



ASOR Executive Committee
James F. Strange Center, 209 Commerce Street Alexandria, VA
March 5-6, 2022

March 5, 2022: 9:00am–5:00pm

Present: Richard Coffman (Chair of the Board); Andy Vaughn (Executive Director); Sharon Herbert (President); Chuck Jones (Vice President); Emily Miller Bonney (Treasurer); Ann-Marie Knoblauch (Secretary); Susan Ackerman (Past President); Jane DeRose Evans; Eric Meyers; Joe Seger; Lynn Swartz Dodd.

Guests: Marta Ostovich; Jerry Feierstein (virtually, for topic 4.a); Alexandra Jones (virtually, for topic 5.a); Ömür Harmansah (virtually, for topic 8); Virginia Herrmann (virtually, for topic 8).

Business Items (9:00-9:15)

1. Call to Order (RLC)
 - The meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM.
2. Approval of Agenda (RLC) (see Hidden Board Page)
 - **BE IT RESOLVED** that the agenda is approved by unanimous consent.
3. Approval of Minutes from the November EC Meeting (RLC) (see Hidden Board Page)
 - **BE IT RESOLVED** that the minutes are approved by unanimous consent with small typographical and minor wording corrections.
4. Other Business

- None.

Discussion Items 9:15 am – 12:00pm

1. Finances (AV and EB): 9:15am – 10:15am

- a. Review of ASOR Investments and anticipated distributions for FY22 (see distributed handout)
 - Andy noted that all investments are down for the fiscal year (loss of 1.3-1.5%), and the budget is aided by two things: the endowment is higher, and the Building Fund and Kershaw Fund are producing distributions (two quarters of distributions for the Building Fund; three quarters of distributions for the Kershaw Fund). The next fiscal year will be assisted by four full quarters of these distributions.
 - The Scott & Stringfellow managed investments are down 7% for the fiscal year, while most of the others are down 1.3%. The Clearview handout shows the difference between Scott & Stringfellow and ASOR self-managed investments.
- b. Scott and Stringfellow versus self-managed (10 min.)
 - Scott & Stringfellow has managed our funds for ca. 30 months. Scott & Stringfellow has under-performed when compared to ASOR's self-managed funds more in January and February.
 - The bottom line is that through December for 36 months (they only managed 30 months of that period), Scott & Stringfellow are in the second or third quartile, and self-managed funds are in the first quartile. In the first two months of this calendar year, they have underperformed even more.
 - Richard asked how they are compensated, Andy replied that their compensation is not based on performance.
 - Andy noted that in the 2.5 years that Scott & Stringfellow has managed certain ASOR funds that they are 1.5-2% lower than self-managed funds. He recommended that we wait until June 30 (a full 36 months), then decide if we stick with them, or go with someone else, or go back to managing these funds internally, using the Schwab tool. Emily agreed with this recommendation.
 - Emily noted that the process of managing the fund using the Schwab tool has worked well for us. Currently Andy is doing it, but someone else on the Finance Committee could do this using the Schwab tools and calculators for rebalancing.
 - Andy estimates that he spends 4+ hours quarterly to handle the Schwab accounts. He is now tracking his time on a Google spreadsheet, so we can get a better estimate at the end of the fiscal year.
 - Richard noted that Andy's recommendation is sound, the market will rebound. We need to wait it out.
- c. Dana #3 Endowment for Excavation Projects in Israel (10 min.)
 - Andy reported that on this new endowment will be funded by monies transferred from the Palestine Exploration Fund Israel Endowment Fund, Inc. (PEF Israel Endowment Fund; a donor-advised fund and non-profit that collects funds in the US to fund initiatives in the State of Israel).
 - Many excavations in Israel have gifts that go through PEF Israel Endowment Fund. Also, the Dana #2 Endowment funds excavation projects generally (not just in Israel).

