

ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE EXPLORES EXCAVATIONS AT THE RED SEA



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will host archaeologist Kathryn Bard Tues., May 14,

2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Knox Room, Long Hall. Bard, professor of archaeology at Boston University, will present “The Wonderful Things of Punt: Excavations at a Pharaonic Harbor on the Red Sea.”

Recent excavations at the ancient Egyptian harbor at Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, on the Red Sea, have uncovered evidence of shrines aligned along the shore of the Red Sea and harbor facilities farther inland, including eight man-made caves located above an ancient lagoon that extended considerably inland from where the present-day shoreline is located. The harbor was used for the seafaring expeditions to Punt and Bia-Punt, located somewhere in the southern Red Sea region, and pottery and materials from the southern Red Sea have been excavated at this site along with ship timbers, equipment, and food remains used on these expeditions. Hieroglyphic and hieratic texts on stelae, seal impressions, and ostraca combine with the associated pottery to aid in dating different features at the site to the early and later 12th Dynasty (circa 1991–1784 BCE).

In addition to her work at Boston University, Bard is the research fellow at African Studies Center, Center for Remote Sensing, as well as co-director at the University of Naples “l’Orientale”/Boston University Excavations at Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, Egypt.

The Bible Lands Museum will be open 6:30-7:15 p.m. and after the lecture. The lecture and reception to follow are free and open to the public. Contact the Museum with questions at 412-924-1395.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is a graduate professional institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Founded in 1794, the Seminary is located in Pittsburgh, Pa., and more than 300 students are enrolled yearly in the degree programs. The Seminary prepares leaders who proclaim with great joy God’s message of good news in both word and deed. PTS is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to Scripture and commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
616 North Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-362-5610



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