I am delighted to report that calendar year 2018 witnessed a series of successes for ARIT. When I last wrote to you, in December of 2017, we had less than a year to complete our long-standing NEH match: if we raised $150,000 by June of 2018, we would receive the final installment of $100,000 from NEH. If we did not, those funds would disappear completely. The appeal that we sent at that time generated a tremendous show of support from the ARIT community, and we were able to raise the necessary matching funds by May of 2018, one month early. I can’t begin to thank all of you, and especially former ARIT director Peter Kuniholm, for providing an unusually high level of assistance that pulled us across the finish line faster than I expected. The challenge grant was intended to strengthen our library resources, both actual and digital, and it will mean that our plan to digitize the American Board of Mission archival collection in Istanbul can continue to advance.

In April of 2018 we received word that NEH had also renewed our postdoctoral fellowship program for a three-year period. As part of their assessment of ARIT and its programs, NEH conducted a virtual visit to the headquarters at Penn and the branch offices in Ankara and Istanbul, and I thank Elif Denel, Nancy Leinwand, and Tony Greenwood for managing the meetings so creatively and efficiently. As we highlighted in our application to NEH, the Istanbul and Ankara branches serve as two of Turkey’s most important centers for intellectual exchange, and ARIT-NEH award winners have frequently launched collaborative projects with Turkish scholars that have led to exchange programs involving them and their students. Such programs have ensured the continuity of East-West dialogue and served as a model for other research centers in the Near East.
As encouraging as these recent funding victories have been, there is still much more to do. An increasing number of students pursuing their Ph.D.s at American institutions need financial assistance to conduct research in Turkey, especially those who are Turkish citizens. Our funding for these fellowships comes primarily from the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and that support is steadily diminishing in the current political climate. Moreover, nearly all of the funds that we do have are restricted to U.S. citizens, which means that there are typically many excellent applications from Turkish students at American institutions that we cannot fund. In 2017, for example, there were 75 applications for ARIT fellowships, and we were able to fund only 10 of them, only 3 of which could be awarded to non-U.S. citizens.

If we want the fellowship program to be supported by truly stable foundations, we need to begin endowing our fellowships. This is an excellent opportunity for you to honor your mentors or supporters with a named fellowship, and it can of course be a provision in your estate plans. I will start the ball rolling by pledging funds to endow a fellowship in honor of Rodney Young, who was a great friend of ARIT and served as Gordion Project director between 1950 and 1974.

Finally, I need to convey the sad news of the passing of G. Kenneth Sams, who served as president of ARIT between 1992 and 2010, as well as Gordion Project Director between 1988 and 2013. Ken wrote and won ARIT’s NEH endowment challenge grant in 2007, and worked to raise the first $900,00 during his presidency. He also developed the Hanfmann-Mellink Fellowship Program and arranged for ARIT’s receipt of the Kenneth Snipes Byzantine Studies library, one of the finest in the world. Many of the programs nurtured by Ken have grown and strengthened immensely, and we are indebted to him on many levels.

I close with my thanks to you as members of the ARIT community. ARIT has undergone a considerable number of changes during the last two years, and without your support and encouragement we would not have handled them so effectively. In particular, I want to recognize the heroic efforts of Tony, Elif, Nancy, and Sylvia to juggle an enormous number of administrative balls simultaneously. Somehow they manage to combine resilience and diplomacy with education and public outreach on a daily basis, thereby maintaining ARIT’s reputation as a strong, thriving, and innovative institute.

C. Brian Rose

ARIT-ISTANBUL
BRANCH NEWS

Istanbul Branch News

A year after our move from Arnavutköy to Beyoğlu, ARIT Istanbul finds itself comfortably ensconced in new quarters in the Koç University ANAMED building and in our Annex on Kallavi Street. Many thanks go to ANAMED and its staff, beginning with Director Chris Roosevelt, for making such a smooth transition possible. We’ve found it a pleasure to work with them in arranging our activities, organizing lectures and providing library services.

We’re now nearing completion of the inventory and upkeep of our library of 11,000 volumes at ANAMED. All of the Ottoman and Turkish sections have been re-labeled and repaired where necessary, and we’re now well into the Kenneth Snipes Byzantine section. We expect to complete the entire collection by late spring.

Our link up with BiblioPera, a portal into twelve research library collections in the Beyoğlu area, is now complete. Both of our collections, the main collection at ANAMED and the American Board collection at the Annex on Kallavi Street, are now accessible through the BiblioPera website www.bibliopera.org/. The portal gives an up-to-date (as of January 1, 2018) catalogue of the collection, reflecting both new acquisitions as well as losses to the collection due to the move. This is as opposed to our catalogue on DLIR which has not been upgraded for some five years. It also gives the researcher access to the holdings of other major institute libraries:

Dr. Tony Greenwood, ARIT-Istanbul Director.

Electronic Communication:
If you would like to receive the ARIT Newsletter and other communications from ARIT by e-mail, please send a message conveying your preference and contact information to leinwand@sas.upenn.edu in the ARIT office.
the French (IFEA), German (DAI), Dutch (NIT), Swedish (SRII), Greek (Sismanoglio), Orient Institut, ÇEKUL Vakıf, Yapı ve Kredi Araştırma, Istanbul Araştırma, SALT, and ANAMED. The SALT link also provides access to the American Board Archives that have been posted on their database.

Work continued apace on the American Board Archives at SALT. We were given invaluable help by two new interns over this period, Evan Gage from Notre Dame University, who also helped us revise our guidelines for interns, and Nareg Seferian, an independent researcher, who finished the cataloguing of all outstanding material in Armeno-Turkish. Uploading of new material onto the website has been slow but steady, and we expect a significant pick up in the pace in the near future.

As a natural extension of ARIT’s stewardship over the library and archives of the American Board in Turkey, ARIT Istanbul has recently joined in a new initiative, in conjunction with the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT) and the German Orient Institute, to record, research, and conserve the Protestant Cemetery in Feriköy. The initiative builds on the involvement of the Board of Missions with the cemetery ever since its opening in 1859, and on the Orient Institute’s recent work on a database of the cemetery burial logs and digital site mapping with a drone by NIT. Our goal now is to complete its study as a historical resource, and to fully record the cemetery with all its graves and their inscriptions. After this we will turn to the preservation of gravestones and other monuments. Many of the former are quite old, predating the opening of the cemetery, having been transferred there from earlier burial sites. Along the way we hope to bring in other interested Institutes, as well as members of the Protestant community for volunteer work and fundraising. We shall be working in coordination with the Managing Board of the Cemetery, which consists of representatives of the six Protestant powers to whom the cemetery property was originally ceded by the Sultan at its founding. To kick the project off, Brian Johnson led the Consul Generals of these six countries on a tour of the cemetery early this fall. A preliminary website for the project is already up at http://www.ferikoycemetery.org/.

ARIT now presents its lectures in the auditorium in the ANAMED building, which comfortably holds over 100 persons. We have not filled that up, but all of our lectures have been well attended, by 30-60 persons, which is certainly more than we typically got in our old location. We are happy about this, of course, and also happy that there is now a qualified

Gülden Güneri, ARIT-Istanbul Director’s Assistant (right), in her office, with Türkan Hamm (left).