- Andy noted that part of a reason Stevan Dana wants to use ASOR is because we use a volunteer mechanism to disperse the funds, which cuts administrative costs; ASOR only charges 1% overhead (see our Investment and Spending Policy) for the account, which is very cost efficient.
 - The PEF Israel Endowment Funds are limited to State of Israel. Susan clarified that the grants go to project directors, and Sharon clarified that they can be used for excavation-related projects outside of fieldwork.
 - There was discussion of grants and how the ASOR grant program is administered and decisions are made. There was also discussion of projects in contested areas and how PEF Israel Endowment Fund deals with these. Grants for Dana #3 must go for fieldwork in the State of Israel, and ASOR can make the call about which projects receive funding.
 - Sharon asked whether these grants could be used for book subventions. The answer is basically no—Dana #3 grants could support the work leading up to publication, but they are excavation grants modeled after the Harris and Seger Grants.
 - It was agreed that ASOR should move forward with accepting donor-restricted funds that would support the Dana #3 endowment. Andy and Emily will work with the Finance Committee and bring this to the Board in May.
- d. Discussion of distributions from Opportunity Fund and Investment and Spending Policy (see distributed handout Handout 1) (10 min.)
- Andy informed the EC that the Board-Designated Opportunity Fund is doing well, and this fund could pay for book costs. In May and November, the EC and Board voted to provide subventions for books, if needed.
 - Andy recommends changing the investment strategy (currently, 50%+ allocation to cash and bonds) to be in line with other endowments (80% equity, 15% bonds, 5% cash). Quarterly distributions (produce ca. \$5,000-6,000 per year) could support book subventions or cover losses on book production.
 - There was discussion of how to manage the fund and how applications for a subvention would work. These are self-managed Schwab funds. The Publications Committee will determine how best to use the funds. People will apply to COP for a subvention.
 - Emily, Sharon, and Andy will put a motion together for the Board in May.
 - There was discussion of the Opportunity Fund. Susan mentioned donating royalties from books to this fund.
 - Joe noted that the availability of the fund for book subvention could be promoted as a member benefit.
- e. Discussion of salary pool and other increases for FY23 (15 min.)
- Emily introduced the topic of retaining current ASOR employees, noting that in the current employment market, it is difficult to find people and difficult to keep people.
 - Andy asked for EC reaction to increasing the salary pool by 10% in the FY23 budget to help with inflation and allow for raises. He said that this type of increase to the salary pool is needed to give raises and recognize employees who are ready to move from the manager to director level.
 - The EC was in favor of this increase and Sharon, Emily, and Andy will look for the necessary funds during the budget process.
- f. Discussion of anticipated FY22 budget (10 min.)

- Held for later.
2. Development Committee Discussion (LSD): 10:15am – 10:45am
 - a. Update on giving to date
 - Lynn thanked everyone for their work on development. The Development Committee has been meeting monthly and providing helpful advice on strategy as well as connecting with donors and thanking them.
 - Lynn provided current numbers on ASOR giving for FY22.
 - Andy thanked Lynn and the Development Committee for the great work they are doing.
 - b. Update on Legacy Circle recruitment
 - Lynn noted the importance of legacy giving. The goal is to have 40 members of the Legacy Circle and there are currently 35.
 - The entry level gift is \$2,500, which is designed to encourage younger members to join.
 - More detailed information on legacy giving available could be made available on the ASOR website.
 - Andy invited the EC members to look at the Legacy Circle webpage and let staff know if your name is not there.
 - c. ASOR March Madness
 - March Fellowship Madness usually supports fieldwork scholarships. This year ASOR is funding 56 fieldwork scholarships of \$2,000 each for a total well over the Development Committee's goal of \$100K.
 - The Development Committee thus decided to direct the March Madness drive towards supporting the Levantine Ceramics Project, which requires \$10,000 in support annually. This money usually comes out of unrestricted budget dollars, unless other donations are received.
 - March Pottery Madness has received three challenge gifts totaling \$5,000 to encourage other members to support LCP. Andy reported that \$1875 has been raised thus far. Lynn invited people to share the LCP March Madness drive.
 - d. Update on Annual Fund giving to date (participation):
 - 27 trustees have given so far this year, and 180 donors total.
 3. Break: 10:45am – 11:00am
 4. Discussion of Washington, DC location and Cultural Heritage Initiatives: (JDE and AV) 11am – 12pm
 - Andy circulated handout with list of current and recent grants
 - a. 11:00am – 11:10am: Introduction and opening comments
 - Andy introduced Jerry Feierstein. Feierstein currently works for the Middle East Institute, a non-profit think tank in DC. Andy and Sharon thought he might be a good person to talk to, to see how ASOR can better use its location in the DC area.

