

April 10, 2015

The Honors and Awards Committee is proposing names for the two new awards that were adopted last year and added to the ASOR award categories.

1. We recommend that the Popular Book Award be named for Nancy Lapp, and be called **The Nancy Lapp Popular Book Award.**

This award is presented to the author/editor of a book published in the last two years that offers a new synthesis of archaeological data intended to reach an audience of scholars as well as students and the broader public.

Nancy Lapp is the Curator Emerita of the Kelso Museum of Near Eastern Archaeology (previously the James L. Kelso Bible Lands Museum) at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, a position she assumed in 2000 after retiring from thirty years of work as an archaeologist and curator at PTS. She is the author/editor of six books, including *The Tale of the Tell: Archaeological Studies*, by Paul W. Lapp (Pittsburgh: Pickwick, 1975) and, through ASOR, *Discoveries in the Wadi ed-Daliyeh* (with Paul W. Lapp; AASOR 41; Cambridge: ASOR, 1974); *The Third Campaign at Tel el-Fûl: The Excavations of 1964* (Ann Arbor, MI: American Schools of Oriental Research, 1981); *The Excavations at Araq el-Emir* (AASOR 47; Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1983); *Preliminary Excavation Reports and Other Archaeological Excavations. Tell Qarqur, Iron I Sites in the North-Central Highlands of Palestine* (AASOR 56; Boston MA: The American Schools of Oriental Research, 1999); *Shechem IV: The Persian-Hellenistic Pottery of Shechem/Tell Balâṭah* (ARS 11; Boston, MA: American Schools of Oriental Research, 2008). In addition, her volume *Tel er-Rumeith, Israel*, co-authored with Tristan Barako, is due out in ARS this year (2015). To be sure, none of these ASOR publications is of the “popular” character that the Popular Book Award seeks to honor; nevertheless, Nancy Lapp’s commitment to publishing posthumously the results of excavation materials from her work with Paul W. Lapp models the commitment held by popular book authors to make information available. Because of this; because of Nancy Lapp’s long-standing and distinguished record of publishing with ASOR; and because 2015 is Nancy Lapp’s 85<sup>th</sup> birthday, it seems appropriate that the ASOR Popular Book Award be named in honor of Nancy Lapp.

2. We recommend that the Poster Award be named for Joy Ungerleider-Mayerson, and be called **The Joy Ungerleider-Mayerson ASOR Annual Meeting Poster Award.**

This award is conferred upon the author(s) of the poster presenting the results of a study about ancient Near Eastern societies in a clear, legible fashion using original graphic content. Subject matter may be based in archaeological sciences, history, anthropology, epigraphy, ethnography, heritage or other scholarly approaches to understanding ancient people in the areas covered by ASOR.

Joy Ungerleider-Mayerson, who was the director of the Jewish Museum in New York and who excavated with Yigael Yadin at Masada as well as participating in numerous other archaeological excavations, was among the first women to become an ASOR trustee. She served in that capacity from 1973-1994. She also served on the Jerusalem Committee (beginning in 1973), the Finance Committee (beginning in 1973), and the Development Committee (beginning in 1975). Although she was not a professional archaeologist, her work (both in the museum field and for ASOR) advanced the field of archaeology, and through her directorship of the Jewish Museum, she used artifacts, including those from the Near East, to reach a broad popular community. Inasmuch as posters, too, seek to simplify and popularize complex materials and to reach out to broad audiences, it seems appropriate that the ASOR Poster Award be named in honor of Joy Ungerleider-Mayerson.