

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
January Conference Call
Friday January 20, 2023, 11:00am-12:00pm

Present: Teddy Burgh, Erin Darby, Helen Dixon, Tiffany Earley-Spadoni, Jane DeRose Evans, Steve Falconer, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Kate Larson, Kevin McGeough, Kiersten Neumann, Marta Ostovich, Allison Thomason, Andy Vaughn, Lynn Welton

Absent: Vanessa Workman

1. Introduction

Approval of November and December Minutes: both were approved without changes.

AIA/SCS Meetings and Future of ASOR Annual Meeting

Chuck reported on the hybrid AIA/SCS meeting, which was mostly successful, with some minor zoom issues. This format is a potential possibility for future ASOR meetings. Andy noted that this hybrid version was different from what most hotels advertise. The cost is much less than what we thought it would be. Andy is interested to hear from people how they would feel about this new format. Volunteers and training to execute the hybrid meeting could be provided by ASOR.

There was discussion of the AIA/SCS meeting and the general consensus was that the format worked well.

- People from abroad could present without much of an issue.
- AIA had 1200 attendees in-person and 500 virtual attendees. OpenWater set up the program for them.
- Implications for non-hotel meetings with this kind of hybrid.
- Extra time between sessions.
- Some zoom and microphone problems in the AIA/SCS meeting.
- Need for a session chair and someone additional to run the zoom.
- Training for those hosting the zoom.
- Benefit of having a choice in how one wants to attend.
- Issues with questions from the audience not being able to be heard by those on zoom.

Allison stated that the PC chairs and ASOR leadership are discussing the meeting format next week, both for 2023 and 2024.

2. Committee Reports

CAP

Steve stated that the major activity occurring is revising the application form for fieldwork scholarships and the scoring rubric. The application is live online, and the deadline is February 15th. The grants application will also be revised. Steve will discuss the Climate Impact Report with the committee.

Erin asked about the diversity of scholarships. Steve replied it is part of the overall call for student fellowships. Andy stated that committee awards specialty/designated fellowships first. There was a good range of applications last year but only one from HBCU, and there weren't professors who knew those students. Erin responded saying the DEI committee will discuss how to get the word out, without overwhelming HBCUs.

CH

Jane stated that the committee is meeting right after this meeting. They will discuss the environmental impact statement. They will also review the Advocacy Policy which will come to the CCC, then the EC and Board.

DEI

Kate stated the committee had a meeting this afternoon. They had a discussion on the Climate Impact Report. They also discussed forming subcommittees, their goals for the year, and finalized the committee guidelines.

ECS

Tiffany reported that this is a quiet time for the committee, and they are meeting next week. They are working with the DEI committee on shared activities. Tiffany announced that Bianca Hand stepped down as chair of the ECS-DEI subcommittee, and Avary Taylor is taking over for her.

H&A

Lynn reported that this was also a quiet time for H&A. They are currently looking for two new members. Lynn announced that Ted Lewis stepped down, so they are looking for a new Cross committee member. There is also an opening on the Wright Committee.

COM

Teddy reported that the committee met last week, during which Steve Dana gave a positive report on FOA. A reminder that the FOA trip is coming up in February. The committee had a discussion of the FOA webinars. They noted a slight decline in participation but determined that it is still a robust program. They also began a discussion of a possible symposium in Strasbourg. A subcommittee will work on planning this. The next committee meeting will be in March.

Allison asked about symposium in Europe, she questioned if it was going to be academic or FOA? Teddy replied that it would likely be a mix but leaning more towards FOA. There was discussion of the roll of the PC in such international programs. Teddy noted that discussions have just started.

PC

Kiersten reported that the PC is planning for the 2023 Annual Meeting (session and workshop proposals and new session chairs). She presented a new PC member, Petra Creamer, for the CCC's approval. They received 7-8 applications. The committee wants to round out areas of expertise to compliment those already on the PC.

Allison stated that there was only one proposal for a virtual only member-organized session,. This changes the dynamic of the 2023 meeting in terms of the number of slots etc. There was a healthy number of new member-organized and workshop proposals, especially workshops. In February the PC will discuss the 2024 plenary address. The PC will cover the Climate Impact Report in their March meeting. They hope to have something to report to the CCC and Board before the April meeting. They are also working on revising their guidelines.

Petra Creamer was approved as a new PC member.

COP

Kevin announced the nomination of Jimmy Schryver as a new COP member. Kevin will send his CV and follow with an email vote.

COP still needs to discuss the Climate Impact Report.

Simi Chavel (Ma'arav) is figuring out how to get demographic/DEI information from prospective authors. This would be broad demographic information such as where someone lives, tenure-track job, gender identification, etc., all of which are optional to disclose.

There was discussion of whether to collect demographic data for submissions and how best to do so. The editor shouldn't have access to the data while making the decision. After all the determinations have been made, a survey could be sent.

Allison asked who is asking for the information about submissions? Andy responded that the questions are from the ACLS listserv. Andy asked how are societies (and ASOR) are doing in getting submissions from underserved groups and how do we quantify this?

Kevin stated that the COP editors may not be as sensitive to this topic, so it is good to have input from DEI. Kate said it would be helpful to see how the questions are being asked, as it might be preset by the Editorial Manager.

Teddy left the meeting

Erin asked about how the data will be stored and what is to be done if there are trends that require action.

Chuck asked about the JCS Editor. Kevin replied that he is working with the Piotr and Baghdad Committee on that.

Erin asked about translations for NEA. Kevin responded that he has a proposal for Sharon and is confident it will go forward.

3. Other Matters

Sharon invited more discussion on the Climate Impact Report. Marta noted that no feedback has come in to the info@asor.org email account.

There was a discussion on undergraduate participation in the annual meeting and how a hybrid meeting would benefit them. There is usually not university funding for undergraduate conference travel.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49.