

Chair Coordinating Council
Conference Call
April 19, 2017 3:00 PM EST

Present: Susan Ackerman, Cynthia Rufo, Sharon Herbert, Andy Vaughn, Heather Parker, Geoff Emberling, Chuck Jones, Tom Levy, Laura Mazow

Absent: Randy Younker, Helen Dixon

1. Approval of March Minutes

Minutes approved as emended by Susan.

2. Committee Reports

Committee on Archaeological Policy

The chair is concerned about rolling out the new CAP application system through ASOR.

Andy said the staff has been waiting on a response from the chair's assistant Matt Vincent, but has not heard anything from him.

Susan said she was hoping to launch the CAP site at the same time as the new ASOR website. She was also hoping to get updated information from Matt for the web pages.

The CAP chair said he needs four items from the staff: integrate a domain name, design parameters, integration into the ASOR email system, and to bring the new CAP Chair (proposed to be Steve Falconer) on board. He would like this to be done by November.

Andy reminded the chair that these issues have been raised before. Cynthia has reached out to Matt several times and has not heard back. He suggested that the chair, Cynthia, and Matt renew an email correspondence and include Jared.

Committee on Outreach and Membership

Sharon: There are still questions and reservations about conducting workshops overseas. Yes there are, but we have decided to go forward, using Susan's guidelines as reflected in discussion below.

The Program Committee chair said he is still unclear on the reasoning for having these international conferences. The PC chairs continue to represent the position that this is pulling attention and participation away from the Annual Meeting. They understand

that there is interest and momentum in moving these symposia forward. We need to be very clear about what are reasons are for doing this, and we should have a way to measure if these workshops are meeting those goals.

Susan said she put some language in these guidelines regarding measuring the success of the workshops. Point 5 says that the symposium's organizer needs to submit a report to the CCC summarizing how ASOR was benefitted by the workshop, and how the participants benefitting by having this sponsored by ASOR. She would welcome suggestions about fleshing this out. What would be a clearer definition of success?

It was asked whether ASOR would be asking for membership from people participating in these events.

Susan said this is not clear yet. She does not believe the Outreach chair wants to require membership. He mentioned offering a membership discount to people who attend these workshops. This would be a good way to encourage European people to join ASOR. Andy noted that it is hard to require participants to join if ASOR is not paying anything for the symposia.

It was suggested that ASOR might want to make an effort to track whether attendees to these conferences end up joining ASOR and coming to the Annual Meeting. We want to make sure we don't detract from our core meeting.

Susan said that the idea of doing events overseas is included in the strategic plan. The motivation for these events was not to get more members or more meeting attendees. This was included in the strategic plan because ASOR has a large percentage of people with overseas addresses. A lot of these people are in places where they might not have the financial resources to come to an Annual Meeting in the US, and the goal was to bring ASOR to them.

Junior Scholars Committee

The committee has three nominees for new committee members. Susan will send that to the board for approval. The Jr. Scholars chair added that her committee chose one of their new committee members (a graduate student member) as someone who is internationally based (an American doing graduate work at Bar-Ilan, in Israel) so that the committee would have someone who can comment on that experience. Junior Scholars is also including someone else in the committee with a lot of international connections, Vanessa Juloux. Vanessa will be a liason with some other committees she is involved with -- the Initiative on the Status of Women and the Membership and Outreach Committee.

The Junior Scholars Chair also noted that in recruiting new members, the committee put out a public call and received 17 applications for three positions. This allowed the committee to bring in new blood and new perspectives, rather than the committee replicating its current point of view by adding new members who the current members already knew and with whom they were connected. Andy said that 8-10 people commented in the membership survey last year that they would like to serve on committees but could not find the right person to nominate them. By putting out a call to apply, the Jr. Scholars Committee got some people who we would not have seen otherwise. Andy suggested that other committees seek new members by putting out a public call to diversify the pool of possible committee members.

The Jr. Scholars chair said that of the 17 people who applied, they had a really hard time narrowing it down; it was a great pool of applicants.

The Junior Scholars Chair also noted that her committee was going to be working closely with Kaitlynn Anderson, in the ASOR Office, to do virtual events. Our next step is to talk about virtual events in the May CCC meeting. Susan mentioned that Kaitlynn moved on to a different position, so there will be a different contact person in the office.

Committee on Publications

The committee has unanimously recommended that Eric Cline and Chris Rollston should do a second term as editors of *BASOR*.

Andy and Inda have been contacting institutions who have lapsed subscriptions.

Institutional and editorial oversight of *ANEToday* is an issue. The Petrovich article that was recently published was not of the scholarly caliber we prefer. He has published a book that is generally agreed to be of poor quality, yet *ANEToday* published the ideas from the book under the ASOR name. The issue is how did this happen, and how can we prevent this from happening again? Susan and the Publications chair plan to have a conversation on how to deal with this.

Susan said that the strategic plan states that the CCC should determine issues of editorial oversight about the ASOR blog and *ANEToday*. The specific language in the strategic plan is "ASOR's outreach publications are central to our presentation ... these must be engaging and high quality. The CCC will decide who is responsible for this oversight."

The Jr. Scholar chair said that at the Annual Meeting last year, Petrovich gave a paper in her session. The abstract seemed fine, but the paper itself was disappointing. She felt as if she had failed as a gate keeper by allowing this paper to be given in her session. Petrovich has submitted another abstract this year, and again the abstract looks fine.

Question for the committee – what do you do with an abstract that looks fine, but you know the author's scholarship is not up to par?

Sharon pointed out that we DO know his scholarship is not up to par.

The PC chair said that there is precedent for rejecting papers based on past experiences with that scholar's work or presentations.

The Jr. Scholars chair said that it is not responsible for this kind of scholarship to go out to the public with ASOR's brand associated with it, endorsing it. A lot of people do not know the difference.

The Publications chair said that other publications have editorial boards. Yet *ANEToday* is the most frequent publication ASOR puts out and it is up to one person's judgment.

Honors and Awards Committee

The chair requested that CCC members send in nominations of people who are leaving committees so they can get recognition. Send in book nominations as well. They have gotten a handful of nominations.

The President suggested a standard feature in News@ASOR where in every issue one of last year's winners would be featured, along with a link to nominate someone.

Sharon pointed out that we have been doing that with our Study of Collections winners.

Program Committee

The committee is still grinding through the process of moving papers around sessions. They are leaning toward adding a ninth and tenth parallel session (the usual is eight parallel sessions) to avoid a huge number of rejections. The committee will be making final decisions in the coming week. In the May call they will be able to report on how many sessions we will need to have.

Andy mentioned that paper proposals are up 35-40% this year.

3. Update on Office Search

Susan said that, as reported last time, a decision has been made for the near future to stay within Kenmore Square simply because that is where our staff can commute to. We have found spaces that will work. We have indicated to the people who can rent these

spaces that we would like those spaces. The less good news is that these people have not gotten back in touch with us, so nothing is locked down.

These spaces are only available on a temporary basis, so we have committed to moving again in a year and a half.