

KATHRYN E. SLANSKI

Whitney Humanities Center
Yale University
New Haven CT 06520
(203) 432-6630
kathryn.slanski@yale.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Harvard University, Near Eastern Studies, 1997
Dissertation: *A Study in the Form and Function of the Babylonian kudurrus*
Directors: Peter Machinist, Piotr Steinkeller
Committee: John Huehnergard, Irene J. Winter

A.M., Harvard University, Near Eastern Studies, 1994

Fulbright Scholar, Munich University, 1987–88
Institute for Assyriology and Hittitology

B.A., Johns Hopkins University, 1987
Major: Near Eastern Studies; Minor: German Studies
University and Departmental Honors

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

YALE UNIVERSITY:

Senior Lecturer, Humanities, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations July 2013–present
Lecturer, Humanities, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations Sep. 2004–June 2013

USAID IRAQ-AMMAN WORKSHOP:

Instructor Summer 2004

FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY:

Visiting Scholar, Adjunct Professor Jan. 2003–Jun. 2004

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY:

Lecturer (=Assistant Professor) 1999–2002

HARVARD UNIVERSITY:

Instructor 1989–90, 1992–3, 1993–4
Teaching Fellow 1988–94

AREAS OF TEACHING EXPERTISE

Pre-classical history and culture of the ancient Near East (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, Anatolia); ancient Mediterranean civilizations (Greece and Rome); also ancient literature, religion, art and archaeology, historiography, interdisciplinary and comparative approaches to world cultures; History of Ideas of the Western Tradition.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**YALE**

Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Directed Studies June 2013–present
Coordinator, Directed Studies: History and Politics September 2005–present

Co-organizer (with Corinne Pache, Classics), “Epic Heroes Then and Now,” a conference held at Yale, March 28–29, 2008.

HARVARD

Head Teaching Fellow (Course Administrator) 1992–3, 1993–4

PUBLICATIONS**BOOK:**

The Babylonian Entitlement narûs: A New Interpretation of the Babylonian kudurrus. The American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Books, vol. 9 Victor H. Matthews, series editor. Boston, Massachusetts: American Schools of Oriental Research, 2003.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS:

“The Rod and Ring: Enduring Icon of Just Kingship, 2100–850 BCE,” in *Regime Change in the Ancient Near East: from Sargon of Agade to the Seljuks*. London: The British Academy (2007).

“Social Class System and Economy,” a chapter in *Ancient Mesopotamia, 3300–331 BCE*, Ron Wallenfels, ed. World Eras, vol. 8; Columbia, South Carolina: Manly, (2004); pp. 141–180.

“Middle Babylonian Period,” a chapter in *A History of Near Eastern Law*, vol. I, Raymond Westbrook, editor. *Handbuch der Orientalistik 72/1*. Leiden: Brill, 2003; pp. 485–520.

ARTICLES:

“The Law Stele of Hammurabi and its Audience.” (*The Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities* 24/1 (2012): 97–110.

“Representation of the Divine on the Babylonian Entitlement Monuments (*kudurrus*).” *Archiv für Orientforschung* (2005): 308–320.

“Classification, Historiography, and Monumental Authority: The Babylonian Entitlement *narûs* (*kudurrus*),” *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 52 (2000): 95–114.

“A Note on the Enclitic Particle *-ma* in the Old Akkadian Letter Greeting Formula” *Israel Oriental Studies* 18 (1998): 9–17.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

Two-thirds god, one-third man: The Hero in the Ancient Near East. (Proposal solicited by Princeton, under review)

The Inscriptions of the Babylonian Entitlement Monuments (*kudurrus*). New editions and photographs of published and unpublished monuments and inscriptions.

“Three New *kudurrus* in the Yale Babylonian Collection.”

“God-King of Akkad: Ur III Evidence for the Deified Manishtushu”

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

“New Light on the End of the First Dynasty of Babylon from an Unexpected Source: An Unpublished Entitlement Monument (*kudurru*) Dating to Kadashman-Harbe in the Yale Babylonian Collection,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society; San Diego, March, 2004.

“Towards a Model of the Mesopotamian Hero,” presented at the 211th Meeting of the American Oriental Society, Toronto, Canada; March, 2001.

“Text and Image: The Function of Divine Symbols on the Babylonian Entitlement Monuments (*kudurrus*),” presented at the 41st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Collège de France, Paris; July, 2000.

“Verbal and Visual Historiography in the Babylonian *kudurrus*,” presented at the 40th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Harvard University; July, 1998.

INVITED PAPERS

“The Law Stele of Hammurabi and Edmund Burke’s Concept of Posterity.” Presented at the Ancient Societies Workshop, Yale University, March 1, 2013.

“The Law Stele of Hammurabi and its Audience.” Presented at “Courts: Representing and Contesting Ideologies of the Public Sphere(s)”, a symposium sponsored by the Yale Law School and the Whitney Humanities Center, February 3–4, 2010.

