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### **Ph.D. Candidate Wins Award at North America's Premier Egyptology Conference**

University of California, Berkeley doctoral candidate Barbara Richter was runner-up in the **Best Student Paper** competition at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE). The meeting and conference, in which hundreds of the world's top Egyptologists and scholars of Egypt gather to present the field's latest archaeological and scholarly research, took place April 23-25, 2010 in Oakland, CA.

Richter received the award for her paper, "When Word Play is Not a Game: Paronomasia in the Ptolemaic Temple Texts." ARCE sponsors this award each year during the annual meeting to encourage its student members to present their research in a scholarly forum. Richter's paper, which forms part of her dissertation work, showed how complex word plays in the texts of the Temple of Hathor at Dendera enhance and support content and action, adding subtlety and depth of meaning to each scene.

"My fondest wish is that my late teacher and mentor, Prof. Cathleen Keller, could have been there to see me receive the award," said Richter. "Her inspiration and encouragement led me to pursue my studies in Egyptology at U.C. Berkeley."

Richter is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. She completed a Master's degree in Egyptology, also from U.C. Berkeley's Department of Near Eastern Studies, and received a B.A. in Music from Stanford University. Richter is fluent or proficient in a number of modern and ancient languages, including ancient Egyptian and Attic Greek.

Richter is the recipient of the Dean's Normative Time Fellowship for the 2010-2011 academic year and was named Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies for the 2008-2009 academic year. At U.C. Berkeley, she has taught both first- and second-year Middle Egyptian; this summer, she will be offering a course in the religion of Ancient Egypt. In addition, she has conducted a number of invited lectures at U.C. Berkeley and at meetings of the Northern California Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt. Among her publications is "The Amduat and its Relationship to the Architecture of Early 18th Dynasty Royal Burial Chambers," which appeared in the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*, 2008.

#### ***About the American Research Center in Egypt***

*The American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1948 by a consortium of educational and cultural institutions to support research on Egyptian history and culture, foster broader knowledge about Egypt among the general public, and promote and strengthen American-Egyptian cultural ties. Today ARCE is the primary professional association for North American Egyptologists, and is a valued partner working with the Egyptian Ministry of Culture to safeguard Egypt's most historically important monuments, architecture, and artifacts. Programs and activities conducted or supported by ARCE include archaeological excavations and surveys, conservation of Egyptian monuments, research fellowships, seminars*

*and public lectures, short courses, educational tourism, and the operation of a research library. For further information about ARCE please visit [www.arce.org](http://www.arce.org).*