

### **DigEanna: a digitalization, reconstruction and contextualization of the Eanna Temple Archive**

The group of c. 10.000 Babylonian cuneiform tablets conventionally labeled as the ‘Eanna temple archive’ represents one of the most important corpora of written sources from ancient Mesopotamia. The majority of tablets of the archive have come down to us from the functionaries and officials of the Eanna temple who were active in southern Babylonian city of Uruk in the so-called “long sixth century” (c. 626–484 BCE). Eanna was not only a cult center, ancient already at the time, but also one of Babylonia’s most important economic institutions; it employed thousands of staff and actively engaged in production, trade, and, to some extent, politics. Counterintuitively, and numerous studies of Eanna documents notwithstanding, no comprehensive investigation of these texts as a coherent body of documentary data has ever been attempted. DigEanna will close this knowledge gap. Making ample use of recent advances in cuneiform methodology (e.g., diplomatics and prosopography) and digital humanities tools, the project will collect all documents of the archive and identify dossiers and files among them. Thereafter, DigEanna will reconstruct the context behind these group of texts, namely individual scriptoria, bureaus, and temple offices. DigEanna will demonstrate that changes in Eanna’s bureaucratic practice correspond to historical, social, and religious developments that took place in Babylonia of the “long sixth century.” The vast material of the Eanna archive, which DigEanna will make accessible online, will thus significantly contribute to our knowledge of economics, bureaucracy, history, and religion of the ancient Near East in the first millennium BCE.