“*The Epic of Gilgamesh*.” Presented at Bogazici University, Istanbul, October 5, 2009.

“The Rod and Ring: Enduring Mesopotamian Icon of Just Kingship.” Presented at Steady States: Continuity in Ancient Near Eastern Politics, Economy, and Art (a joint meeting of the British Academy of London and the British School of Archaeology in Iraq); London, The British Academy; September, 2004.

“Found and Lost: The On-going Devastation to Iraq’s Cultural Heritage.” Presented at the Plenary Session of the Midwest Art Historians Society annual meeting; April, 2004.

“From Babylon to Baghdad: The Sacking of the Iraq National Museum and the Future of Iraq’s Past.” Presented at the Center for Religion, Culture, and Ethics, The College of the Holy Cross; February, 2004.

“Secret Knowledge and the Transformation of the Hero,” a paper offered in response to “Orphism and Pre-Socratic Philosophy,” both presented at “The Mysteries: A Conversation Across the Disciplines,” a conference sponsored by the Department of the Classics at Emory University; April, 2002.

“Before Babel: Historical Interpretations of a Bilingual Situation in Ancient Mesopotamia,” Presented at *Synchysis and Polyglossia: Multilingual Societies in History*, a conference held at Tel Aviv University; February, 1999.

“The Ancient Display Setting of the Babylonian *kudurrus*,” presented at the Museum Session of the 40th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale. New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art; July, 1998.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center	2006–9
Kohut Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Yale University	2002–5
American Research Institute in Turkey: Grant for Research in Turkey	2004–5
Tel Aviv University Junior Faculty Research Grant	1999–2000
Vatat Post-doctoral Fellowship (Israel Social Science Research Fellowship) Tel Aviv University	spring 1997–8
American Schools of Oriental Research Mesopotamian Fellowship	1995–6
Harvard Graduate Society Dissertation Fellowship	1994–5
Harvard University Awards for Excellence in Teaching	1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994
Fulbright Fellowship (University of Munich)	1987–8

SERVICE

Selection Committees, Whitney Humanities Center Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowships	2006–present
Admissions Committees, Yale Directed Studies	2006–present
Sophomore Advisor, Yale	2005–present
Advisor and Reader, Senior Theses, Departments of History of Art, Humanities Program	2006–present
Member, Yale Middle Eastern Studies Council	2006–present
Consultant for curriculum development, University of Baghdad and Mosul, USAID/State Department program for Higher Education in Iraq	July 2003–present
Executive Committee, American Coordinating Committee for Iraqi Cultural Heritage (ACCICH)	May 2003–present
Author, Petition of International Scholars for the Safeguarding of	March 2003

Iraqi Cultural Heritage

Author, curriculum for English Language MA/PhD in Near Eastern Studies and the Archaeology of Israel, Department of Archaeology And Near Eastern Cultures, Tel Aviv University 1999–2000

Member, University Ad-hoc Committee on the Teaching of Undergraduate Writing, Harvard University 1993–4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Curatorial Assistant for Cuneiform Materials 1995–6
Harvard Semitic Museum

Area Supervisor and Assistant for Epigraphic Materials 1992
UCLA Archaeological Excavation at Tell Mozan, Syria.
Giorgio and Marilyn Kelly-Buccellati, Directors.

Editorial Assistant *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*. 1990

Staff Archaeologist Arizona State University and the National Forest Service, Payson, Arizona. Charles Redman, Director. 1986

LANGUAGES

Ancient: Akkadian (all dialects), Sumerian, Biblical Hebrew.
Modern: German, Spanish, some modern Hebrew; reading knowledge of French and Italian.

REFERENCES

Benjamin R. Foster, Wm. M. Laffan Professor of Assyriology and Babylonian Literature, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Humanities, Yale University. P.O. Box 208236, New Haven, CT 06520; (203) 432-6715. Email: benjamin.foster@yale.edu.

John Huehnergard, Professor of Semitic Philology, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University. Cambridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-4654. Email: huehnerg@fas.harvard.edu

Gregory Nagy, Professor of Classical Greek Literature, Department of the Classics, and Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University. Cambridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-4027. Email: gnagy@fas.harvard.edu.

Elizabeth Stone, Professor of Anthropology, Anthropology Department, State University of New York at Stony Brook. SBS Building, S-501, Stony Brook, NY 11794; (631) 632-7627. Email: estone@notes.cc.stonybrook.edu.

Norma Thompson, Associate Director of the Whitney Humanities Center and Senior Lecturer in the Humanities, Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Humanities Major, Yale University. Whitney

Humanities Center, 53 Wall Street, P.O.Box 208298 New Haven, CT 06520; (203) 432-0675. Email: norma.thompson@yale.edu.

Irene J. Winter, Professor of Fine Arts, Department of History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University. Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138; (617) 495-0780. Email: iwinter@fas.harvard.edu.