A “Big Picture” Research Agenda for ASOR

Öystein LaBianca,
ASOR Vice President of CAP

W. F. Albright’s From Stone Age to Christianity is widely regarded as a landmark in the development of American archaeology in the Ancient Near East. What makes this book stand out is its “big picture” view of the history of the lands of the Bible from prehistoric times to the rise of Christianity. Some even go as far as to say that Albright was the last of the generation that mastered all of the sub-fields needed to think and write authoritatively about the Ancient Near Eastern past in its entirety. Today we look back at Albright’s achievement with a mixture of admiration and disbelief—aware that his “big picture” view of the story of the people of Israel filled in too many gaps to be credible in light of more recent research. The trend today, therefore, is to drill down deep in a specialized field of study, avoiding at all costs the pitfalls of “big picture” history!

As an ASOR Vice President and chair of its Committee on Archaeological Research and Policy, my goal is to rehabilitate “big picture” research in our field — and to promote and facilitate it. There are three reasons why I think the time has come for doing this. The first is the enormous quantity of systematically collected archaeological data that has accumulated in our field since the days of our pioneers — data that can yield a whole new level of insight and understanding given sufficiently comprehensive theoretical frameworks. The second is the advent over the past few decades of unprecedented powerful electronic tools for harvesting, analyzing, displaying and sharing large quantities of archaeological data. And the third is that I am

Example of proposed “snapshot” summary of a CAP affiliated project, in this case the Tall Hisban Project.

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Victive support of research has always been an integral part of ASOR’s mission. While the ways in which ASOR has achieved this have changed over time, fostering original research through archaeological excavation and exploration has remained a constant. Organizationally, this has fallen under the purview of the Committee on Archaeological Research and Policy. Since its establishment, CAP (as it is more commonly called) has sought to fulfill its mandate through involvement in the ‘nuts and bolts’ issues of today’s highly specialized academic research environment. This has included oversight of the affiliation process for field and publication projects—essentially an accreditation exercise aimed at encouraging best practices in our discipline—direct support in the form of research funds such as the Harris Fund, and occasionally through encouragement of new research initiatives. From time to time, CAP has also played a role in drafting policy statements on key issues, such as ASOR’s Policy on the Preservation and Protection of Cultural Resources.

However, as Sten LaBianca points out in his cover piece, ASOR historically has also played a formative role in shaping the ‘big picture’ research agenda not only for our immediate discipline, but for cognate fields as well. As Sten argues, we need to reclaim this ground. Archaeology has emerged as one of the most dynamic and innovative disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, employing a truly interdisciplinary, collaborative approach, and involving a wide range of disciplines and a continually expanding array of analytical tools to examine the historical development of human social behavior and culture. This has led to the accumulation of a truly vast body of carefully collected, yet relatively poorly analyzed and understood, information about the ancient world.

With close to 70 affiliated field and publication projects, ASOR is in a unique position to facilitate the study and dissemination of this unparalleled body of knowledge. As CAP Chair, Sten calls on the ASOR community to embrace the challenge of ‘big picture’ research, arguing that the rewards, in the form of invigorating interdisciplinary collaboration, innovative cutting-edge research and stimulating new ideas, will be well worth the risk. I heartily agree. To facilitate this vision, Sten has identified several priority areas where CAP will focus its efforts over the next few years, including the convening of round table sessions and fora at our annual meetings to discuss cross-border research initiatives and policy issues, a substantial expansion of CAP’s web presence and online resources, and a revamping of the CAP tours. We therefore can anticipate exciting developments within CAP in the years ahead.

Building relationships and broadening the ASOR community are an integral part of this vision. In June, I had the pleasure of travelling through Jordan, Lebanon and Syria in route to my own excavations at Tell Tayinat in southeastern Turkey, visiting with numerous scholars and their projects along the way: It was a special treat to visit with friends and colleagues at the American University of Beirut, and especially the AUB Museum and its Director, Dr. Leila Badre, who gave board member B. W. Ruffner and me a memorable tour of her excavations in the spectacularly restored downtown core of the city. We also enjoyed visits to the AUB excavations at Tell Fadous directed by Hermann Genz, and the French excavations directed by Jean-Paul Thalmann at Tell Arqa, where we were graciously hosted for the night. Our travels in Syria focused on the Orontes Valley, and included visits to the Tell Acharne excavations, directed by Michel Fortin and Lisa Cooper, the ASOR-sponsored Qarqur Project, directed by Rudy Dornemann and Jesse Casana, and the Italian excavations at Tell Afis, directed by Stefania Mazzoni. Although time constraints limited the number of projects we were able to visit, the time spent with those we did was highly rewarding, and displayed the warm collegial spirit that exists across the many cultural, geographical and political boundaries that define the Middle East.

It is the summer field season, and I wish everyone all the best, from the field,
A “Big Picture” Research Agenda for ASOR

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confident that as we as a community of scholars embrace the challenge of “big picture” research, the risk of doing so will be well worth it in terms of increased opportunities for collaboration within ASOR; linking up with cutting-edge research in many other disciplines and last but not least, access to more significant sources of funding.

The reason I have become a champion of “big picture” research in ASOR is my own efforts to try to come to grips with a classic, multi-millennial archaeological tell site and its surrounding hinterland in their temporal and historical entirety—namely Tall Hisban and vicinity (Tell Hesban, biblical Heshbon) in Jordan. This is a site that spans early-, classical- and late-antiquity as well as medieval-, early modern and modern times. My efforts to understand Tall Hisban as a multi-millennial whole began with development and deployment of the food systems concept and the related notions of intensification and abatement as a means to systematically analyze long-term changes in the site’s occupational history and its surrounding landscape. However as I kept puzzling with the finds from the site it became clear that other factors than those related to the quest for food had to be reckoned with to explain change over time in the material record.

This realization is what led me to global history—the study of the successive and at times contesting civilizational and imperial cultural forces that have left their footprints not only in the food system but also, and especially in the remains of architecture and plastic arts at the site. I have given a more extended account of this journey toward global history in a recent article in *NEA* (Labianca, “Tells, Empires and Civilizations in NEA” 69:1 (2006): 4-11.)

The bottom line is that this experience has led me to the conclusion that approaches that conveniently disregard concern for the whole in the interest of understanding a particular artifact, time period, event or process risks missing seeing the forest for the trees. At the same time I realize that as an individual scholar, it is impossible to master all the sub-fields required to see the whole, and so I have come to be a big believer in collaborative research; hence my burden to see ASOR move toward cross-disciplinary/cross-boundary collaboration on “big picture” problems in our part of the world. Here is how I see ASOR and CAP facilitating this vision:

ASOR Order and Conflict Roundtables: While it is true that ultimately every session at the annual ASOR meetings is about sharing information and facilitating collaboration, I would argue that the recently added Order and Conflict roundtables is demonstrating the value of sessions that are organized around “big picture” theoretical issues—in this case interrogation of the agency role of empires in the Ancient Near East. This session—which allows plenty of opportunity for discussion and networking among junior and senior scholars—grew out of conversations between Sy Gitin and myself about the need for cross-border collaboration on empires—in his case a desire to facilitate scholarly cooperation on the Neo-Assyrian empire; in my case a desire to

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A “Big Picture” Research Agenda for ASOR

Overview of CAP affiliated projects in a particular country—in this case Jordan

facilitate collaboration on empires through time in our region. In the future I would like to see more dialogue between CAP and CAMP about adding more such “big picture” roundtable sessions to our annual offerings.

