

CV Niek Veldhuis

Prof. Niek C. Veldhuis
Professor of Assyriology
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Education

1997 PhD in Assyriology, University of Groningen (Netherlands)

Professional Experience

2019- Faculty Council, Berkeley Institute of Data Science.
2018-2020 Visiting Professor, Helsinki University
2017- Associate Editor, [electronic Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary](#)
2016-2018 Member, Board of Advisors, Berkeley Institute of Data Science
2016- Senior Fellow, Berkeley Institute of Data Science
2015 Member, Board of Advisors, Hearst Museum of Anthropology
2015-2016 Senior Fellow, Townsend Center for the Humanities
2013- Professor of Assyriology at the Department of Near Eastern Studies, UCB
Berkeley
2009- Member of the international Steering Committee of the Open Richly
Annotated Cuneiform Corpus (<http://oracc.org/>)
2005-2013 Associate Professor of Assyriology at the Department of Near Eastern
Studies, UC Berkeley.
2003- Director, Digital Corpus of Cuneiform Lexical Texts
2002-2005 Assistant Professor of Assyriology at the Department of Near Eastern
Studies, UC Berkeley.
2002- Curator of Mesopotamian Epigraphy, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of
Anthropology, UC Berkeley.
2001-2017 Consultant for the electronic Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary
1999-2001 Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences Research Associate,
Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen
1998-1999 Research Assistant for the Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary, University of
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
1992-96 Research Assistant for Assyriology at the Faculty of Arts, University of
Groningen
1989-92 Research Assistant at the Department of Theology, University of Nijmegen

Editorships

2010- Explorations in Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations
2010- Journal of Cuneiform Studies
2011- Journal of Cuneiform Studies Supplements
2003-2008 Writings of the Ancient World
2002-2020 Cuneiform Digital Library Journal
(<http://cdli.ucla.edu/Pubs/CDLJ.html>)
2002-2020 Cuneiform Digital Library Bulletin
(<http://cdli.ucla.edu/Pubs/CDLB.html>)

Grants and Fellowships (selective)

- 2019 UCB/LMU mini-workshop grant (postponed; due to COVID19).
- 2018 Humanities Research Fellowship
- 2017 Mellon Digital Humanities Collaborative Research grant (with A. Anderson) for Ur III Name Authority
- 2017 UCB/LMU mini-workshop grant (workshop in Munich June 2017; Berkeley September 2017).
- 2015 Mellon Digital Humanities at Berkeley grant for development of a new DH course at NES.
- 2015 Berkeley Student Technology Fund (grant for installing a large flat screen for teaching in 12 Barrows).
- 2015 French-Berkeley Fund (with Cecile Michel, Paris): workshops on Assyriology and Methodology (Paris and Berkeley)
- 2014-2017 NEH Digital Humanities grant for the development of Berkeley Prosopography Services.
- 2013-2017 NEH institutional grant for the Digital Corpus of Cuneiform Lexical Texts (2 years of funding for post-doc, and partial funding for research assistant)
- 2013 Mellon Research Grant (for hiring research assistant on the DCCLT project)
- 2011 Townsend Center Departmental Residency Grant (Prof. Wayne Horowitz, Jerusalem, spending one month at Berkeley).
- 2010 NEH National Endowment for the Humanities, Berkeley Prosopography Services: Building Research Communities and Restoring Ancient Communities through Digital Tools.
- 2009 NEH Institutional Grant for Digital Corpus of Cuneiform Lexical Texts (2 years funding for post-doc and assistant)
- 2009 Humanities and Arts Research Technologies Grant (Berkeley Prosopography Services; co-operative project with IST-Data Services and an international team of Assyriologists).
- 2008 Disciplinary Innovation Grant (with Rick Kern, French): Visible Language
- 2008 Mellon Project Grant (for DCCLT)
- 2008 Stahl Endowment Grant (for DCCLT)
- 2008 Mellon Research Grant (for DCCLT)
- 2008 French-Berkeley Fund (with Francis Joannès, Paris): workshops on Hellenistic Babylonia and Prosopography
- 2008 Instructional Improvement Grant (with Marian Feldman, History of Art): Digital Catalogue of the Ancient Near Eastern Seminar Room Collection.
- 2008 Equipment Grant : Installation of Digital Projector in Seminar Room
- 2007 Curator's Release Time grant (Hearst Museum of Anthropology)
- 2006 Guggenheim Fellowship: The Intellectual History of Ancient Mesopotamia
- 2005 President's Research Fellowship in the Humanities
- 2004 NEH Institutional Grant for Digital Corpus of Cuneiform Lexical Texts
- 2003 Hellman Family Faculty Fund Award
- 2001 Netherlands Society for Scientific Research, Innovation Grant 'Literature, Religion, and Scholarship in Ancient Mesopotamia.' (Not accepted).

