

Report of the Committee on Publications

Submitted by Charles E. Jones, Chair

17 April 2012

Since the Annual Meeting in San Francisco much of the activity of the Committee on Publications has centered around bringing the new Editor of NEA, Thomas Schneider, on board, and moving forward the guest edited (Jeffrey A. Blakely) issue 75:1 of NEA. Details of this activity are in the Editor's report below. The single action item for consideration by the Trustees is the appointment of the NEA Editorial Staff proposed by the Editor and discussed and approved by COP (see below).

I am pleased with the proposed staff, and would like to commend Thomas Schneider for his strong leadership in reconstituting the staff under the difficult circumstances of this transition, and for his team's thoughtful articulation of the vision of NEA.

Please note Thomas Schneider's request for feedback on the idea of converting Dig-it-al NEA into Dig-it-al ASOR in the context of other ASOR-wide web and blog initiatives. Please also note his discussion of the importance of implementing an electronic manuscript management system.

Jim Weinstein has been working with the Boston office on the implications of the shift to semi-annual production and to color illustrations. One of the consequences of these changes is the necessity to move book reviews from the printed journal to the website.

BASOR 365 and NEA 75:1 were slightly delayed, but are both now in press and due to appear any moment. Aside from that all publications are on schedule.

As of the beginning of January all issue of the three ASOR Journals are accessible via JSTOR's current scholarship program:

<http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublisher?publisherCode=asor>

Kevin Cooney is organizing a number of promotions associated with ASOR's JSTOR content. These are enjoying considerable success which we hope will translate to an increase in subscribership.

COP discussed and responded to a request for clarification of ASOR's policy about self-archiving of articles (and books) published by ASOR. There is some ambiguity and inconsistency in the permissions ASOR grants in this regard. We need to have some clarity across the whole range of ASOR publications. Discussion will continue.

At the request of the Boston office COP discussed how responses to reviews published in ASOR journals should be handled. While it is clear that the ASOR web site and blog are not part of the COP portfolio, and while no objection to such responses was voiced from the Editors or other members of COP, it is clear that a distinction needs to be made between what is published formally in ASOR publications (with

editorial /peer review, copy editing, etc.), and what is published less formally on the website. Kevin Cooney drafted language to reflect this distinction.

COP was asked to comment on the merits of the candidates for the book distribution contract, which expires this week. The book series editors were very closely involved in the deliberations. One member of COP was a party top one of the bids. That member of COP was not a part of these deliberations.

I'd like to express my thanks to all members of COP for their thoughtful counsel and reasoned discussion, and to each of the Editors for their hard work in moving forward this central mission of ASOR. Likewise I would like to thank the Boston staff, in particular Andy Vaughn and Kevin Cooney for their support of the publications program.

Action Item

COP moves that the NEA Editorial staff proposed by Editor Thomas Schneider be appointed as follows:

Copy-editor: Bob Buller (buller.bob@gmail.com)

Book review editor: **Stephen Russell (Princeton Theological Seminary)**

Editorial Committees (new editors are marked in red):

Class of 2012:

Susan Ackerman (Dartmouth College)

Lynn Swarz (University of Southern California)

Bethany Walker (Missouri State)

Class of 2013:

Ömür Harmansah (Brown University)

Ann Marie Knoblauch (Virginia Tech)

K. Lawson Younger (Trinity International University)

Class of 2014:

Beth Alpert Nakhai (University of Arizona)

Marica Cassis (Memorial University)

Michael Harrower (Johns Hopkins)

Class of 2015:

Richard S. Hess (Denver Seminary)

Nadine Moeller (Oriental Institute)

Jason Ur (Harvard University)

Appendix: Editors' Reports:

ARS Quarterly Report March 2012

1. ARS MSS in press

-ARS 16: Ayl-Ras en Naqab Archaeological Survey (ARNAS) (B. MacDonald) – reviewing galleys

-ARS 17 The Roman Marble Sculptures from the Sanctuary of Pan at Caesarea Philippi/Paneas (Israel) (E. Friedland)

2. ARS MSS ACCEPTED, AWAITING REVISION

-none

3. ARS MSS AWAITING FOR FURTHER REVISION BASED ON REVIEWS

-Idalion, Cyprus (P. Gaber)

3. ARS MSS NOW UNDER REVIEW

-none

4. ARS PROPOSALS ACCEPTED, AWAITING MSS

-Eastern Desert Survey, Egypt (Gates-Foster, et al.)

