

**MINUTES for the Regional Affiliations Committee
ASOR Chicago Friday, Nov. 16, 2012, 1:00-1:45 pm**

Present: Suzanne Richard (EGL), Jesse C. Long, Jr. (SW), Ralph Hawkins (SE), Barry Gittlin (Mid-Atlantic), Jeff Chadwick (Rocky Mt), Mark Schuler (Upper Midwest), Michael Homan (SW), Roger Anderson

decided that the chair should discuss this issue with Boston in order to streamline the use of email lists for the regions in order to enhance participation.

3. Funding. The chair summarized the collaboration of the Regional Affiliation and Lecture Committees, as agreed upon by the CCC, to jointly sponsor a call and deadline for submissions for funding, to be sent out 3 times a year in an email blast by ASOR Boston. She also announced that there remained \$1000 of funding from ASOR. She encouraged representatives to still send in proposals for funding, even if the amount was for less than \$500. [This extension of the deadlines for submitting proposals was extended since this first year the 3 submission dates were not met]. The sense of the group, once again, seemed to be that regular funding (even if small) would be helpful and would greatly enhance their asymmetrical relationship with SBL. The chair indicated she would once again raise this issue to the CCC.
4. ASOR Action Plan.

- a. Term Limits- As reported by Jesse Long, the discussion of term limits resolved that term limits were only possible to enforce for the chair of the committee. The reason is that each region either has one dedicated person available to represent ASOR or has its own by-laws and varying term limits for the officers, including the ASOR representative. The committee was open to determining term limits for the chair and would continue discussion on this topic. With respect to term limits for the chair, the chair of the committee should be an active member of a region.

b-c. Self-Study/Mandate. The Strategic Plan's mandate for the committee ["charged with strengthening ASOR's relations with its affiliated regional societies and with building local awareness, lay membership, and 'grass-roots' support for ASOR and its programs"] opened up discussion of the need for a mandate arrived at by the Committee. Since each region is independent and there is no official institutional link with ASOR national, it was agreed by all that no unilateral mandate would be possible. Thus, as a preliminary step towards arriving at guidelines and an action plan, the committee unanimously agreed that a self-study was necessary. Every representative should develop and send to the chair a short overview/summary of the way their particular region operates, its connection with their partners, funding, if there are by-laws and officers, and whether their region focuses on scholars, students, or public outreach. In other words, how does each region currently meet (or could meet) any of the Strategic Plan's charges to the committee? Since ASOR is very interested in public outreach, please be sure to emphasize this aspect if you region is so involved (examples from the past, etc.). If you believe that (more) public outreach would be possible with funding, please be sure to address that issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Richard
Chair