2019 NEAS Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Near East Archaeological Society met at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, California on Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

Call to Order
- President Clyde Billington called the meeting to order.
- Bob Smith opened with prayer.
- Clyde Billington welcomed attendees and made opening remarks.

Minutes of 2018 NEAS Board Meeting by Donald McNeely
- Printed copies (prepared by Chris Jakway, 2018 Secretary) were provided to board members who were present.
- Minutes were presented by Don McNeely since Chris Jakway was absent.
- Motion to accept by Gary Byers.
  - Seconded by Randall Price.
  - Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report by Suzanne Lattimer
- NEAS ended last year in the black.
- NEAS this year is currently in the red but there are no problems anticipated in the long term. The society is $1,000 behind in revenue, but reserve funds are currently covering the deficit.
- Don McNeely presented the current sales figures from Logos Bible Software. The numbers are currently down, but he is hopeful they will pick back up.
- Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report by David Chapman.
  - Seconded by Don McNeely.
  - Motion passed.
- Treasurer’s Report appears below.
**Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin Report by Mark Hassler, Editor**

- Mark Hassler will be stepping down from position as editor. He encouraged the board members to help the next editor and the growth of the bulletin.
- Scott Stripling reported that the NEASB was prominently displayed at the library of Tell Aviv University during a recent visit.
- The *NEAS Bulletin* report and Table of Contents for vol. 64 appear below.
2019 Annual Report
NEAS Bulletin

Near East Archaeological Society, San Diego, November 20-22
Report prepared by Mark Hassler, Editor (2016-2019), mhassler@vbts.edu

Recent Actions

2019
Began to repopulate the editorial board (added Eugene Merrill, Rodger Young).
Improved the bulletin’s findability by getting it indexed in:
   Old Testament Abstracts (OTA)—600 archaeology, antiquities, and religion titles abstracted
   Christian Periodical Index (CPI)—160 publications indexed

Updated the bulletin in Logos Bible Software.
Moved from single-blind to double-blind peer reviewing to increase objectivity.
Started listing society-endorsed projects (cover 3).
Stopped using the 3-em dash in reference lists to better accommodate electronic formats (cf. CMS 14:67).

2018
Redesigned the bulletin’s covers and internal presentation.
Created a new logo.
Added a brief biographical sketch of each author on the first page of his or her article.
Introduced ads and announcements: new books by NEAS authors, upcoming NEAS excavations, next year’s NEAS meeting.
Improved the bulletin’s findability by getting indexed in the Atla Religion Database (Atla RDB).

2017
Conformed the bulletin’s internal style to the latest editions of CMS and the SBL Handbook of Style.
Revised the instructions for contributors and editorial policy.
Added an abstract and a list of keywords to each article in the bulletin.

Recommendations for Future Growth

- Build a publication team in order to distribute the workload.
- Continue to repopulate the editorial board.
- Consider how the bulletin could be presented online if the society decides to create a new website (cf. CMS 1.86).
- Print the bulletin in color. (The PDF offprints appear in color.) The illustrations are beautiful—it’s a shame they appear in gray scale.
- Publish the bulletin using an academic press (university or commercial), a gold standard for academic publishing (Belcher 2019, 114).
- Establish the Journal Impact Factor (JIF).
- Request that the NEASB be listed in the next editions of the SBL Handbook of Style and Schwertner’s ITAG.
- Get the bulletin listed and linked in the MLA Directory of Periodicals, Ulrich’s Global Serials Directory, JournalSeek.net, and JSTOR.
- Get indexed or abstracted in RTA and IBZ. (They did not reply to our requests in 2019.)
- Identify a slogan for the society and add it to the bulletin’s masthead and other societal literature.
- Create a Wikipedia page for the society with a subsection devoted to the bulletin.
- Keep the bulletin up-to-date in Logos Bible Software and the research databases (indexing and abstracting).
- Add a brief editorial to the beginning of each volume—one that has the characteristics of a good editorial.
- Welcome unsolicited book reviews and encourage colleagues who specialize in OT and NT introduction to submit articles.
- Enlist a sales and marketing manager to sell subscriptions to academic libraries in the United States, Canada, and Israel. 

* The website for the ALA (American Library Association) indicates that there are 3,700 “academic libraries” in the United States (http://www.ala.org/tools/libfactsheets/alalibraryfactsheet01). By “academic library,” they mean a “library associated with a degree-granting institution of higher education.”
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Nominating Committee Report by Donald McNeeley

- McNeeley is no longer able to serve as Nominating Committee chair due to the term limits of the position. Mark Hassler was nominated as the new Nominating Committee chair.
- Scott Stripling provided introduction to Chris McKinney who was nominated as the next editor of NEASB. Stripling also expressed appreciation for Mark Hassler’s service as editor.
- Motion to accept Nominating Committee Report by Ralph Hawkins.
  - Seconded by Suzanne Lattimer.
  - Motion passed.
- Nominating Committee Report appears below (with a correction noted by McNeeley in his presentation).