-“Humayma Excavation Project, 2: The Nabataean Campground and Necropolis, Byzantine Churches, and Early Islamic Domestic Structures.” (J. Oleson)

-CAARI Conference - “Cyprus and the Balance of Empires: From Justinian I to the Couer de Lion” (Charles Stewart)

-Caesarea Promontory, Israel (K. Gleason)

-“Embodying Dilmun: Embodying Dilmun: The Peter B. Cornwall expedition to Eastern Saudi Arabia and Bahrain” – Ben Porter and Alexis Boutin

-Akko, Israel (A. Brody)

-Wawiyat, Israel (B. Nakhai and J. P. Dessel)

-Koutsopetria, Cyprus, Roman Era (Bill Caraher et al)

-Roman Aqaba, Jordan (T. Parker)

I have not yet had contact with:

-Phlamoudhi-Melissa, Cyprus (J. Smith) [PROMISED BY END OF 2008, NOT YET RECEIVED]

5. ARS PROPOSALS UNDER REVIEW

- Mithraeum at Caesarea Maritima (R. Bull – Vivian Bull is contact person)

6. ARS INQUIRIES, AWAITING PROPOSALS

-Shechem V (LB pottery) (Ted Campbell and Catherine Duff)

-Tell Raqai, Syria (Glenn Schwartz)

-Tell Taanek EBA ceramics (Mark Ziese)

-Shechem Iron Age (J. Holiday)

-Tell er-Ras (R. J. Bull)

-Athienou, Cyprus (M. Toumazou, D. Counts) [ADDED NOVEMBER 2008]

-Phlamoudhi-Vounari (M. Horowitz)

-Dhibon (Morton Excavations), Jordan (Bruce Routledge)

-Tell er-Rumeith (Tristan Barako)

6.5 ARS QUERIES, UNDECIDED ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL SUBMIT

-Kourion's Amathous Gate Cemetery (Michael Given)

-Tell en-Nasbeh (EB I), Israel (Catherine Foster)

7. ARS PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN, BUT WITH PLANS TO RESUBMIT

-Cadir Hoyuk, Turkey (S. Steadman)

BASOR status report:

BASOR 365 (February 2012): Delayed as a result of unavoidable circumstances, this issue will come out in late April. The last of the standard 104-page black-and-white BASOR issues.

BASOR 366 (May 2012): Manuscripts revised and accepted, will start copyediting papers in early April, expect issue to come out in June. Will be the first of the 96-page color issues and will have some changes in format (e.g., new basic font, perhaps a change in the running header and footer). Have been spec'ing out the changes for Eisenbrauns.

BASOR 367 (August 2012): Manuscripts already accepted, some revised, some in final revision, expect issue to come out in September.

BASOR 368 (November 2012): Contents of issue not yet certain. Number and length of manuscripts submitted for Cyprus theme issue (previously planned for November) means Cyprus has to be moved to the first (semiannual) issue for 2013, so the November issue will consist of papers currently in revision or still out for review. Andy has agreed that this issue can be 128 pages; we already have enough good papers (including one very long one) in review or revision to fill those pages.

BASOR 369 (First semiannual issue for 2013): Cyprus will be the focus of this 192-page issue, which we may fill out with some book reviews. Manuscripts for this issue are currently out for peer review. We may complete the move to the new journal format by publishing most or all of the book reviews in the online version of the journal (as AJA does with all of its book reviews). Book reviews will still be listed in the printed table of contents, and we may be able to publish review-articles and possibly a few reviews in the printed copy. (See discussion below for reason behind this major change.)

BASOR 370 (Second semiannual issue for 2013): Individual articles and perhaps a few book reviews or a review-article will be in this issue. Manuscripts submitted to journal in 2012 are being considered for this issue.

BASOR 371 (First semiannual issue for 2014): A theme issue is under discussion. I may recommend the transfer of these papers to the ASOR Annual—unless the \$5,000 subvention requirement for color is still in effect in 2013 at the Annual, in which case the issue will have to stay with BASOR. Submission deadline for manuscripts for the theme issue is January 1, 2013.

Book review change:

The move to color has meant a reduction in the number of pages BASOR is allowed to have for issues 366 and 367 to 96 (from the standard 104 pages [or longer]), while the semiannual issues starting in 2013 will be 192 pages instead of (the black-and-white equivalent) 208 pages. Hence, starting in 2013 BASOR will have at least 32 fewer pages annually than it would have if we published in black-and-white. This reduction is roughly equivalent to the book review sections covering two issues. To accommodate the mandated reduction in issue size, it has become necessary to plan to publish most or all book

reviews online and not in the hardcopy version. The BASOR editorial board is in agreement on the need for this change, though some board members (including the editor) would still much prefer to be able to keep the book reviews in the hardcopy version. Needless to say, subscribers who only get the hardcopy version of the journal will not see the book reviews unless their institution has an online subscription to the journal. There is no obvious solution to this problem. Fewer hardcopy pages means that something has to be cut, and the reviews are the only thing available for cutting.

NEA Report

1. GUEST EDITORSHIP OF JEFFREY A. BLAKELY

Jeffrey A. Blakely served as Guest Editor for NEA issue 75:1. He commissioned four articles, three of which deal with the archaeology and history of borders and border sites, while the final article serves as an introduction of Thomas Schneider as the journal's new editor to NEA's readers. The issue was slightly delayed, but in the end it was sent to the printer on 7 April.

