

COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM (CAMP)

Report for ASOR Executive Board Meeting, November 21, 2009

Submitted by co-vice presidents Michael Homan and Morag Kersel.

ACTION ITEMS

No action items

Annual Meeting Program Committee Report

Submitted by Andrew M. Smith II and Elise A. Friedland.

2009 Academic Program: Since our last report, the 2009 Academic Program has been finalized (<http://www.asor.org/am/schedule.shtml>). The 2009 Academic Program includes 254 papers, 53 sessions. The program will also include several roundtable discussions and the poster session (“Projects on Parade”). The 2009 Program Abstract Copy Book is currently being copyedited and will be reviewed by PC Chairs before publication.

PC Guidelines: The PC Chairs assisted the VPs of CAMP in drafting and finalizing PC Guidelines (see attached).

Membership of Committee: A rubric has been established to try to assist in making sure that representation is in proportion to the broad constituency of ASOR and takes into account the following temporal, regional, and disciplinary areas:

Regional	Temporal	Disciplinary
Arabian Peninsula	Prehistoric	Anthropology
Cyprus	Bronze Age	Archaeology
Egypt	Iron Age	History
Iran	Classical	Art History
Israel	Hellenistic	Biblical Studies
Jordan	Persian	Classical Studies
Lebanon	Roman	Cultural Heritage
Mesopotamia	Byzantine	Gender Studies
Southern Levant	Islamic	
Syria		
Turkey		

Current PC members will be surveyed to identify which temporal, regional, and disciplinary areas they represent, so that future members can be chosen accordingly.

In consultation with current PC members, VPs of CAMP, the President, and the Executive Director, nominations for new members are being considered to replace the two members who will be stepping off of the committee after this November’s meeting (Beth Nakhai and Aaron Brody).

Structure of the Academic Program: To accommodate ASOR's increased emphasis on the Annual Meeting and its interest in building and further professionalizing our yearly conference (especially via the hiring of the director of meetings and events and the increased involvement of the main ASOR office in the logistics of putting together the Academic Program), we have implemented a new structure to begin at the 2010 Annual Meeting. Now the Academic Program will incorporate four venues for presenting research and new discoveries: "ASOR Sessions," "Member-Organized Sessions," "Workshops," and "Projects on Parade" (the poster session).

1) ASOR Sessions: Sessions that are long-standing ASOR-mainstays will now be sponsored by the Program Committee (with existing chairs continuing to provide invaluable expertise and organization) as "ASOR Sessions" to assure that the Academic Program for each Annual Meeting includes venues for the presentation of new research in the broad temporal, regional, and disciplinary areas represented in the ASOR membership (see list of "ASOR Sessions" below). It is also hoped that this will attract new members to ASOR, since a broader range of sessions will be published in the initial Call for Papers.

2) Member-Organized Sessions: These sessions are focused on a specific topic or theme and may be proposed by ASOR Members who wish to explore that topic or theme at the Annual Meeting for a term of one to three years.

3) Workshop Sessions: Workshops are interactive sessions organized around a tightly focused topic or theme or around an archaeological site; in these, oral presentations and/or demonstrations are kept to a minimum in favor of open discussion between prospective session chairs, presenters, and members of the audience.

4) Projects on Parade: The poster session offers an informal venue for ASOR members to "get the word out" about their research and is designed to provide student and junior members an opportunity for greater involvement in the program of the ASOR Annual Meeting.

It is our hope that this new structure will encourage increased member participation, from those presenting papers and especially those who might organize dynamic thematic sessions; we are also eager to draw in new members, who may not have previously seen ASOR as a venue for presenting their research.

This new structure has already been announced to session chairs and will be communicated to the broader ASOR membership in the Fall Newsletter, in the "Call for Papers" and on the ASOR website.

2010 Call for New Member-Organized Sessions and New Workshop Sessions: This call was posted to the ASOR website in early November 2009 with proposals due on Dec. 7, 2009.

