Final Report

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Project Title: *MPP Lithic Analysis and Student Training*

1.1 Project Summary

Continued typological/technological descriptive and preliminary statistical analysis of 3,000- to 5,000-year-old lithic (stone) artefacts from Jordan. Student training in professional lithic analysis research and methodologies. Preliminary research and writing of two draft publications.

1.2 Project Outcomes and Impacts

The Madaba Plains Project (MPP; http://www.madabaplains.org/) first established in 1968, is the umbrella organization for an internationally recognized archaeological field and laboratory-training programme held in Jordan. As a core member of the scientific staff of MPP, Mount Royal faculty, students, and volunteers have opportunities for field participation (since 2004) and laboratory training (since 2003) in archaeological material culture analysis involving one of three major field excavations, the ancient city of Tell al-'Umayri. Since 2003/2004, I have supervised and taught over 140 volunteers and paid research assistants involved in this field and laboratory work. This IRGF grant period of laboratory research at Mount Royal involved the following project outcomes: 1. continued typological/technological descriptive and preliminary statistical analysis of 3,000 to 5,000 year-old lithic (stone) artefacts from this ancient Bronze and Iron Age city, database entry into Access database, and illustrating and photographing artefacts for publication; 2. student training in professional lithic analysis research and methodologies (three MRU student volunteers, two Research Assistants); and 3. shipment of artefacts that have been fully described, photographed, and illustrated back to La Sierra University, California (for eventual return to Jordan). In terms of dissemination, preliminary research and writing of two draft publications was begun.