

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
October Conference Call
Monday, October 27, 2025, 11:00am-12:00pm

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

Absent: Teddy Burgh, Mahri Leonard-Fleckman, Kiersten Neumann, Allison Thomason

1. BASOR Editorship

Sharon reported on changes to editorship. Three of four editors tendered their resignations. They will complete the November issue. Marwan Kilani is staying on as co-editor. Jason Ur will join him as interim co-editor. The manuscript in question is going out for review. If accepted, it will be included with an editorial disclaimer. Chuck noted that COP reviewed Jason's appointment, and voted in favor, with a few abstaining. Jane thanked Eric and Sarah for their work on this.

2. Strategic Plan

Jane stated that the Strategic Plan is still a draft. The committee is meeting once more just before the start of the Annual Meeting. Sharon commented that the initial schedule was to bring a draft to the Board in November, then vote on it in May. It might be possible to move things along more quickly and have a vote at the November meeting.

Jane said that the plan takes a broad view of where ASOR is going. She invited the committees to think about where their work fits, where committees align, and where they are working together. Chuck noted that there is still time for committees to discuss and offer feedback.

3. Committee Reports

CAP

Georgia reported that based on the decision by the PC to not list Ariel on Annual Meeting program, CAP is recommending removing Ariel from the affiliated projects list. Ariel University employees can still apply for funding and work on this project. The committee also wants to make sure materials are not taken to institution in contested territory and treat this case as other institutions in contested territories are treated.

Chuck replied that this should move through the CCC and then other channels.

Sharon commented on pushback from removing Ariel affiliation. There are those who feel like Ariel is being targeted and there is lots of reactions on social media. Sharon asked about the history of this affiliation. Question about who activity the original affiliation. There was discussion of the history of this affiliation as it was originally a Bar Ilan University excavation. The excavation is now in publication mode. The fieldwork that is ongoing is actually at another site and should have a separate affiliation.

Georgia noted that she and Marta are working on encouraging renewals/new affiliations in order to update the list. Sharon agreed with reestablishing the process for renewals.

PC

Andy encouraged people to make hotel reservations. He also invited people to the 125th celebration on Saturday night at the AM.

Kate asked about attrition for AM attendance. Sharon replied that 1 session withdrew (3 people) and 1 workshop (3 people), plus 1 individual from Ariel. Numbers are still looking up from last year.

Fred inquired about AM scholarships for former federal employees who would want to attend. Andy said yes, ASOR has funds available; they just need to write to ASOR staff (Marta) requesting assistance.

COM

Laura said that the committee is meeting very soon. She commented on social media activity and how to address the misinformation that gets out there. She is still working on the relationship with the office and Friends of ASOR and the role of subcommittee. She appreciated focus on education and outreach in draft strategic plan. Teddy will have a fuller report at the AM.

COP

Sarah reported that the *NEA* Editor has put together a plan for the Early Career Scholar Publishing mentoring program.

Eric added that COP is working on a new contract for monographs and they have gotten comments from both series editors to share with office. COP is seeking to solidify notions of editorial independence and provide more guidance for editors on how to exercise it. They are also working on digital data curation editorial guidance with Jason.

H&A

Lynn stated that this is a busy time of year for awards. The service awards pretty much done, and the book awards are being discussed. Student paper and poster award deadlines are in early November. This is Lynn's last year and they are working on succession plan, particularly since Mahri is not going to be able to continue. They will have two new chairs.

ECS

Vanessa reported on the ECS fall virtual brown bag earlier this month. Project directors (Turkey, Egypt, and Cyprus) provided information on how to get involved in fieldwork. The recording will be available on website.

The ECS AM brown bag will focus on applying for scholarships (ASOR, CAARI, and AIAR). ECS is also planning a coffee meet-up for first-time attendees, as well as their usual reception on Friday night. There is also a designated ECS work space/meeting space.

CHC

Fred thanked to Darren and Marta for their logistical help. The CHC has a session focused on Community Archaeology. Next year's topic will be Intangible Heritage. The committee has begun to review applications for CSOs. One application thus far from an Iraqi organization dealing with intangible cultural heritage and contemporary CH preservation. This pushes ASOR's time frame, and the committee was unanimously in favor. Fred stated that is might call for more discussion and reflection on expanding perspectives. Jane noted that is also came up in Strategic Plan (the word "ancient" is not in the draft plan).

GIV

Julia stated that Kate is continuing as co-chair for another term. The committee will have a welcome table at the meeting. They are working on a grant to support the production of the cultural competency videos. They are also helping with a webinar for training session chairs this week. This will be recorded and posted for others.

Kate noted that the GIV committee also has an open call for new members. She encouraged applications, particularly from people to be serve as liaisons between committees.

4. Matters Arising

There was a bit more discussion on people withdrawing from the meeting.