- Andy has asked Jerry to comment on ASOR’s shift from grants for monitoring, reporting and fact-finding to grants for stewardship, education, and outreach. Since 2018 ASOR has moved towards education, stewardship, and outreach.
 - There is a general goal for more collaboration between CHI and the Cultural Heritage Committee. Jane stated that the Cultural Heritage Committee could help with grant applications. Andrew Cohen is helping.
 - Andy noted that part of problem is that grants are being written on the fly—with proposals being finished 48 hours to 2 hours before they are due.
 - Will Raynolds (Co-Director of ASOR CHI) is helping writing ASOR grants.
 - Jane noted that the CHC is pleased with the intent of the grants for advocacy, education, and outreach
 - Sharon: would like some advice on what grants we should be applying for
- b. 11:10am – 11:40am: Zoom conversation with Jerry Feierstein, Past Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. State Department; Past Deputy chief of mission to Pakistan; Past Ambassador to Yemen

Feierstein introduced the Middle East Institute (MEI) and the work they do:

- 75-year-old organization started after WWII by a group of diplomats and business people
 - New programs in N Africa and Sahel (cover from Morocco to Pakistan + central Asia and Black Sea area)
 - Think tank, but also .edu; policy center, plus arts and cultural programs.
 - Educational programs focused on teaching languages (Arabic, Hebrew, Farsi, Turkish, and Urdu)
 - Arab Barometers polls project (Princeton)
 - Contract with Near Eastern Bureau of DOS to bring Palestinian journalists to US for media training.
 - Expansion of substantive coverage to economy and energy issues in the region, and programs on water issues.
- Andy asked Feierstein to comment on defining the Sahel as part of the broader ME.
 - Feierstein replied that his own view is that there is not the kind of attention paid to North Africa that it should get, it is of growing importance for the US, and the region itself is growing and expanding, and it’s harder and harder to draw hard lines. People in ME see the Sahel as an important component of their regional interest. (Egypt, Algeria and Morocco look south rather than East or North for their major economic interests.) A lot of the insecurity is coming out of the Sahel—climate, food, immigrants, and migration—all link the state of the Sahel to the states of North Africa.
- Eric asked about the address in DC, and its art gallery and whether the MEI holds exhibits.
 - Feierstein noted that so far, they’ve mounted everything themselves. Their space in DC includes a conference room that seats 250 people and can be rented. Gallery space to mount an exhibit—could be discussed.
 - Eric noted that ASOR has had an excavation in Chersonnesos and it would be a very timely exhibit.
 - Susan noted that a colleague in Jordan (Sten Labianca) is interested in ancient water systems in Jordan, could be very interested in the initiatives in water and climate.

- Feierstein replied that these issues are already huge, Jordan, Israel and UAE joint project looking at water scarcity. COP 27 and COP 28 will be a huge focus on climate issues in the ME. The reality is that the ME is being affected more than any other region in the world, and what happens in the next 10-20-30 years will be dramatic for them. The secondary impacts of these issues—flows of refugees, etc. will be dramatic and a global challenge.
- Susan explained that ASOR members hold expertise that existed millennia ago can be used to solve current problems.
- Andy asked Feierstein to address the question of opportunities that come with ASOR being in this area. How can ASOR benefit from having moved here?
- Feierstein explained that zoom has its advantages, and we will probably will never go back to pre-pandemic times entirely. He suggested a hybrid approach, and other agencies are thinking along the same lines. He also suggested that ASOR connect with organizations from around the world who come to DC. Congress is important, but members of congress have very limited time.
- Eric asked if whether there are people at the senate level who are interested in these matters.
- Feierstein noted that there are several. Chris Murphy is interested in this region, Senate Foreign Relations Committee has a subcommittee on the ME, and there is the same on the House side, the House Foreign Affairs Committee. A few congress members served in the military, a lot of expertise and knowledge. And they cover the political spectrum. They do come together on issues related to the region.
- Andy explained that ASOR has made a move from monitoring, reporting and factfinding, to education, stewardship, and outreach, and expressed gratitude for his support of ASOR's grants when Feierstein was PDAS in Near Eastern Affairs at the State Department.
- Feierstein noted that the MEI is also investing in programs focused on engagement, and bringing people here to give them familiarization with the US.
- Public diplomacy requires looking beyond the politics and at the art and culture; this is where there are opportunities. Individual embassies also have grants and funding There are a lot of opportunities, though it's time consuming.
- The EC thanked Feierstein for his time and conversation.

c. 11:40am – 12:00pm: General discussion

- Discussion began with the topic of the relationship between the CHC and CHI.
- Susan noted that the CHC should have oversight over ASOR's CHI activity, such as deciding which grants CHI should apply for, as well as receiving reports about what was happening with those grants. Before the formation of the CHC, CHI operated as an adjunct and not part of the ASOR governance system.
- Andy explained that there are logistical problems why that reporting, and consultation has not benefited us as much as it might, particularly the lack of staffing. Our grants now are region based, and pays for experts in the region, and one day a week of Marta's time. While there are some logistical challenges, we can find ways to include the committee more, and build it into the workflow.

