

## Report of UCLA meeting (March 3, 2023)

On March 3, 2023, there were two meetings in the Mesopotamian Lab at the [Cotsen Institute](#) of UCLA. The first included the Doctors Buccellati – [Giorgio](#), [Marilyn](#) and [Federico](#) (visiting from Berlin), plus [Jim Walker](#) zooming in from Utah, our work study students [Ronida Cheko](#), and [Hoorig Sarkissian](#), Post Doc Alisée Devillers, and [Mary Stancavage](#). This was a chance for some of the students working on the Mozan materials to get a bigger picture of the work of the [UGR](#) and other Mozan activities, and to meet some of those involved who are not local to Los Angeles. We're so grateful for the technology that makes this long-distance collaboration possible.

After this first meeting there was a seminar with the Buccellatis, Stancavage and Walker about how work on the different units was progressing for inclusion in the UGR.

Jim reported the following:

- [A15](#): emplacement piece is basically done, and many people are working on this unit, especially with the ceramics. The left-hand side still needs some work.
- [A14](#) and [A9](#) have been worked on since the [September meetings in Beola](#) although some gaps exist but Jim feels he can finish these eventually.
- [J5](#) is basically done but needs ceramics and some integrative pieces (there are some holes). It needs to be processed through [Bernardo Forni](#)'s program.
- [J3](#) needs a little more work on the depositional side.
- He is looking for a way to bring older units into the UGR without processing and he has looked at A8 and [A9](#) in this regard.

Mary reported that she had finished the emplacement piece of [A12](#) and has begun work on the left-hand side. She will have it mostly complete by September. Jim said he could help [Yasmine Mahmoud](#) in finishing [J4](#) by September. [J5](#) and [A15](#) should also be done by then.

Additional topics that were discussed:

- Possibility of grad students or PhDs to help write the left-hand side of the books. Jim will work with Yasmine for writing [J4](#).
- Ask [Lubna Omar](#) what state the bones are in.
- Would [Laerke Recht](#) be interested in doing the [A12](#) bones?
- Different software programs that convert text to HTML for ease in writing the text (Blue Griffon is one). Bernardo is working on the DEAR program which is designed to fit particularly our needs.

Everyone is invited to contribute to a book about [digital discourse](#) (see Giorgio Buccellati's e-mail sent on February 7, 2023): how working on data in this way helps you reflect on data recording itself as an intellectual exercise. How does it reflect on theory?