ASOR Executive Committee November Meeting
November 22, 2025 (Hancock 2:00-5:30)
The Hilton Boston Park Plaza

Present: Emily Miller Bonney, Lynn Swartz Dodd, Jane DeRose Evans, Sheldon Fox, Kate Grossman, Sharon Herbert, Chuck Jones, Eric Meyers, Kiersten Neumann, Sarah Scott, Jason Ur, Andy Vaughn
Guest: Marta Ostovich

Preliminary Matters (2-2:15, SF)
1. Call to Order (Sheldon Fox)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Spring 2025 EC Meeting and between session EC meetings
    - Sarah noted correction to add '2025' to dates on both documents
    - Sarah noted the addition of "use of surplus" to May 3rd minutes p. 1
    - Sheldon noted the change of 'extension' to 'extensive' to August 25 minutes p. 1
    - Change noted to add "that was subsequently referred to the EC for approval" to October 13th minutes, top of p. 2

Chuck moved. Emily seconded. Minutes and agenda (with changes) approved.

Sharon to contextualize the special meetings (prior to minutes being presented) to Board on Sunday.

Elections
Officers (Sharon Herbert)
- Jane DeRose Evans (President, first term) 2026-2028

Emily moved. Kate seconded; unanimous (1 recusal, Jane)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends to the Board the appointment of Jane DeRose Evans to an initial three-year term as President (January 1, 2026-December 31, 2028).

- Sheldon Fox (Board Chair, second term) 2026-2028

Sharon moved. Kate seconded. Unanimous (1 recusal, Sheldon)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends to the Board the appointment of Sheldon Fox to a second three-year term as Board Chair (January 1, 2026-December 31, 2028).

- Kevin McGeough (Vice President, first term) 2026-2028

Moved by Nominations committee. Emily seconded. Unanimous
BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends to the Board the appointment of Kevin McGeough to an initial three-year term as Vice President (January 1, 2026-December 31, 2028).

Trustees

Membership Elected (Kathryn Grossman); KG discussed the number of nominations, the committee's wish to see an increase in number of nominations, individuals bringing forward nominations, and clearer explanation of process to membership. AV discussed the process and checked agreement between by-laws and website. AV thanked the committee. SF noted the voting committee is one short and that should be corrected.

Discussion regarding management of Institutional reps; in some cases the library holds responsibilities. Suggestion to identify better mechanism to identify more appropriate individuals at institutions to serve.

- **Institutionally Elected** (SH)
  - Kathryn Grossman
  - Michael Hasel

- **Board Elected** (SH indicated all four interested in continuing)
  - Lisa Ackerman
  - Alex Brooks

Jane moved to accept two Institutionally-Elected and first two Board-Elected Trustees. Emily seconded. Unanimous.

Further discussion regarding MacAllister and Moelis' candidacy and their re-election subject to confirmation (AV).

  - Alex MacAllister
  - Andrew Moelis

Kate moved. Sheldon seconded. Unanimous.

Further discussion on the need for two more Trustees, potential engagement strategies.

Financial Matters

1. Treasurer and Finance committee reports (Emily Miller Bonney and Andy Vaughn)

Discussion of FY 2024 finances covered various topics, including lack of some grants and publications overage.

- Strategizing membership support as means to increase revenue.
- Annual fund – spreading more equitably over the entire year.
- Clarification regarding operating budget, re: staff and grant usage (lines 23 and 36)
- Presentation of ISD takeover of book production, with input from COP. Discussion included benefits for authors, membership, staff, and marketability.
- Audit – 990 – annual tax form. Finance committee to make final revisions, EC was encouraged to review the full documents. Auditors found no major issues.

Motion from the finance committee to accept. Sheldon second. Unanimous.

Further discussion from AV: p 3 total net assets went up, p. 6 some revenue needed elsewhere. Overall there are enough liquid assets to maintain the work. SF notes the need to discuss operating budget at the Feb 2026 meeting, and the possible idea to request donor support. LD emphasized this could be a positive for donors.

2. Development and 2025 campaign (Lynn Dodd and Andy Vaughn)
Positive outcomes surrounding Anniversary campaign ($6.1) particularly through Legacy gifts and Legacy Circle, as well as Annual Fund. LD thanked the committee. EC thanked LD and committee. LD thanks Kiersten. SF noted the breadth of development is larger than ever before, and notes the Legacy gifts as evidence.

Committee Reports CCC Activities (Chuck Jones)
Report on turnover in some Honors and Awards Chair positions, and the need to consider the timeline for voting on awards. CCC recommends the EC submit the following names to the Board for a vote:

Chair Nominations:
- Susan Ackermann, co-chair of Honors and Awards Committee (one-year appointment)
- Rocco Palermo, co-chair of Honors and Awards
- Debra Foran, co-chair of Program Committee
- Laura Mazow, chair of Membership & Outreach Committee

Chair Reappointments
- Kate Larson, co-chair of Growth, Innovation, and Visibility Committee
- Kiersten Neumann, co-chair of Program Committee

Emily seconded. Unanimous.

Discussion regarding how to be more effective in the onboarding of new chairs

Discussion topics

Strategic Plan (Jane DeRose Evans)
Review of task force formation and resource gathering. Different form than previous SP: three main initiatives (‘ASOR’s Place in the World, ‘Looking Outward,’ ‘Preparation for the Future.’). Draft brought to CCC and then shared with members for comments and questions. Responses are coming. CCC suggests broad member surveys (based on Members' meeting 11/21), and how to manage feedback. Further discussion about how procedure for former SP revisions (last revision was not a major overall as the prior one had been, and committees were sent specific questions to consider). Discussion about how/if to consider the addition of a ‘values’ statement.

Hopes are to bring forward to Board for a vote in May.

ASOR Policies—ongoing issues (SH and JE ie: JE’s white paper)

A. Introduction (SH)
B. Matters arising from COP (SH – primarily about contested terr.)
C. Matters arising from CAP (SH – primarily about contested terr.)

JE explained that CAP had requested a statement regarding contested territories that had been brought to CCC be put in place by 11/23, but that this would not be possible. More time and committee work is warranted.

D. Matters arising from PC (SH – primarily about contested terr.)

Following on item ‘C’ above, EC agreed a good path forward to coming up with a holistic solution could be the formation of an ad-hoc committee, perhaps in conjunction with SP.

Values Proposal (document from Helen Dixon and Sarah Costello)

EC discussed this document in the following areas:

- Should the Mission and/or SP be revised to include a Values statement? Perhaps have the SP task force consider this once the SP is completed?
- How might Values statements transform ASOR into a policing body? On what level do members want to/should be held accountable? Is it a committee-level decision?
- How to bring the Values topic to the Board?
- Much of the ideas surrounding the statement reflects some members wishes to revisit the topic discussed at May 2025 Board meeting and previous professional conduct committee meetings. How to communicate what has already been discussed/decided, potentially poll membership to see how widespread this concern is.
- Values document also relates to the 10/7 statement. Discussion about how any further statement might be received by the broader public.

EC determined that the Values statement would be presented and discussed at 11/23 Board meeting for its consideration about how/if to include it in potential revisions to the Mission and/or SP.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28