- Sharon suggested that a partial solution might be to have a member of CHI report at every CHC meeting, a commitment of one hour a month.
- Other suggestions included making the performance report filed periodically with the DOS accessible to all members of the CHC; and shared membership between CHI and the CHC.
- Susan noted that there are reactive and proactive responsibilities, and we need more of a proactive component, even when CFPs for funding opportunities come up rapidly.
- Andy reminded the EC that we pay for several office staff positions with grants, and we can't keep ASOR going with small grants. If the committee says no you can't apply for big grants, then there will need to be a reorganization of ASOR staffing.
- Sharon noted that the connection is more about knowledge and communication, and ways CHC can be a support, not a barrier for CHI work.

Lunch (12pm–1:00pm): Discussion continues

5. DEI Topics and discussion (SCH): (1:00pm – 2:00pm)

a. Zoom conversation with Alexandra Jones (1:00pm – 1:30pm)

- Jones introduced Archaeology in the Community. She is also president-elect for the Society of Black Archaeologists and a trustee of the AIA and works with DC Historic Preservation. Jones spoke about how to move DEI forward and how to make any initiatives meaningful.
- Opportunities for BIPOC students.
 - Monthly mentorship meetings through ASOR (feedback from students, needs students have, questions). This can help address the problem of mentoring issues in HBCU, which traditionally do not have anthropology departments.
 - Financial needs of first-generation students.
- Create a series of videos that classroom teachers can utilize (ancient Nubia and Egypt)
 - BIPOC scholars telling the stories
 - Scholars go into detail on gender, clothes, environment, migration
 - Meets standards for 6th and 9th grade in 26 states
 - Lesson plans are already created.
 - Teddy Burgh did the music for the videos.
 - Writing grants for more work like this
- Make things accessible and easy (in-person and virtual).
- AITC has moved to the Strange Center on the third floor.
- Sharon asked when the videos can be watched, and Jones responded that they will be accessed from both ASOR and AITC website. The lesson plans have been vetted by an education collective (Berkeley) director and a couple of other teachers.
- Susan asked about what types of classes the videos are intended. Jones replied that they are for social studies and science.
- Richard asked about promotion. Jones stated that AITC will use its own teacher training network, as well as the social studies teachers' conference. A social media push is also being planned and Andy mentioned coordinating a press release next week.
- Andy asked about ASOR in DC and how can we use our location to advance our goals. Jones replied that workshop space is a big help. ASOR could partner with centers to

hold workshops (eg, Adam Frachia (University of Maryland) who started a program on his own for first-generation/BIPOC students, as a possible partner adjunct at UMaryland. It could also help to reach out to faculty at Howard University.

- Jones emphasized the importance of hands on/grass-roots initiatives and reaching out to the people who do this work, give them space and partner with them to help them achieve their goals. Even if it's not in the space. She recommended that ASOR go out into the community, where we could have a bigger impact than insulating within the Strange Center.
 - Jones noted that the next project will be DMV area, to tell polyvocal stories about the future of archaeology.
 - Jones further noted that with regards to Critical Race Theory, AITC is committed to creating quality content for the classroom. It's not value laden. AITC is creating and putting forward new material, vetted by teachers, and based on cutting edge research—quality education, nothing more. Egypt and Nubia funding came from ASOR's DEI campaign last year. Grants submitted to the NEH have been unsuccessful, because they were perceived to be too close to critical race theory.
 - Susan suggested that private sector money might be a better place to look for money.
 - Andy expressed gratitude for Jones and AITC, and their willingness to work with ASOR.
 - Jones mentioned the need for open-source images for the video, Andy suggested we use ASOR's member photos—of artifacts, museums—and other open source for educational materials.
 - Andy noted that these initiatives will arise organically in conversations in the hallway, now that AITC is housed in the Strange Center.
 - One of Jones' ideas is to create training videos about cultural competency and advocacy of things to be aware of required of anyone who receives as ASOR grant.
- b. Progress on formation of DEI committee / general discussion: 1:30pm – 2:00pm
- Sharon said that a call for committee members went out in December. Five members of the task force have been asked to continue (Erin Darby, Danielle Fatkin, Kate Larson, Julia Troche, Teddy Burgh, Bianca Hand).
 - The Committee is considering the possible new members and hopes to have things finalized by the end of the month. There was a discussion of making sure the DEI Committee represents all sectors of ASOR membership.

