

**Report for the ASOR Spring 2011 Board Meeting**  
**by Oystein S. LaBianca**  
**CAP Chair**

A significant action was voted by the CAP committee at its meeting in Atlanta last November. The action was to approve "established projects" for three years, thus eliminating the need for such projects to re-apply every year. This action will significantly lighten the burden of project directors and also enable CAP committee members to devote more attention to nurturing new field and publication projects; offering advise and support to projects that received conditional approval; and undertake initiatives that will further strengthen ASOR's services to affiliated projects.

One such initiative that I have been keen to see advance during my tenure as CAP chair is the development of the ASOR-CAP web site. Today I am glad to be able to report that \$15,500 has been secured from ASOR (thanks Andy and Tim for \$5500), from Andrews University (thanks Office of Scholarly Research for \$5000) and from the California Institute of Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2) at UCSD (thanks Tom Levy and INSTAP for \$5000) that will allow this initiative to move forward. These funds will allow us to ...

1. Work with ASOR headquarters and BU Computer Services to enable future CAP affiliation applications to be filed on-line, with provisions for easy uploading figures, maps and charts. The lead persons on this project will be Steve Savage and Andy Vaughn.
2. Work with Open Hand Studios to enable automatic generation of CAP Snapshots based on data collected via the on-line application. The lead persons on this project will be Paul Christians and Steve Savage.
3. Create a CAP Toolbox that will serve as a window for accessing resources developed by ASOR members and institutions. The purpose of this toolbox is to offer ASOR researchers a place to share online applications and websites that provide benefits for field and library-based research that may be of interest to dig directors, their core staffs, and the general public. The toolbox will give priority to showcasing processes and procedures, data handling techniques and technologies that have been developed and deployed by ASOR affiliated projects. Examples of online tools that will be made available through the CAP toolbox include a search portal to the Digital Archaeological Atlas of the Holy Land (DAAHL), the 3D Pottery Query application developed by Neil Smith (Ucsd CISA3 Cyber-Archaeology Lab, Shobak, Jordan), and the Madaba Plains Project Digttools application. The lead person on this project will be Steve Savage.
4. Produce a web-based slide show/video for the ASOR web site highlighting the ways in which various CAP research projects are helping to advance our understanding of global history from the Bronze Age through to the present. To this end the principal investigators of each of the 67 archaeological projects affiliated with ASOR through CAP will be polled to discover which projects are producing findings relevant to illuminating seven specific global processes. These are 1) the steady expansion of an ever more potent economic world system; 2) the comings and goings of great religious revivals and

movements; 3) the rise, domination and fall of adjacent and distant world empires; 4) the gradual bureaucratization of governance structures through development and deployment of signs, symbols and scripts; 5) the episodic recurrence of killer plagues and epidemics; 6) the in-and-out migration of displaced families and whole groups of people in the wake of upheavals wrought by these global pressures; and 7) the gradual erosion of habitat conditions reflected in landscape transformation in the direction of desertification. The lead persons on this project will be Oystein LaBianca and Jeff Hudon.

Finally, below follow the stats on projects approved by CAP for 2011:

2011 CAP Projects: 67 Total Projects

33 Field Projects

34 Publication Projects

Cyprus: 10 Projects (5 field, 5 Publication)

Egypt: 1 Project (Publication)

Israel: 23 Projects (9 Field, 14 Publication)

Jordan: 24 Projects (15 Field, 9 Publication)

Syria: 3 Projects (Field)

Turkey: 2 Projects (1 Field, 1 Publication)

West Bank: 3 Projects (Publication)

Bahrain: 1 Project (Publication)