CAP Tours: In the past tours by ASOR officers of CAP affiliated projects have had a certain “oversight” quality to them which served no doubt a useful purpose in the past. Given the excellent qualifications of today’s CAP affiliated project leaders, such an emphasis is in my opinion no longer appropriate. Where I see CAP playing a role in the future is in helping to organize tours of various groups of ASOR scholars who share a common “big picture” research agenda—such as a “Neo-Assyrian tour” or a “Late Antiquity tour.” To this end I have begun to review (with the aid of Jeff Hudon, a graduate student at Andrews) our current field projects in order to begin to pin-point which CAP projects might serve as “type-sites” for studying particular “big picture” problems, such as strategies for protection and presentation of archaeological sites or global-local interactions in the Levant during the Neo-Babylonian or Umayyad period. We will, of course, confer with the respective field directors about such designation of their sites as “type-sites” for particular problems, and about their willingness to receive visits by ASOR scholars while they are in the field. Tour expenses could likely be covered by opening up participation to include a small number of friends/sponsors of archaeology in our region.

CAP Web Site: Another key component in facilitating collaborative research among ASOR researchers and others on “big picture” problems is the CAP web site. Presently the site is rather bare-bone—providing some general information about CAP; names of current CAP committee members and a listing of all currently affiliated sites. A first step to enhancing the site will be to deliver on a recent action of the CAP committee requesting the chair to find a way to include on the site a brief “snapshot” of each affiliated project. Work on adding this feature is already well underway (see “snapshot” sidebar). Discussions are also in progress with the

Overview of CAP affiliated projects in a particular country—in this case Jordan

Map showing MedArcNet focus areas or nodes (left)

Summit of Tall Hisban (below)
A “BIG PICTURE” RESEARCH AGENDA FOR ASOR

Partners involved in construction of the MedArcNet site

developers of this snapshot feature to include the option of individual projects being showcased in a standardized “micro-site” (see “micro-site” side bar).

MedArcNet/DAAHL Connection: Collaborative research on “big picture” issues will be further aided by three digital technologies currently under development by scientists at UCSD and ASU. Spearheading this are Tom Levy and Steve Savage. The first is development of the Mediterranean Archaeological Network or MedArchNet as a hub for facilitating portal-based internet research in our region. The MedArchNet concept has been endorsed by leading Middle Eastern archaeologists as well as by ASOR. Through MedArchNet ASOR/CAP members will have the possibility of collaborating with colleagues all over the Eastern Mediterranean on common “big picture” problems.

The second is development of the Digital Archaeological Atlas of the Holy Land or DAAHL as an interactive tool in the MedArchNet structure for locating and researching ANE cultural heritage sites. The DAAHL will provide CAP members with a powerful new tool for probing archaeological databases and for online information access and updating. The portals in the MedArchNet/DAAHL structure are operationalized through a powerful combination of open-source software, such as Apache Web Server, PHP and MySQL (including the MySQL Spatial extensions), and by using the Google Maps/Earth API and “traditional” Google Earth mapping platforms for information presentation. The prototype for the DAAHL portal is now available online at http://daahl.ucsd.edu.

The third is development of state-of-the-art visualization capabilities through linking up with CISA3’s Highly Interactive Parallelized Display Space project or HiPerSpace. This technology will allow CAP members to share and compare high resolution 3-D images of cultural landscapes, archaeological sites, monumental buildings and artifacts. HiPerSpace is being powered by a cluster graphics library and cluster management framework called CGLX.

A Specialists Bulletin Board: Finally, I would like to add to our CAP web site an bulletin section where the names and contact information for various specialists can be posted and updated. In this way artists, conservations, faunal analysts, lithesists, numesmeticists, and palaeobotanists—to mention only a few—can make their avail-

Digital Archaeological Atlas of the Holy Land (DAAHL) home page

ability and special interests and capabilities known to dig organizers. This may also serve as a way to increase funding for the services of specialists as project directors coordinate plans and budgets for bringing specialists to their sites and to work on their materials post-season.
Our homily this morning comes from the book of Caterpillar, Second Chapter, Fourth Verse, reading “Morituri te salutamus”, which is really the way Caterpillar figures its dealers ought to function. That salute will not set the tone for these remarks but will deal with experience learned in the bulldozer world, a story whose antecedent goes back to 1920 when at age 25 my father got into the construction business when he became the County Highway Commissioner in Oconto, Wisconsin (next door to Green Bay). In Wisconsin the counties do much of their own construction and maintenance work while most states contract it out; and in the 20’s the county was building the basic grid work of a new highway system to accommodate a contraption called “The Model T Ford” and in that process, by the way, refashioning the lifestyle for America. In this road building, Caterpillar played a significant role, and my dad’s use of same established an affiliation with the dealer which ultimately led to a job selling Cat equipment. Two years later in 1930 he became the company’s Sales Manager, and we moved to Milwaukee. Unfortunately, Caterpillar double-crossed the Wisconsin dealer by cutting his territory in two whereupon the outraged owner told Cat to “take it and tuck it”, and promptly switched to selling Allis Chalmers machinery, a comparable line of construction products.

The long depression made business nip and tuck, but they survived and in 1941, Allis Chalmers asked Ole Mac if he would like his own territory, say like in Indiana where the dealer had recently died. After talking it over with his boss, who by the way had four sons, my dad left Wisconsin and on September 1st opened business in Indiana. (I was in the military by then.) Nine weeks later Pearl Harbor triggered WWII and business in America was shocked. But negotiating the regulations and taking advantage of the explosions in construction needed for airfields, depots, barracks, bases, etc., etc., he was able not only to survive but to prosper. Fact, did so well Caterpillar asked him to take their account in 1945 as the war was being terminated, and on June 2nd we became a Cat dealer; I was just out of the Air Corps and joined him on the ground floor as a stockchaser in the parts department, which means lowest man on the tallest totem pole. It was a booming period since America had neglected its infrastructure for 15 years, building very few new plants, housing projects, roads, libraries or parks or museums, stock-piling infinite and diverse opportunity. So we all went coasting along with the post-war boom; saw full employment, industrial expansion, big payrolls and appreciable spending including a spate of toll-road building, then state highway systems and roads and sewers, big water conservation projects, commercial plant construction, and endless real estate developments. My dad, alas, suffered a stroke in 1951 and left the business, never to return, dumping the operation into my unsteady hands. Given a good economy, one had to be very stupid indeed to screw up a Caterpillar dealership; so thanks to the right people in the right spots, we survived and profited modestly. The story went from 30 years of glory to ultimately one of calamity. The apex in my industry was an interstate highway system, the most extensive public works program ever conceived by the republic, lasting from 1957 till about 1980. We all worked hard; made money; maintained a fast pace; had a great time. But when the system was completed, demand lessened and across this broad and beautiful land, a major lacuna appeared. A period of virtual desuetude prevailed and when the smoke cleared away (completing the most mangled metaphor I have ever constructed), the ranks began thinning.

Un-noticed by me and long before this, Caterpillar had begun to shift its emphasis and changed our character. Like one day in the mid-60s, the Rep said, “We are going into the truck engine business. Find a couple of truckers who will help us road test our new engines. We’ll sell engines to the manufacturers; you guys get the parts business.” “We get what?” Are you kidding? But we proceeded as they advised, grumbling every step of the way. And before too long Cat said, “Congratulations, we just cut a deal with Mitsubishi in Japan and opened a huge plant there to make some new models...310, 320 and 330.” All small stuff! Smaller sales, smaller profits, tougher competition and miserable parts and service business. Next thing I know they have a worldwide dealer meeting and introduced us to their new backhoe loaders. J.I. Case and John Deere have owned this market for a generation, why are we doing this? “Well”, Cat said, “It’s because that’s where the business is. 57% of the units sold last year were backhoe loaders. We’re going there.” And so we cringed and began looking for little contractors who might want to park their Case and try a Cat. Next, was going into the paving and blacktop business; then into the farm market with huge rubber-track tractors for huge plows and also...
a huge combine with a 30 or 40 foot cutting head, selling for $350K. “Good grief, we don’t know a thing about farms or farmers and someone else owns that market as well. You are gonna kill us.” So for the next ten years we did on-the-job-training and training and moved into the Ag market. A bigger venture was next: the rental business. We stalled for five years because I could never find a dealer who made money in it. Most got in as a way of getting market share. A machine is reported as “sold” first time it is used. To put 20 backhoes in a rental fleet is to boost your market share quickly. Trick here is figuring out what to do with them later. Which is unload them for less than book value. When we could resist no longer, we hired a guy who had been in the rental business for 25 years down in Louisville. Everything we would have done, he vetoed but given his own way, he had the first rental store profitable the first year. We finish the change in our character by getting next in the skid steer loader business where Bobcat has reigned supreme.

