**Development message that trustees may cut and paste**  
Please use anything helpful below to encourage  
colleagues, friends, and family to support ASOR

It has become cliché to say that 2020 has been a year like no other. For ASOR, this has been a year when we expanded our scholarships and services in spite of the challenges. Beginning in late March, we made a commitment to meet 100% of membership scholarship requests for anyone financially impacted by COVID-19. To date, we have awarded 112 such scholarships.

In July, we expanded that scholarship commitment to include anyone who needed help with the Virtual Annual Meeting registration fee. We made dozens of these awards. We plan to continue both of these scholarship initiatives with our 2021 Call for Sessions and Call for Paper Proposals.

We also made a commitment to retain our staff, and we increased our online resources and outreach—check out our ever-growing [resources webpages here](http://asor.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT04MTg5NDQwJnA9MSZ1PTc4ODc0NTUwMyZsaT02ODg3NjQ2NA/index.html). Many of you participated in our first-ever Virtual Annual Meeting, which was a huge success with 1,085 registrants from 39 countries and six continents.

While many societies and non-profits are tightening operations, we are expanding our reach and programs. The Board has made a commitment to operate with an eye on the long-term, and we need your support and help.

Here’s another advantage to donating to ASOR in calendar year 2020—the federal stimulus bill, or CARES Act, may have a positive impact for anyone who pays taxes in the United States.

Here are some of the benefits:

* If you give up to $300 in cash (credit card gifts count) to charity in 2020, and you use the standard deduction, the CARES Act allows you to add that amount to your standard deduction. In other words, it may decrease your taxable income.
* If you itemize, in 2020 you can deduct your charitable contributions up to 100% of your adjusted gross income (usually 30/50% of AGI).

All the details on the CARES Act can be found on [the IRS website](http://asor.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT04MTg5NDQwJnA9MSZ1PTc4ODc0NTUwMyZsaT02ODg3NjQ2NQ/index.html). If you have any questions about giving to ASOR, please don’t hesitate to contact [me](mailto:executive-director@asor.org?subject=Question%20about%20giving%20to%20ASOR%20in%202020).

Thank you in advance for your partnership in our shared work and vision. YOU are the reason our future is brighter than ever. [**Click here to make a gift**](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/FND/DonateFund.aspx?Site=ASOR&WebCode=DonateNow&Action=Add&prd_key=ad537b8e-eff8-4f2b-8fd7-3f9de1c62edd&fun_key=80ac42fd-74f9-4fe9-ae70-b99051ea42f8&Name=2015%20Development%20Drive%20Donation%20).  
  
My best wishes for a safe and healthy holiday season,

Andy Vaughn, Ph.D.  
ASOR Executive Director