

2019 ASOR AM Membership Survey Results

1) Rank your TOP preference for future Annual Meeting logistics from among the following general options (580 responses).

	MAINTAINING AN SBL FRAMEWORK – 302/580 = 52%
80 (13.8%)	<u>ALL years</u> : Join back up with SBL
77 (13.3%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in, or as close by as feasible to the city in which SBL meets: this is essentially what we are currently doing.
145 (25%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should, as much as possible, continue to meet in the city in which SBL meets (or as close by as feasible) and continue to meet the week before Thanksgiving, BUT slightly shift the current days of meeting :
	WORKING IN AN SBL FRAMEWORK IN SOME FORM – 46/580 = 7.9%
27 (4.6%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, YET one that is reasonably close to the city in which SBL meets :
19 (3.3%)	<u>ALTERNATING years</u> : In Manageable years (2024, 2025, 2027, 2028, 2030, 2031 – Boston, Washington DC, San Diego) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in the city in which SBL meets; AND in Unavailable years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2026, 2029 - Denver, San Antonio) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and meet as close as feasible to the city in which SBL meets. For San Antonio this likely means 'local' resorts, Houston, Austin, or Dallas/Ft. Worth; for Denver this likely means Denver outskirts, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, Boulder, or Cheyenne.
	WEAKENING TIES WITH SBL - 46/580 = 7.9%
46 (7.9%)	<u>ALTERNATING years</u> : In Manageable years (2024, 2025, 2027, 2028, 2030, 2031 – Boston, Washington DC, San Diego) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in the city in which SBL meets: AND in Unavailable years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2026, 2029 - Denver, San Antonio) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, possibly far from the SBL city (but perhaps getting a better hotel deal and wider range of city options).
	CUTTING TIES WITH SBL –170/580 = 29.3%
53 (9.1%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, possibly far from the SBL city.
25 (4.3%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet the week before Thanksgiving, BUT choose its own meeting city, AND slightly shift current days of meeting :
92 (15.9%)	<u>ALL years</u> : The ASOR Meeting should meet at a different timeframe altogether and choose a city that best meets its needs.
	OTHER - 2.8%
16 separate responses	Another Option not expressed by the above: _____
	52 + 7.9 + 7.9 +29.3+2.8 = 99.9%

2) From the same list of general possibilities are there options that you would see as secondarily viable? (Choose up to 3 additional options from the repeated list below; do NOT select the choice you already made in the previous question) (978 responses)

80 (8.2%)	<u>ALL years: Join back up</u> with SBL
177 (18.1%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in, or as close by as feasible to the city in which SBL meets: this is essentially what we are currently doing.</u>
119 (12.2%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should, as much as possible, continue to meet in the city in which SBL meets (or as close by as feasible) and continue to meet the week before Thanksgiving, BUT slightly shift the current days of meeting:</u>
127 (12.9%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, YET one that is reasonably close to the city in which SBL meets:</u>
83 (8.5%)	<u>ALTERNATING years:</u> In Manageable years (2024, 2025, 2027, 2028, 2030, 2031 – Boston, Washington DC, San Diego) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in the city in which SBL meets; AND in Unavailable years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2026, 2029 - Denver, San Antonio) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and meet as close as feasible to the city in which SBL meets. For San Antonio this likely means 'local' resorts, Houston, Austin, or Dallas/Ft. Worth; for Denver this likely means Denver outskirts, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, Boulder, or Cheyenne.
73 (7.5%)	<u>ALTERNATING years:</u> In Manageable years (2024, 2025, 2027, 2028, 2030, 2031 – Boston, Washington DC, San Diego) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) and, as much as possible, meet in the city in which SBL meets: AND in Unavailable years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2026, 2029 - Denver, San Antonio) The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, possibly far from the SBL city (but perhaps getting a better hotel deal and wider range of city options).
115 (11.8%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet at our current timeframe (Wed-Sat, the week before Thanksgiving) BUT choose its own meeting city, possibly far from the SBL city.</u>
104 (10.6%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should continue to meet the week before Thanksgiving, BUT choose its own meeting city, AND slightly shift current days of meeting:</u>
100 (10.2%)	<u>ALL years: The ASOR Meeting should meet at a different timeframe altogether and choose a city that best meets its needs.</u>

NOTE: the numbers in **RED** below indicate the responses to the same question on the 2016 Membership Survey. **Bold** items are the top responses while underlined items are significant 2nd tier responses.

3) On a 1-5 scale please rate the current November date for the Annual Meeting:

1 – Very Good;	29.8% 31%
2 – Good;	30.6% 25%
3 – OK/Doesn't Matter;	26.4
4 – Poor;	10.9
5 - Very Poor	2.3

4) Would changing the November DATES make a difference to your attendance?

1 – More likely to attend;	17.6%
2 – No Difference;	60.3% 59%
3 – Less likely to attend	21.9

4a) Knowing that it is not possible to alternate seasons for the meeting, if you could pick a set season for the ASOR Annual Meeting, what season would it be in?

