



ASSOCIATION  
OF OLD CROWS



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# May 2025 - AOC Foundation Community Education Committee Report

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Committee Members:

- Larry Rzepka

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## Topics:

- Developing relationships throughout the academic EW and historical communities to exchange information & recognition opportunities;
- Development of an AOC Foundation Research Prize to include an evaluation board;
- Establishing an administrative process and identification of potential funding for current & new projects;

# Developing Relationships

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Discussions on outreach to science & academic organizations were had and it was agreed that the first two we target because of prior contacts were the Society for Science and the National Science Teachers Association; both have yielded positive results, and we are currently developing a working relationship with them.

The Princeton Museum of Innovation and Leadership have initiated talks with us to discuss a potential arrangement to showcase some historical EW artifacts and museum pieces at the new museum they are developing. We must first locate where some of our past museum pieces are currently being stored or showcased. Perhaps work with the Association's historical committee. We would also like to identify three museums to potentially support.

Need to develop a recruiting strategy to get more members involved on this committee – especially university professors and major industry-related corporate representatives.

# AOC Foundation Research Prize

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If the Community Education Committee is to work on our outreach to a variety of education communities to promote the EW and spectrum of operations career fields, we feel it is a necessity to develop an annual research prize of some sort recognizing academic/scientific research in this discipline. Not a scholarship...not a grant...a research prize.

First steps would be to form an ad hoc committee of external stakeholders and experts to help organize and establish the parameters of the research prize as well as the administrative process needed for a prize call, award evaluation and presentation & recognition.

In addition, internally we must decide how we pick and invite members to serve on an evaluation board to review all recommendations/entries for the annual award. A definite cross section of academicians, researchers, professionals, & defense professionals will need to be represented.

# Funding/Partnership Prospects

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Identification of major donors, whether corporate, individual or foundation, will be contingent on the establishment of the funding priorities for the Foundation. As will be the discovery of exactly what historical or museum-ready artifacts the AOC might have in their possession.

It will be imperative that we first develop working partnerships with like-minded organizations to increase the visibility of the Committee and Foundation until we can develop a steady funding source for our projects. The larger our network...the larger our pool of potential donor prospects.

Sponsorships of museum exhibits would most likely come from a corporate source and the development of a research prize would best be done with a variety of funding prospects to avoid the potential of a major donor wanting to “name” the prize after their company. But that has not been determined yet.