By now you wonder what for goodness sake, where is this going? The point is inevitable change, either learning it or ignoring same. It’s figuring out where to find success and seeing challenge as “opportunity” and then acting “whether we like it or not”. Looking at my own territory today, I cannot find a single major competitor I dealt with in 1951 when my dad left the business with the exception of John Deere. Moreover, every manufacturer they represent is also gone, or subsumed, amalgamated, combined, been bought out or morphed into a conglomerate; none are owned by the same people. Think of Clark Michigan, of Allis Chalmers, of International Harvester, Bucyrus Erie, Koering, P & H, Le Tourneau, Cletrack, Terex, Loraine, J.D. Adams, Hough - all memories.

Last year we sold $25,000,000 worth of truck engine parts; we did $40,000,000 in the Ag business; the rental arena we avoided, last year did close to $75,000,000, and we now have 14 rental stores. We sold more backhoe loaders last year than either Case or John Deere. All the stuff I resented and resisted, still longing for the days of big fleets and big machines, is exactly what makes us today the state’s premier dealer. I failed to see that bulldozer sales declined year after year, and the units that kept us afloat 23 years ago are no longer a big factor. When it began drying up dramatically in the ‘82-‘83 recession, my competitors had no hole card; no Plan B; they had no options. They were servicing an industry that no longer existed. We moved into selling to a lot of smaller contractors, renting to a couple thousand brand new customers. Got in the truck engines, into landscaping, parks; got bigger each year in farms, heavy in coal, major in aggregated and sanitary landfills; still do a lot of construction sales as we upgrade state roads and rebuild parts of our interstate system.

The factor demanding dramatic change in my experience was the factory who saw far better than I that the landscape was changing and that the future would be different than the past. I wonder if this analogy can apply to us, to ASOR? Has our route to survival been challenged? How about our route to success? Is mere survival success? Are we as effective today in serving our profession or the craft of archaeology as we were when Ernie Wright was running ASOR? Do we determine our future course or do we allow destiny to do it? What new opportunity do we see for ASOR? How do we perform the role of Cat and become the architect of a new strategy that propels us to greater success?

My guess is that the subject of archaeology itself has become far more titillating or interesting to the average viewer-reader than it was in Wright’s time and that we read and see a lot more coverage than used to be the case. If that is indeed true, I wonder how we leverage that latent interest to our advantage and to the strengthening of the entire program or operations. I wonder what force is working in our world that can demand or lead or coerce or modify our operation so it becomes not only more compatible with these times but delivers more value to history and to our understanding of the past. We seem to get more publicity through hostile exchanges between our own members than we do through constructive interpretation of what we do or have just discovered. I keep bumping into “The Naked Archaeologist” on TV since he is cranking out programs like business is cranking out employee discharges and think how ironic to have a dabbler entertaining the public while legitimate stories and theories never get to the screen. I wonder why we aren’t there instead of him. It is surely no degree of scholarship, experience, wisdom, charisma. We could make a fortune correcting his errors and outlandish theories. The answer will be that he is there because he has a sponsor and, thus,
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Development Update for Fiscal Year 2009
July 1, 2008–June 30, 2009

by Andrew G. Vaughn
Executive Director

After a banner year for development in fiscal year 2008, ASOR faced a challenge meeting its Annual Fund goal for FY09. During FY08 we broke records with almost $260,000 in total giving, and $124,000 in annual fund giving. In addition, we redirected $31,000 of previously unrestricted giving to the endowment. ASOR’s budget for FY09 (ending June 30, 2009) included $100,000 for the Annual Fund, but we received just over $65,900 in actual gifts. In order to make up for the shortage we did not replace one full-time staff position, and we also postponed planned purchases of equipment such as computers. Our need for FY09 was even greater because we chose not to take a distribution from our endowment due to the historic losses in the equity markets.

These are difficult economic times for everyone, and ASOR is no exception. Charitable giving has been down all across the United States, and ASOR has felt this reduction acutely. At the same time, I want to emphasize that ASOR is not in dire straits as in past years. Indeed, we are in sound fiscal shape. We have managed our expenses to take into account reduced giving, and ASOR will end up in the black when we take into account the combined fiscal years of FY08 and FY09 – we had a slight surplus in FY08 that will offset a small projected deficit in FY09. I am also pleased that ASOR continued to grant fellowships for participation in the annual meeting, research, and summer excavation work. In spite of the challenging economic climate, we awarded 25 fellowships for archaeological fieldwork in the summer of 2009!

We are especially grateful to the friends of ASOR who contributed during FY09, and this issue of the Newsletter contains ASOR’s Honor Roll of Donors for FY09. We are particularly grateful to board chair P.E. MacAllister who once again led the way in terms of donations. If you are not on this list of donors, I hope that you will consider a gift to ASOR so that you can help us make sure that we continue to accomplish our mission in Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010).

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

by Andrew G. Vaughn
Executive Director

The Officers Nominations Committee recommended that the Board reelect James F. Strange to a three-year term as Secretary (ending December 31, 2012) and Sheldon Fox to a three-year term as Treasurer (ending December 31, 2012). The Board unanimously re-elected both James F. Strange and Sheldon Fox for these terms. The Executive Committee and Board further recommended that when elections are next held for Treasurer, ample time be allowed for an overlap between the current Treasurer (Fox) and a newly elected Treasurer.

Executive Committee unanimously authorized President Harrison to extend the term of the Executive Director’s (Vaughn) contract for up to one year subject to other contract revisions that are mutually acceptable to the parties. The Executive Committee also voted not to give the executive director a cost of living increase this fiscal year because of the economic climate.

The Executive Committee and Board both unanimously voted to adopt the Treasurer’s recommended budget for fiscal year 2010.

The Executive Committee unanimously endorsed with enthusiasm the concept of partnering with the Abraham Path Initiative to provide an advisory group for archaeology and cultural heritage issues. The Executive Committee appointed as an interim advisory group Tim Harrison, Andy Vaughn, Morag Kersel, Øystein LaBianca, Joe Greene, and Eric Meyers. The EC requested that CAP examine this partnership and bring a formal proposal for a permanent advisory committee to the November Board of Trustees meeting.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to ask the president to move forward with this Strategic planning process and to report back to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously for ASOR to renew the Qarqur Agreement but without the financial commitment.

President Tim Harrison announced that ASOR awarded 25 grants for the summer of 2009 (18 Heritage Fellowships and 7 Platt Fellowships).

Executive Director Vaughn announced that Board Chair P. E. MacAllister would be distributing a brochure explaining ways to make planned gifts to ASOR. He encouraged all members and trustees to consider such gifts.

My personal biography is one of successful change, but one required or mandated and thrust upon us because we could not see the future as well as Caterpillar. We were content to think that by succeeding with a certain formula, repeating or replicating it, we had the answer to perpetuity. True...as long as the world stands still. But when said world morphs or moves out from under us or the climate changes, the past is really no longer prologue to the future. Have we changed as dramatically as the world around us? Do we know how to capitalize on existing opportunities this next 20 years? Or do we have some serious planning to do?

My sense is that ASOR is subject to the same factors impacting all society and that any proposal to make our work more relevant, more valuable, and even more widely respected is not only desirable but almost mandatory. What force or factor compels ASOR to move, expand, change? Has to be this group; it cannot be assigning to destiny, circumstance or the Nine Gods. And thus after repeating myself one more time have utilized my allotted “15 minutes of fame and glory”. Thank you.

—P.E. MacAllister

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has the money to produce the shows; ergo, bucks are what makes the difference. Except in my mind what comes first was an idea, and then selling the value of that; National Geographic picked him up, and the audience apparently keeps him on the air.

