FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 11/17/14

Arlene Press
American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)
857-272-2506
ASORMeet@bu.edu

SYRIAN HERITAGE INITIATIVE SYMPOSIUM
Non-profit and Department of State to Host Symposium on Syrian Cultural Heritage

San Diego, CA: On Sunday, November 23, at 12:15 pm, the American Schools of Oriental Research, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of State, will host a public symposium on the Syrian Heritage Initiative (see www.asor-syrianheritage.org).

The Symposium will include two sessions that are open to the general public. The Luncheon will feature a keynote presentation on looting in the region, particularly as it relates to the Islamic State. The afternoon session will feature presentations by principal team members and will introduce the major aspects of the Syrian Heritage Initiative:

- ASOR Board Chair, B. W. Ruffner, presiding
- Abdal-Razzaq Moaz, "The Importance of the Syrian Heritage Initiative"
- Michael Danti, "A View From the Ground: Cultural Heritage Communications and Weekly Reports"
- Jesse Casana, "A View From Above: Satellite Remote Sensing"
- Scott Branting, "A View From Above: Mapping and Geospatial Integration"
- LeeAnn Barnes Gordon, "A View Forward: Preservation and Risk Management"
- Brief Reports From Other Projects
- Panel Discussion

The goals of the Symposium are to raise awareness about the challenges facing the preservation of Syrian cultural heritage and to provide a forum where heritage specialists and the public can engage in discussions about ASOR’s Syrian Heritage Initiative.

About ASOR: Founded in 1900 and currently located at Boston University, ASOR (www.asor.org) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the archaeology of the Near East. ASOR’s mission is to initiate, encourage and support research into, and public understanding of, the culture and history of the Near East from the earliest times.

###