

TRAC 2015 AGM

Saturday 28th March, Leicester

1.20pm

1. Introduction by *Darrell Rohl*

The new TRAC logo was met with general approval and is to be used from now on.

General thanks to people attending the AGM.

Very full agenda for this AGM.

2. Summary of the minutes of the previous AGM by *Alexandra Guglielmi*

Brief summary (mistake on the number of visitors to the TRAC website in 2014).

3. Matters arising or updates

Nothing

4. Finances by *Lisa Lodwick*

Last year's balance after TRAC 2014 : £1031.12

- Incomings

+ £200 (Uncollected money from bursaries last year that were forwarded to bursaries for this year)

- Outgoings

£70.15 (travel expenses to negotiate new TRAC publication series)

£975 (cash for bursaries, given to local committee for TRAC 2015)

- Current balance is £185.97

- Expected income:

+ £975 Bursary reimbursement

£5 per delegate registration at TRAC 2015 (ca. £900)

- New balance should be slightly above £2000

How can we keep a regular income?

What should be our spending priorities?

Discussion about money which should be obtained from the Roman Society? (John Creighton)

Darrell stressed the need for the conference to generate extra income for successive TRACs, any profit from the conference should go to TRAC. (This did not happen at TRAC 2013 in London.)

For TRAC25, the £5 per delegate profit was agreed with Leicester informally (no paperwork was signed). This should be included in a written agreement with whoever who wants to host the conference in future times.

Lisa Lodwick points out the need for the TRAC committee to get some legal advice on financial matters.

John Creighton gave further advice on financial side of conference organisation from his own experience of organising a number of them.

A member in the audience suggests using advertising and donations.

Sergio Gonzalez stresses the need to have a signed agreement to keep the £5 per delegate going.

Lisa Lodwick concludes by saying she will discuss further with John Creighton.

5. TRAC website by *Darrell Rohl*

Problems of access were experienced during a period of several months. This turned out to be due to the TRAC community, victim of spam and service attacks/hacks. So it was removed after Christmas. We had to admit that the forum was not being used enough but we want to reinstitute this (a community) in the future and we need to think about how we are going to do this and what technology we are going to use.

We need to commit to provide some regular updates, something which is mainly the duty of the standing committee to keep it going: how? Monthly blog posts? How can we keep the TRAC website lively and fresh. Contributors from the wider TRAC community? Guest bloggers? The TRAC standing committee needs to be active.

- 33 000+ page views over the past 12 months, 7000 visitors,
- 3244 Open Access *Proceedings* downloads since the last conference

Richard Hingley asks how they, as lecturers, should advertise the presence of the OA *Proceedings*

Darrell Rohl explains that there is a problem with the current hosting of the papers as PDF (on Dropbox), they are not referenced in Google. This needs to be changed and updated.

John Creighton stresses the need to have the papers visible online, need to have them referenced on important platforms. Need to increase visibility.

Daan van Helden asks whether increased access would affect the access to the website like the previous hacking attacks. Darrell Rohl answers that it should be fine.

6. Advisory Panel by *Darrell Rohl*

Now a large list of members. (13 members so far)

1 invitee declined and 1 still awaiting response.

We want to keep it relatively small, ca. 15 and want to keep a good gender balanced. We would like to have a better international representation, atm it is made up of mostly UK and US scholars.

7. TRAC publications

- TRAC 2014 *Proceedings* now out. New cover design
- New TRAC series, *TRAC Themes in Roman Archaeology*

- Darrell as series editors
- “Romans and Barbarians beyond the frontier” in the final states
- TRAC *Digital Editions* – appearing this summer!
 - Richard Hingley’s *Rural Settlements in Roman Britain* as the first volume
 - In talk with Richard Reece to have *My Roman Britain* as the next volume
 - Contributions are eagerly solicited

8. TRAC 2016 proposals

Rome Italy, March 16th – 19th. Sapienza, Università di Roma

Hosted jointly with RAC.

5 main members of the organising committee + ca. 20-30 volunteer helpers on the ground (students)

Conference to be held at La Sapienza, right in the centre of Rome. It is very central and near to the main city museums and archaeological sites. TRAC will have the whole ground floor of the faculty, with the *Museum del Gesso* (plaster casts museum). Seating space for ca. 500.

Wireless internet to be available.

Special non academic events to be included as part of the conference. A range of possible visits to sites such as Ostia, Herculaneum, Domus Aurea.

Support to be sought for bursaries.

Unanimously voted as the place for TRAC 2016.

9. Outgoing committee member

Tom Brindle. For TRAC 2014.

10. Other businesses?

- Andrew Gardner asking about TRAC spin offs events and procedure to set them up.

Darrell says to get in touch with the TRAC standing committee. Darrell shows the TRAC Organiser’s handbook for people who want to host TRAC and spinoffs. It is up to date and ready to be used and to be handed down to the successive committees over the coming years. There is a real need for the local committee to work with the standing committee. The event needs to contribute to the aims of TRAC as an organisation, not just a conference (see aims as presented in the handbook).

- Anyone who wants to help as a website coordinators?

The AGM was concluded at 13.55pm.