- 1999 Participation in the research group Mechanisms of Canon- Making in the Ancient World at the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem
- 1997 Henri Frankfort Fellowship at the Warburg Institute of the University of London

List of Publications

1. Online Databases and Tools

- 2021- Old Babylonian Emesal Liturgies <http://oracc.org/obel>
Online editions and translations of Emesal-Sumerian liturgical texts from the Old Babylonian period (ca. 1800 BCE).
- 2016- Computational Assyriology <https://github.com/niekveldhuis/compass>
Tools and data for computational analysis of cuneiform text corpora.
- 2012- Corpus of Kassite Sumerian Texts (PI) <http://oracc.org/ckst>
Online publication of Sumerian texts (royal inscriptions, lexical and literary texts) from the Kassite period (ca. 1500-1100 BCE); currently 92 texts.
- 2010- Berkeley Prosopography Services (PI). <http://berkeleyprosopography.org/>
Cooperative project with Laurie Pearce (Near Eastern Studies) and Patrick Schmitz, IST Research. Development of a language-agnostic prosopographical toolkit that assists in disambiguating personal names and that automatically generates interactive visualization of the social network. Under development.
- 2003- The Digital Corpus of Cuneiform Lexical Texts (PI) <http://oracc.org/dcclt>
Online publication of lexical texts in cuneiform (3.200 BCE - 100 AD), including several subprojects. Currently some 5,000 individual texts.

2. Monographs

- 2014 *History of the Cuneiform Lexical Tradition*. Guides to the Mesopotamian Textual Record 6. Münster: Ugarit Verlag.
reviews: Judith Pfitzner (*Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes* 106, 2016, 326-332); Alexandra Kleinerman (*Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 79, 2016, 163-164); William Brown (<https://thebiblicalreview.wordpress.com/2016/03/12/history-of-the-cuneiform-lexical-tradition-by-nick-velhuis/>).
- 2004 *Religion, Literature, and Scholarship: The Sumerian Composition Nanše and the Birds. With a Catalogue of Sumerian Bird Names*. Cuneiform Monographs 22. Leiden: Brill Publications.
- 1997 *Elementary Education at Nippur. The Lists of Trees and Wooden Objects*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Groningen
- 1991 *A Cow of Šin*. Library of Oriental Texts 2. Groningen: Styx Publications.

3. Edited Volumes

- 2018 Jay Crisostomo, Terri Tanaka, Eduardo Escobar, and Niek Veldhuis (eds.). *The Scaffolding of our Thought: Essays on Assyriology and the History of Science in Honor of Francesca Rochberg*. Leiden: Brill.
- 2006 With Piotr Michalowski, *Approaches to Sumerian Literature. Studies in Honour of Stip (H.L.J. Vanstiphout)*. Cuneiform Monographs 35. Leiden: Brill Publications.

