

After almost 24 years at the Kelsey, Exhibition Coordinator **Scott Meier** retired on August 1. Scott deftly oversaw more than 60 exhibitions since joining the museum in 2001, using his talents in design, fabrication, and project management to bring countless curatorial visions to life. An invaluable behind-the-scenes presence, Scott played key roles in the planning, installation, and ongoing care of the Upjohn Wing's galleries and the objects it houses—though, as he notes, “My favorite memories of the museum have less to do with the exhibitions and more

to do with the people I came across along the way.”

“Scott was the soul and the physical manifestation of the Kelsey for decades,” Director Nic Terrenato said. “He leaves a hole that it will be impossible to fill entirely.” Indeed, Scott’s creativity and attention to detail resound throughout the museum and will continue to do so for years to come. Thank you for your many years of service, Scott!

The Kelsey Museum bids farewell to **Tamika Mohr**, our chief administrator for the past two years. During

her tenure here, Tamika skillfully managed the Kelsey’s finances, facilities, and more—bringing dedication, professionalism, and care to all aspects of the museum’s operations. She fondly reflects on “memorable experiences working alongside truly remarkable teams” and is especially grateful for her collaborations with administrative staff, security officers, and students. As Tamika continues to transition to her chief admin role in U-M’s Department of the History of Art, we thank her for her many lasting contributions and wish her continued success. Happy trails, Tamika!

From Protector to Parting Gift

Following more than two decades at the Kelsey Museum, Scott Meier has gotten up close and personal with thousands of artifacts. His favorite piece in the collection is a terracotta figurine depicting the ancient Egyptian deity Bes (KM 4960)—protector of households and families—standing on a lotus flower with his tongue sticking out, currently displayed on our first floor. This object has been a fixture of the permanent galleries for years and has appeared in several Kelsey publications. Yet Scott’s fondness for this artifact comes not from its cultural significance and careful sculpting but from the way he has seen it engage young visitors and spark joy. “It holds a special place for me because a group of small kids came through once when I was working and they all stuck their tongues out at the statue when they walked by,” he said. “Anything that can elicit that kind of response in a museum is great to me!”

To mark Scott’s retirement, the Kelsey’s digital archaeology team prepared a one-of-a-kind gift: a scale replica of this figurine. To 3D model the object, the digital team used a technique called photogrammetry. We took 117 photos of the object from all angles and fed them into a computer program. The software identified matching points across all the images and used the changing positions of those points to reconstruct the object in three dimensions and build a photorealistic texture. We then worked with Fabrication Underground at U-M’s Duderstadt Center to 3D print the replica in resin at 1:1 scale.

This project exemplifies what makes the Kelsey a remarkable place: an exciting collection that inspires wonder in visitors, a dedicated and collaborative staff who bring all their skills to bear on challenging problems, and a world-class research institution applying cutting-edge techniques to the study of the past.

We hope that the replica brings Scott fond memories in his retirement and serves as a reminder of the lasting impact he has made on the museum and the tens of thousands of visitors who have passed through the galleries and temporary exhibits he designed, built, and installed.

You can view and rotate the 3D model at myumi.ch/5k5Mg, and be sure to stop by and stick out your tongue at Bes in person, in honor of Scott!

—Chris Motz, Manager of Digital Assets



Top: 3D printing in progress at the Duderstadt Center.

Above: Scott’s final, mounted Bes model.