

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
Conference Call
March 21, 2013

Present: Bob Cargill, Erin Darby, Jennie Ebeling, Elise Friedland, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Laura Mazow, Suzanne Richard, Andy Vaughn, Jacob Wright, Britta Abeln

Absent: Neal Bierling, Tim Harrison, Sten LaBianca, Andrew Smith

- I. Call to Order by Sharon Herbert at 10:02am.
- II. Approval of February minutes

The February minutes were approved unanimously as distributed.

- III. Progress on rescheduling the members' meeting

Andy reported that negotiations were ongoing with the hotel for reasonably priced box lunches during the time of the members' meeting. He will be visiting Baltimore in May and will find out more. The CCC agreed that \$15 was about the maximum price they thought attendees would be willing to pay for a box lunch. There was much discussion about the number of people who would buy a lunch, and estimates ranged from 50 to 300. It was agreed that whether or not a box lunch for \$15 or under can be arranged, the members' meeting should be held during lunch time slot

- IV. More on e-newsletters

Andy reported that 680-800 people are opening each issue of News@ASOR. Friends of ASOR will be launching soon and will provide free access to a resource page and an e-newsletter. The e-newsletter Ancient Near East Today will be a front page for articles on the blog and additional items. Andy asked the CCC for feedback on both e-newsletters.

A few ideas for articles were discussed including CCC members' committee work and research. Other ideas included more specifically addressing the question of whether archaeology departments are requiring students to take on too much debt and a response to the Forbes article listing Archaeology/Anthropology as the worst major. The CCC was asked to brainstorm ideas for articles, to volunteer to write articles, and to recruit at least one person to write something in the next 12 months.

- V. Update on program book production

A chart that was distributed shows the internal timeline for the program book. July 1st is a key date. It is the date on which everything for the program book is due. A concern was raised over the July 31st deadline for edits to abstracts since so many people in the field over the summer. Elise and Andy responded that they understand the difficulty of the summer date, but that it needs to be July 31st because we are hiring a professional copy editor and a proof-reader. We need to build time into the process for these people to do their work. Presenters will be notified of this important deadline, and it is hoped that they can find time over the summer to check their abstracts. It was noted that in the past presenters had a much later date, but hardly anyone used the opportunity to make changes.

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VI. Logistics and goals of CCC retreat

Sharon summarized that goals of the retreat as answering the following questions: what does each committee do and how do they do it? What are the mechanisms for recruiting committee members, what are the expectations of the committee members, etc.? Sharon reiterated that the action plans are due April 1st, and their timely submission will help the CCC to address these questions. An overall goal is for ASOR to do solid work that isn't redundant.

Andy discussed logistics of the meeting. The meeting will likely be held at the Sheraton Airport Hotel. ASOR used points for rooms for everyone and will also provide dinner on Saturday night and transportation reimbursement if needed. The location of the meeting room is still being determined.

Returning to the goals of the retreat, there will be feedback on the action plans, discussion of where the CCC wants the academic program to go, and planning the CCC's role in the new Bylaws. It was requested that an agenda or list of goals be sent out to council members, and Sharon agreed to do so. Andy also suggested that if people want an example for committee guidelines, they should look to the Program Committee guidelines as posted on the ASOR website.

VII. Matters arising

It was noted that the board meeting is one week prior to the retreat so if anyone on the CCC wants something to be discussed at the board meeting, that person should let Sharon know.

Chuck asked if there would be free wi-fi at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore in the meeting rooms. So far, it is unknown, and the answer will depend on costs.

There will be no April conference call because of the CCC retreat in Detroit in late April.

VIII. Adjournment declared by Sharon Herbert at 10:50am