

ASOR Committee on Publications Action Plan
DRAFT
3 April 2013

At its meeting in Chicago, November 14, 2012, ASOR's Chairs' Coordinating Council (CCC) agreed by consensus that each committee chair should prepare an action plan for their committee that could be shared with the rest of the council. The following are proposed actions of the Committee on Publications (COP) for the period 2013-2014. This draft is prepared in anticipation of discussion at the Chairs' Coordinating Council retreat April 27-28 2013.

The ASOR Bylaws state: "The Committee will be responsible for making recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Board regarding matters dealing with ASOR publications."

The ASOR Strategic Plan lists among its Strategic Priorities: "Producing scholarly publications on any/all aspects of the cultures and history of the Near East, reflecting the highest academic standards and employing the latest information technologies"

As currently constituted the Committee on Publications is an operating committee of ASOR headed by a Chair. COP is composed of 15 members, including the editors of three journals (*BASOR*, *JCS*, and *NEA*), and two book series (ASOR Annual [*AASOR*] and Archaeological Report Series [*ASOR-ARS*]) and six at-large members, elected from the membership of ASOR. COP oversees the publication functions of the organization (exclusive of the Newsletter, the Website, and the social media presence). The committee meets at least once annually at the ASOR Annual Meeting. It consults by (archived) email as required between face-to-face meetings. COP and its Chair are responsible for the selection and appointment of journal and book editors.

The last set of Rules and Guidelines for COP were drafted and approved in November 2002 (<http://www.asor.org/pubs/COP/coppolicy.html>). They presume a full time salaried Publications Director, and outline important fiscal and budgetary responsibilities which have not been in effect for several years as a consequence of the changes in governance instituted some years ago, and made explicit in the Bylaws adopted by the ASOR Board of Trustees on April 21, 2012 (<http://www.asor.org/about/bylaws.html>), and in the Strategic Plan for FY 2011-2015 (<http://www.asor.org/updates/uploads-for-updates/asor-strategic-plan-final.pdf>).

The Committee on Publication has in its Action Plan for the coming year the following priorities:

- To support the efforts of the Editors and their Boards and Advisory Committees in the timely production of ASOR publications.

- To consult with and advise the Executive Office on ways to increase the direct sale and subscriptions to ASOR publications, in print and via JSTOR.
- To consult with and advise the Executive Office directly and through the Chairs' Coordinating Council on the development of publications of ASOR which are not under the direct responsibility of COP (web, newsletters, social media, etc.)
- To undertake the revision of the Rules and Guidelines for COP to bring them into compliance with both organizational structure and actual practice.
- To identify and bring forward to the EC and the Board a candidate to serve as the next Editor of BASOR.