Logistics of Organizing the Academic Program: To assist the PC Chairs, ASOR main office, and PC Committee with the logistics of receiving, reviewing, and accepting/rejecting abstract/participation forms and with organizing the Academic Program and producing the Program Abstract Copy Book for each annual meeting, we are continuing to work with the

director of meetings and events to implement appropriate technology that will enable the process to run smoothly and seamlessly via a web interface. With help from AIA's Kevin Mullen (currently Publications Fulfillment Manager; previously designer of the database and accompanying online interface to run the AIA's Annual Call for Papers), we have secured free server space on which to house the 2010 Annual Meeting Call for Papers and all of the web interface through which prospective participants will submit their Abstract/Participation Forms online. PC Co-Chair, Andrew M. Smith II, has identified an open source database package that can be modified to suit the specific needs of our organization and can store and manage all of the data relevant to the 2010 Academic Program. Over the next month, we will be working to mount this database package and adapt it to ASOR's needs, and we hope launch it for the 2010 Call for Papers.

Upcoming work: In addition to assisting the director of meetings and events with overseeing the IT development to support the logistics of organizing the Academic Program, we will be engaged with the following projects in the upcoming months:

- Receiving and reviewing new Member-Organized Sessions Proposals and New Workshop Session Proposals (due Dec. 7, 2009)
- Receiving 2010 Abstract/Participation Forms (due Feb. 15, 2010) and assisting session chairs in their review of proposals and organization of sessions.
- Working with CAMP VPs, ASOR Executive Director, and ASOR President to identify and appoint new members of the PC.

Annual Meeting Program Committee Members

Elise Friedland and Andrew Smith, Co-Chairs

Aaron Brody

Derek Counts

Annlee Dolan

Jennie Ebeling

Laura Mazow

Beth Alpert Nakhai

Yorke Rowan

Nancy Serwint

Michael Homan (ex-officio)

Morag Kersel (ex-officio)

Honors and Awards Committee Report

Submitted by Sue Sheridan.

There are nominees for the following awards:

ALBRIGHT

ASOR SERVICE

CROSS

HARRIS

MACALLISTER

WRIGHT

Honors and Awards Committee Members

Susan Sheridan, Chair
Lauren Monroe
Laura Mazow
Louise Hitchcock
John Spencer (to be confirmed)
Yorke Rowan
Michael Homan (ex-officio)
Morag Kersel (ex-officio)

Junior Scholars Committee Report

Submitted by Jonathan Lawrence.

The Junior Scholars Luncheon will be Thursday, November 19 from 12:45-2:00pm. There will be representatives of the various ASOR institutes to talk about research and grant possibilities and about application strategies. People are already signing up for it through the conference registration page.

I will be working with Kelley and the hotel to investigate venues for the Meet and Greet.

Junior Scholars Committee Members

Jonathan Lawrence, Chair
Debi Cassuto
Mark Hammond
Mary Larkin
Michael Homan (ex-officio)
Morag Kersel (ex-officio)

Lectures Committee Report

Submitted by Jacob Wright.

I really do not know what to report. Last year at the meeting we decided to use our budget for sponsoring one or two lectures at the regional meetings. Our regional officers would help us in setting things up locally and we would help them by providing books, articles and perhaps a modest honorarium to the speaker. I spoke with K. Lawson Younger and he is interested in trying this out for the first time at his Midwest conference. Given his experience, I think he is the best person to work with and this will give us feel for what we can do elsewhere.

Lecture Committee Members

Jacob Wright, Chair
Oded Borowski
Joe Greene

Jane Grutz
Bob Grutz
Steve Ortiz
Tammi Schneider
Michael Homan (ex-officio)
Morag Kersel (ex-officio)

Outreach Committee Report

Submitted by Ellen Bedell.

The Outreach Committee has an ASOR session entitled, "Teaching Archaeology to Undergraduates: Success Stories and Cautionary Tales."

Outreach Committee Members

Ellen Bedell, Chair
Neal Bierling
Kimberly Connors
Stefanie Elkins
Tischa Entz
Peter Feinman
Pam Gaber
Wade Kotter
Michael Homan (ex-officio)
Morag Kersel (ex-officio)

Regional Affiliations Committee Report

Submitted by Suzanne Richard.

Below is a report on the activities planned by the various regions for the spring conferences. It is a little early for certain groups, but several of the regions have set forth ambitious plans to attract participants. For example, the SE plans ASOR sessions around the theme chosen for the entire conference and has invited a major speaker as well as discussants. This is an effective way to offer sessions, but obviously requires funding and would be difficult for the smaller regions. The SW also is collaborating with partner SBL to attract participants with an outreach session to include a text person and archaeologist. A number of representatives have petitioned for funding, specifically for help bringing in a "big-name" archaeologist. Clearly, funding is a critical element for the regions.