What idea do we have that might lead us into more credibility, more national recognition, more intriguing stories of conquest and glory? What is it that we do, or could do, that might attract a broader base of sponsorship and a wider understanding of ancient history? Maybe it is sensationalism. One idea would be pursuing the archive project; and in the course of it file a suit against The Shrine of The Book or whatever the museum in Jerusalem that contains the two scrolls we bought. That would make national news and who knows, might generate support. And it might also trigger some retaliatory actions on the part of the Israelis which would seriously jeopardize our future digging there. Or better yet maybe the archives are an opening wedge to the wider secular world as we find a way of capitalizing on it with a campaign of public relations parallel to the campaign of preserving and publishing, restoring and reporting.

ASOR Newsletter, Summer 2009
How will my donation be spent?

All funds received through this Appeal will be used to support the ongoing work of ASOR or special projects named by the donor (see below). This involves running ASOR Publications, working with the Board and all the standing committees to support ASOR programs, setting up and running the Annual Meeting, and supporting outreach education in fulfilling the mission of ASOR.

I would like to make the following gift or pledge at this time:

$100 ____ $250 ____ $500 ____ $1,000 ____ $5,000 ____ Other $____

The above gift is:

• ___ a gift made at this time
• ___ a pledge (payable before June 30, 2010)
• ___ a gift of stock (please contact Selma Omerefendic at asortoo@bu.edu or 617-353-6572)

Please apply my gift to the following:

• _____ Annual Fund
• _____ Publications
• _____ ASOR Archives Project
• _____ Other (please specify): ___________________________________________________________

Payment Instructions:

• _____ My check payable to ASOR in the amount of $__________ is enclosed
• _____ Please charge my credit card:

  Visa____MC_____  Number______________________________  Exp._____ / _____

  Name__________________________________________________________________________
  Address________________________________________________________________________
  City_________________ State _______ Zip ____________
  Phone________________ Fax________________ E-mail__________________________________
  Signature_______________________________________________________________________

Please return your pledge or gift to ASOR at 656 Beacon St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02215

You may also fax your credit card information or pledge to 617-353-6575

(Please do not send credit card information by e-mail as it is not secure)
As announced in the last ASOR Newsletter, ASOR has received a 27-month NEH outright grant of over $300,000 to digitize, arrange, describe, and make accessible ASOR’s archives. The archives focus on archaeological excavations and the history of archaeology in the Middle East from 1871 to the present.

We are very pleased to be able to report that the archiving initiative is now fully underway, and we are pleased to welcome Cynthia Rufo as ASOR Project Archivist. Rufo is being assisted in her work by ASOR administrative assistant Sophie Mpunzwana who is a recent graduate of the Boston University School of Theology. Rufo is a qualified archivist who is based in Boston. She has extensive experience arranging and describing historic collections, and making them electronically available. Prior to joining ASOR, she worked in the Northeastern University Archives and Special Collections as a processor and reference archivist. She has completed projects for the American Antiquarian Society, the Forest Hills Cemetery Educational Trust, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and Maine Historical Society. Rufo is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College (B.A.) and Simmons College (M.S., Archives Management.) She will complete the M.A. degree in History at Simmons later this year.

Rufo began full-time work at ASOR on July 9, 2009, and she and Mpunzwana have already made a lot of progress in organizing and assessing the collections. The contents of over 200 boxes have been inventoried, and an appraisal is underway to identify collections of exceptional historic value. In addition to documents relating to the Dead Sea Scrolls (see issue 59/1 of the ASOR Newsletter), one collection is of particular interest and contains photographs and field journals from A. H. Detweiler’s 1934 excavations in Jerash and Jericho. The handwritten journals include Detweiler’s illustrations of architectural features unearthed at the site. The next step will be to begin organizing the records and to perform basic preservation tasks.

Future issues of the Newsletter will include more extensive updates on the Archiving Initiative. ASOR members are reminded that your help is also needed in the project—the NEH grant is generous, but we also need to raise matching funds for items that are listed in the sidebar found immediately under this update. Also, if ASOR members have documents that they feel should be included in the archives, please contact Archivist Cynthia Rufo (asorarch@bu.edu).

Join fellow scholars in compelling conversations about archaeological issues at ASOR’s Annual Meeting:

**Host a Roundtable!**

**What are Roundtables?** Roundtables are a new initiative for ASOR, which would bring together 10-12 people at a table to talk about a subject of interest. This event will take place over the lunch period on Saturday November 21. Members might grab a sandwich, gather at a table of interest and discuss issues of interest.

**Why Have a Roundtable?** Roundtables focus attention on and give voice to the concerns to the membership of ASOR. Roundtables are intended to afford an opportunity for members to discuss ideas and concerns, to gain information on specific topics, and to expand their professional networks. Topics could include any or all of the following: craft production and social complexity; public outreach and education; writing grants; taking digital photographs; foodways/ethnobotany; academic careers; careers in government; and publishing.

Roundtables are an excellent way to include new, junior and lay members of the organization – who can all come together to discuss areas of interest. Please note that hosting a roundtable does not count in the ASOR two appearance rule.

Please consider hosting (facilitating) a roundtable at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. If interested please contact Morag Kersel (morag.kersel@utoronto.ca) for further information.
Since ASOR was notified that we received the NEH archiving grant, we are gearing up to move the project along. This grant provides ASOR with more than $300,000 over three years and will benefit the organization enormously. We have already begun the process of hiring an archivist, whose salary will be fully covered by the NEH funding.

But ASOR needs to raise some matching funds as well. In addition to office space and other indirect costs, ASOR needs to raise $30,000 in the first year (and decreasing amounts in the following two years) to fulfill the terms of the grant.

The following is a list of some of the line items which require matching dollars. As you can see, there are opportunities for ASOR members and friends to provide support at a variety of levels. If you are interested in supporting a particular item, or a portion of an item, please contact Andy Vaughn (asored@bu.edu), or send your donation directly to ASOR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount &amp; Match Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photo restoration</td>
<td>$10,000 (NEH matches with $18,500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel for consultants and volunteers</td>
<td>$4,075 (1:1 NEH match)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stipends for consultants</td>
<td>$3,550 (1:1 NEH match)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scanner purchase or lease</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scanning support</td>
<td>$2,000 (NEH matches with $3,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate upgrade at BU</td>
<td>$1,500 (1:1 NEH match)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Document cartons</td>
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<td>Document boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelf units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop training</td>
<td>4 workshops at $150 each (NEH 1:1 match)</td>
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<td>Archival file folders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo boxes</td>
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<td>Shipping of materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo sleeves</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL GIFT SUPPORT NEEDED</strong></td>
<td><strong>= $30,000</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Stay informed on all matters ASOR. Visit us at [www.asor.org](http://www.asor.org)
BECOME AN AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH CONTRIBUTING MEMBER

Founded in 1900, ASOR is the premier learned society that supports and fosters historical and archaeological research in the eastern Mediterranean. Together with its affiliated research centers in Amman, Jerusalem, and Nicosia, ASOR supports more archaeological excavations in the eastern Mediterranean than any other American society.

Like most educational, religious, artistic, and cultural institutions, ASOR relies on financial support from lay colleagues and interested professionals to continue its work. Please consider a Contributing Membership—the $125 fee allows you to support the work of ASOR with a tax-deductible gift of $100 and receive a discounted subscription to Near Eastern Archaeology for $25.

ASOR CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

• Annual contribution is $125
• $100 is a tax-deductible contribution
• $25 is used for a subscription to NEA
• Knowledge that you are a part of the continuing search for new insight into Near Eastern history and culture

If you are interested in becoming a Contributing Member, call 617-353-6570 or check out information online at http://www.asor.org/membership/index.html
Join us at this year’s ASOR Annual Meeting for a volunteer service project:

**Documenting Holt Cemetery**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2009**
**9:00am – 2:00pm**

Save Our Cemeteries is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the historic cemeteries of Louisiana, and to fostering a public appreciation for their architectural and cultural significance.

