Friends' Open House Party** in late September. Soon afterwards in early October, **Dr. Marlene Elwell** from Bilkent University's English Program, who recently joined the Steering Committee, represented the Friends of ARIT at the **Annual Block Party for the U.S. Embassy**. The Steering Committee prepared a calendar for the New Year yet again, which was well popular among the Friends and the wider community in Ankara.

The Ankara Friends kicked off the fall season with an unforgettable **trip to Georgia** directed by **Dr. Irene Giviashvili**. A scholar of Medieval art and architecture with partic-



ARIT Ankara Friends visited Georgia

ular focus on Georgian cultural heritage, Dr. Giviashvili is the wife of Ambassador Irakli Kopaladze. Among numerous sites, the Friends visited the **Jvari Monastery** and **Svetitskhoveli Church** at the Mtskheta UNESCO World Heri-

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tage Site, the national **Museum of Georgia** and the **Museum of Fine Arts** at Tbilisi, the **Gonio Archaeological Site and Museum**, and the **Archaeological Museum** and the amazing **Botanical Gardens at Batumi**.

In addition to the cultural heritage, the beauty and the hospitality of Georgia, the Friends discovered the variety and the depth of the **culinary culture of Georgia**, including amazing tastes of such dishes as badrejani, kachapuri and khinakali, which were naturally heightened with the smooth flavor of Georgian wine. We each had a chance to act as a *tamada* (a Georgian toastmaster), experienced the beautiful poetry of polyphonic drinking songs and watched a performance of lovely Georgian dancing.



ARIT Friends dining in Tbilisi

Also in the fall, **Prof. Suna Güven** (Architectural History program, METU) directed a popular walking tour of **Roman Ankara**. **Dr. Sachihiko Omura**, the Director of both the Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology and the **Kaman, Kalehöyük Excavations**, his wife **Dr. Masako Omura**, the Director of Yassihöyük Excavations and **Dr. Kimiyoshi Matsumura**, the Director of Büklükale Excavations, hosted the Ankara Friends on a day-trip to **Kaman, Kalehöyük**. In addition to a special tour of the Institute and the Museum directed by Dr. Sachihiko Omura himself and Dr. Matsumura, Dr. Masako Omura shared with us the results of her ongoing excavation site of 2nd millennium B.C. Yassihöyük during an on-site tour.

The **Friends of Ankara ARIT** continued to sponsor the lectures that take place in the Toni M. Cross Library. **Dr. Selim Ferruh Adalı** (Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University) lectured on “Hemerology in Mesopotamian Tradition: Texts and Insights”. Independent scholar **Dr. Sinan Sülüner** provided a talk on “The Ankara Castle from the Late Antique Period to the Ninth Century.” Finally, **Dr. Pelin Gürol Öngören**, former ARIT assistant and currently at the Department of Art and Design at TOBB University of Economics and Technology, lectured on “The Hittite/National Museum of the Early Republican Turkey: Wissenschaftlichen Zentrale in Ankara.”

NORTH AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ARIT CONTRIBUTIONS 2014-2015

ARIT appreciates the generosity of our friends and donors. Your contributions foster research and exchanges in Turkey, and build ARIT’s long-range future through the NEH Endowment Challenge Matching Fund.

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REPORTS ON ARIT FELLOWSHIPS

Madelynn von Baeyer, Anthropology, University of Connecticut

American Research Institute in Turkey Fellowship
Where We Work Matters: An Archaeobotanical Study of Social Complexity during Late Chalcolithic Çadır Höyük, Turkey

Between July 2014 and January 2015, I received an ARIT Fellowship to work on my dissertation project “Where We Work Matters: An Archaeobotanical Study of Social Complexity during Late Chalcolithic Çadır Höyük, Turkey.” The fellowship contributed to ongoing archaeological and archaeobotanical work at Çadır Höyük (an ARIT supported project), a large mounded site located in the central Anatolian plateau that spans the Middle Chalcolithic (5300 B.C.) through the Byzantine (A.D. 1100) periods.

The archaeobotanical research at Çadır has focused on how plant use contributed to political, economic, and social processes throughout the duration of the site. The research funded by ARIT, which forms a part of my dissertation research, uses archaeobotany – the study of the relationship between plants and ancient people – to examine how plant use contributed to the process of social complexity during the Late Chalcolithic (LC) period (4100 B.C.–3000 B.C.) in central Anatolia. Archaeologists often cite changes in access to or control of agricultural goods as an important factor in developing social hierarchies, and this project examines such assumptions. This research will contribute to global discussions of the dynamic relationship between agricultural practices, the social, political, and economic roles of groups of people, and a range of environmental factors. Within this context, this project broadens the current cultural discourse on food and the impacts of food production by addressing the relationship between social complexity and crop production during a time of environmental flux.

