



THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ

(Gertrude Bell Memorial)

10 Carlton House Terrace
London SW1Y 5AH, United Kingdom

Dear BISI Members,

January 30, 2012

Further to my letter of 19 December requesting nominations for the BISI Council elections, which included the notice of our Annual General Meeting, I am herewith providing details of the seven nominations for the six places on Council, including the current members who have agreed to be re-nominated.

The following BISI Council members will be stepping down from Council on 23 February, 2012:

Professor Roger Matthews (BISI Chairman)
Professor Andrew George (Co-editor of the journal *Iraq*)
Dr Jon Taylor

Three current Council Members have agreed to be re-nominated for Council in accordance with Article §5.3 of our Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Dr Paul Collins
Dr Harriet Martin
Dr Glen Rangwala

The following additional BISI members have been nominated:

Dr Mark Altaweel
Mr Edward Chaplin
Dr Augusta McMahon
Dr Magnus Widell

Biographical details for all seven candidates are enclosed.

All members whose membership subscriptions are fully paid up are eligible to vote. If you require a postal ballot you will be able to download a link on the governance page of the BISI website (www.bisi.ac.uk) or request a form by email or in writing. When you send in your vote, please include your name on a cover note or with your return address on the envelope so that we can verify your membership status. Please do not write your name on the ballot paper itself. We can also accept PDF attachments via email. All replies need to reach the Institute by 22 February 2012 at the latest.

We are delighted to announce that Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA has agreed to be nominated by Council as the next President of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq and in accordance with §3 of the Articles of Association, members will be called on to elect him to be President at the 78th Annual General Meeting.

Following the AGM, we will be holding an *in memoriam*: Rachel Maxwell-Hyslop FBA, the last BSAI President (2004-2007). Professor Roger Matthews will deliver a lecture entitled 'For Posterity: Hoards and Hoarding in the Ancient Near East'. We expect this lecture will be oversubscribed and ask our members to reply as soon as possible for a ticket as they will be required for attendance. We will also maintain a waiting list if necessary, so kindly let me know via email or telephone, if you are unable to attend at the last minute and have already received a ticket.

The 2010-2011 Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute are enclosed. It has been a very active period for the BISI and we look forward to continuing the work of the Institute with the support of our members and friends and with the continued invaluable assistance of the British Academy. We have just had our 80th birthday (14th of January) and we look forward to pursuing BISI's remit to promote, support and undertake research in and on Iraq for many years to come.

On behalf of all the members and our Council, I wish to thank Professor Matthews for the many years he has devoted to the BISI/BSAI. We look forward to hearing about his new ventures in Iraq and know we shall stay in close contact with him. Dr Eleanor Robson will succeed Professor Matthews as the next BISI Chairman and Professor Charles Tripp will become the BISI Vice Chairman. We also look forward to working with the new Council members over the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Porter MacIver