

Preface

Demotic Studies are flourishing – texts new and old from archives, museums, and excavations embedded in their respective contexts and history of scholarship are the topic of this volume. As the contributions impressively demonstrate, the decipherment benefitted greatly from new approaches through methodology from the digital age or transdisciplinary studies borrowing theories and results from other academic disciplines. This enables us seeing the whole picture of Egypt from the Late Period to Late Antiquity through several media such as papyri, ostraca, graffiti, dipinti and more. Thus, these proceedings of the *13th International Conference of Demotic Studies in Leipzig*, September 4–8, 2017, are a state-of-the-art presentation of a vital part of Egyptology and Ancient Studies in general.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of our friend and colleague Eugene David Cruz-Uribe (December 22, 1952–March 12, 2018). It was wonderful for many of us to see him (again) in Leipzig at the conference. My eyes are still getting teary when going through his last email promising a soon return to Leipzig because his colleagues here still owe him a few beers – or when reading the dedication Joe Manning has kindly agreed to write for this publication. I am sure many of you share similar stories with Gene, or just Cruz, as I have heard about and experienced in the last months. Steve Vinson, who also kindly shared the photograph printed in this volume with us, compiled a beautiful poster together with Jackie Jay which he presented at the ARCE annual meeting in Spring 2018 in Tucson, AZ. He also wrote an obituary which appeared in *Enchoria* 35 (2016/2017), XI–XV. Another obituary by Peter Piccione can be found in the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt (JARCE)* 54 (2018), 5–16; with doubtlessly more to follow. If you like to read more, see the website <https://www.iue.edu/tribute/memories/> which Indiana University East set up to remember Gene. He will never be forgotten!

At this point, I would like to thank the authors for sharing their research and the seven colleagues of the advisory board who all accepted within twelve hours to anonymously peer-review the contributions. Through their generous input and support sharing their research and expertise, this volume benefitted greatly. Susanne Bickel, Hans-W. Fischer-Elfert, Antonio Loprieno and Tonio Sebastian Richter agreed from early on to accept this publication as part of the ZÄS-B series. As always, it was a pleasure to cooperate with Mirko Vonderstein of de Gruyter publishers. The formatting was substantially shouldered by the Egyptological eagle eyes of Josephine Hensel who deserves an extra round of applause. Overall, it was a very smooth ride with all of you, and I am very grateful for this.

Many of the authors added further material to their contributions, e.g. integrating finds from excavations after September 2017, or, in the case of Kim Ryholt, adding an extra article. Speakers who did not wish to write an article already agreed to publish their research elsewhere or, as in most cases, were in the early stages of a pro-

ject or planning to submit a doctoral dissertation. For further reference, the abstracts and additional conference material have been added to this publication.¹

I would like to take the opportunity to thank my colleagues and students from Leipzig University to organize the conference and the accompanying exhibition “Be-kriegt. Besetzt. Bereichert. Ägypten zwischen Spätzeit und Spätantike”, especially Caroline Bergter, Caroline Böhme, Claudia Castaneda, Hans-W. Fischer-Elfert, Lara Gallow, Anna Grünberg, Julia Jushaninowa, Verena Klemm, Annette Kunze, Christine Greger, Almut Märker, Lutz Popko, Dietrich Raue, Kerstin Seidel, Gabriele Schier, Tami Schmidt-Gottschalk, Ulrich Johannes Schneider, and Maria-Victoria Schuffenhauer.

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If you would like to know more about the conference, please visit its website <https://www.gko.uni-leipzig.de/index.php?id=9119>. The catalogue of the exhibition is available open access under <http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:15-qucosa-2-161898>.

The 14th International Conference of Demotic Studies will take place in summer 2020 in Heidelberg.

Franziska Naether
Leipzig, 24 January 2019

¹ Editions of texts, instrumenta such as *Ericksen's Glossar* and the *Namenbuch* etc. are cited after the Checklist; see John F. Oates/Roger S. Bagnall/Sarah J. Clackson/ Alexandra A. O'Brien/Joshua D. Sosin/Terry G. Wilfong/Klaas A. Worp, *Checklist of Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca and Tablets*, available under <http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/papyrus/texts/clist.html>, seen January 2019.