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NICOLETTA BELLOTTO "NICO"
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As a member of the SAAB team since 2015, Nicoletta was happy to see it developing into an electronic, open-access journal while maintaining its traditional garb in printed volumes. Her cooperation has been an invaluable resource over the years, and her attention has not slowed even when a fatal illness prevented her from a more active contribution but in no way diminished her intellectual vivacity.

The editorial work was only one of the many occasions all of us had to enjoy Nico's friendship and competence. She addressed historical problems from an original perspective, giving keen attention to the role of social and civic institutions and their symbolic expressions, and demonstrating a peculiar sensibility for the everyday life that emerged through the stereotypical formulae of ancient texts. Her volume Le adozioni a Emar (2009)*, her articles on the structure and regulations of family, and on witnessing and slavery, show Nico's attention to juridical matters and her competence in framing them within the context of historical complexity, guided by curiosity and by a solid culture that stimulated comparisons.*

She was discreet in presenting her point of view, and even shy when speaking in public; but she was resolute and decisive in her judgments and ideas, which were often original and inspiring. Thus, her advice was always sound and pondered, and her support was ready and generous. We could trust it both in scientific discussions and projects, and in practical matters. In fact, this was another of her great abilities: to find ways to solve various problems, since she was capable to deal with a wide range of matters, from modern literature and art to cuisine, from travelling to teaching — and obviously, Assyriology.

The sorrow for her untimely death will not end, but it will be in some, albeit insufficient measure comforted in the memory of her ironic, intelligent, and affectionate personality.

Simonetta, Gianni, Robert, Salvatore, Luigi