Brian Johnson, ARIT-Istanbul librarian.
tech person on hand who can deal with problems that often arise with power point presentations. Due to the move last winter we had no lectures until mid-spring, so our offerings this past year are fewer than usual:

**ARIT-Istanbul Lectures (in chronological order)**

- Prof. Amanda Phillips (ARIT-NEH Fellow, McIntire Dept. of Art, University of Virginia), “Seachange: Ottoman Textiles between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.”
- Gwendolyn Collaço (ARIT Fellow, Ph.D. Candidate, History of Art and Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University), “Paintings from the Ottoman Bazaar: Tracking the Non-royal Market through Artists, Production, and Buyers.”
- Prof. Erdem Çıpa (ARIT Fellow, Depts. of History & Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan), “Selim as Saint: The Memory of Sultan Selim I (r. 1512-1520) as Divinely Ordained Monarch in Ottoman Dream Narratives.”
- Prof. Fariba Zarinebaf (Dept. of History, University of California, Riverside), “Mediterranean Encounters: Trade and Pluralism in Modern Galata.”
- Isaac Hand (Ph.D. Candidate, Joint Program of History and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University), “Istanbuls of Futures Past.”
- M. Fatih Tatari (Friends of ARIT Fellow, Ph.D. Candidate in Anthropology, University of California, Davis), “Dairy Farming in Northeastern Turkey: Local Cheesemaking Traditions and Scientific Knowledge.”

---

Notice for book donations:
Before sending books to ARIT libraries, please contact the ARIT branch or U.S. office for shipping information.

---

Our Turkish Association, the Türk Amerikan İlim Araştırmaları Dernek, held its (now) tri-annual meeting this June, and elected a new executive board. Prof. Haluk Abbasoğlu and Prof. İnci Delemen stepped down, and a new board was elected consisting of Prof. Zafer Toprak, president (late Ottoman and early Republican Turkish history), Prof. Alan Duben (anthropology), Prof. Mihriban Özbasharan (archaeology), Prof. Mehmet Genç (Ottoman economic history), and me.

Through its annual fellowship program, the Dernek offered grants to four Turkish scholars at Turkish universities for Ph.D. research carried out in Turkey:
- AYDINLI, Elif Sezer (History Department, Istanbul Şehir University), “The Literary Culture of 17th & 18th Century Istanbul.” Ms. Aydinh will look at the growth of a popular readership and literary culture in the 17th and 18th century by an analysis of the annotations left by readers on the margins of some of the most commonly read popular tales.
- GÜNDÖĞAN, Ümit (Archaeology Department, Ankara University), “Architecture and Settlement Patterns in the Coastal Regions of Western Anatolia in the First Half of the Third Millennium BC in the Light of Discoveries at Bakla Tepe.” This will be the first attempt at a study of architectural elements, construction materials and technique, and settlement patterns in the first half of the third millennium BC levels from Bakla Tepe, near Izmir.
- KÜÇÜKÇERAN, Zeynep (History Department, Bosphorus University), “The Change in Agricultural Knowledge from the Beginning of the 19th Century until the First Decades of the 20th Century in Bursa and Mihaliç.” This study will attempt to explain agrarian change in the 19th century by comparing two districts of the province of Bursa and focusing on changes in agricultural education policies.
- TÜRKASLAN, Bilge Bahar (Art History Department, Hacettepe University), “The Inner Castle at
Trabzon and the Town’s Defensive System.” The grantee will study the ruins of the Comnenian Palace at Trabzon in an attempt to uncover and document the history of the stages of its construction.

And finally, our most important Turkish fellowships, The Hanfmann-Mellink Awards, were made to six Turkish Ph.D. candidates to conduct research abroad on the following projects:  

- **AKAR, Muge Bulu (Koç University, Archaeology and History of Art), “Technological, Functional, and Stylistic Analysis of Syro-Cilician Ware from the Amuq Valley.”** Ms. Akar will work on Tell Aşchana material in London and Athens, notably at the British Museum, the Ashmolean, the Birmingham Museum, and the Wiener Laboratory at the American School in Athens.

- **ARSLAN, Aysel (Koç University, Archaeology and History of Art), “Shaping Clay, Transmission of Knowledge: Division of Labor in the 7th and 6th Millennia in Western Anatolia.”** Ms. Arslan will be working on fingerprint studies (dermatoglyphics) with Miroslav Kralik at Masaryk University in the Czech Republic, and with Julie Hruby at Dartmouth College.

- **KOÇAK, İbrahim Ethem (Ankara University, Archaeology Department), “The Evaluation, Dating and Cataloguing of the Garlands decorating Architectural Blocks on Frontage Architecture of the Hellenistic and Roman Periods in Anatolia.”** Mr. Koçak will spend three months at Goethe University in Frankfurt, consulting with Prof. Axel Filges.

- **ÖZTÜRK, Güzel (Ankara University, Archaeology Department), “The Analysis and Artistic-Functional Properties of Kültepe Sealing Practices From 2500-2000 BC.”** Ms. Öztürk will be working at the Copenhagen University Center for Textile Research on the data recovered from the back side of seal impressions from Kültepe, near Kayseri.

- **UZUNOĞLU, Hüseyin (Akdeniz University, Ancient Languages & Cultures), “Akmonia in Antiquity: Ancient Testimony, History and Its New Inscriptions.”** Mr. Uzunoğlu will work with Peter Thonemann at Oxford at the Center for the Study of Ancient Documents.

- **YELÖZER KILIÇ, Sera (Istanbul University, Prehistoric Archaeology), “Detecting Individual and Collective Identities: Gender, Age, Craftsmanship, and the Intersectionality of Identities at Aşıklı Höyük.”** Ms. Yelözer Kılıç will spend two months at the laboratory of CEPAM at the University of Nice, and two months at the University of Edinburgh consulting with Dr. Diane Bolger and Dr. Manuel Fernandez-Götz.

---

FARIT group gathered in the Göbeklitepe room of the impressive new museum in Urfa.

ARIT-Istanbul Friends open house reception after lecture on Kars artisanal cheeses.
Istanbul Friends of ARIT News

The Friends of ARIT offered a mouth-watering array of trips over the past year, and this in spite of the generally difficult climate for tourism and travel. Most of the trips were well attended, and our special thanks go to the scholars who took time from their busy schedules to lead some of these tours, including Nick Cahill at Sardis, Chris Roosevelt at Kaymakçı, Caroline Finkel, Clifford Endress, and Çiğdem Maner.