1 – Fall (Sept, Oct, Nov);	70.3%
2 – Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb)	11.6
3 – Spring (Mar, Apr, May)	18.1

4b) Do you have a second choice of seasons?

1 – Fall (Sept, Oct, Nov);	25.2%
2 – Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb)	33.5
3 – Spring (Mar, Apr, May)	41.2

4c) Do you prefer a specific month? November 45.8% **48%**; April 15.6 **5** (none else above 8%)

5) On a 1-5 scale please rate the Wednesday night – Saturday evening time frame of the Annual Meeting:

1 – Very Good;	24.8%	29%
2 – Good;	32.9	29%
3 – OK/Doesn't Matter;	30.8	32%
4 – Poor;	9.7	
5 - Very Poor	1.8	

6) If you could pick a DAYS of the week for the ASOR AM, what would they be (starting with evening Plenary, unless stated)?

1 – Sun-Wed;	>5%
2 – Mon-Thur;	>5
3 – Tue-Fri;	18.2
4 – Wed-Sat;	35 48%
5 – Wed morn –Fri eve;	10.3
6 – Thur -Sun;	20.1
7- Fri-Mon;	>5
8 – Sat- Tues	>5

7) Would changing the DAYS make a difference to your attendance?

1 – More likely to attend;	21.5%
2 – No Difference;	64.1
3 – Less likely to attend	14.4

8a) How important has the location (Host City) of the Annual Meeting been to you (the Hotel is treated separately below)?

1- Very Important (always makes a difference for my attendance)	23.9%
2- Usually Important (usually makes a difference for my attendance)	24.9
3- Somewhat Important (sometimes makes a difference for my attendance)	26.4
4- Rarely Important (rarely makes a difference for my attendance)	12.7
5- Not Important (seldom or never makes a difference for my attendance)	12.7

8b) Please rank your 3 top preferences for the following factors in choosing a Host City

Ease of travel	421 (73.9%)
Cost of travel	438 (76.8)
Safety	50 (8,8)
Local Attractions (museums, amusements, historical sites, etc)	206 (36.1)
Functional local public transportation	125 (21.9)
Nightlife	20 (3.5)
Proximity to another professional meeting	158 (27.7)
Location and Weather	194 (34)

9) Please rank your 4 preferences for the following factors in choosing a Conference Hotel

Walking distance to diverse local restaurants (fast food to fine dining)	375 (65.8%)
Ease of local travel (Airport shuttle, local public transit)	376 (66)
Proximity to another professional meeting	138 (24.2)
Free in-room Wi-Fi	233 (40.9)
Amenities (Fitness center, newspaper)	21 (3.7)
Cost	370 (64.9)
Clean, comfortable, modern rooms	177 (31.1)
Space for receptions and special dinners	12 (4.6)
Walking distance to "downtown" and nightlife	152 (26.7)
Option for extending the stay at conference price	26 (4.6)
All session and business meeting rooms in the hotel	234 (41.1)
Free Coffee at breaks	49 (8.6)
Free snacks and coffee for business meetings	13 (2.3)

10) How long have you been a member of ASOR?

1 – 1-5 years;	32.9%	32%
2 – 6-10 years;	22.1	
3 – 11-15 years;	13.2	
4 – 16-20 years;	9.2	
5 – More than 20 years	22.5	

11) How often do you attend the ASOR Annual Meeting?

1 – Almost/Every Year;	44.9%	45%
2 – Most Years;	17.7	
3 – Some Years;	19.1	
4 – Occasionally;	10.1	
5 – Rarely or Never	8.2	

12) Are you also a member of any or all of the following (pick all that apply)

1 – AAA;	42 (8.9%)
2 – ARCE;	49 (10.4)
3 – AIA;	220 (46.8)
4 – AOS;	37 (7.9)
5 – MESA	8 (1.7)
6 – SAA;	108 (23)
7 – SBL;	201 (42.8) 32%
8 – SCS;	17 (3.6)
9 – Other _____	22 (ETS @7)

13a) If you are an SBL member, how often do you attend the **SBL** Annual Meeting?

209 respondents to 13a were SBL members; 244 were not SBL members

	Raw Total%	% of SBL respondents	
1 – Almost/Every Year;	22.5%	49%	} 79%
2 – Most Years;	6%	13%	
3 – Some Years;	9%	19%	
4 – Occasionally;	7%	15%	
5 – Rarely or Never	2%	4%	
<u>6 – I am not an SBL member</u>	<u>53.9%</u>	<u>0%</u>	

13b) If you are a member of other non-SBL professional organizations / learned societies, how often do you attend those Annual Meetings?

<i>1 – Almost/Every Year;</i>	<i>22.9%</i>
<i>2 – Most Years;</i>	<i>19.3</i>
<i>3 – Some Years;</i>	<i>23.1</i>
4 – Occasionally;	17
5 – Rarely or Never	17.7

14) How many professional Annual Meetings and/or Regional Meetings do you generally attend each year?

