

INITIATIVE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Report to the ASOR Board of Trustees – November 2015
Submitted by Beth Alpert Nakhai

- *Keeping Field Work Safe from Sexual Harassment and Physical Violence* (by Beth Alpert Nakhai)
 - A follow-up survey was sent out in Sept. 2015. There is a link from the ASOR website. Please help to promote and circulate the survey.
 - <http://asorblog.org/2015/09/02/survey-on-field-safety-2015-middle-east-north-africa-and-the-mediterranean-basin/>
 - Follow-up discussions with survey participants who indicated interest in person-to-person conversations are taking place at the 2015 annual meeting.
 - Discussions with Title IX and Study Abroad campus directors have clarified that there is no single set of guidelines, regulations, laws or protocols that can be disseminated to excavation directors, staff, workers and volunteers.
 - Regardless, work continues 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.
- “Women of ASOR” Map
 - ASOR has discontinued its staff support for this mentoring map.
 - A volunteer is being sought, to keep the map updated and to add new members. Any ideas for volunteers from the ASOR Board members would be most appreciated.
 - <http://www.asor.org/resources/maps/index.html>
- The Initiative on the Status of Women now has a Facebook page, to be used for posting information, engaging in discussion, and so forth.
 - Please join – and please help to promote it.
 - https://www.facebook.com/groups/1469401773364915/#_
- Initiative on the Status of Women Mentoring Lunch (Sat., 21 Nov. 12:45-2:00)
 - There will be a presentation by Agnès Garcia-Ventura (Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza”) and Vanessa Juloux (École Pratique des Hautes Études) about the new blog that they and Saana Svärd (University of Helsinki) have started, to promote dialogue in the field of gender studies.
 - <http://www.genderstudies.science>
- “Gender in the Ancient Near East”
 - At this ASOR session (Fri., 20 Nov. 11:15-11:40), Vanessa Juloux will introduce and launch the new interactive website, “For Scholars Studying Gender and/or Agency from Ancient Near Eastern and Late Antiquities Civilization.”
 - <https://www.facebook.com/Genderstudiesscience-983017855094610/>