

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
Conference Call Minutes
February 20, 2020, 11:00 AM EST

Present: Teddy Burgh, Helen Dixon, Tiffany Earley-Spadoni, Jane DeRose Evans, Steve Falconer, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Kevin McGeough, Marta Ostovich, Allison Thomason, Andy Vaughn, Eric Welch, Lynn Welton

Absent: None.

1. **Approval of January Minutes:** Approved

2. **Announcements**

Sharon reported that ASOR was included in P.E. MacAllister's will and all are extremely grateful to the MacAllister family.

Andy will have to leave early, so any remarks by him will be made at the beginning of the call.

3. **Report from the Executive Committee Meeting**

Sharon and Chuck reported on the Executive Committee meeting in Virginia and the discussion of ASOR's Strategic Plan. The goal is to get a new or modified plan distributed to the Board before the April meeting in 2021. Sharon is putting together a committee to work on the Strategic Plan in March/early April. Breakout discussion of next strategic plan at April board meeting. What kind of representation do we need on strat plan committee? Looking at 8 goals from last plan. 2-parts to goals. First part: always be priorities and central goals. Second part (four): more aspirational and more elective. New vs. modified plan? Something in between.

Chuck: Comments or questions?

Helen: Keep AM the same size-isn't true anymore. How committed to meeting size being small are we?

Sharon: Members like small, but we have grown and goals should reflect that growth. Work harder at timing sessions. Members like to hop between sessions.

Lightning sessions org by Tom Levy at La Jolla-short, succinct papers. Limit length.

Jane: discussed by EC. Standard number of papers/session.

Allison: minimum of 5 papers/session, maximum of 6. Standardizing this year. Hard to deal with cancelations. Stick to schedule. Need session chair compliance. More than 6-try for 10 for 2 time slots.

Chuck: continue discussions with committees.

4. **Committee reports**

a. *CAP*

The chair (Steve) stated that the fellowships committee is busy reviewing ca. 130 dig fellowship applications. The committee recently finished reviewing excavation grants applications and will be making recommendation shortly. This year there

were 13 applications for the Harris Grant, 4 for Gold, and 5 for Seger.

ASOR will be offering Shepard Urgent Action Grants. These are meant to be modest grants, designed as quick funding for emergency needs in the field (looting, conflict, natural causes, documentation, mitigation, preservation). Steve has recruited a subcommittee of 6 members to review these grant applications. Applications are rolling and review will start April 1st and the committee aims for a 4-6 week turnaround. ASOR has \$15,000 in funds for first year and the hope is that these grants will be funded in perpetuity. Most grants will be in the \$2,500-\$5,000 range.

b. *COM*

COM is adding new members and putting the Friends of ASOR 5-year budget plan into action. The chair (Teddy) is working with Bob Mullins on a virtual archaeology plan.

c. *COP*

(Kevin): Nancy Lapp monograph out in March (Al-Amir) in Annual of ASOR. BASOR editorial search: nomination approved by EC and will go to Board next. Sorting out logistics. Hoping to make announcement soon. Group of editors: team of four (3 international, 1 US) co-editors: Susan Cohen, Regine Pershinski, associate editors: Jana Manajova, Mawan Kawaii Ghost editing with Eric and Chris. Will take over November issue while Chris & Eric observe. Search for new editor for Arch Reports. Add in News@ASOR.

d. *Honors and Awards*

It is a quiet time for Honors & Awards according to the chair (Lynn). The committee is full and new members are being brought up to speed.

e. *Early Career Scholars*

The co-chairs (Tiffany and Eric) did not have much to report. Plans for Boston are moving forward and invitations have been sent out to the Early Career luncheon speaker. The committee is focused on getting resources (videos) online so people can keep using them.

f. *Program Committee*

Co-chair Alison reported on the PC chair's meeting in Virginia. Helen: Current status of Boston: 614 paper proposals (100 more than last year, matches Boston 2017), 18 memb and 12 standing that are under-subscribed. Cut second grace period (in the past allowed session chairs to recruit more). Everything in by March 1st. Allison: productive meeting in Virginia. Discussion of timeline. So much crunch on PC from Nov-early Jan. Fast turnaround after annual meeting. Push that deadline back to January 5th. Shorten time to deliver paper acceptance in early-late May. Call for Papers Feb 1-March 1. Grace period March 1-15. Acceptance emails in first two weeks of May. More involvement from ASOR staff. Time conflicts for presenters and how to identify/move. Standardized terms for scheduling conflicts; easier to deal with. Carbon-neutrality discussion. Events outside the program.

Coordinating events (FOA?). Host city interest groups. Discussion of plenary and decision making process. DEI, sexual harassment discussion. Optional pronoun listing for name badge.

g. *Cultural Heritage*

The co-chair (Jane) reported that the committee has had one phone call thus far and members are discussing the new publication policy from the AIA as well as examining ASOR's professional conduct code. The committee will be in touch with COP regarding these matters.

Chuck noted that aside from COM, all committee rosters are full.

5. Matters Arising

Sharon introduced discussion of the Annual Meeting Code of Conduct

Version of what was used in San Diego. Request for direction and modification of charge.

Should we have professional to be first responder at the meetings (AIA/SCS do this)? Special committee for hearing complaints and appeals? On site person would be a good idea. EC

discussed-strong statement on harassment and bullying of all kinds. What can ASOR do effectively? (no budget/Title IV office). Procedure for barring people who have been

convicted by adjudicating groups with appeals process. Keeping known offenders away.

Reporting and acting in timely manner on incidents at the AM. Liked having names and phone numbers-post in more places. PC and Executive Officers charged with taking action.

Allison: in favor of an ombudsperson and lists on badge. Get people training.

What are the reservations about the ombudsperson? Price point (\$7000). Tipping point isn't money, but how formal we want to be.

Jane: Discussion in EC-no complaints. AIA sent out survey asking is anyone had used ombudsperson.

Allison: don't think we need someone outside of ASOR.

Lynn: having a third-party person, not EC (intimidating), more training, member

Chuck: still work in progress. Hope policy with prevent incidents (still hard to deal with).