

## Robert K. Englund

Robert K. Englund, the third winner of the Richard W. Lyman Award, was selected by a committee of scholars from a group of 40 nominees for his expert scholarship on the earliest known form of writing; his achievements as the principal investigator of the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative (CDLI); and his work with museums, collectors, and colleagues the world over to make cuneiform tablets available for digital capture, archivization, and online presentation in the Web pages of the CDLI. As director of the CDLI, Englund leads an international group of Assyriologists, museum curators, and historians of science whose mission is to make available through the Internet the form and content of cuneiform tablets dating from circa 3350 B.C., until the end of cuneiform more than three millennia later, supplemented by online tools necessary for textual analysis. He has conducted his major research on the proto-cuneiform texts from Mesopotamia and on the electronic documentation and edition of the late 4th and 3rd millennium B.C. cuneiform archives. Englund and his colleagues are currently engaged in projects to reconstruct the full cuneiform tablet collection of the Iraq Museum and to develop and implement online linguistic tools to help language specialists understand East Semitic Akkadian and the language isolate Sumerian.

### Education

B.A., with double major in Near Eastern Studies and Phenomenology of Religion, University of California, Berkeley; M.A. and Ph.D. in Assyriology, Hittitology and Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Munich.

### Current Academic Positions

Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California at Los Angeles; Principal investigator, Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative.

### Selected Publications

*Organisation and Verwaltung der Ur III-Fischerei* [The Administration and Organization of Ur III Fisheries], (Berliner Beiträge zum Vorderen Orient 10, 1990); "Administrative Timekeeping in Ancient Mesopotamia," (*Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 31, 1988); with Peter Damerow, "Die Zahlzeichensysteme der Archaischen Texte aus Uruk" [The Numerical Sign Systems of the Archaic Texts from Uruk], in M. W. Green and H. J. Nissen, *Zeichenliste der Archaischen Texte aus Uruk* (ATU 2, 1987); "Regulating Dairy Productivity in the Ur III Period" (*Orientalia* 64, 1995); with Josef Bauer and Manfred Krebernik, *Mesopotamien: Späturuk-Zeit und Frühdynastische Zeit* [Mesopotamia: Late Uruk and Early Dynastic Periods] (*Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis* 160/1, 1998); with Peter

Damerow and Hans J. Nissen, "Zur rechnergestützten Bearbeitung der archaischen Texte aus Mesopotamien," [About Computer-aided Editions of the Archaic Texts from Mesopotamia] (*Mitteilungen der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft* 121, 1989).

### Selected Digital Projects

Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative (<http://cdli.ucla.edu>), a joint project of the University of California at Los Angeles and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin.

### Selected Awards and Appointments

Epigraphist of the British excavations of Jemdet Nasr, under the direction of Dr. Roger Matthews, director of the British Archaeological Expedition to Iraq, Baghdad, 1987–90; coeditor, with Rainer Boehmer, Peter Damerow, and Hans Nissen, of the series *Materialien zu den frühen Schrifzeugnissen des Vorderen Orients*, 1989 to present; general editor and contributor, *Cuneiform Digital Library Journal and Bulletin*; co-coordinator of the exhibition *Frühe Schrift und Techniken der Wirtschaftsverwaltung im alten Vorderen Orient*, held at the Charlottenburg Palace, Berlin.

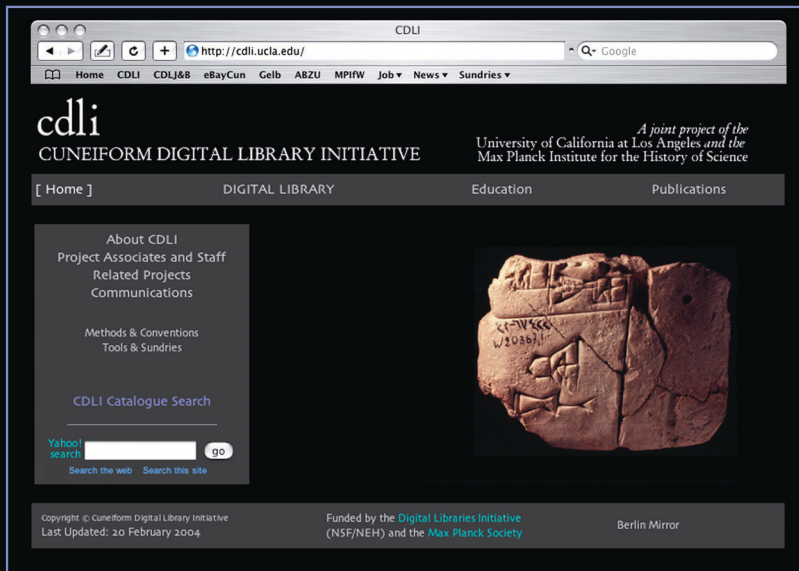
### Homepage

<http://cdli.ucla.edu>

# A Digital Library for Ancient Iraq

The Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative (CDLI; <http://cdli.ucla.edu/>) represents the efforts of an American-led group of linguists, museum curators and historians of science to make available through the internet the form and content of cuneiform tablets dating from the beginning of writing, ca. 3350 B.C., until the end of Babylonian civilization in the mid-first millennium B.C. With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Science Foundation, the CDLI is pursuing

the systematic digital documentation and electronic publication of these unique witnesses of earliest history. This international effort will implement scalable access systems for a wide array of users, including researchers, museum staff, internet users, and even law enforcement officials.



*Lead page to the digital library of cuneiform with a fisheries account from ancient Uruk, now in the collection of the National Museum of Iraq, Baghdad.*

A proposed online educational component combining the support of the NEH Iraq Initiative and a Learning Federation effort of the FAS fulfills two goals of the CDLI. On the one hand, our resources will provide a rich learning environment for K-12 and advanced students and their families, for whom ancient Iraq can still seem impenetrable. On the other, an interactive, English/Arabic presentation of shared cultural heritage dating back five millennia will assist an Iraqi nation now struggling to re-establish its historical and social unity.

Principal investigators:

Robert K. Englund, University of California at Los Angeles

Peter Damerow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin



*This proto-cuneiform tablet now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum, New York, dates to the 31st century B.C. The account records the distribution of barley by an archaic brewer to members of his staff. The seal impression depicts a ruler with his dogs engaged in a wild boar hunt.*