6. Board chair search (SCH): 2:00pm – 2:30pm

a. Search Committee recommendation

- Sharon reported that Sheldon Fox is the candidate for next Board Chair. The search committee met a couple of times by phone, and the committee unanimously recommends Sheldon Fox with enthusiasm. Richard talked to Sheldon too.
- b. Action Item: should the EC recommend Sheldon Fox to Board for election as Board Chair (see materials on Hidden Board Page)

Eric Meyers moved, Joe Seger seconded.

BE IT RESOLVED: The EC committee accepts the recommendation of the Board Chair Search Committee, and the EC endorses the nomination of Sheldon Fox with enthusiasm for the position of Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Unanimously approved.

Skipped ahead to item 9A Publication Topics, Redesign of BASOR cover

9. Publication Topics (Sharon Herbert)

- Redesign of BASOR cover

- Sharon explained that the BASOR editors have been having difficulty with the aesthetics of the cover of BASOR. UCP is willing to work on their own time to do a redesign. The plan is for a simply decluttering of the cover. The spine will stay the same. Any changes will need to be brought to the Board with a unanimous vote from COP.
- There was discussion about redesigning the covers of all three journals at the same time for consistency and efficiency.

Ann-Marie Knoblauch moved.

BE IT RESOLVED that the EC accept the recommendation of COP that the UCP press investigates a redesign of BASOR. The EC further recommends that in the interest of efficiency, the UCP designer consider the design of all ASOR journals.

Unanimously approved.

7. Break 2:30 – 2:45

8. Discussion of Climate Impact and Work of Ad Hoc Committee (AV) 2:45pm – 3:45pm)

- a. Opening comments: 2:45pm – 2:50pm
 - The content of Harmansah’s presentation will be a part of the report of the ad hoc committee
- b. Zoom presentation from Ömür Harmansah: 2:50pm – 3:10pm
 - ASOR and Climate Change presentation: Why must we act
 - Focus particularly on climate impact in Middle East and North Africa.
 - Impacts on cultural heritage and the work of various disciplines.
 - Shift from global warming to “climate change”.
 - MENA region is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world (population increase, extreme events, environmental refugees, failed agricultural production and water decrease).
 - Human species is the agent identified as the cause of the geological era now commonly taken to begin c. 1950: the anthropocene..
 - Impacts on our work as archaeologists (limitations on on-the-ground field work because of climate change's links to increased instability in the MENA region, increased destruction of cultural heritage, shift to salvage archaeology)
 - Why should combating climate change should be part of ASOR’s mission?
 - Decolonizing and decarbonizing: history of archaeology is tied to extraction of fossil fuels.
 - Support public and collaborative archaeologies.
 - Climate justice and heritage justice are linked.

c. Summary by Virginia Herrmann of work of ad hoc committee: 3:10pm – 3:20pm

- The committee was formed to take action on climate crisis, particularly in regard to academic travel. The goal is to make the ASOR Annual Meeting carbon-neutral by 2025.
 - How are other societies responding?
 - Assessment of the carbon impact of the Annual Meeting-both travel and on-site.
 - Mitigation strategies: site selection (central and connected), teleconferencing, distributed locations/parallel meetings, hotel selection and policies, and carbon offsets. Carbon offsets—not an adequate replacement, first seek to reduce as much as we can. Committee is studying carbon offsets, which ones work best. Also costs.
 - Issues of accessibility and equity co-benefits.
 - Immediate actions: sustainable hotel practices, AM Travel webpage has more information on sustainability.
 - Medium term: *NEA* issue on climate change.
 - The committee will submit a report in time for the 2022 AM, looking into what other learned societies are doing. Relatively few other societies have taken obvious actionable steps. (Some goals and values statements

