

Present:

Absent

Minutes approved

: The Board of Trustees met last month and chose not to accept the recommendation of Committee on ASOR's Name. The recommendation was to ask the membership to choose between two names, AARCHE and ASOR. The Board decided to send out two ASOR names: "American Schools of Overseas Research" and "American Society of Overseas Research." Two town hall meetings to discuss the name are being held on Thursday Oct. 22nd at 1 PM, and Sunday Oct. 25th at 4 PM. Sharon is putting together a panel for Q&A and discussion.

: The task force has been formed and the first meeting is happening soon. The list of members and the charge to the Task Force will be posted on the ASOR website shortly.

Steve reported on an Oct. 1st Zoom meeting of ca. 40 project directors to discuss prospects for fieldwork in 2021. A number of people presented on the situation in various countries. It is most likely there will be further impacts on travel and field projects are unable to plan for a safe field season. There was desire for another meeting at end of 2020/early 2021.

Andy, Steve, and Kate have discussed fellowships and grants for 2021, and the conversation is ongoing. There is support for student fellowships and project grants to be used for purposes other than travel. For excavation grants, 3 Harris and 1 Seger are being offered for 2021. In terms of student fellowships, ASOR will offer 10 undergraduate and 10 graduate fellowships. Applications from students will be submitted in conjunction with the project supervisor and the projects should not involve fieldwork/travel. Applications will be limited to 1 undergrad/1 grad per project and only 1 per project will be awarded. The committee is also working on how to encourage and support applicants of color. Some of the named student fellowships are specifically for undergraduate travel

and will be saved for 2022. Andy will check with donors about the

The committee is working out a time to meet around the VAM, according to Teddy. Topics to be discussed are representation in other fields, membership benefits, and virtual field experiences for course credit. Teddy is working with Bob Mullins on the virtual fieldwork idea, and will test it on Hanan's excavation. Andy pointed out that ASOR might be able to bring schools together to plan virtual fieldwork experiences.

Helen announced that there are 30 days until VAM starts. Right now there are 480 papers and posters, though some attrition is expected. The platform looks great. Grouping the posters by themes is a highlight this year. Allison commented that things came together well this year and the scheduling process was a little easier. She seconded Helen's comments on the online platform. The s