This spring two of the regions, the Mid-Atlantic and the SW have back-to-back meetings (Mar 11-12; 12-14). This could offer an opportunity for an ASOR "big-name" speaker to attend both.

I have been in discussions with Kelley at the Boston office about more publicity for the regions. The fall newsletter will hopefully include not only the regional conference dates, but also a special report highlighting one or two of the regions. We discussed ideas for updating the

Regional Page on the ASOR Website and providing a link on the Home Page. We also discussed the possibility of including on the annual subscription renewal the member's regional affiliation.

Rocky Mountain/Great Plains region

The dates for the 2010 RMGP Regional Meeting are April 9-10, 2010, to be held at Creighton University in Omaha. There is a call for papers in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology for the ASOR session. The RMGP region has a small population of ASOR members, yet with help from ASOR national they would like to bring in a well-known archaeologist to speak on topics of interest to their various constituencies.

Mid-Atlantic

The news here is that Barry Gittlin is in discussions with the SBL Mid-Atlantic about including identifiable ASOR sessions or session in the March 2010 meeting. The Mid-Atlantic is scheduled for March 11-12 at the Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick, NJ. Perhaps a "big-name" ASOR speaker could jumpstart this region.

Southwest

The meet is scheduled for March 12-14th in Dallas. The ASOR sessions include topics on biblical archaeology, excavation reports, history and archaeology of the ancient Near East. In an effective way to promote ASOR, this region is collaborating with SBL to put together an outreach session in which a text person and an archaeologist discuss a topic of interest. This group has also indicated a desire to bring in a well-known archaeologist with help from ASOR.

PNW

This group does not meet until May, 2010 so a Call for Papers has not gone out as yet. They will meet in Victoria, British Columbia.

SE

This region is planning an innovative program (Archaeology and the Ancient World) that is a good model for the other regions. Ralph K. Hawkins is arranging the sessions. The dates are set for March 5-7, 2010. Besides an open call for archaeology papers, the ASOR/SBL is planning two sessions on the theme of the entire conference: Religion and Economics. They will have a guest lecturer (Mordechai Aviam, from Israel) talking about "Jesus and the Galilean Economy" and his excavations at Tel Yodefath. A second session will include an invited panel of discussants about Aviam's work. In a joint session with SBL-Teaching Religions, a session titled "Teaching in the Field: Best Practices in Field Schools" is also planned. The idea of a theme for the whole program (SBL/AAR/ASOR) is an interesting one that is worth considering in other regions as well.

Midwest

At this early date, there are no plans yet for the spring meetings, but sometime in September or early October a Call for Papers will go out. The dates for the conference are February 12-14, 2010, to be held at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Central

No call for papers yet in this region, but the dates are March 21-22, 2010 at the St. Louis Marriott West. There will be a plenary speaker at the conference, Dr. Jodi Magness.

EGLBS

This region will be celebrating its 40th year as a society at the 2010 regional meeting to be held April 8-9 at the Quality Inn & Suites, Richfield, Ohio. There is a general call for papers on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East & Mediterranean/Archaeology & the Bible, as well as special sessions being planned. This region would also find it helpful to have some funding from ASOR national.

Upper Midwest

There is no Call for Papers as yet, but the conference is set for April 9-10, 2010, at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN.

PSW

This region is undergoing some change that should clarify in future. At present, there is an SBL/PCR-Western AAR-ASOR Call for Papers for the conference to be held in Tempe, AZ at Arizona State University, March 13-15, 2010. There is an open call for papers on a variety of subjects, including Ancient Near East.

Regional Affiliations Committee Members

Suzanne Richard, Chair

John Laughlin - SECSOR (Southeast Region)

Jesse C. Long, Jr. - SW Commission of Religious Studies

Gloria London - Pacific Northwest Region

Vic Matthews - ASOR Central States

K. Lawson Younger - ASOR Midwest

Mark Chavalas - ASOR Upper Midwest Regions

Suzanne Richard - Eastern Great Lakes Region

Barry Gittlen - Mid-Atlantic

Rami Arav - Rocky Mountains/Great Plains

Beth Alpert Nakhai - Pacific Southwest

Andy Vaughn - New England Region

Michael Homan (ex-officio)

Morag Kersel (ex-officio)