4. Articles:

- 2024 The Treasure of Alimma: CUSAS 39 211. *Revue d'assyriologie et archéologie orientale* 118 (forthcoming; accepted for publication).
- The Manchester Tammuz (with D. Guerra). *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 76 (forthcoming; accepted for publication).
- 2023 Reconstructing the Elementary Nippur Curriculum. Pp.67-74 in: S. Paulus (ed.) *Back to School in Babylonia*. Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures.
- 2022 Eduba R: The Customs of the Eduba. *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 74: 3-16.
- A Tablet from Drehem. *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Breves et Utilitaires* 2022/49.
- 2021 Exploring Ancient Networks. *H2D Digital Humanities Journal* 3/1.
<http://doi.org/10.21814/H2D.3508>
- With Anya Kulikov and Adam Anderson: Sumerian Networks: Classifying Text Groups in the Drehem Archives. *IDEAH* 2/1.

- 2019 Word Studies: Ur III and ePSD2. Pp. 1113-1124 in: Grégory Chambon, Michaël Guichard and Anne-Isabelle Langloise.a. (eds.) *De l'argile au numérique. Mélanges assyriologiques en l'honneur de Dominique Charpin*. Leuven: Peeters Publications.
- Ancient Mesopotamia. Pp. 11-35 in: John Considine (ed.) *Cambridge World History of Lexicography*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2018 Translation in the Elevation of Ištar. In: Jay Crisostomo, Terri Tanaka, Eduardo Escobar, and Niek Veldhuis (eds.). *The Scaffolding of our Thought: Essays on Assyriology and the History of Science in Honor of Francesca Rochberg*. Leiden: Brill.
- Gender Studies and Assyriology: Expectations of an Outsider. In: Saana Svärd and Agnès Garcia Ventura (eds.), *Studying Gender in the Ancient Near East*.
- 2017 Words and Grammar: Two Old Babylonian Lists. Pp. 356-388 in Gonzalo Rubio, Fumi Karahashi and Lluís Feliu (eds.): *The First 90 Years. A Sumerian Celebration in Honor of Miguel Civil*. *Studies in Ancient Near Eastern Records* 12.
- 2016 Old Babylonian School Curricula. Pp. 1-12 in Shigeo Yamada and Daisuke Shibata (eds.): *Cultures and Societies in the Middle Euphrates and Habur Areas in the Second Millennium BC, vol. 1: Scribal Education and Scribal Traditions*.
- 2015 Schools in Ancient Mesopotamia. In: *Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies*. DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780195393361-0196
- 2014 Intellectual History and Assyriology. *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern History* 1, 21-36. DOI: 10.1515/janeh-2013-0006.
- 2013 Domesticizing Babylonian Scribal Culture in Assyria: Transformation by Preservation. Pp. 11-24 in W.S. van Egmond and W.H. van Soldt, *Theory and practice of Knowledge Transfer. Studies in School Education in the Ancient Near East and beyond. Papers Read at a Symposium in Leiden, 17-19 December 2008*. Leiden: Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten.
- The Early Dynastic Kiš Tradition. Pp.261-280 in *He Has Opened Nisaba's House of Learning. Studies in Honor of Åke Waldemar Sjöberg on the Occasion of His 89th Birthday on August 1st 2013*, Leonhard Sassmannshausen (ed.). Leiden: Brill.
- Purity and Access: A Catalog of Lexical Texts Dedicated to Nabû. *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 65, 169-180.
- 2012 Prestige: Divergent Receptions of Babylonian Scholarship. Cuneiform Lexical Texts in the Late Bronze Age. Pp. 83-104 in *Ansehensachen. Formen von Prestige in Kulturen des Altertums*, Birgit Christiansen and Ulrich Thaler (eds.). Munich: Herbert Utz Verlag.
- Lexical Texts, Ancient Near East. In *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, Roger Bagnall, Kai Brodersen, Craige Champion, Andrew Erskine, and Sabine Huebner (eds.).
- Cuneiform: Changes and Developments. Pp. 3-23 in Stephen D. Houston (ed.), *The Shape of Script. How and Why Writing Systems Change*. Santa-Fe: School of Advanced Research Press.
- 2011 Levels of Literacy. Pp. 68-89 in Karen Radner and Eleanor Robson (eds.) *Oxford Handbook of Cuneiform Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2010 Old Babylonian Documents in the Hearst Museum of Anthropology, Berkeley. *Revue d'assyriologie et d'archéologie orientale* 102, 49-70.
- 2010 Guardians of Tradition: Early Dynastic Lexical Texts in Old Babylonian Copies. Pp. 379-400 in Heather D. Baker, Eleanor Robson, and Gábor Zólyomi (eds.), *Your Praise is Sweet. A Memorial Volume for Jeremy Black from Students, Colleagues and Friends*.

