

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
Conference Call
December 15, 2011

Present: Suzanne Richard, Elise Friedland, Andrew Smith, Chuck Jones, Sten LaBianca, Bob Cargill, Stefanie Elkins, Jacob Wright, Tim Harrison, Andy Vaughn, Britta Abeln

- I. Meeting called to order by Tim Harrison at 10:00am. Distributed agenda approved without objection.
- II. Annual Meeting Program Coordination/Planning

Tim Harrison provided background by explaining that in the past CAMP had provided some oversight, and that we need to discuss how to proceed now that CAMP no longer existed. One issue that needed to be addressed is the plenary session or event at the annual meeting. The CCC needs to decide who should organize the event and other questions.

Various members of the CCC asked questions about who should invite speakers. Elise and Andrew were asked if it would be a workload problem for the program committee (PC) to take this on, and they replied "no." It was also observed that the PC could take into account the views of the president and executive director because they serve on the committee.

The discussion shifted to whether the plenary session should correspond to a theme of the overall conference. Others asked if the plenary lecture should be a broad topic and tied somehow to the city of the annual meeting but not necessarily to a theme.

The conversation then shifted to the goals of the plenary session. Andy commented that originally the plenary event was designed as an outreach event with a public lecture, but that he would like to see more discussion about the goals of the plenary event and what outcomes ASOR hoped to achieve with the plenary event. He commented that we spend \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year on the event (including the reception), so he encouraged us to discuss what goals we have for the event with that large of an expenditure.

Others asked about the possibility of a theme and charging the new VP with coming up with a theme. Others asked if the plenary event could be more popular and draw an outside audience. Several members concurred with the goal of making the plenary popular and engaging for the wider public. Others liked the idea of using the plenary event for outreach. Others mentioned the desirability of connected with local museums. Discussion ensued on the disability of holding the plenary offsite versus at the conference hotel and using it to fulfill ASOR F&B minimum.

As time was moving forward, Tim summarized the conversation and highlighted several decisions that needed to be made now. 1) A decision should be made for 2012 very soon. He suggested that for

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December 15, 2011

2012 that we stick with the status quo of having the president decide in consultation with the PC co-chairs. There was general agreement that this was a good idea. 2) That the CCC charge the PC discuss the plenary event, discuss its goals, and to then bring a proposal back to the CCC. There was general agreement for this [later in the meeting there was a formal motion for the second point].

III. ASOR Ethics Policy Review Update

Tim reported that Lynn Swartz Dodd has agreed to chair a committee on an ethics policy, and he would be naming the rest of the committee members shortly. His goal was to have a working document to discuss in Chicago.

Various members agreed that this was much needed. One member encouraged the committee to think about the mechanics of implementing a policy and not just the theory of the policy.

Other members observed that a policy should be clear and uniform so that different program areas (publications, annual meeting, CAP) could all use the same policy.

Tim concluded by asking CCC members to email or otherwise contact him if there were any questions or concerns.

IV. ASOR Bylaws/Governance Issues

Tim observed that there are a lot of typos and internal inconsistencies in the bylaws that need to be cleaned up. The focus to date had been on the bigger issues and not small problematic issues. Now was the time to clean up the smaller issues. He asked how to best proceed.

Sten suggested appointed someone as an editor to bring the inconsistencies to the CCC or the EC. Andy volunteered that he and the ASOR staff (namely, Cynthia, Britta, and Andy) could go through the bylaws and identify places with inconsistencies. He suggested that the ASOR staff report back to the CCC in February with instances of typos or inconsistencies.

Sten LaBianca moved that the ASOR staff be asked to identify typos and inconsistencies in the by-laws and report back to the CCC in February. The motion was second and approved unanimously.

V. Motion for Plenary Event.

Tim suggested that it might be good to formalize the instructions to the PC in the first agenda item. Tim Harrison moved and Sten seconded: That the PC be charged by the CCC with discussing the plenary event and its goals to bring a recommendation back to the CCC. Passed unanimously.

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Conference Call
December 15, 2011

VI. Website Development/Coordination: Tim suggested that this topic be postponed until next month. Everyone agreed.

VII. Scheduling and Other Business

Tim asked if Thursdays at 10am worked for everyone. Several people commented that things would change once school started. It was agreed that Britta would email members and find a time that worked.

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting ended at approximately 11:00am.