

Fall ASOR Executive Committee Meeting
ASOR Offices at Boston University
656 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.
17 September 2011

PRESENT: Tim Harrison, President, P.E. MacAllister, Chairman, Sheldon Fox, Treasurer, Eric Meyers, Past President, Orlyn Nelson, Jennie Ebeling, VP for membership, Jeff Blakely, Vice President for Publications, Øystein LaBianca, Vice President for Archaeological Research and Policy, Jim Strange, Secretary, Joe D. Seger, Andy Vaughn, Executive Director.

ABSENT: B.W. Ruffner

VISITORS: Robert Oden

1. Call to Order, P.E. MacAllister, Chairman.
2. Approval of Minutes from the Spring Meeting (Apr 29, 2011, and posted online). Approved as posted.
3. Approval of Agenda. Approved as posted.
4. Treasurer's Report (Sheldon Fox--distributed). Treasurer's Report (Sheldon Fox--distributed). The Auditors have begun the audit. He was pleased to report a profit of approximately \$117,000. The fundraising campaign was very successful, and our memberships and subscriptions were better than predicted. Andy Vaughn was conservative in managing the salary budget. At the end of the year there was approximately \$150,000 in unrestricted reserves. Restricted assets also grew by about \$140,000. It was commented that there were no last minute large contributions needed to make up for deficits.
5. Development Committee Report (Tim Harrison--circulated). The President reports that in the spring of 2010 he had said we had been trying to focus on annual fund goals. We would put together discussions around strategic planning. Tim Harrison wrote a preliminary document to focus the discussions. Rob Oden has come into the picture, and the Executive Committee has asked for a tighter plan for development. The document that Tim circulated lays out priorities linked to the strategic plan and put figures on those lines. There was also a timeline. Discussions since then focused on how ambitious a campaign to launch. A proposal was put forward to consider a modest campaign of about \$1,000,000 upon which a much larger campaign could build later. This smaller campaign would be a "foundational" campaign. There was a consensus that there would be leadership changes in the next few years during which one should not launch a major campaign. A suggested alternative is to bring to the Board in November a detailed Action Plan to lay the details of what needs to be done and by whom. The intention was to move into the "foundational" campaign in January of 2012. A

Gala event will be planned for the November Annual Meeting in 2012. Rob Oden added that the Executive Committee endorsed the concept of a campaign in April 2011, but asked the Development Committee to come back with details. There is much enthusiasm about where ASOR is now. ASOR has strong leadership; we raised strong donations last year and increased donors. We are coming to leadership transitions, which suggested that a large and long campaign was not indicated.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee of the American Schools of Oriental Research enthusiastically recommends that ASOR move ahead swiftly to shape a detailed plan for a comprehensive fundraising campaign, with the plan to be prepared in time for consideration by the full board at the 2011 ASOR Annual Meeting. The EC further recommends that the campaign's private phase be launched on January 1, 2012; that the campaign's public opening be a gala event to coincide with the November 2012 Annual Meeting; and that the Board consider a campaign goal of \$1,000,000, to include both annual fund and capital gifts; and that this foundational campaign conclude by December 31, 2013. This is a Motion and a Second from a standing committee. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY with a show of hands.

There was agreement that we need to let the Centers abroad know our plans. As the case statement comes out it will be quite clear that the campaign grows ASOR and enlarges ASOR's ability to help the Centers. This is consistent with the current emphasis on coordinating financial campaigns. Andy added that \$1 million is a goal we can reach, and that we need a successful campaign so that we can show what we can do. We are poised to carry out a campaign.

Andy Vaughn added that the Executive Committee should have received a personalized Dumas Card from him announcing that the Annual Fund letter is coming out. More than half the Development Committee has already turned in pledge cards. It would be nice if Tim could report the Executive Committee pledges 100% to the campaign. The goal is \$118,500 this year. We also have a goal of increasing donors by 20% over last year (280 separate donors). When the announcement went out last year for the match between April 19 and June 30, direct responses included 114 new donors. We are seeking to expand our donor base. Tim says that Robert Oden has agreed to chair the Development Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee endorses Robert Oden as chair of the Development Committee subject to confirmation by the ASOR board at its November meeting. Moved by Eric Meyers, seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Strategic Plan Implementation Update (Tim Harrison). The Chairs Coordinating Council will become an important part of governance under the new By-Laws.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee endorse the re-election by the Board of Elise Friedland and Andrew Smith as Co-chairs of the Program Committee (term to end Dec 31, 2014). Moved by Tim Harrison, seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee appoint Joe Seger and Bob Massie as Co-Chairs of a special gala event at the spring meeting of the Board in Indianapolis, April 19-21, 2013 honoring P.E. MacAllister as he become ASOR Chairman Emeritus. Moved by Tim Harrison, seconded by Sten LaBianca. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. COP Report (Jeff Blakely--distributed).

