Series Editor's Preface

With this volume, a second substantial group of Old Babylonian documents from the Schøyen Collection is provided by A. R. George, here accompanied by Gabriella Spada. Their book is a further instance of the international collaboration that characterizes the publications in the Cornell University Studies in Assyriology and Sumerology (CUSAS) series. The sixty-six school texts published in what follows constitute a significant addition to the corpus of school texts available and broaden the scope of what is known of the Old Babylonian school curriculum. Building on the pioneering work of F. R. Kraus, George provides extensive commentary and analysis of thirty-eight Akkadian school letters and duplicates. Similarly, the edition of twenty-six

new texts by Spada represents an important step on the path to a full edition of the corpus of Old Babylonian model contracts, which she has been pursuing for some years. Together, their substantial contributions add much to what was known of the Babylonian school curriculum and update and clarify the interpretations and earlier analyses of cuneiform sources associated with the Old Babylonian schools. We remain grateful to Dr. Martin Schøyen for encouraging and supporting the publication of texts from his collection and to the authors for their comprehensive editions. The results reflect once again the major contribution to Assyriology being made by the ongoing publication of texts from private collections.

David I. Owen
Curator of Tablet Collections
Jonathan and Jeannette Rosen
Ancient Near Eastern Studies Seminar
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
January 2019