2018 Trips and Tours

❖ A walking tour of the Golden Horn, featuring the newly restored Bulgarian Church (the Iron Church), led by Claire Karaz.
❖ A long weekend tour to Malta.
❖ A walking tour of the neighborhoods inside the walls along the Marmara Sea, from Kadırga to Kumkapı, and from Samatya to Yedikule, led by Egemen Demircioğlu.
❖ A trip to the monumental Byzantine aqueduct bridges in Thrace, led by Caroline Finkel.
❖ A stroll on the upper Golden Horn through Fener and Balat, led by Prof. Clifford Endress.
❖ A weekend tour to Sardis and Kaymakçı, led by excavators Nick Cahill and Chris Roosevelt.
❖ A long weekend tour to Nemrut, Urfa, Göbeklitepe, and Mardin, led by Prof. Çiğdem Maner.
❖ A 5-day trip to Tunisia—including the ruins of Carthage, Tunis, the Roman ruins at Dougga; Kairouan, with the Great Mosque, El Djem, with its immense, well-preserved Roman amphitheater, and Sousse.

We are fortunate to have the support of many loyal ARIT enthusiasts in our FARIT membership and on our Steering Committee, some of whom have been with us for decades, indeed, as far back as the 1980s and 90s. Others have come and gone, but they remain the backbone of the organization, and still go on many of our trips, sometimes for the second or third time. The current Board, at least half of whom are real “old-timers”, consists of Aylin McCarthy, Caroline Finkel, Neslihan Torbul, Beate Becher, Lucienne Şenocak, Başak Kızıldemir, Sinan Ceylan, Nedret Butler, Yaprap Archibald Uras, and Alan Mellaart.

The FARIT Board remains committed to the sponsorship of Turkish fellows both in the U.S. and in Turkey. This past year once again they funded the Dernek Fellowship Program (four Turkish Ph.D. fellowships) in its entirety. They also provided funding for two fellows from U.S. universities. One of them, Mehmet Fatih Tatari, an anthropologist working on efforts among artisanal cheese makers in Kars and vicinity to certify their cheeses, not only gave us a lecture on the subject, but also supplied the reception with the delicious cheeses he had talked about.

Antony Greenwood
Director

ARIT ISTANBUL
REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE:
Dr. Antony Greenwood, Director
ARIT-Istanbul
ANAMED
İstiklal Caddesi No. 181
Beyoğlu, İstanbul
34433 Turkey
Tel: +90 (212) 393-6072
E-Mail: gwood@boun.edu.tr

ARIT ISTANBUL ANNEX:
Dr. Brian Johnson, Librarian
ARIT-Istanbul
Kallavi Sokak 30, Ece Han Kat 6
Beyoğlu, İstanbul
34430 Turkey
Tel: +90 (212) 257-8111
E-Mail: bdjohnson62@gmail.com
SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

ARIT-BU Summer Fellowships for Advanced Turkish, 2018

With continued generous funding from the U.S. Department of Education, through the Fulbright-Hays Group Studies Abroad Program, the ARIT-BU 2018 Fellowships allowed the participation of six undergraduates, five MA students, and one Ph.D. student from Brigham Young, Columbia, George Washington, Harvard, Indiana, Johns Hopkins SAIS, McGill, New York University, Northwestern, University of Chicago, University of Michigan, and University of Texas, Austin. Although the overall number of applicants was robust, there was a record-low number of Ph.D. student applications, a situation which will hopefully be resolved in the coming year. The most common source for this group was Middle Eastern Studies, and International Studies/Political Science/International Relations/International Affairs/International Development were also well represented. There were seven women and five men in the group.

Unlike the summer immediately following the failed attempted coup, 2018 brought a good number of international scholars to Turkey for Boğaziçi University’s Turkish Language and Culture Program—a total of 34 in all, including the 12 ARIT-BU Fellows. Among them were Kevin Pulley, son of ARIT Director Van Pulley, and Michele Green-Taş, member of the Istanbul-based Friends of ARIT who had met the 2017 ARIT-BU Fellows on a trip to Gordion. The 2018 B.U. program ran from June 20 through August 3.

Aside from the daily rigors of Boğaziçi’s TLCP classes and homework, the ARIT-BU Fellows were engaged in lectures and film showings, including a visit to Koç University’s ANAMED museum in Taksim to see “Ottoman Arcadia” with Dr. Ahmed Ersoy, who helped plan and curate the exhibit, and a showing of Benim Çocuğum (2013) followed by a lecture by Dr. Can Candan, the film’s director. The TLCP has developed wonderful traditions over the years, such as the Bosphorus Boat Tour and the final day’s Börek and Baklava party, at which photos submitted by the summer participants were judged and the winners given a Boğaziçi University t-shirt.

In mid-July, the ARIT-BU Fellows were able to join a trip to the archaeological sites of Kaymakçı and Sardis, where we were met and shown around by the site directors Dr. Chris Roosevelt and Dr. Nicholas Cahill. This trip also included a visit to the lovely town of Birgi, where Seljuk buildings and Ottoman residences retain their majesty. The group sped to the airport in time to watch the World Cup Final between Croatia and France.

ARIT-Istanbul Director Dr. Tony Greenwood arranged a lovely orienta-
Collaborations between Ankara ARIT and local universities, organizations, and institutes continued during the 2017-18 academic year. In February 2018, Ankara ARIT supported a day-long workshop at Bilkent University, “Islands at the Frontier of the Empires in the Middle Ages,” along with the British Institute in Ankara. The purpose of the conference was to reassess the role played by the largest islands of the Byzantine Mediterranean as “gateway communities” that promoted social contact and cultural interchange.

The event was organized by Dr. Luca Zavagno (History Department, Bilkent University) as part of the Newton Mobility Grant, which he received from the British Academy (UK) for a series of collaborative workshops at the Universities of Leeds, Birkbeck, and London in addition to Bilkent in Ankara. The speakers for the day-long workshop included Mehmet Kalpakçı (Bilkent University), Elif Denel (Ankara ARIT), Lutgard Vandeput (BIAA), Leslie Brubaker (University of Birmingham), Matthew Harpster (Koç University), Luca Zavagno (Bilkent University), Rebecca Darley (Birkbeck College, University of London), Chris Wickham (University of Oxford), Jonathan Jarrett (University of Leeds), and Francisco Moreno Martin (University Complutense de Madrid). A trip for the participants to historical Ankara followed the workshop.

Sylvia Wing Önder
ARIT-BU Fellowship Project Director

ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

Ankara Branch News

Collaborations between Ankara ARIT and local universities, organizations, and institutes continued during the 2017-18 academic year. In February 2018, Ankara ARIT supported a day-long workshop at Bilkent University, “Islands at the Frontier of the Empires in the Middle Ages,” along with the British Institute in Ankara. The purpose of the conference was to reassess the role played by the largest islands of the Byzantine Mediterranean as “gateway communities” that promoted social contact and cultural interchange.

The event was organized by Dr. Luca Zavagno (History Department, Bilkent University) as part of the Newton Mobility Grant, which he received from the British Academy (UK) for a series of collaborative workshops at the Universities of Leeds, Birkbeck, and London in addition to Bilkent in Ankara. The speakers for the day-long workshop included Mehmet Kalpakçı (Bilkent University), Elif Denel (Ankara ARIT), Lutgard Vandeput (BIAA), Leslie Brubaker (University of Birmingham), Matthew Harpster (Koç University), Luca Zavagno (Bilkent University), Rebecca Darley (Birkbeck College, University of London), Chris Wickham (University of Oxford), Jonathan Jarrett (University of Leeds), and Francisco Moreno Martin (University Complutense de Madrid). A trip for the participants to historical Ankara followed the workshop.

