

CCC Membership and Outreach Committee
2021

COVID still creates challenges for how we would like to tackle our projects. Because of various personal and logistical issues, the Committee Chair apologizes for not having the committee meet more often this year. Nevertheless, we will continue to move forward and make adjustments as necessary. We met earlier this year, but the Committee Chair has determined that much of our work will be reactionary based on the data from our 2020 and 2021 Annual Meetings. This year will be the first hybrid meeting (partially online and a large component in-person). These data will affect how to proceed with important areas of our work.

We continue to give our energy to the following four areas:

-Friends of ASOR: We are continuing the development of FOA, benefits, contributions, etc. We have a five year plan. The Chair will need to review the data with committee members to determine how to adjust the plan and meet the established goals. For example, the Annual Meeting data will give insight regarding the participation of the FOA. This may be in area that can contribute to our DEI outreach efforts.

-Membership Benefits: Moving the Annual Meeting online in 2020 and our hybrid meeting this year will provide insight regarding Membership Benefits. Our goal continues to be find ways to get better and be better in what we provide for our members. However, it appears that we will continue to have a virtual component to the Annual Meeting. Because of this, we will need to reframe how and what can we do for members with this aspect in mind. Moreover, how might this development affect potential International Membership benefits? Reports from our 2019 Annual Meeting determined this area that should receive attention. We want to be creative and effective in our approach. Also, how might the developing virtual component of the Annual Meeting affect our efforts in recruiting and retaining the membership of past members?

-Virtual Archaeology: The Annual Meeting has shown and proven that the digital world is unavoidable for the Annual Meeting and other parts of ASOR and can produce positive results. We are confident it will continue to do so. The committee is still committed to focusing energy on the continued development of Virtual Archaeology. However, we are waiting to see if, when, and how teams will return to the field. These factors will determine how the virtual archaeology component will develop.

-Representation of other Fields of ASOR: We are continuing to explore how best to include other fields and related disciplines. At our November 2019 meeting we observed that membership could possibly increase in other fields besides Near Eastern Archaeology and that ASOR currently does not require its authors and contributors to ASOR journals to be members. This is something we are considering. But, if we decide that this will be a requirement, we will have to put a system in place that is fair and beneficial. Our work continues in this area.

Respectfully submitted by Theodore W. Burgh