- 2010 The Theory of Knowledge and the Practice of Celestial Divination. Pp. 77-91 in Amar Annus (ed.), *Divination and Interpretation of Signs in the Ancient World*. Oriental Institute Seminars 6. Chicago: The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago
- 2009 BAM 7, 51: An Alternative Reading. *Le Journal des Médecines Cunéiformes* 14, 44-48
- 2009 with Rick Kern: Visible Language: From Cuneiform to Text Messaging. *Townsend Newsletter* September/October 2009, 5-7 (<http://townsendcenter.berkeley.edu/article25.shtml>).
- 2008 Kurigalzu's Statue Inscription. *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 60 (2008), 25-51.
- 2008 Orthography and Politics: Adda, "Carcass" and Kur₉, "to Enter.". In *On the Third Dynasty of Ur* (Journal of Cuneiform Studies Supplement 1). Piotr Michalowski (ed.), pp.223-229.
- 2006 Divination: Theory and Use. In *If a Man Builds a Joyful House: Assyriological Studies in Honor of Erle Verdun Leichty*. Edited by Ann K. Guinan, Maria de J. Ellis, A. J. Ferrara, Sally M. Freedman, Matthew T. Rutz, Leonhard Sassmannshausen, Steve Tinney, and M. W. Waters.
- How did they Learn Cuneiform? "Tribute/Word List C" as an Elementary Exercise. In *Approaches to Sumerian Literature in Honor of Stip (H.L.J. Vanstiphout)*, Piotr Michalowski and Niek Veldhuis (eds.). Brill 2006, 181-200.
- How to Classify Pigs: Old Babylonian and Middle Babylonian Lexical Texts. In *De la domestication au tabou : le cas des suidés dans le Proche-Orient ancien*, Cécile Michel and Brigitte Lion (eds.). Paris 2006, 25-29.
- Another Early Dynastic Incantation. In: *Cuneiform Digital Library Bulletin* 2006:2
http://cdli.ucla.edu/pubs/cdlb/2006/cdlb2006_002.html
- 2005 Lexical Bits and Pieces. In: Yitschak Sefati, Pinhas Artzi, Chaim Cohen, Barry L. Eichler, and Victor A. Hurowitz (eds.) *"An Experienced Scribe Who Neglects Nothing" Ancient Near Eastern Studies In Honor Of Jacob Klein*, Bethesda, MD: CDL Press.
- Grammatical Texts in their Intellectual Contexts. *Acta Sumerologica* 22 (2000) [appeared 2005].
- 2004 HI-(še₃) la₂. In: *Cuneiform Digital Library Bulletin* 2004:4
http://cdli.ucla.edu/pubs/cdlb/2004/cdlb2004_004.html
- 2003 Sumerian Literature. In: Gillis Dorleijn and Herman L.J. Vanstiphout: *Cultural Repertories. Structure, Function and Dynamics*. Louvain: Peeters 2003.
- Cuneiform Tablets at the Groningen Institute for Semitics. *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 93 (2003).
- Mesopotamian Canons. In Margalit Finkelberg and Christoph Marksches (eds.). *Homer, the Bible, and Beyond: Literary and Religious Canons in the Ancient World*.
- with H. Hilprecht †, Model Texts and Exercises from the Temple School of Nippur: BE 19. In: *Archiv für Orientforschung* 50 (2003/2004).
- Entering the Netherworld. In *Cuneiform Digital Library Bulletin* 2003:6.
http://cdli.ucla.edu/pubs/cdlb/2003/cdlb2003_006.html
- The Sumerian Word na-IZI. In *Cuneiform Digital Library Notes* 2003: 002.
<http://cdli.ucla.edu/pubs/cdln/archives/000001.html>
- 2002 [Studies in Sumerian Vocabulary: ^dnin-ka₆; immal/šilam; and še₂₁.d](#). *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 54.
- 2001 A Multiple Month Account from the Gu'abba Rest House. *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 91, 85-109

