

REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE February 14, 2025

Submitted by: Lynn Dodd, co-chair

The Development Committee continues to meet regularly, usually monthly, including our meeting last week by zoom (2/7/25). As most of us on the EC attended that call, I will not repeat everything, except to invite anyone with questions to reach out to me for additional details.

125th anniversary initiative: Strengthening Our Foundation | Expanding Horizons — A Call to Action

In summary, the initiative to recognize ASOR's 125th anniversary by raising \$5 million dollars continues apace. We have reached \$4.55 million in pledges (both near term and legacy plans) or outright gifts, including many generous planned, legacy gifts. This total includes an amount promised by one of the generous souls among us who had made a \$450,000 pledge but passed away prior to realizing that gift, so we hope that this may still come to fruition.

We may soon see a "thermometer" on the website indicating our progress toward the \$5M goal.

A committee is working on our 125th celebration event in November, 2025 in Boston, MA. Also, ASOR is inviting the Centers to provide information about our shared history during ASOR's 125th celebration, and we hope to provide these for theirs, e.g., Albright's 100th.

Eric Meyers and Sharon Herbert are leading the effort to write a page on behalf of ASOR and to invite the centers to do likewise.

Andy traveled to Florida and Chattanooga, TN to connect with ASOR members and to encourage others to be aware of the work of ASOR and its members. If you know someone who might be interested in ASOR, please reach out to us or to Andy so we can support you in talking with them or be in touch with them on your behalf.

Legacy Circle: The Legacy Circle is a means for ASOR leaders to be recognized for their philanthropy well in advance of ASOR receiving the planned gift. If 10% of ASOR's members and 100% of ASOR's board decided to allocate a gift from either retirement accounts or in an estate plan, that would make a major difference to ASOR's ability to support the work of our members!

Our shared goal is sixty (60) Legacy Circle members by the end of 2025. Presently, have over 2/3 of this number, which is great, and we're growing. Please consider joining if you are not a member already. Making a starter allocation via your TIAA CREF account (takes a minute) or including ASOR in your estate plan is possible for most of us.

Annual Fund: We have reached \$83,300, well more than halfway to our annual fund goal of \$145,000. Please encourage others to give and please consider giving or giving again to support the work of ASOR and its members. As a side note, the Board Designated Building Fund (yes, so we have no leaks in the roof over our heads) has reached \$492,000, including market gains. We're nearing our \$500K goal!

Thank you for the many ways that you support ASOR and please keep giving to support all we do as ASOR members through publications, the annual meeting, research, outreach, cultural heritage, and education.

Trustee Development: Discussions are underway about developing a formal process to better welcome, integrate, educate, and empower ASOR's newer Trustees.