

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
February Conference Call
Thursday February 24, 11:00am-12:00pm

Present: Teddy Burgh, Helen Dixon, Erin Darby, Tiffany Earley-Spadoni, Jane DeRose Evans, Steve Falconer, Sharon Herbert, Felice Herman, Chuck Jones, Kevin McGeough, Allison Thomason, Andy Vaughn, Lynn Welton, Vanessa Workman

Absent: none

1. Approval of January Minutes: For plenary speaker vote: one person abstained, not dissented. With this change, the minutes were approved.

2. Discussion of Plenary Speaker

Sharon has emailed Solange Ashby inviting her to be the plenary speaker. Sharon also mentioned the possibility of a complementary plenary event for the virtual meeting in October. If Solange is willing, the PC will consult with her.

3. Discussion of the Process for Selecting the Plenary Speaker

A suggestion to move the selection of plenary speaker to the spring before the plenary would be speaking will be taken to the Executive Committee.

There was discussion of December event related to the plenary versus an October event, which would be part of the virtual component.

- Plenary event for October virtual component is a challenge in terms of staff capacity
- Does the decision on the virtual plenary come from the CCC or PC?
- December plenary event would allow for discussion and reaction to Solange's plenary.
- Implications for the members' meeting and Honors & Awards: impossible to get awards decisions by October, unless the dates are changed. A December award ceremony is a better option.
- Concerns about ASOR fatigue and limited time/scheduling in December
- Virtual plenary could offer an opportunity to invite a speaker from Sudan as the kick-off event for the virtual component
- Possibility of a theme for all the plenary events (Africa and the Mediterranean)
- Attendance numbers for 2021 plenary: not many people did both in-person and virtual
- Concerns about attendance on a Wednesday in October

4. Discussion of the relationship between Annual Meeting Standing Sessions and Standing Committees

Jane reported that this discussion topic arose as a Cultural Heritage Committee applicant for a chair of a standing session was not chosen.

Allison noted that there is now an open call for standing sessions and session chairs. The PC thought to combine the standing session proposal from the CH committee with current standing cultural heritage session. There were a number of applications for chair of the cultural heritage session. The PC looks at the applications and blind votes. In this case, the person selected to

chair the standing cultural heritage session was not the chair of the CH committee. Who should chair standing sessions if they have ties to a standing committee?

Andy noted that committees can propose standing sessions.

Helen reported that the PC collective opinion is that standing sessions do not belong to corresponding committee, otherwise, the PC would no longer control session chair assignment and chair terms.

Helen and Allison stated that there are now two sessions: one for the CH committee and one with an open call for session chair. These two sessions need separate descriptions.

Currently there are 4 sessions that have “cultural heritage” in the title. Member-organized session usually run for 6 years before becoming a standing session.

Erin asked about the role of committees in picking content for sessions. The DEI and CH Committees can help advise and promote the content of corresponding sessions

5. Committee reports

H&A

Lynn asked about whether changing the book award deadline requires CCC approval and Chuck replied that it does not. The updated book award deadline is on the website and Lynn will send out an email.

DEI

Erin reported that there are 8 confirmed members of the committee. There are still two open slots. She will give a rundown of the new committee members to Sharon as president. Chuck asked that new committee members be brought to the CCC for approval.

Based on discussion, Sharon suggested increasing the CCC meetings to 1.5 hours.

6. Matters arising

Meeting adjourned at 12:05pm EST.