- [The Solution of the Dream: A New Interpretation of Bilgames' Death.](#) *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 53 (2001), 133-148.
- 2000 [Sumerian Proverbs in their Curricular Context.](#) *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120, 383-399.
- [Kassite Exercises: Literary and Lexical Extracts.](#) *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 52, 67-94.
- 1999 LÚ^{gis}ŠÀ.TAR in Ur III. *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 19, 20.
- Reading the Signs. in H.L.J. Vanstiphout, W.J. van Bekkum, G.J.H. van Gelder, and G.J. Reinink (eds.), *All Those Nations...*, *Cultural Encounters within and with the Near East*. Groningen: Styx Publications, 161-174.
- Continuity and Change in the Mesopotamian Lexical Tradition. in B. Roest and H.L.J. Vanstiphout (eds.), *Aspects of Genre and Type in Pre-Modern Literary Cultures*. Groningen: Styx Publications, 101-118.
- The Poetry of Magic. In T. Abusch and K. van der Toorn (eds.), *Mesopotamian Magic: Textual, Historical, and Interpretative Perspectives*. Ancient Magic and Divination 1. Groningen: Styx Publications, 35-48.
- Leren Lezen en Schrijven in Nippur. *Phoenix* 45, 30-41.
- 1998 [TIN.TIR = Babylon, the Question of Canonisation, and the Production of Meaning.](#) *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 50, 77-85.
- A Late Old Babylonian Proto-Kagal/Nigga Text and the Nature of the Acrographic Lexical Series. *Acta Sumerologica* 20, 201-216.
- 1997 with J. Oelsner (Jena): Ein keilschriftliches Palimpsest. *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 87, 219-221.
- The Sur₉-priest, the Instrument ^{gis}Al-gar-sur₉, and the Forms and Uses of a Rare Sign. *Archiv für Orientforschung* 44/45, 115-128.
- 1996 On Interpreting Mesopotamian Namburbi Rituals. *Archiv für Orientforschung* 42/43, 145-154.
- The Cuneiform Tablet as an Educational Tool. *Dutch Studies on Near Eastern Languages and Cultures* 2, 11-26.
- A Nippur Emesal Vocabulary. *Acta Sumerologica* 18, 229-234.
- On a Ritual for opening a Well in Šumma Ūlu 17 (CTN IV 156+160+161+162). *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 117, 104-105.
- The Ugarit Lexical Text RS 13.53 (PRU III, Planche X). *Welt des Orients* 27, 25-29.
- 1995 with H.L.J. Vanstiphout: tuppi ilāni takāltu pirišti šamê u eršetim. *Annali* 55, 30-32.
- 1994 A Tablet Recovered and a Missing Barrel of Beer. *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 64, 55-56.
- 1993 An Ur III Incantation against the Bite of a Snake, a Scorpion, or a Dog. *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 83, 161-169.
- The Fly, the Worm, and the Chain. *Orientalia Lovaniensia Periodica* 24, 41-61.
- 1992 Comments on IGI-HUL. *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 43, 33-34.
- 1991 On the Reading of GISSU in Ophthalmological Context. *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 106, 74-76.
- 1990 The Heartgrass and Related Matters. *Orientalia Lovaniensia Periodica* 21, 27-44.

