

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
March Conference Call
Thursday March 31, 11:00am-12:00pm

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

Absent: Helen Dixon, Erin Darby

1. Approval of February Minutes: Allison noted this change to number 4: “Jane reported that this discussion this topic arose as a CH committee applicant for a chair of a standing session was not chosen.”

Minutes approved with this change.

2. Committee Reports

CAP

Steve reported that the Committee is busy with grant applications. Funding has been approved for a 2022 Shepard Urgent Action Grant for the Roman Bathhouse at Petra. This year there were 19 project grant applications, and ASOR will fund 6 of them. This represents an increase in applications from last year. After the project grants, the committee is turning to student scholarships, and aiming to have everything finished by end of April. Steve also noted an increase in numbers of countries where ASOR-affiliated projects are being proposed. Chuck asked how many projects are going into the field and Marta responded that around half of the ASOR-affiliated projects are doing so.

CH

Jane said that this is a busy month. The CH Committee members are helping Andy and Will with a grant proposal. There is also a FOA webinar on May 12th on cultural heritage featuring Patty Gerstenblith. The CH panel “Contested Heritage” is coming together for the Annual Meeting. Workshop for virtual session and will not be recorded.

(Andy joined the meeting)

ECS

Vanessa reported on three events that the ECS is planning.

1. Brown Bag “Turn Your Dissertation into a Book” Part 1: Acquisition editors as panelists.
2. Brown Bag “Turn Your Dissertation into a Book” Part 2: ECS scholars speaking about recent experiences publishing.
3. “Research in Action” series starting in April: Katie Paul will speak about antiquities trafficking through social media sites.

Vanessa invited suggestions for additional early career speakers.

Tiffany said that the ECS is also busy planning events for the Annual Meeting (ECS reception and a field trip tour at one of the local collections, possibly for Wednesday afternoon).

There are three committee candidates for the CCC to consider and Tiffany will email for a vote after the call. They are all candidates to join social media subcommittee, led by Megan Lewis.

H&A

Chuck noted that the Committee's new member (Ted Lewis for the Cross Award Committee) is approved through CCC emails.

Lynn announced that the deadline for books awards is the end of April, and she has been in touch with publishers. She will coordinate social media posts with Marta to ensure number of nominations.

Lynn also mentioned a new award for public outreach and community engagement. The Committee is working on wording and will bring to the CCC. The deadline for this award will be in the fall.

Marta said that two book award nominations have been received thus far.

COM

Teddy reported that the subcommittee for virtual archaeology is trying to get some updates from the field set up for this summer.

PC

Allison gave a summary of the number of abstracts submitted for the Annual Meeting.

- Total in person: almost 500
- Virtual: 311

There is overlap between the two. This point to a very full schedule for both parts of the meeting.

Solange Ashby is plenary speaker for in person. The PC is working on a panel for the virtual component to speak on Wednesday. The December component will include the H&A presentation and a recap of members meeting.

Allison noted that acceptances will be sent out in May.

The PC is having an April meeting to discuss plenary for 2023. There will then be discussion of the list of names at a May meeting of the CCC.

It is Helen's last year as PC co-chair, and Allison is reaching out to PC members to see if anyone is interested.

Andy provided some additional numbers on the Annual Meeting:

- 279 Boston (278 people)
- 96 Virtual (95 people)
- 215 Both (208 people)

The Climate Impact Committee is investigating ASOR should plan for an in-person event given climate impact considerations. Limited data based only on paper proposals for Boston (2022) show that 16% proposers preferred virtual only. 52% of proposers want to share research virtually (most virtually and in-person). These data indicate that there is a demand for virtual, but more than 50% of presenters also want some form of an in-person meeting. The limited numbers indicate that the membership values both virtual and in-person and does not want to do away with in-person meeting.

There was discussion of the format and timing of the virtual component, what other societies are doing, and PC and staff time commitments.

Chuck invited the PC to bring the name of the co-chair to Chairs Nominations Committee. Co-Chair could also come from outside the PC.

COP

Kevin stated that the Committee met yesterday to select a new member and will send a name for an online vote. Sharon reported on *BASOR* redesign approved by Executive Committee. The next issue of *NEA* will have articles in other languages. There are 11 candidates for the *ANE Today* Editor search, and review is still ongoing.

3. Matters Arising

Chuck invited comments from Sharon and Andy.

Sharon invited discussion on requests ASOR leadership receives to sign letters/petitions/show support. There is no rule about what is signed and ASOR generally takes an apolitical stance. There was discussion of the recent request to sign onto a petition to the Montpeleier Historical Trust (James Madison's residence) regarding their reversal on working with the Montpeleier Descendant Community. ASOR did not sign as an organization.

Is this the sort of thing that ASOR should consider?

Should there be a more general policy?

How can ASOR be a good ally? DEI and CH committees could discuss.

How much should ASOR be involved?

Chuck asked the chairs to report on discussion they have within their committees.

There was consensus that the current system of dealing with things as they arrive seems to be working.

Andy noted that ASOR should consider how to support diversity in archaeology and supporting stakeholders. Sharon will discuss this with Erin as chair of DEI Committee.

Vanessa asked for more information on previous situations that have arisen.

Sharon listed Trump's statement on bombing cultural heritage in Iraq, the recent travel ban, the BLM/ACLS statement, the AHA guns in schools and teaching American History, the AHA statement against bombing synagogues in US and threats to places of worship, the Banking Secrecy Act, the statement written by US Committee of the Blue Shield, and letters in support of MOUs.