NEAR EAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Annual Meeting, November 20-22, 2019
Nominating Committee Report

Manchester Grand Hyatt
San Diego, CA

Nominating Committee Report: Donald McNeeley

The Nominating Committee recommends that the number of Board of Directors be reduced to a total of fifteen (five members per class), using attrition as a means to obtain this number. Therefore, the committee offers the following incumbent BOD members for consideration and affirmation to fill the Class of 2022.

1. The Executive Committee has set these conditions as determinants for renewal of Class participation: willingness to serve actively, NEAS dues paid up to date, and attendance to at least two meetings over a three year period.
2. The Nominating Committee herewith designates the Class of 2019 as the Class of 2022 as amended below.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2020
Mark Hassler          Ralph Hawkins
William Attaway      Adeeb F. Mickahail
Efrain Velazquez II  Gary Byers
Sara Fudge (asked to be removed)  R. Adam Dodd
Seth Rodriquez

Class of 2021
Suzanne Lattimer     John Wineland
Clyde Billington     David Chapman
Tom Vann             Eric Mitchell
Boyd Seevers         Chet Roden
Steve Collins

Class of 2022
Doug Petrovich       Randal Price
Robert. W. Smith     Scott Stripling
Donald McNeeley
Additionally, the committee offers the following BOD members as the Executive Officers & Program Chairs

President: Clyde Billington - term would expire in 2022, and cannot serve an additional term
Vice President: Scott Stripling - term would expire in 2022, but an additional term is allowed
Secretary: Seth Rodriquez - term would expire in 2021 [correction: term would expire in 2024], but an additional term is allowed
Treasurer: Suzanne Lattimer - term does not expire
Program Chair: Don McNeeley - term does not expire
Publications Committee Chair: James Borland - no stipulated length of term
Nominating Committee Chair: Mark Hassler - term would expire in 2022, but an additional term is allowed

NEAS EDITORS
James Borland, Chair, Sara Fudge, Rodger C. Young, and Eugene Merrill -- Publication Committee

*Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin*
The Executive Officers are recommending Chris McKinney to become the Editor of the NEASB. If the BOD approves the nomination, it is recommended that Chris McKinney completes the term of Sara Fudge (Class of 2020). It is felt that the Editor of the NEASB should be a member of the BOD.

Near East Archaeological Society Newsletter: *Arifax*
Gordon Govier, Editor

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**Tenures for Executive Officers**

**President & Vice President:** three years with possible re-appointment for an additional three years
**Secretary:** five years with possible re-appointment for an additional five years
**Treasurer:** no stipulated length of term due to need for a steady banking account

**Committee Chairs:**
**Program Chair:** no stipulated length of term
**Nominating Committee Chair:** three years with one three year renewal
**Publications Committee Chair:** no stipulated length of term

The Nominating Committee would like to invite your suggestions for eligible Board candidates to be considered for the Near East Archaeological Society in the future. A candidate needs to be a member of the NEAS and willing to sign the Society’s Statement of Faith. If you have a suggestion for a candidate, please send the following information to Mark Hassler.

**Candidate’s Name**
**Address**
e-mail
**Phone number**
**Professional affiliation (vita)**
**Archaeological and/or Academic Experience**

Mark Hassler
m hassler@vbts.edu
**Artifax Report by Clyde Billington**
- Report was presented by Clyde Billington since Gordon Govier, editor of *Artifax*, was absent.
- *Artifax* has approximately 500 subscribers, including about 25 universities. Subscriptions continue to grow.
- Billington requested board members to promote *Artifax* magazine by word of mouth.

**Program Chair Report by Donald McNeeley**
- This year’s program included a full schedule of 27 presentations.
- Next year’s meeting will be held in Providence, RI.
- McNeeley is currently responsible for assembling the NEAS exhibit booth each year, but made an offer to the Board of Directors for volunteers to help with the booth or to take over the responsibility for it.
- NEAS website was discussed.
  - The current cost of the website is $175 per year. To have the website moved and managed by a third-party company would cost approximately $1,000 for the set up and then $25 per page change.
  - Adam Dodd pointed out the value of having a quality website because it is forms people’s first impression of the society. He suggested it was worth the investment because it is available 365 days a year.
  - Issue was further discussed under New Business (see below).

**NEAS Old Business**
- None.

**NEAS New Business**
- Doug Petrovich made motion to purchase new LCD projector for use in future conferences. Estimated price: $1,500. Suzanne Lattimer reported that the society has sufficient funds for such a purchase. Don McNeeley volunteered to purchase.
  - Motion seconded by Gary Byers.
  - Motion passed.
- Clyde Billington encouraged board members to advertise their excavations in *Artifax* magazine by contacting himself or Gordon Govier.
- Scott Stripling suggested providing an honorarium as an incentive to bring in a guest speaker. Clyde Billington and Suzanne Lattimer authorized the use of $500 of the society’s uncommitted funds for an honorarium. Stripling was authorized to reach out and make an offer to potential guest speakers.
- Don McNeeley and Adam Dodd made motion to form a committee to investigate improving the society website and reporting back to the board for suggestions.
  - Motion seconded by Suzanne Lattimer.
  - Motion passed.
Close of Meeting

- President Clyde Billington closed the meeting.
- Closing prayer by Ralph Hawkins.

Minutes by Seth M. Rodriquez, Secretary
Send corrections of minutes to srodriguez@ccu.edu