d. General discussion 3:20pm – 3:45pm

- Sharon asked what is on the hotel list of desiderata. Andy replied: vegetarian options for some of the meals, biodegradable cups for water, etc. Hotels see this as a business strategy moving forward. Larger investments include upgraded HVAC systems and refrigeration systems.
- Discussion continued around balancing affordable hotels in a hub city with those that meet desiderata.
- Susan noted that Ömür ended with a call to change the way we do fieldwork and archaeology), which is not what Virginia addressed. International travel for the AM is minimal compared to everyone we send to the field every summer from North America.
- Herrmann replied that it's not either/or; it's both/and. The impact of the AM is one of the charges of the committee. The committee's report will include an appendix about other aspects of ASOR members' work and how it impacts climate change.
- A lengthy conversation ensued that covered many topics regarding ASOR, its mission and climate change.
 - Future of in-person meetings
 - Future of fieldwork
 - Should we be working with other learned societies on this topic and be a leader among them?
 - Our meeting is small compared to others, should we be focusing on areas where we can make a difference (for example, DEI)
 - Our area of expertise is the long past, and we should be thinking about the long future?
 - Is it a priority for ASOR to focus on climate change?
 - Small steps and making the right gestures to start change
 - Gifts to support reducing ASOR's carbon footprint
 - Personal travel choices
 - Capacity building in the countries in which we work

- What do we mean when we say “we have to do this”?—How are we going to “do this”? Ideas are important, but it’s not clear what the actions are. Aside from education or policy documents (which are performative) what are the actions we can take?
 - There was a desire for the Committee to provide a list of tangible steps ASOR can take regarding climate change and also personal choice people can make.
4. Publication Topics (SCH) (3:45pm – 4:15pm)
- a. Redesign of BASOR cover 10 minutes
 - *Discussed above, see page 9.*
 - b. Possible gifting of Maarav to ASOR (10 minutes)
 - Lynn introduced *Maarav* as a journal founded by Bruce Zuckerman for scholars dealing in Semitic inscriptions and, more generally, Northwest Semitic languages and literatures
 - Andy gave some background on the possibility of ASOR acquiring *Maarav*.
 - The journal is highly regarded, and UCP was interested in acquiring it pre-COVID, but they are not taking on anything new at this time.
 - There is now a possibility of an editorial team led by Chicago faculty, which means UCP is now possibly interested in obtaining to journal. Nevertheless, were *Maarav* to become an ASOR journal, and part of our UCP package, ASOR would not get enhanced royalties from UCP.
 - An anonymous donor/foundation will support the transition for three years.
 - ASOR would get a journal that all members would receive online (unsure about print), including access to all back issues and future issues.
 - Chuck noted that with proper management the journal could be run more effectively and with consistency. Susan noted that before moving forward we need to make sure it will operate within ASOR’s governance system.
 - Sharon noted that intellectually it’s a good move for ASOR, though the mechanics raise a lot of questions: for example, does the editorial team always have to be University of Chicago faculty?
 - Andy and Kevin McGeough as chair of COP will work on this together. Andy was encouraged to continue the conversations.
 - c. Search for ANE Today editor (10 minutes)
 - Sharon noted that the beginning review date is March 14 for the *ANE Today* editor.
 - There are currently 7-8 interested parties, and 5 applications have been received. In the hopes of attracting a richer pool, we will attempt to target people who might be interested in the position.
 - It is not certain if any of the applications are the right fit.
 - There was discussion of hiring two people for the editor position, the stipend, the outreach role of *ANE Today*.
 - Saturday meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM

Sunday March 6, 2022: 9:00am-12:30pm

- The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM.