Ankara ARIT contributed to a writing workshop, supported by the British Academy and organized at Bilkent University under the directorship of Luca Zavagno and Rebecca Darley, as part of a program for young scholars in the Global South. The program aims at providing young researchers in Turkey with an opportunity to focus on one of their own publications in collaboration with schol-
ars from different national backgrounds, essentially to prepare their work for submission to peer-reviewed and indexed academic journals. The Ankara Director of ARIT ran a half-day session in early June for the participants of the writing workshop on how to prepare funding applications for their research.

W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross
Aegean Exchange Fellows 2018

Three Turkish winners with diverse research interests used a wide range of resources in Greece during the summer months:

❖ Merve Sarılar Özdemir (Ph.D. candidate, Ancient History Dept., Istanbul University), *Thyateira—A Border Town in Northern Lydia: History and Coins*. Ms. Sarılar Özdemir used the collections and resources in the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the German Archaeological Institute, the British School in Athens, the Gennadius Library, and the Numismatic Museum in her analysis of the coins uncovered at Thyateira in western Turkey.

❖ Asst. Prof. Elif Ünlü (History Department, Boğaziçi University), *Consuming in Style: Social Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in the Aegean and their Integration into the Ideological Discourse during the Third Millennium B.C.E.* Dr. Ünlü visited the museums on Thasos, Samothrace, Lemnos, Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Kos, Nisiros, and Rhodes to investigate the relationship of drinking traditions between western Anatolia and other areas of the Aegean.

❖ Asst. Prof. Elif Bayraktar Tellan (History Department, Istanbul Medeniyet University), *Church, State, and Local Powers in the Eighteen-Century Ottoman Empire*. Dr. Bayraktar Tellan focused on the relations between private churches and the Patriarchate of Istanbul to gain insight into the nature of the dynamics between minorities and marginalized communities in the Ottoman period.

**Toni M. Cross Library**

Sixty-eight users visited the Toni M. Cross Library 253 times from fall 2017 to fall 2018. Nineteen of these visitors were undergraduate students, 24 were M.A. and Ph.D. students, and 24 were professionals, including Ph.D. holders with academic positions. There was also one high school student. They represented a variety of international backgrounds, including American, Turkish, Canadian, Georgian, Italian, German, Polish, and Lebanese. Turkish students and scholars had affiliations with Ankara University, Bilkent University, Hacettepe University, TED University, TED High School, TOBB.
University and Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Boğaziçi University and Koç University in Istanbul, Mersin University, Bitlis Eren University, Adana Çukurova University, Çorum Hitit University, and Pamukkale University. There were also scholars and specialists from the British Institute of Archaeology, the Embassies of Poland, Georgia, and the USA, Fulbright Foundation, the Turkish Republic’s Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums, the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara, and the Çatal Höyük Project. Foreign scholars were affiliated with the American University of Beirut in Lebanon, the Metropolitan University in Prague, Czech Republic, University of the Aegean on Rhodes, University of Toronto in Canada, and the following universities in the U.S.: Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Louisville, University of Chicago, University of Central Florida, University of California, Santa Cruz, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin, New York University, and Villanova University.

Our librarian, Özlem Eser, recorded a total of 283 books and offprints as well as 168 journal and newsletter issues that entered Ankara ARIT’s growing library collections. Of these, 260 were exchanged and gifted by individuals or institutions. Ankara ARIT’s library exchange program continued with the Turkish Republic’s Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums. As part of this program, Ankara ARIT sent to the Ministry 115 books and journal titles. A large number of books and journals were transferred from Istanbul ARIT to Ankara ARIT’s Toni M. Cross Library as they moved into their new offices in Beyoğlu. We would like to extend our gratitude to Dr. Matthew Harpster (Archaeology, Koç University), who housed the boxes and contributed to their transportation to Ankara.

We especially thank these individuals and organizations for their donations to the Toni M. Cross Library collections:


**Lectures**

The Toni M. Cross Library hosts most of the ARIT sponsored lectures. In addition, a series of two to four lectures are annually co-sponsored by Ankara ARIT and the Turkish American Association (TAA), and held in TAA’s Reşat Aktan Hall. We are grateful to Dilek Dengizek Ersanal, the Executive Director, and Sera Erdamar Özköse, as well as the staff at the TAA for providing space and resources and ensuring the continuation of the Annual Lecture Series in Art and Archaeology in Turkey over the course of 37 years.

The following lectures and a documentary screening were held at the TAA:

- Dr. İşlay Gürsu (Cultural Heritage Management Researcher, BIAA), “Living Amid the Ruins Project: Archaeology, Society and Sustainable Development.”
- Prof. Dr. Ali Uzay Peker (Department of Architecture, Middle East Technical University), “Excavations in the Tomb-Palanka of Sultan Suleiman in Szigetvár (2015-2017).”
- Dr. Leticia R. Rodriguez (Boğaziçi University), “By Land and by Sea: Experience, Multivalence, and the Mother Goddess at Zeytintepe.”
- Enver Arcak (Independent), Docu-
The following talks were held in Ankara ARIT’s Toni M. Cross Library:

- Dr. Luca Zavagno (Department of History, Bilkent University), “Cyprus and Her Sisters: the Islands of the Byzantine Empire between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages.”
- Dr. Elif Denel (ARIT Ankara Director), “The (In)Visibility of Women in Syro-Hittite Kingdoms in Light of Recent Discoveries at Tell Tayinat.”
- Dr. Michele Massa (Archaeology Department, Bilecik Şeyh Edebali University), “Between the Steppe and the Sown: Results from the Konya Regional Archaeological Survey Project, 2017 Season.”

We are particularly grateful to Philip Kosnett, the Deputy Chief of Mission, and Alison Kosnett, member of the Friends of ARIT Steering Committee, for making the Ambassador’s Residence available for us and hosting Ankara ARIT’s Annual Dinner Lecture despite the absence of a U.S. Ambassador in Turkey. Prof. Dr. Robert Ousterhout (Department of the History of Art, University of Pennsylvania, Director of the Summer Field School ‘Cappadocia in Context,’ Koç University) delivered “The Enigma of Cappadocia,” which is tied to his remarkable book project on Byzantine Cappadocia.

**Ankara Friends of ARIT News**

The Ankara Friends of ARIT launched the 2017-18 season of activities with an Open House Party again at the Emin Hekimgil Art Gallery located in the TAA. We would like to thank Baybars Alpaslan, Director of Star Tourism and a member of the Steering Committee, for sponsoring all the food for this year’s event once again.

