

*INITIATIVE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN*  
Report to the ASOR Board of Trustees – November 2014  
Submitted by Beth Alpert Nakhai

- *Keeping Field Work Safe from Sexual Harassment and Physical Violence*
  - P.I. Beth Alpert Nakhai
  - Survey active Sept.-Nov. 2014
  - Preliminary survey results reported at Nov. 2014 annual meeting
  - Outstanding actions:
    - Follow-up contact with survey participants who indicated interest in additional discussion
    - Detailed survey analysis, including documenting and quantifying experiences
    - Reporting and publishing the results of the survey analysis
  
- Future work relating to the survey includes:
  - P.I. Beth Alpert Nakhai
  - Building collaboration among professional societies and institutes in order to:
    - Determine those factors that contribute to safe and unsafe fieldwork environments
    - Identify areas in which further research is necessary
    - Determine best practices and the means by which to implement them
    - Develop standards, policies and protocols and trainings designed to educate and inform all participants on archaeological excavations about ethics and laws in the field and on research projects
    - Under the auspices of ASOR, provide access to relevant documents for excavation leaders, staff, volunteers, and employees
  
- Study of female excavation directors in CAP-affiliated digs
  - P.I. Beth Alpert Nakhai
  - Project reported by my student, Valerie Schlegel, at Nov. 2014 annual meeting
    - *Breaking In: Women's Representation in Archaeology*
  - Completion of this stage of project anticipated by May 2015
  
- Study of publication and citation statistics for women in *BASOR* and *NEA/BA*
  - Co-P.I.s Leann Pace and Jennie Ebeling
  - Preliminary results reported by Ebeling and Pace, at Nov. 2014 annual meeting
    - *Writing it Right: The Inclusion of Women in ASOR Publications*
  - Publication and citation statistics are important metrics for achieving professional advancement – and for determining the extent to which ASOR includes incorporates the work of women into its professional journals
  
- Introduced special session at 2014 annual meeting: *Women at Work: Making One's Way In The Field Of Near Eastern Studies*
  - Session chair Beth Alpert Nakhai
  - In addition to presentations by Schlegel, Ebeling, Pace and Nakhai, which report on on-going Initiative projects (noted above), presenters included:
    - Rannfrid Thelle, past chair of the Society of Biblical Literature Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession
      - *Knowing our Status: The Importance of Baseline Information on Women in Our Disciplines*
    - Barbara Porter (director, ACOR) and Nancy Serwint (past director, CAARI)
      - *Directing Oversees Institutes: A Dialogue on Gender and Leadership*