

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call Minutes  
10-17-18 3:00-4:00 PM EDT

Welcome to Eric Welch as co-chair of Junior Scholars!

**Present:** Susan Ackerman, Geoff Emberling, Steve Falconer, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Laura Mazow, Marta Ostovich, Andy Vaughn, Eric Welch, Randy Younker

**Absent:** Helen Dixon, Heather Parker

**1. Approval of September minutes:** September minutes were approved without corrections or changes.

**2. Committee reports**

*Committee on Publications*

The chair (Chuck) stated the search committees for *NEA* and the Annual have met and renewed nominations. There are a number of viable candidates.

The chair said there is a draft of rules for the publications committee and has run it by the designated chair. There are a number of unresolved issues. How is the *JCS* editor selected? Presumably the Baghdad Committee will be involved.

Procedures for the editorial boards should be separate.

Susan asked if there were separate committees for the two search committees and Chuck responded that while there was some overlap, there are two separate committees.

*Honors & Awards Committee*

The chair (Laura) reported that window for nomination has closed and that service awards have been chosen. Laura may reach out for more information on some of the awardees.

There were many nominations for book awards this year. The committee struggled with how to compare single author volumes to those with multiple authors or edited volumes. Another issue identified by the committee is judging works by junior versus senior scholars. How does the committee show support

for a really good first book and what can be done to show support for female authors?

Sharon suggested a possible new award for first books or for early career authors.

Laura pointed out that it is not always to recognize if someone is a junior scholar. Sharon responded by suggesting they submit CVs, but publishers who nominate the books won't necessarily have the author's CV. More discussion will follow. There was also a discussion of the timing of the Honors and Awards presentation and that it not conflict with the Members Meeting. Laura pointed out that we have fewer awards this year, as we didn't get responses from all of the schools, so timing should not be an issue.

### *Junior Scholars*

The co-chair (Eric) brought up two upcoming Junior Scholars/Early Career functions at the Annual Meeting. One is the luncheon happening with the Ad-Hoc committee that Eric will moderate with Gary Arbino. The other is the reception, which is different from previous years' pub nights in that it will be a bit more professional and provide a suitable environment for conversation.

(Steve and Randy joined the call)

Susan announced that ASOR will begin offering an Early Career registration rate starting with the 2019 Annual Meeting, so people will be able to register at this rate in Denver (for 2019) and use their ASOR bucks towards it.

Eric gave some details on the early career membership category. Andy said that it applies to those up to five years after their PhD or who make less than \$65,000/year.

Susan pointed out the Early Career reception is happening Friday night at the same time as the Legacy Dinner.

### *Programs Committee*

The co-chair (Geoff) raised the issue of two problematic papers, both of which were accepted. One dealt with a project in Northern Cyprus and the other with a salvage project in the West Bank. The committee had diverging opinions on how to deal with these but the ultimate decision was to give the committee more power. Usually session chairs are given wide latitude, but now the Programs Committee will be more involved. This year's paper presenters were offered a check box to self-identify their paper as containing contentious material. Fifty

presenters did so and only these two were sticking points. In the case of the West Bank site, the presenter did not immediately identify the project as salvage, even though it had been so designated in previous years.

The chair described an open process for replacing session chairs and the program committee is looking for a chair for Cyprus as Bill Caraher is stepping down. The announcement will run in News@ASOR. The poster session chair is a hybrid position and also a member of the Programs Committee.

Laura announced that the Honors & Awards Committee is judging posters in advance this year and those wishing to be considered for a prize need to submit a PDF of their poster before the Annual Meeting. The goal here is to limit the number of people who apply for the award.

Susan pointed out that having a PDF of the winning poster is a good idea as it can be featured on the website.

#### *Committee on Archaeological Policy*

The chair (Steve) has been out of town and reported that the Committee is moving along in the review process.

Susan inquired as to whether the website is functional and Steve replied that it is, but the Committee is open to a new platform as the current creator is not a resident, which poses some difficulties. Google Forms was brought up as a possibility for submissions.

#### *Committee on Membership and Outreach*

The chair (Randy) has also been traveling a lot. The Committee has been delayed in assembling feedback from the surveys following the Paris meeting because of a broken computer. The focus is on Palermo for next April. The chair is looking forward to meeting with the committee, particularly the new members.

### **3. Central Office report**

Susan reported on possible properties for the ASOR office in Alexandria. Ideally, a purchase will happen sometime in the first half of next year. There have been some changes in terms of which properties are available. The Alexandria office is focused on hiring new staff. An offer was sent out for the Membership Specialist position, but it was turned down.

Andy discussed the evolution of the Office Assistant position into a Membership

Manager as ASOR looks for someone with more experience and draws from a bigger and better pool of applicants. So far there are 40-50 applicants and ca. 3 will get interviews. Andy wants the successful candidate to attend the Annual Meeting. Andy mentioned that this is the quiet phase of the development campaign. A pledge of \$25,000 has put ASOR over the \$500,000 mark.

Susan said that the properties ASOR is interested in are in the 1.1-1.5 million range. There are some major donors yet to be included in the pool.

Andy appealed to all as to whether they know people who would be interested in making new gifts. Former committee chairs have provided him with some possible donors and the option of a named building is still possible.

#### **4. Matters arising:**

Sharon said to keep the November call on the calendar for now.