During the ARIT grant period, research was conducted on-site at Çadır Höyük in Yozgat Province and at Bitlis Eren University in Bitlis, Turkey. On-site research consisted of collecting and processing new samples. At Bitlis Eren, time was spent analyzing LC samples collected during the 2012 and 2013 seasons. Permission for this research was granted and overseen by the project directors: Sharon Steadman (SUNY Cortland), Gregory McMahon (University of New Hampshire), Marica Cassis (Memorial University), and Tevfik Emre Şerifoğlu (Bitlis Eren University).

The archaeobotanical strategy at Çadır uses flotation – a process by which charcoal is separated out of archaeological sediment – to retrieve charred plant material from archaeological samples. At Çadır, 20 liters of sediment are collected (when possible) from each context with particular focus on pits, fills, hearths/ovens, and floor features. During the 2014 summer field season, 63 samples were floated by Elif Solak, a local worker whom I have helped to train in archaeobotany, creating a partnership which has helped to strengthen ties between the Çadır Höyük project and local residents. While Ms. Solak floated the samples, I supervised sample collection in the field, prepared samples for analysis, and began to analyze samples from the 2012 and 2013 seasons.

During the fall of 2014, samples collected and processed during the 2012-2013 seasons were analyzed. Visual scans and preliminary identifications were completed for 45 samples whose contexts included hearths, ovens, surfaces, pits, post-

holes, a foundation trench, cultural fill, and two burials. The most abundant plant remain encountered was wood charcoal, although every sample contained some cereal remains as well. Hulled cereals dominated the assemblage based on the ubiquity (percentage of samples in which a taxa is present) of spikelet forks and the relative scarcity of rachis fragments. This could indicate widespread use of hulled wheat and barley. Other fairly abundant economic crops included lentils and flax. The weed or non-economic taxa assemblage was quite diverse: 26 taxa were identified, the majority of which were field weeds. These findings match other LC archaeobotanical assemblages from Turkey.

Overall, around 50 taxa were identified in this analysis. This appears to indicate that a mixture of fuel options were probably used at Çadır. Cooking fires tended to have wood as their primary type of charcoal, but in at least one kiln, the most abundant type of charcoal was cereal chaff. This suggests that fuel choice could have been dependent on the function of the fire or the location of the fire (open air hearths vs. closed kilns). Furthermore, the abundance of lentils found in one hearth suggests that the remains from that context were *in situ* remains and lentils were the last food cooked in the hearth. The presence of *in situ* remains and species diversity between samples indicate that the preservation of remains and the sampling strategy are adequate to answer the questions posed in my dissertation.

The data collected during this fellowship will form part of my doctoral dissertation from the University of Connecticut, and the results of the dissertation will be submitted to journals such as *Antiquity*, *Current Anthropology*, *Anatolica* and the *Journal of Archaeological Science*. Preliminary data collected during the granting period will be discussed in an upcoming *Anatolica* article “The 2013 and 2014 Seasons of Excavation at Çadır Höyük on the Anatolian North Central Plateau” (in press). The data collected as part of this project will also be presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual conference in November 2015, as well as within the interim field report for the Çadır project at the annual Kazı Sonuçları meeting in May.

During the fellowship’s tenure, I stayed at ARIT Ankara and worked at an ARIT affiliated project (Çadır Höyük). The ARIT Ankara staff was incredibly helpful, assisting me in applying for a research visa, and Dr. Denel introduced me to a large number of scholars in my field. Furthermore, the hostel proved to be a cost efficient place to stay and the library had many useful volumes. I would not have been able to navigate Turkish bureaucracy without the staff at ARIT Ankara.



Madelynn von Baeyer’s Turkish language assistants in Ankara

Merideth M. Quinn, History, Harvard University
American Research Institute in Turkey Fellowship
Looking over Readers' Shoulders: Making the Most of Mecmuas

Judging by the steady stream of researchers at the Süleymaniye Library this summer, Ottoman manuscripts remain an indispensable source for Ottoman history. My dissertation project, "Books and their Readers in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul," aims to put early modern Ottoman books in their social and material context by articulating what kinds of people owned what kinds of books, and how books circulated. The first stage of my research has focused on probate inventories in order to identify patterns in ownership. I created a sample of almost 900 probate inventories (*terekeler*), among which were some 150 bookowners who owned around 2500 books. A significant result that came out of this statistical analysis was the finding that the usual categories with which we write Ottoman history are not helpful in explaining who owned books (let alone what kinds of books a given person owned.) For example, aside from the title of *efendi*, personal titles are not predictive of whether or not someone was a book-owner. Furthermore, wealth had no correlation with book ownership. Given the mythology that has arisen around print technology, we might assume that in a manuscript-based society, only the wealthy could own books. However, the data clearly show that this was not true for seventeenth-century Istanbul. Wealthier bookowners did have more expensive book collections, but wealth did not predict whether or not someone was a book owner to begin with.