Come help Save Our Cemeteries document the current condition of Holt Cemetery. We will be surveying individual graves and taking photos to create an archive of the state of the cemetery as a baseline, to compare to pre-Katrina photos and also to serve as a database for future stabilization/restoration efforts. This project will be the groundwork for a future archaeological survey of the cemetery.

*If you are interested in volunteering, please email Kelley Bazydlo at asormtgs@bu.edu to reserve your spot.*
Call for Nominations for ASOR Awards
Please submit a nomination form at www.asor.org/am/nominations.shtml

Descriptions of the Honors and Awards

The Richard J. Scheuer Medal.
This is the most prestigious award which honors an individual who has provided truly outstanding, long term support and service contributions to ASOR.
(given only as appropriate)

The Charles U. Harris Service Award.
This award is given in recognition of long term and/or special service as an ASOR officer or Trustee.
(one annual award)

The P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award. This award honors an archaeologist who, during his/her career, has made outstanding contributions to ancient Near Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean archaeology.
(one annual award)

The G. Ernest Wright Award.
This award is given to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) dealing with archaeological material, excavation reports and material culture from the ancient Near East and eastern Mediterranean. This work must be the result of original research published within the past two years.
(one annual award)

The Frank Moore Cross Award.
This award is presented to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) related to ancient Near Eastern and eastern Mediterranean epigraphy, text and/or tradition. This work must be the result of original research published during the past two years.
(one annual award)

The W. F. Albright Award.
This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers ACOR, AIAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees - the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee.
(given as appropriate)

ASOR Membership Service Award.
This award recognizes individuals who have made special contributions on behalf of the ASOR membership, through committee, editorial, or office services.
(maximum three annual awards)
At the 2008 Annual Meeting in Boston several students, archaeologists, and academics representing 13 ASOR affiliated projects participated in the inaugural Projects on Parade Poster Session. As paper submissions and attendance for the Annual Meeting continues to grow, the Projects on Parade exhibition provides a unique and valuable venue for graduate students and scholars to present their research. Posters are displayed upon arrival near the ever-popular book exhibition ensuring both a great turnout and an opportunity for conference goers to enjoy the submissions at their leisure. Presenters are then available for a two-hour block to answer questions, receive feedback, network with colleagues, and engage in conversation.

As a participant in last year’s Projects on Parade Poster Session, I found the experience very rewarding. My fellow presenters, Ben Bradshaw and Amanda Iacobelli, and I, all graduate students from the Pennsylvania State University, drew on our experiences from participation in the Mopsos Survey Project to construct a poster. In consultation with Prof. Ann Killebrew of the Pennsylvania State University, we deliberated for weeks on how to best represent the project in poster form. The survey, under the direction of Profs. Ann Killebrew and Gunnar Lehmann, is a pedestrian survey of the Cilician Plain in southern Turkey. The project gave us valuable archaeological experience and freedom to pursue and present individual research interests. Ben, Amanda, and I decided to use the advanced application of GIS as our central theme and divide the poster into three parts: settlement patterns in Cilicia through time based on Mopsos Survey data, the integration of historical documents in the survey, and a GIS analysis of Alexander’s famous Battle of Issus. As first-time conference attendees, we found the Projects on Parade poster session an inviting venue to present research and the critique and praise we received has greatly improved and enhanced our respective research projects.

I suggest that every conference attendee take a few minutes to view the Projects on Parade exhibition in New Orleans this year. A lot of time and effort goes into each submission. Archaeologists have the opportunity to see exciting finds, new developments, and the application of new technology at various ASOR affiliated archaeological projects. Students can meet new colleagues and browse the various submissions to consider new summer fieldwork opportunities. Most importantly, I encourage those contemplating a poster submission for the 2009 Annual Meeting in New Orleans to participate. You will find the experience a rewarding one.
## ASOR Annual Meeting
### Academic Program — Wednesday & Thursday

### Wednesday, November 18

**7:00-8:30pm**

**Welcome to the Annual Meeting**

**Plenary Address**
*(Karel van der Toorn, University of Amsterdam and the Hogeschool van Amsterdam)*

### Thursday, November 19, 2009

**8:30-10:30am**

**Archaeology of Israel: New Developments**
*(Uzi Dahari, Israel Antiquities Authority, Presiding)*

**Khirbet Qeiyafa: A Fortified City in the Judah from the Time of King David I**
*(Yosef Garfinkel, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Presiding)*

**Archaeology of Anatolia I: Current Work**
*(Jennifer C. Ross, Hood College, Presiding)*

**Reports on Current Excavations-ASOR Affiliated**
*(M. L. Pruitt, University of California, Berkeley/Graduate Theological Union, Presiding)*

**Individual Submissions I**
*(Robert A. Mullins, Azusa Pacific University, Presiding)*

**10:45am-12:45pm**

**Archaeology of Jordan I: The Bronze Age and Iron Age**
*(Suzanne Richard, Gannon University, Presiding)*

**Khirbet Qeiyafa: A Fortified City in the Judah from the Time of King David II**
*(Michael Hasel, Southern Adventist University, Presiding)*

**Archaeology of Anatolia II: Connectivity**
*(Sharon R. Steadman, SUNY Cortland, Presiding)*

**Eastern Mediterranean Diasporas: Cultural and Economic Implications**
*(Elise Friedland, The George Washington University and Peter van Alfen, American Numismatic Society, Presiding)*

**12:45-2:00pm**

**Junior Scholars Luncheon**

**2:00-4:00pm**

**Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to Near Eastern and East Mediterranean Art and Archaeology**
*(Louise Hitchcock, University of Melbourne, Presiding)*

**Arabia I: Nabataean and Roman Arabia**
*(S. Thomas Parker, North Carolina State University, Presiding)*

**Archaeology of Israel**
*(Assaf Yasur-Landau, Haifa University, Presiding)*

**Reports on Current Excavations-ASOR Affiliated**
*(Laura Mazow, East Carolina University, Presiding)*

**Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing, and Archaeology**
*(Stephen Savage, Arizona State University, Presiding)*

**4:15-6:15pm**

**Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to Near Eastern and East Mediterranean Art and Archaeology II**
*(Andrew McCarthy, University of Edinburgh, Presiding)*

**Christianity and Judaism in Late Antiquity**
*(Carrie Duncan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Presiding)*

**Archaeology of Cyprus**
*(Erin W. Averett, Creighton University and Elisabetta Cova, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Presiding)*

**Archaeology of Mesopotamia I**
*(Constance E. Gane, Andrews University, Presiding)*
Friday, November 20, 2009

8:30-10:30am

Art & Artifacts of the Ancient Near East: Content, Context, Contacts I
(Marian H. Feldman, University of California, Berkeley, Presiding)

The Ties that Unwind: Social Disintegration in Near Eastern Antiquity I
(Eduard Maher, The Field Museum, Presiding)

Philistia and the Philistines During The Iron Age I
(Jeffrey Chadwick, Brigham Young University, Presiding)

Ancient Inscriptions: Recent Discoveries, New Editions, New Readings
(Christopher A. Rollston, Emmanuel School of Religion and Annalisa Azzoni, Vanderbilt University, Presiding)

Archaeology of Jordan II
(Leigh-Ann Bedal, Pennsylvania State Behrend, Presiding)

10:45am-12:45pm

Art & Artifacts of the Ancient Near East: Content, Context, Contacts II
(Allison Thomason, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Presiding)

The Ties that Unwind: Social Disintegration in Near Eastern Antiquity II
(Kevin McGeough, The University of Lethbridge, Presiding)

Individual Submissions: Archaeozoological and Isotope Studies
(Jennifer Ramsay, University of British Columbia, Presiding)

Philistia and the Philistines During The Iron Age II
(Aren Maeir, Bar-Ilan University, Presiding)

The Red Sea in Antiquity: Archaeology, Trade, And Cultural Exchange
(Walter D. Ward, Georgia State University, Presiding)

12:30-2:00pm

Order and Conflict: Roundtables on the Agency Role of Empires in the Levant
(Oystein S. LaBianca, Andrews University, Presiding)

