



THE SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Membership Report 2010

Michael Gregg

Current membership of the Society for Archaeological Sciences is 244. 74% of our members are from North America, 14% are from Europe, with the balance widely dispersed in other regions of the world. Thirteen of our memberships are institutional subscriptions. A breakdown of our membership by country is attached. 40 members are classified as students on our current membership list. However, this number may be misleading because there is currently no means for members to access and update their SAS profiles or email addresses.

Attracting and keeping new members

Our membership numbers are flagging despite growing interest among archaeologists in using new methods from physics, chemistry and the natural sciences in helping them resolve archaeological questions, and marked increases in the number of journals, journal pages and symposium sessions with themes in archaeological science.

I believe growth in membership is most likely to come from two groups: North American archaeologists already predisposed to using scientific methods in their work, and archaeometrists from Europe who are interested in finding out about what may be happening in other regions of the world in their area of specialization. In order to attract members from these two groups, the SAS needs to position itself as an organization that will keep both archaeologists and archaeologists up-to-date on the latest methodological innovations in the field whatever their specific area of interest.

With these thoughts in mind, a new logo and letterforms were created for use in communicating with current and potential members. These were presented to the SAS executive committee of for approval either through email or discussion at our informal meeting held in conjunction with the SAS meetings in St. Louis. The new logo has now been adopted and incorporated into membership flyers for the SAS meetings and the International Symposium on Archaeometry in Tampa. Destiny Crider and Jay VanderVeen will be incorporate the logo into the SAS website and the SAS Bulletin in the near future.

I recommend that we undertake the following short-term measures to attract and retain members:

1. Send out an email to as many North American archaeologists and European archaeometrists as addresses we can muster outlining the benefits of SAS membership; If we are agreed, I would recruit an undergraduate volunteer to harvest email addresses, write the email and manage the email list.

2. Send an email to existing members and write a short article in an upcoming edition of the SAS Bulletin asking members to recruit colleagues;
3. Make a PDF of membership flyer available through our website;
4. Develop the means for members to access and update their SAS profiles or email addresses online themselves, rather than by a member of the executive committee.

I am sorry I am unable to join the business meeting at the ISA in Tampa. However, in my absence I hope there will be some discussion on longer-term initiatives or alliances that will raise the profile of SAS in the archaeological community in North America and the archaeometric community in Europe.

MWG 06.05.10

Membership by region and country

North America

United States	168
Canada	16
Mexico	2

South America

Argentina	1
Chile	2

Europe

Belgium	2
Britain	8
Denmark	4
France	2
Germany	8
Greece	3
Italy	2
Netherlands	1
Portugal	1
Slovenia	1
Spain	2
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1

Asia

Japan	3
China	2
Thailand	1

Africa

South Africa	2
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Middle East

Israel	1
Turkey	1

Antipodea

New Zealand	4
Australia	2