

# ARO COMMITTEE UPDATES

## International Committee



### 1. Our committee is currently working on the following:

#### a. 2021 Midwinter meeting survey

- i. Q13. Are you an international ARO member? (no/yes) If YES
  - a. What is your opinion of the timing of virtual programming? (1-poor; 2-fair; 3-neutral; 4-good; 5-excellent)
  - b. Did you find barriers to in-person meetings? If YES please specify
- ii. It would be informative to compare answers of the international and non-international members regarding the future of ARO meetings.
- iii. 2020 and 2021 comparison of attendees' geographical origin could be very informative for further planning.

#### b. Scheduling ARO Midwinter meeting and other on line activities

- i. John Brigande proposal to broadcast the entire meeting in different time zones, so that all ARO members could follow it at a comfortable time. A local moderator would be needed and the speakers would be invited to be connected for Q&A at different times. Technically difficult but attractive.
- ii. In the short term, my proposal is that ARO and spARO organize events in the different time zones, counting on local organizers, so that international members stay anchored to ARO between meetings.

### 2. Our top five action items for the previous year were:

- a. The committee has worked this year on the **website**; we are indeed pleased with the result: <https://aro.org/about/aro-international-committee/> and warmly thank Parthenon and Donna Fekete for their help.
- b. Int. Com. has also contributed its **opinion** to several issues raised by the Council, as how to support minorities within ARO.
- c. Int. Com. contributed a Q to the 2020 ARO post-meeting survey. The 2020 Meeting survey indicates that 533 international travellers- attended the meeting, just half the number of domestic attendees (992).  
**International attendees** were mainly from Asia and Europe. To be noted that **none** were coming from Mexico, Central American or African countries, very few from South America. The committee will have to evaluate if attendance from these countries improves in 2021.
- d. Int. Com. raised **awareness** into considering the Asian New Year holiday when scheduling ARO future meetings.  
Int. Com. also raised awareness into considering time zones when planning ARO activities. We are very thankful to Matt Kelley for his hard work to accommodate different time zones.



- e. Int. Com. has worked closely with spARO in defining the **buddy system**, this year it will not be implemented though.

### 3. Outcomes for 2020

- a. Int. Com. Information on **Website**.
- b. 2020 meeting survey information on Int. members' participation and increased **awareness** on specific needs.
- c. Increased **participation** of the international committee in the ARO council.

*I would like for the Committee Liaison to give our committee report to Council on Thursday, January 21, 2021. A full written report is attached*

*I would like to give a brief report to Council on Thursday, January 21, 2021. I understand I will have no more than 5 minutes to address council. A full written report is attached*

**PLEASE RETURN ALL WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS TO ALLY JEVENS AT [AJEVENS@PARTHENONMGMT.COM](mailto:AJEVENS@PARTHENONMGMT.COM)**