2:00-4:00pm

Prehistoric Archaeology
(April Nowell, University of Victoria, Presiding)

Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology
(Dale W. Manor, Harding University and Daniel C. Browning, Jr., William Carey University, Presiding)

Caesarea Maritima
(Kenneth G. Holm, University of Maryland, College Park, Presiding)

Archaeology of Mesopotamia II
(Elizabeth Stone, Stony Brook University, Presiding)

Landscape Archaeology
(Martin Peilstocker, Israel Antiquities Authority, Presiding)

4:30-6:30pm

ASOR Members Meeting and Awards Presentations

Saturday, November 21, 2009

8:30-10:30am

Arabia II
(David F. Graf, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Presiding)

Teaching Archaeology to Undergraduates: Success Stories and Cautionary Tales
(Eric H Cline, The George Washington University and Ellen Bedell, The Ellis School, Presiding)

Settlement and Society in the Ancient Near East I
(Jesse Casana, University of Arkansas, Presiding)

World of Women: Gender and Archaeology
(Beth Alpert Nakhai, The University of Arizona, Presiding)

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continued from page 19

10:45am-12:45pm

The Archaeology of Prehistoric Communities, Part 1: Methodological and Analytical Concerns: The “How” and the “Why” Behind Community Research (Bill Finlayson, Council for British Research in the Levant, Presiding)

Settlement and Society in the Ancient Near East II (Jason Ur, Harvard University, Presiding)

Egypt and Canaan (K. Lawson Younger, Jr., Trinity International University, Presiding)

Ancient Mediterranean Trade (Barry Gittlen, Baltimore Hebrew University, Presiding)

Archaeology of Syria (Michael Danti, Boston University, Presiding)

12:00-2:00pm

Projects on Parade Poster Session

12:30-2:00pm

ASOR Brown Bag Roundtables

2:00-4:00pm

The Archaeology of Prehistoric Communities, Part 2: Theoretical Concerns: The Placing and Spacing of Prehistoric Communities (Meredith Chesson, University of Notre Dame, Presiding)

Artifacts: The Inside Story (Elizabeth S. Friedman, Illinois Institute of Technology and Heather Snow, University of Toronto, Presiding)

Joint Archaeological Expedition to Tell El-Hesi: Reports on Regional Survey (H. Katharine Sheeler, National Cathedral School, Presiding)

4:15-6:15pm

“Figuring Out” The Figurines of the Ancient Near East I (Stephanie M. Langin-Hooper, University of California, Berkeley, Presiding)

Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East (Bert de Vries, Calvin College, Presiding)

History of Archaeology (Rachel Hallote, Purchase College SUNY, Presiding)

Phoenicians and the Mediterranean (S. Rebecca Martin, Southeast Missouri State University and Jessica L. Nitschke, Georgetown University, Presiding)

“Figuring Out” The Figurines of the Ancient Near East II (Andrea Creel, University of California, Berkeley, Presiding)

Music in Tragedy’s Wake (Theodore W Burgh, University of North Carolina, Wilmington and Michael M. Homan, Xavier University, Presiding)

6:00-8:00pm

Voodoo Dolls of the Ancient Near East (Michael M. Homan, Xavier University of Louisiana, Presiding)
The NHC offers 40 residential fellowships for advanced study in the humanities during the academic year, September 2010 through May 2011.

Applicants must hold doctorate or equivalent scholarly credentials. Young scholars as well as senior scholars are encouraged to apply, but they must have a record of publication. In addition to scholars from all fields of the humanities, the Center accepts individuals from the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life who are engaged in humanistic projects. The Center gladly accepts applications from scholars outside the United States. Fellowships are individually determined, the amount depending upon the needs of the Fellow and the Center’s ability to meet them. Located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina, near Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh, the Center provides an environment for individual research and the exchange of ideas. Its building includes private studies for Fellows, conference rooms, a central commons for dining, lounges, reading areas, a reference library, and a Fellows’ workroom. You may request application materials from Fellowship Program, National Humanities Center, Post Office Box 12256, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709-2256, or obtain the form and instructions from the Center’s website. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by October 15, 2009.

PROJECTS ON PARADE

Poster Session

At this year’s annual meeting, CAP, CAMP and the Junior Scholars Committee will again sponsor “Projects on Parade” and we would like to invite you to participate. Posters will be prominently displayed during the entire conference and a formal poster session is scheduled on Saturday, November 21 from 12:00-2:00pm.

The poster session is an ideal opportunity to involve student and junior members in the ASOR meeting, as well as getting the word out about your research. We are looking for posters that highlight: projects in general; a technical aspect of your project; a spectacular find from the field season; or use the session as a great advertisement for students looking for a summer field school.

http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org; e-mail nhc@nationalhumanitiescenter.org

The National Humanities Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or age.
### ASOR Annual Meeting
#### Business Meetings, Receptions, and Events Schedule

**Wednesday, November 18, 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm-4:00pm</td>
<td>Madaba Plains Project Next Generation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00pm-4:00pm</td>
<td>Lindstrom Students and Volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm-5:00pm</td>
<td>Administrative Oversight Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00pm-8:30pm</td>
<td>Welcome to the Annual Meeting and Plenary address</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30pm-10:30pm</td>
<td>ASOR Welcome Reception</td>
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**Thursday, November 19, 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00am-8:30am</td>
<td>Bulletin of ASOR (BASOR) Editorial Board</td>
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<td>7:00am-8:30am</td>
<td>Near Eastern Archaeology (NEA) Editorial Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00am-8:30am</td>
<td>Regional Affiliations Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Madaba Plains Project Staff Consultation</td>
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<td>12:45pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Junior Scholars Luncheon</td>
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<td>12:45pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>ASOR Damascus Committee</td>
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<td>7:00pm-10:00pm</td>
<td>ASOR Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP)</td>
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**Friday, November 20, 2009**

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<tr>
<td>7:00am-8:30am</td>
<td>Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan</td>
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<td>7:00am-10:00am</td>
<td>ASOR Committee on Publications (COP)</td>
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<td>8:30am-9:00am</td>
<td>ASOR Membership Committee Combined</td>
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<td>8:00am-10:30am</td>
<td>AIAR Fellowship Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-9:45am</td>
<td>ASOR Membership Committee – Individual</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-9:45am</td>
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**Saturday, November 21, 2009**

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<tr>
<td>7:00am-9:00am</td>
<td>Tell el Hesi Board &amp; Publications Committee</td>
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<td>7:00am-8:30am</td>
<td>ASOR Program Committee</td>
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<td>7:30am-9:00am</td>
<td>ASOR Finance Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-5:00pm</td>
<td>CAARI Board of Trustee Meeting</td>
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<td>9:00am-11:30am</td>
<td>ASOR Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>10:45am-1:45pm</td>
<td>ACOR Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Projects on Parade (Poster Session)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>ASOR Roundtables</td>
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<td>2:00pm-4:00pm</td>
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**Sunday, November 22, 2009**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td>ASOR Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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### Junior Scholars Workshop at the 2009 Annual Meeting

**Thursday, November 19th, 12:45-2:00pm**

The Junior Scholars Committee of ASOR invites annual meeting attendees to a panel on the research opportunities at ASOR institutes. Representatives of ACOR, AIAR, and CAARI will be available to talk about resources available at their institutes and about strategies for applying for fellowships.

If you are interested in attending, please register as part of the annual meeting registration process. Boxed lunches will be provided for a small fee, however, you must register for the junior scholars workshop while registering for the annual meeting.

Details will soon be posted to the ASOR website about the annual junior scholars “Meet and Greet” (an informal gathering).

The Junior Scholars Committee exists to help students and recent graduates begin to network and make connections within ASOR. If you have any questions or suggestions for future activities or would like to serve on the steering committee, please contact Jonathan Lawrence at jonathan.lawrence@canisius.edu.
Fellowships are open to students and scholars in Near Eastern studies from prehistory through the early Islamic period, including the fields of archaeology, anthropology, art history, Bible, epigraphy, historical geography, history, language, literature, philology and religion and related disciplines. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Residence at the Albright is required. The option to accommodate dependents is subject to space available at the Albright.

