Dear Egyptology and Egyptian Archaeology students,

The Egyptian section has formulated the following new guidelines for students writing dissertations:

• Students should submit their dissertations to their committee one chapter at a time. Issues identified in individual chapters, particularly methodological ones, can thus be avoided in subsequent chapters.

• Students should submit their chapters first to their committee chairs, and only subsequently to their other committee members, after incorporating their chair’s comments. Comments and changes both should be indicated to subsequent readers; this can be done digitally with track changes, for example.

• Students must provide committee members with reasonable amounts of time to read and return chapters. “Reasonable time” should reflect not only reading time, but also time for other dissertations, as well as for teaching, administration and research, which also carry deadlines.

• Students should submit their final chapter at the beginning of the quarter preceding the quarter in which they wish to graduate, to allow time for committee reading and comments, student revisions, committee rereading, and administrative requirements.

    For students who are planning to graduate in June and would like to participate in the main graduation ceremony, the approved dissertation needs to be submitted in April with a defense scheduled in May. Past experience has shown that in order to make this deadline, the final chapter and full draft of the dissertation needs to be ready and submitted to the Chair and subsequently to the other committee members at the beginning of the Winter Quarter which will leave sufficient time for everybody to read it, make final comments and changes (approx. 3 months).

Sincerely,
The Egyptian section
(J. Johnson, W.R. Johnson, N. Moeller, B. Muhs, R. Ritner)