Discussion Items

1. Progress of the ad hoc archives committee SA (9:00-9:30)
 - Susan reported that the Committee has been in conversation with Paul Flesher (head of archives at the University of Wyoming) who has volunteered to house the ASOR archives in Wyoming.
 - Pearce Paul Creasman told Susan that ACOR would be interested in some of the archives. ACOR has an archival project and archivist on staff in Amman. ACOR is interested in those archives having to do with Jordan. It makes sense to have some excavation records (Dhiban, Jerash) in Amman. ACOR is also interested in West Bank materials (pre-1967).
 - Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East (formerly the Harvard Semitic Museum) is interested in ASOR's Shechem collection. Harvard currently holds Glueck materials from Tell el Kheleifeh, Khirbet et Tannur, and the Nelson Glueck Photographs, and they would like them deeded to Harvard.
 - Susan asked how the EC feels about splitting up the archives. Chuck asked whether ASOR has deeds of gifts for their archives. Andy and Eric replied that ASOR does not; the archives were left at ASOR with the understanding that ASOR would take care of them.
 - Richard asked about the size of the archive. Susan replied that they would fit in a 10 x 12 foot room and there are 39 collections.
 - Sharon noted that it is not a complete collection, but it's a lot of content in one place.
 - Susan noted that some ASOR documents are mixed in with excavation documents.
 - Discussion ended with the sense that there was a slight preference to keep the collection together, and a request for more information from Wyoming.
2. Annual Meeting 2022 and beyond SCH and AV
 - a. Coordination of virtual and in-person venues in 2022—especially the plenary event and the members' meeting
 - Sharon posed the question: how are we going to coordinate our VAM with our AM this coming fall? The PC and CCC came together and determined that December is a bad time for the VAM—if it's not in December, when should it be? This year, we are experimenting with holding it in October. But it is difficult to determine how to link the two meetings, particularly with the plenary talk and the members' meeting (with honors and awards).
 - Andy noted that a plenary panel in October that would be open to everyone and not just meeting registrants causes some staffing problems. Furthermore, honors and awards cannot be ready to give them out in October. To do so would require changing all the deadlines.
 - Andy further noted that we are not doing a hybrid meeting (VAM and AM at the same time) as it is very challenging for the staff. Also, it comes with very expensive hotel costs.
 - Andy suggested the following for 2022:
 - October: Virtual Annual Meeting
 - November: Annual Meeting
 - December: a webinar-style event; two one-hour events on the same evening (around December 8). This would include a members and awards event (45 min); a break, then a plenary panel.

- Discussion continued about concerns that the VAM not become a second-tier event, and whether the VAM might include something around the plenary on Nubia. (There would be an issue with making it public.)
 - Sharon: open ended discussion, Andy and Sharon will speak to the PC about it.
- b. Venues for 2022–2026
- i. Boston (2022 and 2025): contracts signed
 - ii. Chicago (2023 and 2026): contracts signed
 - iii. Uncertain for 2024—Andy has visited San Diego
- c. Future of virtual and in-person components past 2022
3. Break: 10:30-10:45am
4. Discussion of possible new Board members SCH (10:45-11:15)
- Sharon noted that there will be some openings on the Board in the Fall. Eric Meyers and Joe Seger are moving up to Lifetime Trustees /Board Members with full voting rights.
 - Each class (2022, 2023, 2024) will have one vacant spot.
 - Andy noted this is a well-deserved honor for Joe and Eric.
 - Sharon is looking for names for potential new trustees, the Board will vote in November; we do not have to fill all openings if the right people are not identified.
5. Uses of the James Strange Center and further thoughts on CH SCH (11:15-adjournment)
- a. Short term: plan to continue in-person working
- Andy noted that the Alexandria-based staff are all back working in the office in the Strange Center (since day of Labor Day, 2021).
 - Eric suggested that ASOR needs to pursue connections at the Smithsonian. Andy indicated that this spring and summer will be a good time to reach out.
- b. Short term: AITC plans to move into Strange Center; other groups?
- AITC moved into the third floor on Friday; will be in Strange Center for a minimum of three years.
 - Eric: Does AITC have connections with the museum in DC?
 - Andy noted that Alex Jones has formal appointment from the mayor’s office to advise regarding cultural heritage in DC.
 - Andy: we are fortunate to have an affiliation with Dr. Jones, given her connections and appointments.
 - The plan is to make a workspace on the third floor that can be shared. The conference room will be moved to downstairs, Andy’s office will be moved up to the second floor.
 - ASOR will need to write an MOU with AITC.
 - The Strategic Plan has a section on how the James Strange Center will be used, including public receptions for occupants of the building. Possibly evening language instruction classes? This might have property tax benefits.
 - Andy proposed that we resist the temptation to rent out the third floor, as we will become addicted to the rent in one budget cycle.
- c. Medium and long-term: plan to have in-person staff and not remote?

d. Reprise of discussion of Washington, DC location and CH activities

Meeting adjourned: 11:41 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Ann-Marie Knoblauch