

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call  
September 27, 2012

**Present:** Sharon Herbert, Andy Vaughn, Tim Harrison, Erin Darby, Chuck Jones, Sten LaBianca, Suzanne Richard, Jacob Wright, Britta Abeln

**Absent:** Bob Cargill, Stephanie Elkins, Elise Friedland, Andrew Smith

I. Report on EC discussion of standing vs. ad hoc committee status (Sharon)

Sharon stated that the Executive Committee decided to keep all the committees as they are for now and to return to the question next year, after the CCC has a better idea of its role. Andy added that the EC wants to talk about this again next year and make any changes to the Bylaws very deliberately. Sharon suggested that when the CCC meets at the annual meeting it should discuss the evolving role of the CCC.

II. Report on formation of chairs' nominating committee and status of awards chair search (Sharon)

Sharon announced that a chairs' nominating committee has been formed and it is made up of Jennie Ebeling and Chuck Jones with Sharon as chair. The first job of the chairs' nominating committee was to choose a chair for the awards committee which they have done. Laura Mazow has agreed to be the chair of the awards committee. Therefore she will be added to the CCC.

III. Discussion and vote on expansion of BASOR proposal (Chuck)

Sharon stated that this subject has been in discussion for a long time. There is a financial component that the EC has dealt with, and also an intellectual piece with the CCC will address. Because of the timing of the calls, the proposal was sent to the EC in September and was approved. Now the CCC will deal with the content of it.

Chuck explained that Jim Weinstein had noticed a trend of long-form articles being submitted to BASOR so he proposed increasing the size of BASOR to accommodate these articles. The proposal states that BASOR would expand to 512 pages per year and would use the opportunity fund up to \$10,000 for up to two years to fund these changes. Chuck stated that the proposal speaks for itself and that he, COP, and the EC all support it and he believes it will be positive for BASOR and ASOR in general.

Andy stated that this is a strategic move for ASOR and it makes BASOR one of the only places where longer articles can be published. It is also hoped that this move will increase institutional subscription rates. Sten noted that from the perspective of CAP, the proposal makes good sense. Someone asked where a subvention would come from and Andy responded that BASOR does not require authors to pay to print in color.

Andy also mentioned a concern about workload. He said that Jim had previously stated that this proposal would decrease the amount of work

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call  
September 27, 2012

because he would not need to edit down the articles. However, since then Jim has stated that he will come back with a proposal for more compensation. This is the latest in a trend of getting one thing then asking for more. Tim reminded the CCC that the EC has discussed the financial aspects and the CCC should focus on the substance of the proposal.

Sharon asked if anyone had any reservations. Someone asked if book reviews would only be available online. Sharon responded that they would remain in the hard copy version of the journal. Chuck added that that did not preclude the possibility of additional reviews being available online.

Tim encouraged the CCC to vote together to signal strong feelings from the council.

Chuck motioned to support the expansion of BASOR to 512 pages per year and to use the opportunity fund to pay for up to \$10,000 for up to 2 years.

Sten seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Chuck stated that he would notify COP and Jim that the motion passed.

Sten suggested that in the future the CCC discuss the general direction of the journal. Chuck responded that he would welcome that discussion. Sharon said that she would put it on the next agenda.

IV. Report and discussion on trial revision of participation rules from the Program Committee (Andrew and Elise)

Andrew and Elise were absent due to a medical issue.

Sharon stated that this is a trial revision of the appearance policy. Andy added that up to this year there was a two appearance policy, but there were times when people wanted to appear three times. This occurred when people were asked to chair a session and sometimes they were already doing two things and because of the rule they had to find someone else to take over something they had already worked on. The PC discussed and asked if it would be okay if someone appeared three times. They decided that people could not author three times nor appear more than three times, but that they could potentially appear three times under some circumstances and they set down these rules.

Andy related that his understanding was that the CCC should give feedback, but bring up the issue again in the spring after seeing the effects at the upcoming meeting. Sharon stated that the proposal seems very rational and fixes a problem. Andy mentioned that it is a real concern with the number of papers received and the limited number of slots; there do need to be limits on how many times people appear.

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call  
September 27, 2012

Sten declared that he is in favor of this proposal – it offers limitations, but also exceptions for extenuating circumstances. Sharon noted that this proposal is already in effect for the 2012 annual meeting. Andy stated that the vote is not important at this time, but rather the discussion about the content of the proposal and that it will be good to discuss both in Chicago and in the spring.

V. Report on website discussions re: CAP (Sten)

Sten reported that this issue came out of the last meeting and since then the EC has discussed and approves of expanding the website. The issue is the server which requires more money and more planning. In the meantime, Sten and Steve Savage will continue working on their project, just not on the BU server.

Andy stated that it's a question of timing. ASOR would need another half-time person with PHP and other skills so we would need \$20,000-30,000 more. Sten and Andy agreed that it was an unwise use of funds when Sten's project is the only complete item and it can run through Arizona State so that is the direction for the time being. Andy noted that as ASOR succeeds in fundraising, this can be supported more broadly.

Sten noted finally that before his CAP tenure is over, he would like to bring the project to fruition.

VI. Discussion of possible ASOR webinars (Andy)

Andy announced that Steve Dana has made a pledge of \$100,000 to make a self-sustaining project so contributions can go toward other things. Over the last six months, the group has come up with webinars. ASOR would buy or get a free email list and send emails about them. A list could come from Sue Laden at BAS or be purchased from AIA. The webinars would cost money and ASOR would send an email to 100,000 people and see how many sign up. If only 50 people sign up, it's not self-sustaining and we'll have to cut the program. If 500 people sign up, revenue will come in.

Andy explained that once some webinars are in place, ASOR wants to develop a resource page. This will contain resources available for free for anyone who registers. One would simply give his or her name and email address to become a Friend of ASOR. This list of names would then become ASOR's "house list." That list will grow larger and then there are more people to contact about other things.

Andy stated that the EC approved spending funds to develop this proposal and asked the ASOR office to work with committees to collect academic content. This fits with many different committees and we want good feedback to develop a good academic program.

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call  
September 27, 2012

Also, two weeks ago, Norma Kershaw approved an e-Newsletter. If people sign up for the webinars/Resource Page, a monthly e-Newsletter will go out and Norma and Steve are working together on this.

Chuck asked who the competition was for this concept. Andy replied that BAS has videos of people's presentations with a speaker and PowerPoint and that ASOR could do lectures, debates around particular topics, and online mini courses. The target audience is lay people. Marketing people have suggested having a school pay more so that an entire class can use an item. Andy noted that it is imperative to broaden the discussion.

Sharon responded that this is an ongoing discussion, but it's great to hear about the positive developments. Sten expressed his concern about taking on too much and taking on too many web-based initiatives which are presenting problems. If you think about the scope of this whole thing, there is a lot required of personnel and upkeep.

Andy replied that at the initial stage, a third party can run the webinars and the big expense will be the staff person with the PHP experience. However, if the email goes out to 100,000 people and only 50 people sign up, we are going to need to cancel the initiative. Andy explained that his hope is to generate enough revenue to support a staff person to develop a resource page and do what committees want.

Andy asked if anybody is willing to help develop academic content to contact him or Sharon.

VII. Preliminary discussion of the evening role of the CCC (Sharon and Tim)

Sharon noted that item VII would be postponed and thanked everyone for their time.