

THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
ON THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE
ANCIENT NEAR EAST

LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT
MUNICH, GERMANY
03 – 07 APRIL 2018





The 11th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

03 – 07 April 2018

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität
Munich

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Welcome Address

Dear Guest,

We warmly welcome you at the 11th ICAANE in Munich!


For the next days will have the opportunity to exchange your ideas about the fascinating past of the Near East with more than 700 scholars from more than 40 countries.

We, the members of the organizing committee, did our best to prepare an agreeable setting for the conference. More than 600 lectures will be presented in up to 14 parallel sections and workshops. Since the lecture rooms are all very close and the lectures will start at the time indicated in the programme, it will be possible to switch between sessions. More research is presented on more than 70 posters.

There will be ample space for meetings and social gatherings during the coffee breaks and two evening receptions.

All the necessary information is summarized in the 11ICAANE program and in the information sheets in your conference map.

For any further questions or help please turn to the conference bureau in A 120. The programme and abstract can be found at <http://www.icaane2018.vorderas-archaeologie.uni-muenchen.de/programme/index.html>.

Up-to-date information concerning changes in the schedule will be announced on [twitter](#)  (@11icaane / #11icaane) and on the notice boards in the Main Hall.

We wish you a very pleasant time in Munich and hope you enjoy this week full of new insights into the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East.

Prof. Dr. Adelheid Otto

Head of the Institute for Near Eastern Archaeology

LMU Munich

Host of the 11th ICAANE

In the name of the Organizing Team

The ICAANE International Scientific Committee

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Ilona **SPALINGER**

Friday, 6th of April 2018 – Sections

	Section 7 – M 118
	Field reports III
Chair	Nawala al-Mutawalli
9:00	Elizabeth Stone
–	Excavating Ur
9:30	
9:30	Emily Hammer
–	The City and Landscape of Ur: An Aerial, Satellite, and Ground
10:00	Reassessment
10:00	
10:00	Adelheid Otto
–	The LMU Munich excavations 2017 at the South Mound of Ur
10:30	
10:30	Anne Löhnert
–	School tablets from Ur
11:00	

Chair	Abdulmeer al-Hamdani
11:30	
–	Dominique Charpin Epigraphical discoveries at Ur, 2017 season: a survey
12:00	
12:00	Mike Charles
–	For the people? Household level plant consumption and disposal in Old
12:30	Babylonian Ur
12:30	
12:30	Melina Seabrook
–	Spatial Variation in Ur Faunal Remains
13:00	

Lunch 13:00 – 14:00

CHARLES, Mike

University of Oxford

For the people? Household level plant consumption and disposal in Old Babylonian Ur

Archaeobotanical remains from sites in southern Mesopotamia are generally in short supply for a combination of reasons including on-site preservational conditions and archaeological sampling decisions. Curiously one of the exceptions to the sparse and sporadic nature of the record are the 'food offerings from Ur' recovered from the Royal Tombs which include material identified as 'flat bread' and 'perforated crab apple' in addition to the more commonplace finds of cereals [barley & wheat] pulses [peas & chickpea] and dates [Ellison et al. 1978]. Recent excavations in Old Babylonian areas of the site have, critically included systematic, large scale recovery of plant remains from and provides us with a much clearer indication of the types of plant material used and deposited by the households of the city in contrast to Royal elites. The results of this work will be presented and assessed for their socio-economic significance within the city and across the region.

CHARPIN, Dominique

Collège de France

Epigraphical discoveries at Ur, 2017 season: a survey

The epigraphic discoveries of the 2017 season at Ur give us an adequate knowledge of the chronological and sociological situation of the buildings excavated. In the big house of Area 3, 45 tablets have been discovered around and inside the burial vault ; they belong to the archives of a Babylonian general, Abisum, who occupied the building during the reigns of Hammu-rabi and Samsu-iluna (1757-1738). Area 4 gave Old Babylonian school tablets of the elementary phase, and at a depth of more than 4 meters, a few Ur III tablets. The last level of the new house excavated by the Munich team was empty; but discarded tablets, fragments of envelopes and sealed tags show it had been previously inhabited, at least from the reign of Sin-eribam (1842) to the

reign of Šilli-Adad (1835), by Sin-nada, a scribe who was intendant (UGULA É) of the Ningal temple.

HAMMER, Emily University of Pennsylvania

The City and Landscape of Ur: An Aerial, Satellite, and Ground Reassessment

Despite its status as one of the best-excavated cities in Mesopotamia, the city of Ur was passed over entirely by the archaeological revolution in landscape archaeology. Woolley's investigations were long in the past by the time intensive surface collections were undertaken at Uruk, Mashkan-shapir, and Kish. Wright's survey of the Eridu basin provided some regional context for the site, but he did not undertake systematic work at Ur. With the return of archaeological research to the site, it is an appropriate time to take stock of what is known about the demographic and structural history of urbanism there, based on a spatial reassessment of the excavations and a close analysis of remote sensing datasets, including declassified intelligence imagery from the CORONA satellite program (1960-1972) and the U2 aerial program (1959). This review shows the particular challenges to landscape archaeology presented by a complex site like Ur. It also suggests that the settlement complex was much larger than previously supposed by 20th century surveyors. Preliminary results from a surface survey undertaken in spring 2017 allow for evaluation of hypotheses derived from the imagery.

LÖHNERT, Anne

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

School tablets from Ur

The field excavation in Ur in March 2017 yielded close to one hundred written documents out of which 13 are school tablets. The paper wants to present these school tablets including their archaeological context, and furthermore to set these school tablets in a wider frame and to compare them with school tablets known from other places such as Nippur or Isin.

OTTO, Adelheid

Ludwig Maximilians Universität Munich

The LMU Munich excavations 2017 at the South Mound of Ur

A team of the LMU Munich participated at the excavations at Ur which are directed by Elizabeth Stone. The investigated area was chosen as far distant from AH as possible, at the southern edge of the South Mound near the city wall. The aim was to investigate the structure of the random city regions in comparison with the central areas. The results indicate that this area was certainly not a marginal urban quarter inhabited by less privileged people in the Isin-Larsa-period. The partly excavated, spacious house belonged to an educated elite person, the manager of the Ningal Temple. The tablets and sealings allow a precise dating within the 19th cent. MC, which offers a precious chronological fixpoint for pottery and other material.

SEABROOK, Melina – TWISS, Katheryn C. Stony Brook University

Spatial Variation in Ur Faunal Remains

The power of faunal remains to shed light on urban socioeconomic distinctions is well established. However, we know little about how animal exploitation and consumption varied within Mesopotamian cities. We therefore examine faunal assemblages from two Old Babylonian areas inside the ancient city of Ur. Excavators identified the relevant deposits as refuse, probably deriving from households rather than temples or other communal organizations. Unlike most published Mesopotamian fauna, these were recovered using dry-sieving and flotation. We compare and contrast the two assemblages, focusing on their taxonomic proportions, skeletal element distributions, and taphonomic signatures. We then use our results to discuss suggested economic and status differentiation in Old Babylonian Ur.