Annual Professorship:
$15,000 award for 4.5 months. Open to post-doctoral scholars, who are US citizens. Deadline: October 1, 2009.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowships:
Maximum grant of $50,400 for 12 months and $25,200 for 6 months (up to four awards from 4-12 months). Open to post-doctoral scholars who are U.S. citizens (or alien residents for at least three years). Deadline: October 1, 2009.

Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow and Program Coordinator:
$24,000 for 9 months. Open to doctoral and post-doctoral scholars. Recipient is expected to assist the Albright’s Director in planning and implementing the Ernest S. Frerichs Program for Albright Fellows, which requires a working knowledge of living and traveling in Israel. It also includes assisting the Director with the videoconferencing lecture program for Students of Archaeology from Al-Quds University. Deadline: October 1, 2009.

Samuel H. Kress Fellowship:
$22,500-per-year Kress Institutional Fellowships in the History of European Art for a two-year research appointment. Application is made directly to the Kress Foundation: www.kressfoundation.org. Restricted to pre-doctoral candidates in the History of art and related disciplines (such as archaeology, architecture, or classics). Nominees must be U.S. citizens or individuals matriculated at an American university. Dissertation research must focus on European, Mediterranean, or Classical art history from antiquity to the early 19th century. Deadline: November 30, 2009.

George A. Barton Fellowship:
$5,000 for 2 months. Open to all doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients. Deadline: October 1, 2009.

Carol and Eric Meyers Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship:
$5,000 for 2 months. Eligibility is for doctoral students whose research involves the study of archaeology and society in the biblical or early post-biblical periods. Topics dealing with society at the household level are encouraged. Deadline: October 1, 2009.

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships (ECA):
Junior Research Fellowships: $40,000 for up to four awards from 4-5-9 months. Maximum grant of $20,000 for 9 months or $10,000 for 4.5 months. Open to doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients who are U.S. citizens. Deadline: October 1, 2009.

Associate Fellowships:
13 administrative fee awards for senior and junior fellows (for one or two semesters). No deadline.

Glassman Holland Research Fellowship:
$12,000 for 3 months. Open to all European post-doctoral researchers who are permanently resident in Europe. Deadline: March 15, 2010.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowships:
$34,500 for three awards of $11,500 each for 3 months. Open to Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, and Slovak scholars who are at the doctoral or post-doctoral level. Post-doctoral candidates should have obtained a doctorate by the time the fellowship is awarded. All candidates should be permanently resident in one of the nine countries concerned. Deadline: March 15, 2010.

For complete information, contact:
Dr. Joan R. Branham, Chair, AIAR Fellowships and AIAR Vice President
Department of Art and Art History
Providence College, Providence, RI 02918
Tel: 401-865-1789 Fax: 401-865-2410
Email: jbranham@providence.edu

W.F. Albright Associate Fellowships:
No stipend. Open to senior, post-doctoral, and doctoral researchers. Administrative fee required. No deadline.

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowships:
The program is open to U.S. doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their Ph.D. in fields in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences and wish to conduct research of regional or trans-regional significance. Fellowships require scholars to conduct research in more than one country, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. It is anticipated that approximately ten fellowships of up to $9,000 each will be awarded. For more information: www.caorc.org, fellowships@caorc.org, 202-633-1599. Deadline: January, 2010.

Getty Research Exchange Fellowship Program for the Mediterranean Basin and Middle East:
A stipend of up to $3,000 a month for living expenses and up to $1,000 for travel expenses. Open to scholars who are Israeli citizens and who have already obtained a Ph.D. or have professional experience in the study or preservation of cultural heritage and who wish to undertake a specific research project at one of the following overseas research centers: American Academy in Rome; American Center of Oriental Research (Amman); American Institute for Maghrib Studies (Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria); American Institute for Yemeni Studies (San’a); American Research Center in Egypt (Cairo); American Research Institute in Turkey (Istanbul and Ankara); American School of Classical Studies at Athens; and the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (Nicosia). Deadline: February 15, 2010.

ACLS Recent Doctoral Recipients Fellowships:
$30,000 for 10 months. Eligibility is limited to awardees and alternates of the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships the prior year. For application and more information: http://www.acls.org Deadline: December 2009.

*Awards are subject to availability of funds.
CAARI CORNER and UPDATE

by Thomas W. Davis
Director

I am happily looking out my window and watching the run-off from a strong thunderstorm which just passed through Nicosia. This year the winter rains returned to Cyprus and we have had a good soaking over the past few months. This has been a much needed blessing and CAARI is in bloom again. We are still under water restrictions, but the outlook is better for this summer than it has been for the past five years.

As befits our mission, the CAARI building in Nicosia is a listed historic structure, formally recognized as such by the Municipality of Nicosia. This allows us to “sell” our airspace; i.e. a builder elsewhere in Cyprus may purchase our remaining unused “airspace”, (which we could have expanded to fill if we were not restricted by our historic status), to add to their planned building footprint. This will provide a valuable revenue source for our own expansion plans. As you may remember, CAARI is going to expand our library space underneath the garden which does not impact our historic appearance. At the beginning of April, we received our final planning approval from the Municipality of Nicosia and we are now completing the final touches to the expansion plans.

CAARI remains an active vibrant center for international research in Cyprus. We had nearly 75 researchers from 12 countries stay in the J. R. Stewart Residence since November 2008: from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Sweden, the UK and the USA. Residents and library patrons researched a number of issues including, Anatolian archaeology, late antique cityscapes, early 20th century archaeologists, Iron Age terra cottas, underwater methodology, and Neolithic settlement patterns. The library added 55 individual works in the fields of Byzantine Studies and Medieval Studies as well as Cypriot and Near Eastern Archaeology.

As Director, I have had a lively travel schedule this period, with four visits to the USA to attend two CAARI Board meetings and to present papers at conferences on Archaeology and the Media at Duke University and at the Kourion conference at the University of Pennsylvania. I also attended the biannual CAORC overseas Directors meeting in Dakar, Senegal in early January. The last week in January I lectured in Jerusalem as part of the ASOR funded Directors exchange program. I met informally with the Fellows of the Albright Institute in Jerusalem including former CAARI Director Robert Merrillees, and I presented a public lecture to a mixed audience of Israelis, Palestinians and foreign researchers. The visit generated numerous requests for information about CAARI.

On Thursday February 5 a treaty of scientific and technical cooperation between the USA and the Republic of Cyprus was signed by the US Ambassador and the ROC Finance Minister. CAARI was heavily involved in the festivities including a site tour, hosting a closed workshop in the CAARI library and attending the treaty signing as well as various social functions. CAARI Trustee Dr. Michael Toumazou was included in the delegation.

On February 18, CAARI’s Spring Program began with a public lecture by our new librarian Evi Karyda, entitled: “From research to interpretation: the culture of the Mediterranean Trilogy (bread, olive-oil and wine) in Cyprus”. The lecture was well received and especially praised by the Australian High Commissioner. Vathoulla and Fodoulla had prepared special refreshments involving olives, bread and wine which all enjoyed. As part of CAARI’s public outreach, I led a site tour for a group of staff and family members from the US Embassy numbering almost 50. The group included the US Ambassador and the DCM.

The recent increased strength of the dollar means your contribution is now even more effective. Please remember us in these difficult economic times. Contributions may now be made on line. Look us over at www.caari.org.

A two-year position is available for a Program Director for the Archaeological & Historic Preservation Program


The Institute is part of the U.S. State Department sponsored Iraq Cultural Heritage Project (ICHP) and is being established by International Relief and Development (IRD), a non-government organization. The Institute will be operated under the professional guidance of the Walters Art Museum, the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, the University of Delaware Art Conservation Department, the U.S. National Park Service, and the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH).

