

**ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
February Conference Call
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 1:00-2:00pm**

Present: Georgia Andreou, Jane DeRose Evans, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Eric Kansa, Sarah Kansa, Kiersten Neumann, Marta Ostovich, Luiza Osorio G. Silva, Allison Thomason, Julia Troche, Andy Vaughn, Lynn Welton, Vanessa Workman, Fred Winter

Absent: Teddy Burgh, Kate Larson, Mahri Leonard-Fleckman

1. Approval of January minutes: Minutes approved without changes.

2. Resolution from Executive Committee

Chuck reported on the recent Executive Committee meeting and Sharon circulated a resolution providing guidance for the Program Committee and an institution in contested territory. She reported on the history of ASOR efforts to deal with contested territories. She is bringing the current resolution to the CCC as the issues concern all committees.

Kiersten noted that the PC is planning to add this resolution to their guidelines as an appendix. These are in a document that is posted online and goes through a review process.

The CCC discussed the following topics:

- Listing institutional affiliation: no affiliation vs. independent scholar
- How the resolution works with indigenous communities
- Language of the resolution
- How the resolution affects committees other than the PC
- Impacts on fieldwork
- Difference between guidelines and policy

Sharon stated that while the prose is less than perfect and the resolution was not unanimous, it is a small step in the right direction. Discussions surrounding contested territories will be ongoing.

Chuck noted that committee chairs can always seek advice from CCC, EC, and Officers. He encouraged the chairs to share the resolution with their committee members.

(Jane left)

3. Committee Reports

CAP

Georgia reported that the committee is reviewing lots of affiliation applications, and they are expecting a large number of fieldwork scholarship applications.

She noted that project specialists apply at both levels: project grants and fieldwork scholarships. There was discussion about how best to deal with these applications, whether specialists should

seek separate affiliation, and how to split the fieldwork scholarships between different academic levels. Georgia, Andy, and Marta will discuss further.

CHC

Fred stated that MOUs have been postponed, and letters are being held for when meetings resume. The committee is planning a workshop at the Annual Meeting on community archaeology and decolonization. Fred commented on NEH's status and the upcoming NHA advocacy meeting.

DEI

Julia noted that the committee meeting next week to discuss changing its name. The motivation to change is to protect committee members.

H&A

Lynn stated that this is a quiet time until the book awards deadline closes.

PC

Allison reported that the PC met to review sessions and proposals. They accepted 37 member-organized sessions/workshops and there are an additional 11 that are continuing. The committee rejected slightly more proposals than normal (7). There are a couple of joint sessions with SBL, and the staff is looking into how to coordinate this with SBL.

Kiersten noted that the 125th Celebration Committee is planning an evening event at the Annual Meeting.

The PC is meeting in March to discuss plenary speakers for AM26. Tim Harrison is the plenary speaker for AM25.

COP

Sarah noted that the committee welcomed two new members. The co-chairs are meeting with book editors to discuss revenue reports.

Eric mentioned the [Declaration to Defend Research Against Government Censorship](#).

The *NEA* Editor is working on including video content.

Kiersten asked about highlighting ASOR books and recent publications at the Annual Meeting.

ECS

Vanessa reported that the committee is working on events for this semester. They met with the *NEA* Editor about an ECS publications mentorship program.

The committee is hosting group virtual writing sessions to support those working on writing projects.

There was discussion of a monetary prize for poster award. Lynn noted that no awards have a prize attached aside from student paper. The Honors and Awards committee would be willing to

discuss a prize, but poster presenters come from all levels of membership (not just ECS). There was discussion of the difficulties in limiting prizes and defining academic stages.

Allison mentioned that the PC now limits co-chairs to 3 per session. This is because it is difficult to manage scheduling when there are 4 people per session. This decision could affect ECS participants.