

INITIATIVE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Report to the ASOR Board of Trustees

Submitted 10 November 2017 by ISW chair, Beth Alpert Nakhai

- *Keeping Field Work Safe from Sexual Harassment and Physical Violence:*
 - I have continued work on this critically important project, which I began in 2013. In 2017, I presented on the subject of field safety at a conference in Barcelona, published several short pieces in online publications, and was interviewed for Bloomberg's *Game Plan* podcast ("The Harvey Weinstein in Your Industry;" 25 October 2017; <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-25/the-harvey-weinstein-in-your-industry-j9742fly>). In addition, I was invited to present on the subject of field safety at the 2018 annual meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, in a session that addresses Title IX and civil rights issues.
 - It is my recommendation that ASOR act promptly to create a Code of Conduct that specifically treats the issue of safety from sexual harassment, discrimination, intimidation and violence. I suggest that ASOR form a working group that includes representation from (at least) the Board, CAP, the Initiative on the Status of Women, and the Ethics Working Group (and other ASOR groups or individuals, as appropriate). This group, which I would like to head, should be charged to develop a Code of Conduct that provides clear and unambiguous guidance to all ASOR-affiliated projects.

- The Initiative on the Status of Women Facebook page:
 - 113 members now use this Facebook page for posting information, engaging in discussion, and so forth.
 - Please join – and please help to promote it.
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1469401773364915/#> =

- The ISW Open House and Steering Committee meeting will be held Fri. 17 Nov., 7:15-8:15.

- Initiative on the Status of Women *Mentoring Lunch* (Sat., 18 Nov. 2017, 12:45-2:00):
 - In 2016, we adopted the model of "Speed Mentoring." Four tables, covering the topics of "Fieldwork and Family," "Women and Publishing," "Negotiating the Academy," and Non-Academic Professionals," were anchored by female members of ASOR's Board of Trustees.
 - In 2017, we are using the same model and the same table topics. Eight women who are senior scholars in ASOR will anchor the tables.
 1. Women and Publishing: Allison Thomason & Billie Jean Collins
 2. Negotiating the Academy: Joan Branham & Marian Feldman
 3. Family and Fieldwork: Leann Pace & Virginia Herrmann
 4. Non-Academic Professionals: Tiffany Earley Spadoni & Catherine Foster
 - The lunch component of this event is always problematic. This year, despite her diligent and very best efforts, Arlene Press was not able arrange for food to be available inside the room in which the session is being held. The logistics of eating at the "Grab & Go" and then moving into the room means that the amount of time available for profitable discussion and mentoring is significantly reduced.

- The ISW is sponsoring a workshop entitled: *Talking about Gender-Related “Situations” in Our Workplaces* (Sat., 18 Nov. 2017, 2:00-4:05). During the first hour, five presenters (Emily Bonney, Jennie Ebeling, Laura Mazow, Megan Cifarelli, Stefanie Elkins-Bates) will cover topics ranging from academia to fieldwork. The second hour will be an open mic session.

- The ISW will use the hashtag #HerASOR17 as a means of posting news and updates for ASOR members during the annual meeting.

- *Women of ASOR* Map:
 - <http://www.asor.org/resources/maps/index.html>
 - The map is being managed by Jared Koller (jmkoller@bu.edu).