Training for professionals in archaeology, historic preservation, conservation, and museum collections management will be offered, with formal classes beginning in October 2009. By the end of the two-year grant period, the Institute will be maintained and operated fully by SBAH.
National Endowment for The Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Prof. Beatrice St. Laurent
(Art History, Bridgewater State College)
The Dome of the Rock: Restorations, Historic Tiles, their Documentation and Ties with the Jordan Museum

ACOR-CACOR Post-Graduate Fellowship

Prof. Joel Burnett
(Religion, Baylor University)
Terra-Cotta Architectural Models as Evidence for Religion of Iron Age Jordan

Dr. Alysia Fischer
(Center for American and World Cultures, Miami University)
Investigating Jordanian Glass: Archaeological and Contemporary

Dr. Angel Foster
(Ibis Reproductive Health)
Assessing the Reproductive Health Content of Medical Education in Jordan

Prof. Stefanie Nanes
(Political Science, Hofstra University)
Women in Municipal Governance in Jordan: The Impact of the Gender Quota

Prof. Jason Rech
(Geology, Miami University)
Paleohydrology and Climatic Significance of the Mudawarra Lake Deposits, Southwestern Jordan

Prof. Philip Wilke
(Anthropology, University of California, Riverside)
Lower Paleolithic Adaptations in the al-Jafir Basin, Jordan

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation East-Central European Research Fellows Program

Prof. Laszlo Csicsmann
(Institute of International Relations, Corvinus University)
‘Terrorist Organizations’ or ‘Political Parties’? The Perspective of Political Engagement of Islamists Organizations in the Middle East. Lessons from The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Dr. Ivana Kvetanova
(Trenava University)
Christian Archaeology at Trenava University in Trenava (Slovakia)

Dr. Balazs Major
(Arabic and Islamic Studies, Pazmany Peter Catholic University of Hungary)

Comparative Study of the Medieval Rural Settlements of the Syrian Coast and the Western Part of Jordan (11th to 14th centuries)

Prof. Tomasz Waliszewski
(Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Warsaw)
Green Gold II. Inventory of the Oil Presses in Jordan (Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, and Early Islamic Period)

The Kress Fellowship in the Art and Archaeology of Jordan

Mr. William Zimmerle
(Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania)
Mapping the Neo-Assyrian Empire in Northern Jordan-Southern Syria: Imperial Landscape Change and the Archaeology of Trade Networks in Iron Age Gilead

ACOR-CACOR Fellowship

Ms. Stephanie Brown
(History, North Carolina State University)
Reevaluation of Iron Age Fortified Sites of the Eastern Kerak Plateau

Ms. Sarah Bush
(Politics, Princeton University)
The Politics of Promoting Democracy

Ms. Eleanor Gao
(Political Science, University of Michigan)
Do the Buses Run on Time? Local Government and Public Goods Provision in Jordan

Ms. Jill Goldenziel
(Government, Harvard University)
Refugees, Security, and the Politics of International Law

Mr. Matthew Kroot
(Anthropology, University of Michigan)
Early Villages of the Dead Sea Basin: The ‘Asal-Dhura’ Archaeological Project

Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship

Mr. Russell Gentry
(History, North Carolina State University)
Dhiban Excavation Project

Mr. Gabriel Kravitz
(Anthropology and Middle East Studies, McGill University)
Aizar Palaeolithic

Mr. Isaiah Moses
(History, San Diego State University)
Bir Madhkur Project

Harrell Family Fellowship

Mr. Christopher Ames
(Anthropology, Archaeology, McGill University)
Neandertal Lifeways: An Archaeological Survey from the Edge of the Jordanian Plateau to the Dead Sea

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship

Ms. Micaela Sinibaldi
(History and Archaeology, Cardiff University)
Villages of Crusader Transjordan: Production, Circulation and use of Ceramics in the 12th Century AD

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship

Mr. Steven Edwards
(Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto)
Wadi ath-Thamad Project

MacDonald/Sampson Fellowship

Mr. Christopher Ames
(Anthropology, Archaeology, McGill University)
Neandertal Lifeways: An Archaeological Survey from the Edge of the Jordanian Plateau to the Dead Sea

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Mr. Steven Edwards
(Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto)
Wadi ath-Thamad Project

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship

Ms. Muna Al-Slaihat
(Sustainable Tourism, Queen Rania Institute, The Hashemite University)
Developing a Sustainable Tourism Plan for the Archaeological Site of Iraq al-Amir

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship

Ms. Maryam Ibrahi
(Sustainable Tourism, Queen Rania Institute, The Hashemite University)
A Study of Khirbet Al-Batrawy: Archaeological and Tourism Development

Ms. Fatima Jalboosh
(Cultural Resources Management, Queen Rania Institute, the Hashemite University)
The Architecture of the Umayyad Settlement around Qasr Al-Hallabat, Jordan
American Research Institute in Turkey
National Endowment for the Humanities
ARIT Advanced Fellowships for Research in Turkey 2010–2011

ARIT/NEH Advanced Fellowships cover all fields of the humanities, including prehistory, history, art, archaeology, literature, and linguistics as well as interdisciplinary aspects of cultural history for applicants who have completed their academic training. The fellowships may be held for terms ranging from four months to a full year. Stipends range from $16,800 to 50,400.

ARIT Fellowships are offered for research in ancient, medieval, or modern times, in any field of the humanities and social sciences. Post-doctoral and advanced doctoral fellowships may be held for various terms, from two to three months up to terms of a year. Stipends range from $4,000 to $16,000.

Kenan T. Erim Fellowship
The Erim fellowship will support excavation or field study of excavated material remains at Aphrodisias during the summer 2010, $2375.

Applications for ARIT fellowships must be submitted to ARIT before November 1, 2009. The fellowship committee will notify applicants by late January, 2010.

ARIT – Princeton Summer Fellowships for Intensive Advanced Turkish Language at Bogazici University, Istanbul
The program supports intensive study of advanced Turkish language at Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey, including air fare, tuition, and stipend. The application deadline is February 1.

Contact:
Nancy Leinwand
American Research Institute in Turkey
University of Pennsylvania Museum
3260 South Street
Philadelphia PA 19104-6324
215 898 3474
fax 215 898 0657
leinwand@sas.upenn.edu
http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT

Critical Language Scholarship Institutes in Turkish Language
The program supports intensive study of Turkish language at all levels, including air fare, tuition, and stipend. Courses are held in several locations in Turkey. The program competition is administered by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. For more information, please see the program website at http://www.clscholarship.org/home.php. The application deadline is around November 1, to be announced.
Join other esteemed institutions in the ASOR consortium. Membership is not only prestigious, but it offers tremendous benefits to the students, faculty, and staff of your college, university, or seminary. If you would like to apply for institutional membership, please have the appropriate official fill out the form and send it to the ASOR office. Please be sure to designate an Institutional Representative.

Faculty, students and staff of your member institution will receive the following benefits:

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✶ Discount of 33% on ASOR books purchased by your library

✶ Discounts on Annual Meeting registration for faculty, staff, and students affiliated with your institution (who may register at the ‘member’ rate)

✶ Eligibility to apply for ASOR fellowships, grants, and scholarships

✶ Access to and, in some instances, preference for fellowships, grants, and scholarships offered by our affiliate Overseas Centers in Amman, Jerusalem, and Nicosia.

✶ Recognition in ASOR publications such as BASOR and NEA

✶ Students (undergraduates, seminary, and graduate) of Institutional Members - eligible to apply for Heritage Grants of $1,000 each for support of ASOR affiliated excavations (ASOR awarded 14 Heritage Grants for the summer of 2009)

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For more information about bringing your institution into the ASOR Consortium of institutional members, please contact the ASOR Boston Office at 617-353-6570 or email <asor@bu.edu>.

Check out the new ASOR website at www.asor.org
ASOR would like to thank the following Institutional Members for their continuing support, which makes it possible to fulfill our mission of promoting research into the peoples and cultures of the Near East.

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Note: If you are retired and would like to apply for a partial scholarship, please email Kelley Bazydlo at asorad@bu.edu.

* Non-Member rate includes an ASOR associate membership.

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