

The American Schools of Oriental Research
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 1, 1999 - New York, NY
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison Offices
Minutes

Present: Chairman MacAllister, President Seger, Executive Director Dornemann, Treasurer Wood, Stern, Hendrix, Meyers, Frerichs, Leonard, Seeman, Miller, Shufro, Younker, Schneider, Blakely, Vincent, Spencer, Frederick, McCarter, Gitin, Schaub, McCreery, Matthews, Collins, Secretary Ross.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman MacAllister at 12:30 p.m.

1. The minutes of the November 18, 1998, meeting were approved as distributed.

2. **Report from AIAR** – Sy Gitin

Director Gitin reviewed various directors' exchange programs, commented on the current state of other foreign institutes, and noted certain details of the current AIAR program. The hostel is doing well, and this year there are more Palestinian than Israeli fellows.

3. **Report from ACOR** – Frederick

Ms. Frederick noted cooperative programs with the AIAR, and also commented on other foreign institutes. She also emphasized cooperation with various foundations, and noted especially the current programs in Madeba and Petra.

4. **President's Report** – Seger

A copy of President Seger's report is to be sent to the secretary, and will be distributed with these minutes. He passed around a card for Charles Harris, who could not join us at this time, and noted the death and career of Dr. Mel Lyons (also noted in the current Newsletter, which came in for special praise). The ASOR has received two applications for institutional membership: Loyola Marymount University and Illinois Wesleyan University. It was moved, seconded, and passed that both of these be received. Other applications are pending.

President Seger also mentioned letters sent to Senators Lott and Sarbanes concerning the protection of cultural property. It seems desirable to change the bylaws to expand the board by making elected officers members ex officio, and thus opening up board-elected slots.

The following motion was seconded and passed in principle:

It was moved that the five ASOR officers (Board Chair, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) be declared ex officio voting members of the Board of Trustees, and that language

appropriate to effect such change in ASOR bylaws be drafted, reviewed by legal counsel, and distributed in a timely fashion so that such changes can be formally approved at the November 1999 board meeting.

President Seger then read the current version of the ASOR Mission statement (included in his report), and it was moved, seconded, and passed that this be approved by the board. It was also moved, seconded, and passed that the statement concerning trustee involvement be approved by the board.

5. Financial – Dornemann and Wood

Financial documents #'s 1-4 were distributed, and certain details were discussed.

Certain resolutions are required to establish bank accounts with Solomon Smith Barney; such resolutions and the rationale therefore were distributed (#5), and this was moved, seconded, and passed by the board.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the budget as distributed.

6. Executive Director's Report – Dornemann

The report was distributed (#6) and certain details were discussed.

7. Nominations Committee – Younker

The following were nominated for board-elected slots on the board:

Holland Hendrix, Class of 2002
James Strange, Class of 2002
Lydie Shufro, Class of 2001
Kent Bermingham, Class of 2001

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the slate as presented.

President Seger noted Charles Miller's considerable contributions to the board; Charles is retiring from the board on July 1.

8. Development Committee – Stern

Ms. Stern distributed the report prepared by chairman Hendrix (#7), and commented on certain items. She noted that the committee has not spent all of the fund allotted in the budget. At this point Ed Gilbert commented on certain ways of making deferred contributions to the ASOR.

9. Report from CAARI – Gilbert

Mr. Gilbert noted the election of Robert Merrillees as director, and the reception to be held for him at Columbia later in the day (several ASOR trustees attended). There has been a considerable improvement in the endowment, due in large part to gifts from former president Giraud Foster.

10. Publications Committee – Leonard

The committee's report was distributed (#8), and various items were discussed in detail. Chairman Leonard and Billie Jean Collins answered various questions concerning the *World of the Bible* publication. Collins also discussed certain budget items; the budget was included in the report distributed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the board.

11. Committee on Archaeological Policy – McCreery

The list of approved projects is in the current Newsletter. Chairman McCreery also noted certain items in connection with the forthcoming CAP inspection tour.

12. Committee on Annual Meeting and Program – Matthews

A full program for the forthcoming Cambridge meeting is in the course of preparation. Various items of correspondence with Kent Richards of Joint Ventures were noted; there is no immediate prospect of any change here. Chairman Matthews suggests a continuation of the current "piggy back" meeting plan for five years, but the committee is also open to other proposals, such as those from the AIA. It was moved, seconded, and passed that thanks be expressed to Julene Miller of Academy International Travel, and that ASOR continue using these services for the meetings in Nashville and Denver (2000 and 2001).

13. Centennial Committee – Seger

There have been some difficulties in making arrangements for exhibits and lectures, but there is considerable progress in the preparation and distribution of TV programs, and in the updating of the ASOR history. A draft schedule for centennial activities in Washington was distributed (#9), and there was a review of the involvement of the overseas centers in centennial matters.

14. It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to the firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison, and this was approved by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m., and Secretary Ross was thanked upon the occasion of his retirement from that office.

Respectfully submitted,
James F. Ross, Secretary

Distributed:

1. Preliminary April 1999 Report
2. March 1999 Reconciled Report
3. Budget Worksheet for the Fiscal Year 2000 and Comparisons back to 1997
4. ASOR Fund Balances
5. Resolutions concerning Salomon Smith Barney accounts
6. Executive Director's report
7. Development Committee report
8. Publications Committee report
9. Draft Schedule, Washington Centennial activities