The Ankara Friends organized several trips in the fall of 2017, including a day trip to Boğazkale-Hattusa, the capital of the Hittite Empire, led by Dr. Charles Gates (Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University) and a weekend trip to Konya and Beyşehir with Prof. Scott Redford (SOAS, University of London), focusing on the Seljuks and the Medieval art and architecture of central Anatolia. In the spring and summer of 2018, the Friends organized a weekend trip to central Ionia with Prof. Zeynep Çazmeli Öğün (Department of Archaeology, Classical Archaeology Program, Ankara University), visiting İzmir, Metropolis, Klaros, and Notion; day trips to Sivrihisar and Pessinus with Dr. Fahri Dikkaya (TED University) and Dr. Elif Denel (Ankara ARIT); a trip to Çevre Kale near Yaraşlı, Kulu, in the Karacadağ region of Kulu, central Anatolia with Dr. Geoffrey Summers (recently retired from the Settlement Archaeology Program in METU and former director of the Kerkenes Dağ excavations), and to the Gordion excavations near Polatlı with the guidance of Prof. Brian Rose (University Museum, University of Pennsylvania, President of ARIT, and Director of the Gordion Excavations).

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the Steering Committee as well as all the Friends of ARIT. We are saddened by several departures from Ankara: Alison Kosnett and her husband Phil Kosnett, who will become the U.S. Ambassador to Kosovo, and Dr. Irene Giviashvili and her husband Irakli Koplatadze, who will become the Georgian Ambassador to Slovenia. All of them were avid supporters of the Friends of ARIT, and we would like to thank them for their extensive help and long lasting contributions to the ARIT community in Ankara.

The Steering Committee members, Baybars Alpaslan, Charles Gates, Marlene Elwell, Shirley Epir, Ron Tickfer, and Shauna Tufan, continued to organize events during the 2017-18 academic year for the members of the Friends of ARIT, with the aim of maintaining support for lectures, library acquisitions, and fellowships.

Finally, the Ankara Friends have designated a patron status for those who support the organization with a large donation. As of September 2018, Marlene Elwell (Bilkent University) has become the first Patron of the Ankara Friends of ARIT, an honor that we acknowledge with enormous gratitude.

Elif Denel
Director
ARIT thanks all those who supported our centers and activities and contributed to the NEH Endowment Challenge Matching Fund over the past year, through October 2018. Your support ensures our future work.

**Annual Donations**

**Benefactor for Life**
Douglas Mearns

**Benefactors**
Joukowsky Family Foundation
Mehmet Fatih Karamanci
Merops Foundation
Charles K. Williams II Trust
Yılmaz Yılmaz

**Patrons**
Evan and Leman Fotos
Institute of Nautical Archaeology
Ahmet Karamustafa
Beatrice Manz
Bruce Masters
Robert Ousterhout
Van and Tülin Akin Pulley
Ken and Judy Sams
Susan Yeager

**Sponsoring Donors**
Gary Beckman
H. Erdem Çapa
Cristiane Gruber
Bülent Gültekin
Ann C. Gunter
Jane Hathaway
Dane Kusic
Sylvia Önder
Mildred Patterson
Kim Shively

**Sustaining Donors**
Esra Akcan
Walter Andrews
Nikolay Antov
Jeremy Brigstocke
Palmira Brummett
Nicholas Cahill
Carolyn Connor
Walter B. Denny
George W. Gawrych
Rebecca Ingram
Janet Jones and Ben Marsh
Ann E. Killebrew
Kathleen Lynch
Craig Melchert
Robert S. Nelson
Ibrahim and Banu Onaral
Lynn Roller
Ron Tickfer and Billie Blazier
Sally Taylor
Turkish American Friendship Society of the U.S.
James C. Wright
Bahadır Yıldırım

**Contributing Donors**
Marc and Kara Abramson
George Bass
Ann G. Carmichael
Hope S. Childs
Mark Ciccarello
Michael A. Cook
John Curry
Lorenzo D’Alfonso
Robert Dankoff
Linda Darling
Margaret Darrow
Carol DeBoer-Langworthy
Susan Adair Dwyer-Shick
Margaret Fearey
Alan Fisher
Elaine Gazda
Erika Gilson
William Griswold
Ayşe Gürsan-Salzmann
Kenneth Harl
Robert W. Harpster
George S. Harris
William Hickman
Michael Hoff
Louis E. Kahn
Tracy M. Lord
James Maccaferri
Naomi Miller
Donald W. Morrison
Susan Narayan
James Osborne
Holly Pittman
Daniel Pullen
Jeremy Rutter
Elizabeth Simpson
Amy Singer and David Katz
Tyler Jo Smith
Philip Stinson
Matthew Stolper
Mary Sturgeon
Ali B. Sürek
Joseph and Irene Szyl owicz
Frederica Thrash
Rhys Townsend
Theo Van den Hout
Nükhet Varlık
Alicia Walker
Bonna Wescoat
John West
Charles Wilkins
Carole Woodall
Yücel and Sheryl Yanıkdag
Fikret Yegül and Diane Favro
Peter Young
John and Evelyn Zimmerman

**Donors**
Timothy O. Baldwin
Elizabeth Baughan
Scott Branting
Carter Findley
Linda K. Fisher
Amy Fontaine and Mete Kök
Jeanine and Peter Hanson
Nilüfer Hatemi
Mary Berg Hollinshead
Lisa Kealhofer
Karen Kern
Tom Krawick
William Ochsenwald
Marcie Patton
William R. Pearson
Andrew and Nancy Ramage
Karen Schmidt
Kevin Sykes  
Marina Tolmacheva  
Letitia Ufford  
Andrew Vaughn  
Archie B. Wainright  
Patty Jo Watson  
Frederick Winter  
Irene Winter  
Nesrin Young

**Members**

Ann E. Allison  
Jere Bacharach  
Stephen T. Burnham  
Theresa A. Cancro  
Carolyn Connor  
Callie T. Conrad  
Pamela Crabtree  
Daniel Crecelius  
James A. Dengate  
H. Nuri Erbaş  
Helena Kane Finn  
John Geddie  
Barbara Gentile  
M. Emre Güzelaydın  
Kimberly Hart  
Feride Hatiboğlu  
Liane Houghtalin  
Charles Hunter  
Adeeb Khalid  
J. Lawton Booksellers  
Mostafa Minawi  
Meredith Quinn  
Mitchell Rothman  
Karen Rubinson  
Curtis Runnels  
Margaret Russett  
Azade Seyhan  
Anna Sitz  
Levin Paul Tull  
Henry P. Williams III  
Gökçe Bike Yazıcıoğlu-Santamaria

**National Endowment for the Humanities**  
**Matching Gifts**

**Benefactors**

Peter I. Kuniholm  
C. Brian Rose  
Vedat Sadioğlu  
Tarbell Family Foundation  
Malcolm Wiener Foundation  
Fikret Yegül and Diane Favro

**Patrons**

Scrim and Bilgi Denel  
Maria and Richard Ellis  
Timothy Harrison  
Van and Tülin Akin Pulley  
A. Kevin Reinhart  
C. Lee and Ute Striker

**Sponsoring Donors**

Faiz Ahmed  
Jennifer Tobin

**Contributing Donors**

Prentiss De Jesus  
Antony Greenwood  
Liane Houghtalin (President’s Match)  
Naomi Miller  
Daniel Waugh