2. EDITORIAL CHANGES FOR NEA

I. In an attempt to streamline the editorial process, I have decided to **discontinue** the 6 positions of assistant editors and editorial assistants most of whom resigned their positions.

II. NEA's core editorial team has been reconstituted as follows and approved by COP:

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Book review editor: **Stephen Russell (Princeton Theological Seminary)**

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Jason Ur (Harvard University)

3. MISSION AND VISION

In the first weeks of 2012, the editors have discussed in some detail the mission and vision for NEA, and the reviewing process, in order to achieve the envisaged more inclusive approach, and to ensure that NEA again reaches a wider audience and the general enthusiast. To make sure that there is a greater diversity per fascicle, we have limited the page length per article to max. 12 pages (3,500 words) (previously it was 7,000 words). Ideally, each issue would contain ca. 5 major contributions and additional book reviews etc. It will be important to acquire a backlog of manuscripts so that we are in line with the publication schedule. Once an electronic manuscript management system is established, NEA would wish to issue a more general call for papers through the pertinent news lists.

4. EDITORIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

One of editor's responsibilities is to implement an electronic article management system. A management system streamlines the submission process and makes all contributions, illustrations, reviews etc. simultaneously available to whoever is involved in the editing and publishing process. We had offers from pertinent providers as early as November 2011. Since the sum charged by those providers for the implementation of an electronic article management system exceeds the annual funds allotted to NEA for administrative costs, no substantial progress could be made since. The possibility of buying ourselves into Brill's journal management system has become a possibility after Andy Vaughn met with Brill's acquisitions editor earlier in 2012.

5. UPCOMING FASCICLES

For much of the beginning of 2012, it has been the editor's main task to secure manuscripts for the June/September/December 2012 fascicles as there was no actual backlog of submitted and unpublished articles, or book reviews.

Here are the agreed upon contributions for June through December.

I. JUNE 2012

I have "overbooked" the initial issue to make sure that, should reviewers negatively assess a manuscript, we would still be able to publish the fascicle in time. All articles will be reviewed and returned to the authors for revisions by April 20. Revised articles will be due on April 30, with a view to have the fascicle ready by the end of May.

Alexis T. Boutin, Gloria L. Nusse, Sabrina B. Sholts, and Benjamin W. Porter:

"Facing" the Past: Reconstructing a Teenage Boy from Early Dilmun

Raphael Greenberg, Sarit Paz, David Wengrow and Mark Iserlis

Tel Bet Yerah, Hub of the Early Bronze Age Levant

Jodi Magness

What's the Poop on Ancient Toilets and Toilet Habits?

N. Marchetti, A. and B. Dinçol, D. Hawkins and H. Peker

Karkemish: A Capital City in the Light of New Excavations

Piotr Taracha

The sculptures of Alacahöyük: A key to religious symbolism in Hittite representational art

Nadine Moeller

**Identifying officials through sealings at Tell Edfu, Egypt:
Who was local and who was not?**

II. SEPTEMBER 2012

Will include the "overspill" from the overbooked June fascicle, plus:

Lee Ullmann (Hittite Archaeology)

Mary-Ann Pouls-Wegner (Abydos)

Iris Gerlach (Marib)

Rudy Dornemann (Tell Qarqur I – "ASOR feature")

Additionally book reviews commissioned between January and April 2012.

III. DECEMBER 2012

Ricardo Eichmann (Tayma)

Oded Lipschits (Azekah)

Jason Ur (Remote Sensing in the ANE/Iraq)

Rudy Dornemann (Tell Qarqur II)

6. DIG-IT-AL NEA

Under the past editorship, NEA established Dig-it-al NEA as an online venture of NEA with separate articles, columns, and information, currently containing (only) 12 contributions. The editorial board of NEA has not yet decided on the future of this initiative. We think that the relationship between the print version and Dig-it-al NEA – and the acquisition of articles for either of them – needs clarification. If it were to be continued, it must be assigned an editor who would be in charge of the digital outlet so it can fully live up to the expectations it creates. *We would welcome feedback on the idea to convert Dig-it-al NEA into Dig-it-al ASOR as an online archaeological information outlet – the information currently posted on Dig-it-al NEA pertains as much to NEA as it does to BASOR, or for that matter, ASOR as a whole.*

JCS report

I have edited all of JCS 2012 except for two late articles that are coming any day and have delivered it all to Billie-Jean for typesetting. I am hoping to be on time, but might be a few weeks late.

In addition I have edited the third JCS Supplement series volume, Paul Delnero, /The Textual Criticism of Sumerian Literature/, is almost ready to go to typesetting--the author is making a few final adjustments and it should be ready any day. I have read and commented on the fourth Supplement, Benjamin Studevent-Hickman (with a contribution by Dennis and Jane Piechot), /The Archive of Aradmu from Ur III Nippur/ (title may be changed to something more funky), and the author is rewriting accordingly. It should be ready for a formal reader very soon and I hope to get it into production in early fall.

Respectfully submitted.

Piotr Michalowski