1 – 1 meeting;	27.4%
2 – 2 meetings;	50.3
3 – 3-5 meetings;	17.2
4 – more than 5 meetings	1
5- None	4.1

15) Please select your TOP 5 aspects of the ASOR Annual Meeting itself from the following list.

Receptions and ‘Social’ gatherings	278 (48.7%)
<i>Networking time and space</i>	<i>380 (66.5)</i>
Exhibitors and Booksellers	275 (48.2)
A “Job Fair”	50 (8.8)
Free Coffee at the Breaks	79 (13.8)
Time and Space for appropriate Special Events	86 (15.1)
Quality Sessions	510 (89.3)
Quality Plenary Session	137 (24)
Time and space for Business Meetings (Including Annual Member’s Meeting)	94 (16.5)
Ample opportunity to Present	281 (49.2)
Sufficient and Appropriate Presentation/Session spaces	306 (53.6)
Free time	69 (12.1)

16) If ASOR were meeting on its own, how likely would you be to book a room at the ASOR Conference Hotel when attending the ASOR AM (as opposed to trying to book a cheaper alternative in the same city)?

1 – Very likely;	50.7%
2 – Likely;	24
3 –Possibly;	16.3
4 – Not likely	9.1

17a) Would meeting ‘with’ another organization (any non-ASOR group) be preferable for you?

1 – Very Preferable;	22.7%
2 – Preferable;	21 32%
3 – Doesn’t Matter;	43.5 32%
4 – Rather Not/ Not Preferable;	8.9
5 – Very Not Preferable	3.9

17b) If ASOR (ca 1000 attendees) chose to meet 'with' another group (whether or not you personally prefer to) would you have a preference regarding which one?

AAA (November, ca 6000 attendees)	27 (4.9%)
ARCE (April, ca 400 attendees)	56 (10.2)
AIA/SCS (1 st weekend January, ca 2500 attendees)	118 (21.5)
AOS (3 rd weekend March, ca 200 attendees)	29 (5.3)
MESA (Fall: varies -Oct, Nov, Dec, ca 2000 attendees)	20 (3.6)
SAA (April, c 4500 attendees)	59 (10.7)
SBL (Weekend before Thanksgiving, ca 4500; w/AAR ca 10,000 attendees)	213 (38.8)
None	82 (14.9)
Other _____	12

17c) Are there other groups on that list that you would choose to meet with (please list): _____

17d) If ASOR chose to meet 'with' another group (whether or not you personally prefer to) would you have a preference regarding what format seems best? (546 – 550 below???)

151 (27.1) Joint Meeting (share registration, meeting and hotel space, simultaneous sessions.
NOTE: this may NOT be possible with some groups, and/or ASOR may need to share fiscal benefits)

114 (20.9) Concurrent Meeting (separate registration, meet at the same time, same city, with close but separate meeting and hotel space, separate sessions at the same time in different places - attendees choose which organization's sessions to attend)

285 (52.2) Consecutive Meeting (separate registration, meet in the same city, but immediately before or after the "other" meeting, possibly separate meeting and hotel space)

DEMOGRAPHICS

18) Which of the following BEST describe your research and/or interests among these areas that are consonant with ASOR's mission (your top 4 only) (576)

<u>Anthropology</u>	234 (40.6%)
Sociology	25 (4.3)
<u>History</u>	292 (50.7)
Literature & Textual Studies	120 (20.8)
Art History	123 (21.4)
Culture Studies	121 (21)
Epigraphy	70 (12.2)
Historical Geography	80 (13.9)
Scientific Methodology	122 (21.2)
Field Archaeology	411 (71.6)
<u>Biblical Studies</u>	236 (41)
Judaism	47 (8.2)
Early Christian Studies	47 (8.2)
Islamic Studies	23 (4)
Other	18 (Egypt @5)

19) Rank the following areas of ASOR's work in terms of your own research or career focus or those aspects of ASOR's mission that most interest you (No more than 3) (572)

Field Work	488 (85.5%)
Lab Work	216 (37.8)
Textual Work Epigraphy	152 (26.6)
Textual Work Literary	181 (31.6)
Museum Work	220 (38.5)
Library Work	118 (20.6)

20) Setting aside the likelihood for overlap, rank the following geographic areas in terms of which BEST describe your research or career focus and/or interests (pick 3) (574)

Mediterranean Basin	356 (62%)
Southern Europe	33 (5.7)
Western Asia	214 (37.3)
North Africa	74 (12.9)
Central Asia	20 (3.5)
Mesopotamia	267 (46.5)
Anatolia	139 (24.2)
Eastern Mediterranean Littoral	339 (59.1)
Other	34 (8 Egypt, 5 Iran)

21) Setting aside the likelihood for overlap, rank the following timeframes in terms of which BEST describe your research or career temporal focus and/or interests (Your top 3) (570)

Before 3000BCE	99 (17.4%)
3000- 2000	225 (39.5)
2000-1200	340 (59.6)
1200-300	382 (67)
300BCE – 100CE	227 (39.8)
100-500	122 (21.4)
500-1000	57 (10)
1000-1900	32 (5.6)