**Donors**

Daniel Crecelius (President’s Match)  
Barbara Gentile (President’s Match)  
Azade Seyhan  
Marina Tolmacheva

**Toni M. Cross Fund**

**Sponsoring Donor**

Mildred Patterson

**Contributing Donors**

Roseann and Eric Schneider  
Ali B. Sürek  
Michael Arida and Aynur  
Unalp-Arida

**Donors**

Jeanine and Peter Hanson  
Frederica Thrash

**Ankara Library**

**Sustaining Donor**

Julie Peteet

**Istanbul Library**

**Contributing Donor**

Ülku Ü. Bates

**Donors**

F. Jamil Ragep  
Azade Seyhan

**John Freely Fellowship Fund**

**Patron**

Robert Ousterhout

**Sponsoring Donor**

Bülent Gültekin

**Contributing Donors**

John and Evelyn Zimmerman

**Donors**

Uğur Aker  
Nilüfer Hatemi

To make a contribution, please use the form on the back page of this Newsletter. You also may contribute online via a secure server from the ARIT website:

[http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/AnnualFund.html](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/AnnualFund.html)
ARIT FELLOWSHIPS 2018-2019

ARIT-NEH Fellows

ARIT-NEH Fellowships are funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

- Dr. Rebecca A. Clothey (Education, Drexel University), "Uyghur Language and Cultural Transmission in Turkey.
- Dr. Clothey explores how Uyghur immigrants strive to maintain their language and cultural traditions as an increasing refugee population in Turkey. For Uyghurs, this issue is particularly pressing as they perceive their culture and language as being under threat in their home region of Xinjiang.
- Dr. Ann E. Killebrew (Archaeology, Pennsylvania State University), "The Bay of Iskenderun Landscape Archaeology and Survey Project: Final Publication.
- Dr. Killebrew is completing final publication of the Bay of Iskenderun Landscape Archaeology Survey, including completion of computerized drawings, photography and analysis of artifacts, and a comprehensive assessment of settlement patterns in their historical and geographic context.
- Dr. Mali Skotheim (Classics, University of Wisconsin, Madison), "Postclassical Performance: Greek Drama in the Hellenistic and Roman Era.
- Dr. Skotheim is conducting an epigraphic and archaeological study of the evidence for postclassical performance of Greek drama in the cities of Asia Minor. She reviews the socio-cultural history of Greek dramatic festivals in the region from the time of Alexander through the Roman Imperial period.

ARIT U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellows

ARIT ECA Fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs, administered by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

- Ms. Chloë L. Bordewich (Modern Middle Eastern History, Harvard University), "Empires of Suspicion: Ottoman Arab Informants and the First World War.
- Ms. Bordewich studies how Arabs in Ottoman lands operated within and manipulated the Ottoman, French, and British imperial administrations before and during the First World War, aiming to illuminate the development of postwar Arab states.
- Mr. Walter S. Chahanovich (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University), "The Ottoman Apocalyptic Mentality and the Dark Side of Sufism (15th-17th Centuries): Pseudo-Ibnal-'Arabi's The Tree of Nu'man (al-Shajarah al-nu'maniyyah), The Cry of the Owl (Sayhat al bun), and their Commentaries.
- Mr. Chahanovich focuses on the rise of a unique apocalyptic mentality (15th–17th centuries) and the advent of an officially sponsored, ‘dark’ kind of Sufism that mixed mysticism, eschatological predictions, and esoteric science. He takes two popular Ottoman apocalyptic texts as case studies.
- Mr. Hughes examines how the concept and discourse of religion was transformed in the Republic of Turkey between the years 1925 and 1979. He considers how the shift in the location of discourse about Islam from physical religious institutions to university faculties and intellectual journals affected the discourse on religion.
- Ms. Sarah K. Yeomans (Art History, University of Southern California), "Roman Civic Medicine in Allianoi and Rhodiapolis: The Archaeology of Practices and Practitioners in the Imperial Age.
- Ms. Yeomans is conducting a comparative study of the medical material from Allianoi and Rhodiapolis in light of each other as well as previously identified sites elsewhere in the empire associated with Roman medicine. This evidence has significant potential to expand our knowledge of medicine as it existed in civilian, secular contexts (i.e., outside of sacred and military environments).

John Freely Fellow

These fellowships are awarded in memory of John Freely, the author of many travel and history books on Turkey, and a great supporter of ARIT.

- Ms. Choon Hwee Koh (History, Yale University), "Outsourcing Empire: Contracting out the Ottoman Postal System, 1690-1840.
- Ms. Koh studies the transformation of the sprawling Ottoman postal network that connected Europe, Asia, and Africa from a state-funded entity to a privately contracted system. Her study compares the different outsourcing and privatization strategies that were adopted in the Ottoman, Habsburg, and Qing empires.

Istanbul Friends of ARIT Fellows

Fellowship funded by the Friends of ARIT, Istanbul.

- Mr. Asil Yaman (Archaeology, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University), "Late Roman Pottery of Arycanda.
- Mr. Yaman is studying the pottery collected from the late antique quarter at Arycanda. The site offers a series of stratified deposits from burnt layers and later fills that can provide a much-needed basic typology and chronology of the pottery of Lycia.
- Mr. Akif Yerlioğlu (History, Middle East Studies, Harvard University), "Paracelsus Goes East: Ottoman Medicine in the Early Modern Period.
- Mr. Yerlioğlu studies physician’s shops run by prolific early modern Ottoman scholars and the circle around them to reveal an informal and productive sphere for a lively exchange of novel medical views. He investigates the early modern Ottomans’ approach to medical novelty and explores areas of negotiation between the state and the practitioners of new medical ideas.
ARIT Fellows in Intensive Turkish Language, Summer 2018

The U.S. Department of Education, Georgetown University Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages, and ARIT, provide support for participants in the Boğaziçi University Summer Program in Intensive Advanced Turkish Language.

- Mr. Dominic Balestrieri-Fox (Northwestern University)
- Ms. Xhesika Bardhi (University of Chicago)
- Mr. Jordan Cannon (Columbia University)
- Ms. Danielle E. Doubt (Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies)
- Ms. Sarah Garges (University of Michigan)
- Mr. Matthew Hernandez (Indiana University)
- Ms. Katie McClelland (McGill University)
- Mr. Nicholas Norberg (Harvard University)
- Ms. Emily Peterson (Brigham Young University)
- Mr. Jake Sullivan (University of Texas, Austin)
- Ms. Miranda Wickham (George Washington University)
- Mr. Zavier Wingham (New York University)

W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows 2018

ARIT and ASCSA Aegean Exchange Fellowships are funded by the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and cosponsored by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

- Ms. Merve Sarlar Özdemir (Ancient History, Istanbul University), Thyateira —A Border Town in Northern Lydia: History and Coins. Ms. Özdemir conducted her research in Athens, using the resources of the American School of Classical studies at Athens, the German Archaeological Institute, the British School in Athens, the Gennadius Library, and the Numismatic Museum to find comparanda and analyze the coins uncovered in Thyateira in western Turkey.
- Dr. Elif Ünlü (History, Boğaziçi University), Consuming in Style: Social Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in the Aegean and their Integration into the Ideological Discourse during the Third Millennium BCE. Dr. Ünlü visited the museums on Thasos, Samothrace, Lemnos, Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Kos, Nisiros, and Rhodes to investigate the relationship of drinking traditions between west Anatolia and other areas of the Aegean.
- Dr. Elif Bayraktar Tellan (History, Istanbul Medeniyet University), Church, State, and Local Powers in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Empire. Dr. Tellan focused on the relations of the private churches with the Patriarchate of Istanbul to gain insight into the nature of the dynamics between certain minorities and other marginalized communities in the Ottoman period.

