

## The Society for Archaeological Sciences (SAS) President-Elect Report

Prepared May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for the SAS Annual General Meeting Andrew Zipkin (andrew.zipkin@asu.edu)



Reporting period: May 2024 – May 2025

- Zipkin's primary duty was studying options for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SAS in 2027.
  - Conducted a survey of the SAS general membership in Q1 of 2025, with partial results presented in this report and full results available upon request.
  - Reached out to the incoming Society for American Archaeology President Christopher Dore about possible activities at the 2027 SAA annual meeting, in cooperation with SAS Inter-Organization Delegate to the SAA Sandra López Varela. Dore's response was very encouraging; planning is in early stages but one likely feature will be using the president's opening plenary session for a theme like "Celebrating Archaeological Science: Fifty Years of the SAS".
  - Ocontacted International Symposium on Archaeometry Standing Committee Chair Patrick Degryse and ISA 2026 Local Organizing Committee member Monica Gulmini about possible celebrations at that meeting. SAS Editor for Archaeometry Brandi Lee Macdonald is also in touch with both individuals about a special issue of Archaeometry related to both ISA 2026 and the anniversary.
  - O Sandra López Varela is developing a new book building on the Encyclopedia of Archaeological Sciences. While not specifically related to the anniversary, she is aiming for publication in 2027 and the new work will likely be endorsed by SAS and possibly offered at a discount to members. At time of reporting, Zipkin is seeking reviewers to consider the book proposal that Sandra sent to Wiley.
- Extracts from the results of the SAS Golden Jubilee/50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Survey:
  - o 41 responses were obtained; 73% were unaware of the anniversary prior to receiving the survey but 98% were in favor of special celebratory activities.
  - o 50% want the Executive Board to raise money from corporate sponsors to cover any expenses incurred and 32.5% would be willing to pay a registration fee to cover expenses for activities if they are offered at-cost to SAS members.
  - 85% want an organized panel discussion about the history and future of the
     archaeological sciences at a 2026 and/or 2027 conference, 67.5% want a special
     issue in Archaeometry or the Journal of Archaeological Science commemorating
     50 years of SAS, 60% want conference workshops organized by SAS, 42.5%
     want a cocktail and appetizer reception at the conference venue open to anyone.
- Lastly, Zipkin is looking into the possibility of SAS obtaining Commercial General Liability and Directors & Officers insurance from the Nonprofits Insurance Alliance or another insurer. Risk to the SAS is low due to the predominantly virtual activities of the society. However, the upcoming SAS anniversary activities may present scenarios where insurance coverage is warranted. No decision had been reached at the time of reporting.