- 1989 The New Assyrian Compendium for a Woman in Childbirth. *Acta Sumerologica* 11, 239-260.
- 1987 Geschiedenis van de Joden in Harderwijk. *Studia Rosenthaliana* 21, 73-92. Reprint in: *Historisch Jaarboek Harderwijk 1994*, 5-24.

4a. Articles in the Press

Gender Studies and Assyriology: Expectations of an Outsider. In: Saana Svärd and Agnès Garcia Ventura (eds.), *Gender and Methodology in Ancient Near Eastern Studies*.

School and Curriculum. In: Gonzalo Rubio (ed.), *A Handbook of Ancient Mesopotamia*. Berlin/Boston: Walter de Gruyter.

Translation in the Elevation of Ištar. In: Jay Crisostomo, Terri Tanaka, Eduardo Escobar, and Niek Veldhuis (eds.). *The Scaffolding of our Thought: Essays on Assyriology and the History of Science in Honor of Francesca Rochberg*. Leiden: Brill

5. Reviews:

- 2016 Elizabeth von der Osten Sacken, *Untersuchungen zur Geflügelwirtschaft im Alten Orient*. (Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis 272). Fribourg: Academic press, 2015. In: *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 79: 168-169.
- 2015 Kai Lämmerhirt, *Die sumerische Königshymne Šulgi F*. Texte und Materialien der Frau Prof. Hilprecht-Collection 9. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz 2012. In: *Review of Biblical Literature* 2015/6; <http://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=9187&CodePage=9187>.
- 2005 Markus Hilgert, *Cuneiform Texts from the Ur III Period in the Oriental Institute Volume 2. Drehem Administrative Documents from the Reign of Amar-Suena*. OIP 121. Chicago, IL 2003. In: *Orientalia Nova Series* 74 (2005), 116-119.
- 2002 E. Flückiger-Hawker, *Urnamma of Ur in Sumerian Literary Tradition*. Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis 166. Fribourg 1999. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 122, 127-130.
- G. Cunningham, *Religion and Magic. Approaches and Theories*. Edinburgh 1999. In *Archiv für Orientforschung* 48/49 (2001/2002), 226-228.
- Petra D. Gesche, *Schulunterricht in Babylonien im ersten Jahrtausend v. Chr.*. Münster: Ugarit-Verlag, 2000. In: *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 123 (2003), 627-633.
- 1999 S. Parpola, *The Standard Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh* (State Archives of Assyria Cuneiform Texts, Vol. 1). Helsinki 1997, *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 56, 388-392.
- V.A. Hurowitz, *Divine Service and its Rewards. Ideology and Poetics in the Hince Kudurru* (Beer-Sheva, Vol. X). Jerusalem 1997, *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 56, 680-685.
- 1998 G. Cunningham, *'Deliver Me from Evil' Mesopotamian Incantations 2500-1500 BC* (Studia Pohl Series Maior 17). Rome 1997, *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 55, 850-852.
- 1997 E. Reiner, *Astral Magic in Babylonia*. Philadelphia 1995, *Archiv für Orientforschung* 44/45, 417-419.
- A. Cavigneaux, *Uruk. Altbabylonische Texte aus dem Planquadrat Pe XVI-4/5. Nach Kopien von Adam Falkenstein. Mit einem Beitrag von Rainer Michael Boehmer* (AUWE 23). Mainz 1996, *Archiv für Orientforschung* 44/45, 360-363.
- 1995 R.K. Englund and H.J. Nissen, *Die lexikalischen Listen der archaischen Texte aus Uruk* (ATU 3). Berlin 1993, *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 52, 433-440.

