

## EC retreat 2/24-5/2024 Agenda

### **Morning 2/24 Convene at Strange Center at 9:00 AM**

9:00-9:05 (Sheldon) Welcome, approval of minutes, approval of agenda, etc, welcome new member Kate Grossman

9:00 – 9:15 (Andy and Emily) Review of ASOR Finances

9:15 – 9:30 (Andy and Lynn) ASOR Development update and announcement of building gift

- Action item: vote to accept gift to remodel 1st floor of Strange Center

### **Discussion Topic 1—the Office (Sharon and Andy)**

9:30 – 10:45 Staffing and use of Strange Center. Retention of current staff: discussion of salaries and benefits Possible further expansion of staff to support broad programs (CHI, FOA, ANE Today, etc.) Remodeling options.

10:45– 11:00: Break

### **Discussion Topic 2 Governance Report (Emily)**

11:00 – 11:30 Proposed changes to Officers' terms

11:30-12:00 Proposed changes to Board membership and committee structure

12:00-12:15 Changes to by-laws

Lunch: 12:15 – 1:00 possible viewing of Hansberry Society Roundtable

1:00 – 4:30: Discussion of two over-arching questions

### **Topic 1 1-2:30 (Sharon) Should ASOR be making political statements and if so what kind and how?**

One possible answer briefly discussed at November Board—Adopting something like the UC Kalven report. Below links to info on Kalven report: the report itself; 2 recent commentaries on it, both by conservative/libertarian entities; a utube video of a recent UC panel on the topic. The report and articles are mercifully short. The video runs an hour and a half. Sharon can summarize

This touches on several items of current business before us: Contested territories language report and Ariel U; Land acknowledgement statements (see materials posted on hidden Board in November)

[https://provost.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/documents/reports/KalvenRprt\\_0.pdf](https://provost.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/documents/reports/KalvenRprt_0.pdf)  
<https://www.thefire.org/news/wisdom-university-chicagos-kalven-report>  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelt Nietzel/2023/12/26/the-kalven-report-and-the-limits-of-university-neutrality/?sh=674cd7fc3bf0>

The overlapping , sometimes conflicting, issues involved: One-- freedom of speech/academic freedom (but hate speech??); Two—the expectation that a learned society provide a safe place for all voices to be heard in civil discourse at a time when a number of our members all calling for social activism from the organization.

Back to what action to recommend on Contested territories language report and Land acknowledgement statements.

2:30 Break

### **Topic 2 2:45-4:30 (Sharon and All) If not statements, actions?**

Support for archaeological student to continue studies outside Gaza?  
Post war Learning centers and equipment for documentation of remaining cultural heritage along lines of what we have been doing in Libya and Tunisia and the Sahel?  
Other thoughts?

### **2/25 Morning**

#### **Convene at 8:00 AM Adjourning at 11:30 AM sharp**

New business

- 8:00-8:30 (Sharon) Publications digital plan now under discussion in committees. (See Board Info webpage)
- 8:30-9:00 (Sharon and Andy) Discretionary funds for Committees
- 9:00-9:30 (Sharon and Andy) Possible Board elected trustees (bios attached)
- 9:30-9:45 Break
- 9:45-end -end Return to topics of 2/24 PM and other matters arising after a night to sleep on them