

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
April Conference Call
Monday September 18, 2023, 11:00am-12:00pm

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

Absent: Steve Falconer, Kate Larson, Kiersten Neumann

1. Introduction

April minutes approved.

Sharon and Andy welcomed everyone back. Andy gave a brief update from the office about the cohort of fall interns and offered support to the committee chairs.

Chuck asked about ASOR's partners in North Africa in the light of recent natural disasters and Andy provided an update. Sharon mentioned ASOR co-signing the Blue Shield letter.

2. Committee Reports

CAP

Chuck has been in touch with Steve about a new committee chair.

Jane joined the meeting.

CH

Jane reported that the committee is meeting next week. Sharon noted that CH is growing and has she been in discussion with Sheldon and Andy about an ASOR Cultural Heritage Coordinator position. They are working on a job description and putting together a search committee. CHI and the CH committee both involved.

Vanessa asked about students and Early Career Scholar representation on the CH Committee. Jane replied that Emily Hammer has served as the ECS member. Vanessa noted that the new applicants for ECS are interested in CH as well and will speak with Jane about the possibility of a liaison.

DEI

Erin provided a number of updates from the committee:

- Land acknowledgements for Annual Meeting and Alexandria office
- Mentoring breakfast/listening session at the Annual Meeting: What kinds of mentoring opportunities can ASOR provide?
- DEI Leadership Transition: looking for new co-chair as Erin cycles off in January. The committee hopes to have name by the end of September to bring to CCC.
- Open call for two new committee members in November/December.
- ISW: Beth finishing service and there will be a final ISW mentoring lunch at the AM in November.

- Working with PC on support and development for session moderators/chairs

Andy reported on an ACLS event with executive directors and emerging African-American scholars. Solange Ashby and Debra Heard attended as ASOR and Hansberry Society members. ASOR is providing training for Hansberry Society members on using Kobo/QGIS at the Annual Meeting this year. Donors have made gifts to support AM BIPOC scholar participation and there is an endowment for scholarships for fieldwork for BIPOC students.

DEI has formed a subcommittee for professionalization/cultural competency videos.

ECS

Vanessa provided an update on ECS activities:

- ECS digital resources are up on the website. Fifteen new ECS resource videos have been added since 2020.
- Fall Brown Bag on 9/22 at 11am on Public Speaking: 20 people registered.
- Annual Meeting Brown Bag Lunch invites go out next week. The topic is teaching at all levels.
- ECS is looking for a few new committee members to work on digital resources and networking.
- ECS is submitting a standing session on professionalization for the AM.

Tiffany noted the positive feedback around the second Digging Up Data mentoring cohort. Three people have secured full time/tenure-track jobs in their area/digital humanities.

Erin mentioned providing resources on applying for administrative positions and the possibility of a workshop on administrative careers. ECS will think about this for next year.

H&A

Lynn noted that the book awards deadline was in the spring. The numbers were generally the same as last year, but with fewer nominees for the Wright Award. The committee is reviewing the books now and will vote in October.

The service award nomination deadline was September 8, but it was extended to the 22nd. Lynn encouraged more nominations; especially for the community engagement and public outreach award. Email Lynn the nomination for now and nomination documents can be pulled together afterwards. There was discussion of possible nominees for the outreach award.

COM

Teddy is setting up a meeting in early January. He reported on the Virtual Archaeology Initiative which provided fieldwork videos from the 2023 season. Marta stated that the videos are on TikTok and YouTube.

PC

Allison reported that the Annual Meeting program this year is the largest on record with 132 time slots. The response to the hybrid meeting has been good so far and ASOR will be

providing Session Asssitants in each session. Each session will also have one ASOR computer to use. The PC is working with DEI on slides with the AM code of conduct. Chairs and moderators will also receive training prior to the meeting via zoom. Allison thank DEI for their help.

Allison noted a number of AM/PC news items:

- ISAC reception Saturday evening.
- Wednesday afternoon Field Museum visit: working on entry discount.
- Mentoring breakfast on Saturday
- ECS Brown Bag lunch
- Plenary with Rubina Raja
- The PC is looking for two new members.
- Session chairs are also rotating off.
- Revising PC operating guidelines.

There was further discussion of the hybrid meeting.

COP

Kevin noted that the *BASOR* editors contract is up for renewal and there is a subcommittee to solicit feedback on editors. He invited CCC to share feedback on *BASOR* editors. The subcommittee is also getting feedback from ASOR leadership, staff, and UCP.

Kevin is working with the Baghdad Committee to finish last edits for the advertisement for a new *JCS* editor. Marta will be staff contact person for this search. Invited suggestion for *JCS* editorship. The plan is to interview candidates at the AM.

3. Other Matters

Chuck reminded people about annual committee reports.

Andy encouraged people to spread the word about AM hotel reservations.