

ASOR Publications Committee (COP) Agenda

Kevin McGeough, Presiding

Monday, December 13

12-2 EST; Zoom

Minutes taken by Marta Ostovich

Present: Jana Mynářová, Marwan Kilani, Stephanie Budin, Gary Arbino, Alex Joffe, Jeff Howry, Jacob Lauinger, Sharon Herbert, Regine Pruzsinszky, Jennie Ebeling, Susan Cohen, Bill Caraher, Marta Ostovich, Piotr Michalowski, Mara Horowitz, Andy Vaughn, Hanan Charaf

Absent: Andrea Berlin, Sam Wolff, Charlotte Cable, Eric Kansa

1. Call to Order and Introductions

2. Deferral of Approval of Minutes of 2020 Meeting

3. Report from the Chair Kevin McGeough

-Kevin recognized award winners:

Hanan won a service award.

Andrea won MacAllister Award.

Susan Cohen received an Albright Award.

4. Report from UCP

-Ashley Town (journals dept) described new policy on name changes for journal authors. Press release forthcoming in January 2022. Will apply to all ASOR journals.

- Bulletin of ASOR and Annual of ASOR are new names.

5. Acceptance of reports from editors.

BASOR (Susan Cohen, Marwan Kilani, Jana Mynářová, Regine Pruzsinszky)

NEA (Stephanie Budin)

Annual (Bill Caraher)

Archaeological Report Series (Jennie Ebeling)

Levantine Ceramics Project (Andrea Berlin)

Ancient Near East Today (Alex Joffe)

Journal of Cuneiform Studies (Piotr Michalowski)

- Gary asked a question for the BASOR editors: "Two book reviews were submitted. How many would you like?" Regine replied: "The number in report is outdated. Many more are accepted now."

**Motion to accept reports of editors (Kevin). Hanan seconded. All in favor. Unanimous.**

## Items for Discussion and Possible Action

### 1. Nominations to fill class of 2024.

Three positions and one retroactive position need to be filled for the classes of 2023 and 2024. Jake Lauinger and Sam Wolff have agreed to remain on. Caroline Sauvage's first term is at an end. Kevin nominated Hanan Charaf for the class of 2023 (retroactive). Discussion ensued on best approach to fill the remaining two positions.

### 2. Discussion of search for ANE Today editor.

The committee discussed the scheduling of the search process, who best to support the search process, and some of the qualities sought for in a candidate.

### 3. Report from working group studying the publication of abstracts in other languages (led by Charlotte Cable).

- This was a suggestion that emerged as a member's request during last year's annual meeting.
- The possibilities are more complex with BASOR, so it was discussed that it could be tested on NEA and AASOR.

-Bill reported that an author publishing material from Jordan asked if there would be an Arabic language abstract. For a single topic volume this should be straightforward.

-Stephanie reported on her research on the topic. Tested several years' worth of articles to see what languages would be needed (Turkish, Hebrew, Arabic, Pharsi, and Greek covers 99%). Secondary abstract can be uploaded (physical place to add it). Third one would be viable. Talked with Kari Roane about where NEA is distributed. Digital delivery for non-English places. Consulted Billie Jean Collins, who suggested it would be tricky to fit second abstract in TOC. Much easier in digital versions. Secondary language in digital. Figure out print later. Concern for reliable group to provide/proof these abstracts.

Hanan: Do authors provide translations? Someone to check them from the committee?

Stephanie: So far what we have is from authors. We need this committee to check the abstracts.

Discussed with NEA Ed Board. Pool of grad students who would do it for experience/funds?

Hanan volunteered for Arabic.

- Funding issues: Kevin asked whether there would be funding available for this. Andy: need funding from specific donation or grant (this is how Arabic translation for the VAM was done). Prepare materials in Arabic that could be used for training. Sharon: would be good to have a sense of budget. Part of ASOR's diversity work.

Piotr: should be done across all journals. JCS would be primarily Arabic, some Pharsi and Turkish. Abstracts require certain knowledge of the field. Only in digital version-pagination problems-typesetting issue. Put abstracts at the end of the issue. Iraq has been doing this for a few years. Piotr could talk to the editor for comparison. Translator should be paid. Andy reiterated Sharon's request for budget request from each of the editors. Kevin: move forward with beta testing with NEA. Figure out budget.

### 4. Discussion of issues related to publication of numismatics and standardizing editorial understanding/application of the code of conduct.

Kevin: code of conduct is vague when it comes to numismatics, can be interpreted many ways. He suggested a working group to put together guide for navigating publication of numismatics. Kevin would like to ask Jane Evans for her input in putting together this working group. Some of the issues include first-place publication and images published by auction houses. Kevin will talk to Jane. Hanan suggested Peter Van Alfen and Tine Rassalle. Kevin asked if any COP members would be interested in being on working group. Stephanie, Mara, and Bill volunteered.

5. Discussion of complaints related to authors.

Kevin noted complaints received last year about various authors' behavior at professional meetings and asked about whether we need to have a policy. After a discussion, the committee decided that the current policies and procedures are satisfactory and need not be revised at this time.

6. Report on status of Digital Publications Policy

Kevin reported that the policy passed last meeting. It will be forwarded to the Committee on Archaeological Policy.

7. Open item for editors to ask advice of committee as a whole.

-Stephanie asked a question about the publication of specific institutions who do not have similar ethics policies as ASOR. Discussion about ASOR's publication policies ensued and clarified in relation to specific issues.

8. Kevin thanked COP and Editors for all of their hard work. Sharon agreed.

Alex made the motion to adjourn at 1:43 EST.