- a. BASOR is moving to color. The editor asks that the Executive Committee decide whether BASOR can move to a semi-annual publication to accommodate large studies and avoid the summer absence of authors and editors because of fieldwork.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee charge COP to undertake a self-study and external review and evaluation of *BASOR*, soliciting external reviewers and identifying future directions and to bring any recommendations to the Board at its April 2012 meeting. Moved by Eric Meyers; seconded by Jennie Ebeling. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Ann Killebrew's term as editor ends Dec 31, 2011. Someone needs to solicit manuscripts, review them, and accept articles for the next issue.

BE IT RESOLVED that Jeff Blakely be appointed as Guest Editor for *NEA 75/1* until appointment of a new editor of *NEA* is completed. Moved and Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee accepts with regret Jeff Blakely's resignation as Vice President for Publications effective October 1, 2011. Moved and Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that Charles Jones be appointed as VP for COP to serve out the remaining three month's of Jeff Blakely's term. MOVED by Øystein LaBianca; Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jeff Blakely opined that there is little reason for individuals to subscribe to *BASOR* as a member, as one can subscribe without joining. We would find it useful to think about what membership means.

P.E. MacAllister thanked Jeff Blakely eloquently for his sterling contributions to the governance and operations of ASOR. P.E. noted that Jeff's method is to identify where the figurative leak is and to plug it to keep the ship afloat.

8. CAP Report (Øystein LaBianca--distributed). He reported that CAP has established three regional teams to review applications for Cyprus/Egypt Israel/West Bank, and Jordan/Syria/Iraq/Saudi Arabia. The web page of CAP will be operational in 2012. He plans that CAP showcase ASOR's contribution to global history on-line. CAP has six working groups to work on other projects, which comprise exactly what ASOR needs to be doing everywhere.

Andy Vaughn opined that what called "the discrimination of non-North Americans" for CAP affiliation of their excavations is one of the largest problems facing ASOR today. He urged the EC and CAP to address this issue so that we might be more of an international organization and encourage collaboration with our colleagues outside of North America.

9. Membership Committee Report (J. Ebeling--distributed.) We have 1360 members at present and reach a peak of 1450 members this past spring. We also have 85 paid-up institutional members. We may have to define differing levels of institutional member.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee charge the Membership Committee to identify the issues in the area of membership benefits and to report to the CCC. Moved by Sten LaBianca, seconded by Joe Seger.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

There was extensive discussion about the status of women, minorities, and people of color in ASOR. There was considerable interest in involving these scholars. There was agreement that we need to be proactive and recruit a critical mass of members from these areas.

10. Discussion of the Composition of the Executive Committee and Board (Tim Harrison). The President pointed out that some members may not have completely digested the implications of the governance changes that are coming with the new By-Laws. Perhaps we will be able to address better the issue of better representation of minorities to the Board. We also need to be intentional about achieving a gender balance on the board and the EC.
11. Archives Project Update (Eric Meyers). The Archive is attempting to expand attendance at meetings. The Committee is seeking new members. Cynthia continues to do a sterling job, and her activities now include the web. Some issues that have arisen including our relations with the HSM and ownership of certain things. The question of ownership of the Nelson Glueck materials at the HSM has not yet been resolved.
12. Executive Director's Report (Andy Vaughn). Andy has been helping chairs of committees develop guidelines for their operations. He encouraged the Executive Committee to write its own guidelines to serve as a model for other committees.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee will write guidelines for its operations. Moved by Jim Strange; seconded by Sheldon Fox.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Development Committee has been at work contacting membership. The tone of the development drive is positive, but he asked for help. The campaign is mainly staff driven, but will depend of members of the Executive Committee to make calls as well.

Andy will be traveling to meet with potential lay Board members. These are people with skills who can help us and who can make significant gifts. The Annual Meeting program is being finalized. There are 440 papers this year, and registrations were 425 as of last week. Our Goal is 750. All is going well.

13. Old Business—None, but Tim Harrison pointed out that this is Jeff Blakely's last meeting, so he remembered those years when Jeff rescued the publications operation.
14. New Business—none
15. Announcements—none
16. Adjourn at 1:30 pm per order of P.E. MacAllister, Chairman.