

ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council
Conference Call
March 15, 2012

Present: Tim Harrison, Andy Vaughn, Chuck Jones, Bob Cargill, Suzanne Richard, Elise Friedland, Jacob Wright, Sten LaBianca, Britta Abeln

Absent: Andrew Smith, Stefanie Elkins, Jennie Ebeling.

I. Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2012 Conference Call

Meeting called to order by Tim Harrison at 11:00am.

Sten LaBianca moved to approve the minutes from the February 17 conference call. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

II. Chair's Remarks

Tim Harrison raised the issue of including the Junior Scholars Committee in the CCC. The response was unanimously positive. It was noted that the Junior Scholars Committee had not previously been a part of the CCC because it was a newer committee and had previously fallen under CAMP or other groups. It was decided that the Junior Scholars Committee chair will be invited to participate in the CCC.

Tim gave an update on the Officer Nominations Committee. They are in the process of interviewing candidates for the Vice President and Treasurer positions so they can make recommendations to the board at the spring meeting.

It was asked whether the Vice President will be elected or nominated. The process was explained as such: the Officers Nominating Committee nominates a pool of candidates that they recommend to the board who then votes to make a decision.

Tim asked if the committee felt comfortable with forming a subcommittee of the CCC to become the Chairs Nominations Committee. The committee agreed with forming a subcommittee for the Chairs Nominations Committee.

III. Proposed Bylaw Revisions

Tim introduced the topic and noted that any changes need to be decided immediately so that they can be brought to the board. The board needs any recommended changes 20 days prior to a meeting and the next meeting is April 21. Tim asked if anyone had any thoughts on the recommend changes.

Sten LaBianca moved to accept the proposed changes. The motion was seconded.

Andy Vaughn explained some of the proposed changes. Many changes are superficial, fixing grammar and inconsistencies, however, one substantive change is the distinction between Honorary and Life members. The proposed change is intended to provide guidance as to what qualifies someone as a Life

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Member versus an Honorary Trustee. Because most Honorary Trustees have not attended a board meeting in many years and yet are counted toward meeting a quorum, it is suggested that they no longer have voting rights and do not count toward the quorum count.

Vote to accept proposed changes. The vote is unanimous in favor of accepting the changes.

Tim noted that the next step is to present the changes to the board and asked the committee if the board should be presented with the changes alone or if the rationale should also be included. The overall consensus of the group was to include the rationale for the board.

IV. ASOR Website/Blog Posting Policy

Tim introduced the topic by saying that the website is becoming more of a gathering place and the blog has been taking off. The question is how to handle the review process and how to manage the blog; a policy needs to be created to guide the process.

Andy explained the issue further by stating that there has been a huge jump in participation on the blog and Facebook page. There have been a lot of discussions about what to include in these places. ASOR is implementing the idea of having a discussion topic each month. This month Eric Meyers and Chris Rollston are guest editors on the topic of the new book *The Jesus Discovery*. Hits on the blog and likes on Facebook have risen and it's been very successful. MSNBC has linked to the blog. However, the blog is a moderated forum, not a refereed forum. The main questions at this time are 1) how refereed should the ASOR blog be? 2) how involved should ASOR be in social media?

The general response was that ASOR should have a presence in social media and should expand on Facebook and the blog.

Bob Cargill stated that a blog should not be a refereed forum because that takes too long while the power of the blog lies in rapid response. The journals are for refereed material. A moderator is better for the blog, a staff member who moderates the posts and comments. The moderator should post daily and use the blog as both a promotional tool and an information resource.

There was general agreement and also a suggestion of adding a legal disclaimer to the bottom of each blog post. It was suggested that alternately a link to the disclaimer could be posted at the bottom of each blog post.

There was enthusiastic agreement that a timely, likely controversial topic be chosen each month for the blog with guest editors.

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Chuck Jones noted to keep in mind that despite the informality of a blog, it will all be 'on the record' for the future.

V. Plenary Session Proposal

Elise Friedland noted that what was new about this proposal was the opportunity for outreach. It was suggested that everyone take a look at the proposal and the committee will move forward with it at the next conference call.

VI. Scheduling and Other Business

The remaining items on the agenda will be discussed at the next conference call which will be April 12 at 10am.

Meeting was adjourned at noon.