George M. A. Hanfmann, Ilse Böhlund Hanfmann, and Machteld J. Mellink Fellows

The Hanfmann and Mellink Fellowships are supported by the Merops Foundation in honor of George M. A. and Ilse B. Hanfmann, and Machteld J. Mellink.

George M. A. Hanfmann Fellows
- Mr. Hüseyin Uzunoğlu (Ancient Languages and Cultures, Akdeniz University), Akmonia in Antiquity: Ancient Testimony, History, and its New Inscriptions. Mr. Uzunoğlu examines epigraphical evidence to reconstruct the history of the Roman town of Akmonia (Uşak – Phrygia) working with Dr. Peter Thonemann at the Center for the Study of Ancient Documents, Oxford University.
- Ms. Sera Yelizőr Kılıç (Istanbul University), Prehistoric Archaeology, Detecting Individual and Collective Identities: Gender, Age, Craftsmanship, and the Intersectionality of Identities at Aşıklı Höyük. Ms. Kılıç is developing her analysis of identity as evidenced in the aceramic Neolithic record at Aşıklı Höyük, while working at the University of Nice and University of Edinburgh. consulting with Dr. Diane Bolger and Dr. Manuel Fernandez-Götze.

Ilse B. Hanfmann Fellows
- Mr. İbrahim Ethem Koçak (Archaeology, Ankara University), The Evaluation, Dating, and Cataloging of the Garlands Decorating Architectural Blocks on Façade Architecture of the Hellenistic and Roman Periods in Anatolia. Mr. Koçak is developing a typology of ancient decorative architectural sculpture, conducting his research at Goethe University in Frankfurt with Professor Axel Filges.
- Ms. Güzel Öztürk (Archaeology, Ankara University), The Analysis and Artistic-Functional Properties of Kültepe Sealing Practices, 2500-2000 BC. Ms. Öztürk studies bullae from the EBA III levels at Kültepe-Kanesh to document the city’s regional and international connections. She is conducting her study at the Copenhagen University Center for Textile Research, focusing on the data recovered on the back side of the seal impressions.

Machteld J. Mellink Fellows
- Ms. Müge Bulu Akar (Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University), Technological, Functional, and Stylistic Analysis of Syro-Cilician Ware from the Amuq Valley. Ms. Akar works with pottery finds and archaeological deposits from the site of Tell Atchana, Alalakh to develop an understanding of the Syro-Cilician regional ware. She will work on the Tell Atchana material held in London and Athens, notably at the British Museum, the Ashmolean, the Birmingham Museum, and the Wiener Laboratory at the American School in Athens.
- Ms. Aysel Arslan (Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University), Shaping Clay, Transmission of Knowledge: Division of Labor in
I devoted my fellowship in Istanbul to the research and writing of my next monograph, which is about Ottoman textiles in the longue durée, with a focus on technology and economy. The book takes as main themes artisan migration, the Ottoman place in global trade and in global fashion systems, and the rhetoric of craft practice, as well as the place of textiles in the social life in the Empire’s main cities.

Istanbul, of course, is the best place to work on this topic. The Topkapı Pal-

**REPORTS ON ARIT FELLOWSHIPS**

**Dr. Amanda H. Phillips, Art History, Ottoman Art and Material Culture, University of Virginia**

ARIT-NEH Fellow 2017-2018
*Between the Seas: Ottoman Textiles in the Eighteenth Century*

Ms. Elif Sezer Aydınlı (History, Istanbul Şehir University), *The Literary Culture of 17th Century Istanbul*. Ms. Aydınlı looks at the growth of a popular readership and literary culture in the 17th and 18th century by an analysis of the annotations left by readers on the margins of some of the most commonly read popular tales.

Mr. Ümit Gündoğan (Archaeology, Ankara University), *Discoveries at Bakla Tepe of the First Half of the 3rd Century BC, Western Anatolian Coastal Architecture and Settlement Models*. This is the first attempt at a study of architectural elements, construction materials and technique, and settlement patterns in the first half of the third millennium BC levels from Bakla Tepe.

Ms. Zeynep Kuçükceran (History, Boğaziçi University), *The Change in Agricultural Knowledge from the Beginning of the 19th Century until the First Decades of the 20th Century in Bursa and Mihaliç*. This study attempts to explain agrarian change in the 19th century by comparing two districts of the province of Bursa and focusing on changes in agricultural education policies.

Ms. Bilge Bahar Türkaslan (Art History, Hacettepe University), *The Inner Castle at Trabzon and the Town’s Defensive System*. Ms. Türkaslan is documenting the Comnenian Palace at Trabzon in an attempt to uncover and document the history of the stages of its construction.

Detail of an Ottoman women’s kaftan, 17th century, silk embroidery on cloth-of-gold. Courtesy of the Topkapı Palace Museum.

Detail of an Ottoman women’s kaftan, 17th century, silk embroidery on cloth-of-gold. Courtesy of the Topkapı Palace Museum.
The Ace Museum holds one of the only historical collections of Ottoman textiles and costume. It is also a repository for the gifts and trade goods flowing into the capital.

Much scholarly attention has centered on the roles of Italy and then France in shaping Ottoman taste in the decorative arts. However, extant objects in the Topkapı Palace Museum—Indian zardozis, sashes from Kashmir, Mughal velvet prayer carpets—show the depth and enduring nature of textile trade in the opposite direction. These, along with visual representations of textiles in Ottoman book painting and documentary sources, suggest that the role of South Asia was significant. In the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, especially, gaily printed Indian chintzes and brilliantly colored light-weight silks were in fact chief objects of consumption, attracting both praise from poets and censure from officials.

Ottoman artisans altered their own practices to suit the new taste, as attested in written sources, making domestic versions of Gujarati textile-types. Even the central authorities took part: ledgers at the Başbakanlık archives show looms for weaving fashionable half-silks, placed under the supervision of a high-ranking bureaucrat. With this and with other arguments, the book corrects unstated but nonetheless prevailing notions of decline and westernization in Ottoman arts and crafts in this period.

In March 2018, I was fortunate to present this material in an invited lecture at ARIT-ANAMED, receiving valuable feedback from my peers and members of the public.