Although analysis of probate inventories has been fruitful for understanding Ottoman material culture, *terekeler* suffer from well-known shortcomings. They are not representative of the underlying population, and they reflect the particular viewpoints of the men who created them. For example, they exhibit a systematic bias for identifying books that were more expensive, and more easily identifiable to the court's representative. A full one-third of books in the sample I collected are identified simply as "books" or as "*mecmuas*" (miscellanies, or collected volumes). These books tend to be significantly cheaper than the books which are specified by title.

I am grateful to ARIT for supporting a six-week research trip to Istanbul this summer so that I could probe manuscript collections for examples of the inexpensive books least likely to be identified by name in a *tereke*. I was particularly interested in finding *mecmuas* that could yield insights into reading practices. The *mecmuas* contain an astonishing diversity of texts: treatises, excerpts from longer works, fatwas, recipes, letter templates, and personal notes. For a historian of reading, personal miscellanies offer an incomparable opportunity to peer over the shoulders of Ottoman readers and discern what they (presumably) found to be important enough to write down and keep.

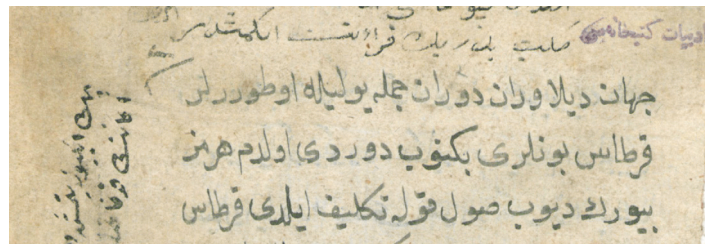
However, *mecmuas*, particularly the personal and idiosyncratic ones that most interest me, are intractable types of manuscript sources. It is difficult to establish the date or the owner of any particular miscellany, and many appear to have been compiled over generations. Some must be much later collations of existing texts rather than notebooks dating from a single period or attributable to a single person. Making matters worse, the cataloging of *mecmuas* is uneven and incomplete.

Stymied in my attempts to identify *mecmuas* that belonged to particular readers, or categories of readers, I decided to take a text-centered approach. I began with a short list of texts from several genres, selected on the basis of my earlier research. I focused on two kinds of books: *hikayeler* (stories) and Persianate books. I have found evidence that story books circulated

widely in seventeenth-century Istanbul, and they were among the cheapest of books. There is also ample anecdotal evidence that Persianate books such as *Gülüstan* and the *Pend-i Attar* were widely read in this time period. However, neither of these types of books appears in probate inventories with the expected frequency. I suspected that these were among the cheap books that remained unidentified in the *terekeler*.

Beginning with this initial list of titles, I used catalogs in the Süleymaniye Library and İstanbul University's rare books library to find specific manuscripts that contained these texts. I was curious to see what cheap manuscripts looked like (if I could identify them), what other works appeared in *mecmuas* with my initial group of texts, and whether I could uncover any clues to reading practices. I found it challenging to identify personal miscellanies dating from my target time period which contained these texts. I did, however, find many examples of inexpensive story books, as well as evidence for which Persianate books were read together with them.

One unexpected but exciting finding was the identification of a manuscript exemplar that was clearly used for copying other books on a significant scale. I was also able to compare two manuscripts of the same title, copied by the same scribe, to learn something about how the scribe worked. In both cases, I am grateful to the director of the Süleymaniye Library for allowing me to work with the manuscripts themselves. Research into Ottoman book history is both enhanced and hindered by the widespread digitization of Ottoman manuscripts. Digitization makes it possible to review dozens of manuscripts in a day and rapidly identify which sorts of texts belonged together. At the same time, digitized manuscripts cannot replace the real thing. Researching the economic and material aspects of book production is impossible without handling the books themselves. Librarians are sensitive to these issues, but must balance the competing goals of preservation and access. I hope that they will continue to allow access to physical manuscripts when necessitated by the research question. I also hope that funding agencies such as ARIT will continue to support research trips of shorter duration, when appropriate to the project.



Sample manuscript

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