

THEORETICAL ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Frankfurt-am-Main 1/4/2012

ATTENDANCE (16, incl.)

**Standing Committee**

- Chair: Darrell Rohl (DR)
- Minutes: Ian J. Marshman (IJM)
- Francis McIntosh (FM)
- William Southwell-Wright (WSW)
- Stefan Krmnicek (SK)

APOLOGIES

Amanda Moore was on excavation in Egypt.

MINUTES

**Thanks**

- DR offered thanks to the TRAC 2012 organising committee for an excellent conference

**TRAC Publishing**

- DR reported the new contract agreed with publishers Oxbow Books that formalises the gentleman's agreement between them and TRAC; they will continue to print *Proceedings* at no costs to ourselves for the agreed period.
- DR explains Oxbow's ideas to move some books onto JSTOR. The membership expressed support for this idea, but DR explained it is in Oxbow's hands.
- DR informed of the Standing Committee's intention to put past issues of *Proceedings* online, with a 'moving wall' to exclude the three most recently published volumes to protect Oxbow's revenues. However, it was also explained that although Oxbow had welcomed this, they had become less keen recently, but he concluded that PDFs will still be given to the Standing Committee so that it also has an archive of papers.
- DR also explained other publishing options for when the Oxbow contract ends, including a move away from the printed book, perhaps including print-on-demand, but at present it is felt a presence in academic libraries gives the papers and TRAC credibility.

**Website**

- DR reported the news of the purchase of domain name [www.trac.org.uk](http://www.trac.org.uk) by the Standing Committee. This will also require a maintenance charge of £8 *per annum*, and in the future there will be fees for hosting as well. The site is currently hosted by TRAC Webmaster Keith Fitzpatrick, at his own expense and DR felt this burden ought to be taken by the Standing Committee. DR suggested that the cost was minimal and would help further the aims of TRAC and bring its work and ideas to a wider, global audience.
- DR demonstrated the website in its current guise, and particularly emphasised how the forum application will help to extend TRAC from an annual conference into an ongoing real-time debate, which could include people not physically able to attend. DR suggested that he hoped Session Organizers would encourage those giving papers to continue debates online.
- DR informed members of TRAC's presence on social networking websites Facebook and Twitter.

**Finances**

-DR stated that the Standing Committee had outgoings £278 since the last AGM in Newcastle in 2011. This had been for the purchase of the domain name and travel by committee members to a meeting in London. DR explained TRAC had additional funds remaining from a profit made by the Newcastle conference, but that this money had not yet reached their account because of difficulties with university administration. DR suggested this future money might be used for bursaries or other purposes.

### **Bid to Host TRAC 2013**

-A presentation was given by Jason Landock on behalf of both the Department of Classics and the Faculty of Digital Humanities at Kings College London, University of London to hold TRAC 2013. He stated that:

- The the Classics Department had a good reputation and a large lively student body including postgraduates
- The Organising Committee will include 4 nationalities, and one member has previously organised TRAC elsewhere.
- The staff involved will be Dr John Pearce (also in attendance in Frankfurt), Dr Will Wootan, Dr Charlotte Tupman.
- The venue would be on in a very central location, at KCL's campus on The Strand, in the capital of the UK within easy reach of many important collections of Roman artefacts and upstanding Roman remains.
- Provisional room bookings already made within the College for Easter 2013.
- The involvement of the Faculty of Digital Humanities will bring web hosting of sessions, this will help create global involvement, and draw in scholars working on digital aspects of archaeology.
- IJM asked what would be done to keep accommodation costs low since London is a very expensive city. JL answered that although Kings College had no free accommodation at Easter, it hoped that the University of London might be able to provide some, or other options such as block booking with a reduced rate at a budget hotel chain.

### **Vote**

-The bid was welcomed with a unanimous 'Yes' vote by all 14 TRAC members (the bidding delegation abstained).

### **Any Other Business**

- Anonymous Member: "Who is on the Standing Committee". DR replied and stated that full details and the constitution were available on the website.
- FM "does TRAC have a logo?" DR answered that he has produced one without graphics, but there was scope for one, especially with the new website. IJM suggested a competition would help participation and lead to some interesting results.
- IJM "could the Standing Committee have data on conference attendance, e.g. how many people from different countries, universities". SK answered that he would try to get some from David Wigg-Wolf, the organiser of the Roman Archaeology Conference.

### **Close**

-The AGM was closed by DL