Mehmet Fatih Tatari

FARIT Grant Fellow 2017-2018
Farm Organization in Northeastern Turkey: Making Cheese and Reimagining Borders

My FARIT grant allowed me to investigate everyday practices of animal husbandry and cheesemaking in northeastern Turkey, particularly in the Kars and Ardahan provinces. I am especially interested in the ethnography of dairy farmers and animal husbandry practitioners. My main research questions were formed around the concept of “border-making,” since physical and cultural borders are being redefined in recent regulations concerning dairy farming. My research dealt with the worlds of three local cheeses, Gravyer, Kaşar, and Türkmen Saçak, and I worked with dairy farmers, shepherds, dairy workers, and cheesemakers in different sites of dairy production.

I spent a significant portion of my time in Boğatepe, which is the only village where Gravyer cheese is produced in Turkey. Although there were up to 32 Gravyer dairies in the early 1900s, only five were still in operation in the 1980s, and today only three remain there, in addition to the two that were recently opened in the Kars Organized Industrial Zone (Kars Merkez Organize Sanayi Bölgesi, KOSB). The only cheese museum in Turkey is also located in this village, and it has therefore recently become an important attraction for travellers who are interested in cheesemaking traditions in Kars. In the last two years, more than 30,000 people have visited the Büyük and Küçük Boğatepe villages, primarily the dairies.

I spent time in Gravyer Zavot (which means “production site” in Russian) and interviewed farmers about dairy farming and cheesemaking techniques. Gravyer cheese is produced only after the animals begin to graze in pastures after mid-April, and it lasts until mid or late August. When I followed the milk circulation from different villages to the three dairies in the village, I realized that all of the villages and pastures from which the milk is collected are above 2100 meters in the foothills of Boğatepe.

“Cooking” Gravyer cheese in Koçulu Mandıra, Boğatepe village, Kars.
I actually participated in the production of Gravyer cheese for one month, involving myself primarily in the process of “cooking” Gravyer cheese and working in the aging rooms that locals call “badval.” Working in the small traditional dairies enabled me to take notes on the ways in which the producers conceive of milk and dairy production processes, which is an important part of my dissertation.

In 2015 Kars Kaşarı acquired a Geographical Indication that was issued by the Turkish Patent Institute and approved by the government. My research included documenting the controversies surrounding the legal definitions of Kars Kaşarı GI, as well as the actual processes of making Kars Kaşarı, and the ways in which cheesemakers enforce (and/or prevent) the use of the GI.

In the winter, I interviewed the owners and workers in the larger capacity dairies in KOSB. While I studied the production process inside the dairies, I also investigated which villages provided the milk. I visited 22 dairies in Kars Center, and interviewed the owners, masters (usta), workers, and food engineers in almost all of them. Small dairies that are located in villages or in nearby larger districts produce a significant number of dairy products in Kars. These dairies usually operate from May until September or October, and conclude agreements with individual farmers every year.

Since Kaşar cheese is easier to make in small-scale commercial production centers, the number of Kaşar dairies have been more numerous than the Gravyer dairies since the 1950s. Before 2005, most of the Kaşar cheese was made between April and September in small dairies. The latter were either located in a pasture where the milk is transformed into a kind of drained curd that is called “baskı” in Kars, or in a village where the milk is directly transformed into Kaşar cheese.

The ban on processing milk in pastures due to insufficient hygiene conditions according to the Ministry of Agriculture made it impossible to transport fresh cheese from pastures to the villages. As a result, dairies had to use trucks to collect milk from pastures. This not only required an investment that many small farmers could not afford, but also had an effect on the environment due to the creation of new roads and the resulting pollution. The system also favored the large dairies that could afford the transportation costs.

During my fieldwork in the villages and pastures, I encountered traditional knowledge of cheesemaking and dairy production as embedded in the worlds of pastoralism. The conditions of pastures, available grass, climate, disease, cowsheds, and milking conditions can be cited among the many factors that affect daily practices of animal husbandry and cheesemaking. In addition to the cheeses cited above, I also observed and investigated other traditional dairy products such as Çeçil, Gorcola, Tuluk, and Çökelek cheeses, as well as types of yogurt and butter. The knowledge and skills of the dairy farmers are transferred from generation to generation, and the farmers’ practices attest to the old local ways of producing milk and cheese.

Since cheesemaking closely depends on milk production and collection processes, I spent time with dairy farmers, shepherds, and herds of dairy animals in villages and pastures. I walked with herds, observed the relationship between animals and shepherds, and asked questions about the borders of different pastures and how they are used. I followed controversies between villages regarding pastures, between farmers and dairy owners on milk prices and collection, and between shepherds and farmers on the care of herds. I also observed and interviewed people about the collaborative and antagonistic relationships among dairy animals (cows, sheep, and goats), farmers, and state security forces, while assessing how ethnicities and religion impacted the system. None of this research would have been possible without the assistance of the Friends of ARIT, to whom I am extremely grateful.

FARIT fellow Mehmet Fatih Tatari assisting the dissertation research of a food engineer in the microbiology laboratory in the department of Food Engineering, Yüzüncü Yıl University, Van, Turkey.
Asil Yaman
FARIT Grant Fellow 2017-2018
Late Roman Pottery of Arycanda

Thanks to the generous support of ARIT, I was able to travel during the summer of 2018 to the Lycian sites of Arycanda, Arif Kale, and Patara as part of my dissertation research on Late Roman pottery. My study of the pottery of Arif Kale showed that it includes imported red slip wares such as North African productions (ARSW), Late Roman C (LRCW), Late Roman D (LRDW) and local/regional red slip wares (L/RRSW). These assemblages proved that Late Roman occupation at Arif started around the 4th century A.D., which alters the early chronology of Arif Kale that had been proposed.

The variety and quality of the red slip wares also reveals the wealth of the society at Arif Kale at that time.

We already knew that the Lycian workshops produced cooking wares during the late antiquity—the Arycanda and Arif Kale ceramic evidence indicates that this material reached the countryside of eastern Lycia and was apparently used until the 8th century A.D. Transport amphoras such as LR1, which are imported from Cilicia or Cyprus, reflect the trade relations of Arif Kale with other parts of the Mediterranean during the fifth to seventh centuries A.D.

Further research on Arif Kale pottery should enable us to establish a type-chronology that will clarify the settlement’s socio-economic relations and food culture from Late Antiquity through the Middle Byzantine period.
NAFA Membership Form

I want to join the North American Friends of ARIT. Enclosed is my contribution as:

- Benefactor $5,000
- Patron $1,000
- Sponsoring Donor $500
- Sustaining Donor $250
- Contributing Donor $100
- Donor $50
- Member $25

Special Contributions:
- ARIT Endowment Fund = $
- Istanbul Library = $
- Ankara Library = $
- Toni M. Cross Memorial Fund = $
- John Freely Fellowship Fund = $
- ARIT President’s Challenge = $

Check enclosed, payable to the American Research Institute in Turkey and mailed to ARIT’s North American address.

Mailing List Form

Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip

E-mail

- We would like to receive ARIT news and notes by E-mail.
- We have moved, please use the above information.
- Please remove the above name and address from your list.

NORTH AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ARIT
c/o Penn Museum
3260 South Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6324