SAA Business Archives Section (BAS) Annual Business Meeting Minutes 29 August 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:03am by Tony Jahn (Target), Section Chair. Approximately 70 members were in attendance. A sign-up sheet with last year's attendees was passed around the room, allowing for simple check-mark and information update for previous attendees.

Dean Weber (Ford Motor), Section Vice-Chair then recapped the colloquium and thanked all the speakers. He also requested ideas for subject and formats for next year's event, noting that next year's SAA Annual Meeting theme would be sustainability.

Carla Summers, previous BAS liaison from the SAA Council, introduced Rosalye Settles as our new council liaison. Tony additionally encouraged members to direct feedback to the Council, and also pointed out that the Council now has a blog.

Starting at 9:13 all attendees around the room then introduced themselves.

At 9:25, Amy Stevenson, Section Secretary, announced the results of the online elections:

Scott Pitol (Pampered Chef) – Vice-Chair Shawn San Roman (Credit Union National Association) – Vice-Editor Susan Watson (Kraft) – Secretary Megan Moholt (Weyerhauser) – Member-at-Large

The by-laws were then formally suspended for the duration of the meeting to allow for the onlineonly election format. Approval for the entire slate was moved, seconded and approved by verbal vote at 9:27. Feedback was solicited on the online election process, and was generally favorable. Members were reminded to check their online profiles to make sure they receive BAS communications, including the online ballot.

At 9:30, the topic turned to the International Benchmarking Survey, which had 68 respondents so far. Tony exhorted members who hadn't yet filled it out to do so. Becky Tousey (Kraft) will be working with the International Council on Archives (ICA) to get additional translations for the survey to provide a wider net. Scott Pitol suggested we all pass it on to others that may not be on our e-mail lists. A message to please forward the survey will be added to the text online.

The next topic up for discussion (9:39) was the possibility of starting up an advanced version of the Business Archives Workshop educational opportunity through SAA. Elizabeth Adkins (Ford Motor) and Phil Mooney (The Coca-Cola Company) currently teach the basic course. Looking for volunteers to perhaps provide this advanced section. Ideas about format were offered, including case studies, the possibilities of providing different main focus topics each year to delve into, etc. Send ideas and volunteer offers to Elizabeth and Phil.

At 10:04 Dr. Hans Eyvind Naess (ICA) gave an update on their activities. The recent World Congress (held every four years) had 1300 attendees. There have been some changes in ICA leadership, including a new president (elected democratically). The next World Congress will be in Brisbane in 2012. Annual meetings will be in Finland in 2009 and Norway in 2010.

A program committee update from Bill Caughlin (AT&T) commenced at 10:14. Conference program proposals need to go to saa2009@archivists.org by October 8. Sections may endorse 2 proposals.

Scot Grimwood (SSM Healthcare) also made a pitch for submissions to the MAC conference by Dec 12th. MAC will be in St. Louis in April.

Beginning at 10:26, Tony & Dean gave an update on the SAA Leadership meeting and a discussion on council transparency, as well as how BAS can support the diversity initiative in an time when new-hires will be scarce. Ideas included reaching out to diverse employee groups within our businesses. There was also some concern about how the statement being worked on about social justice for SAA will affect/mesh with the section. Mark Greene recognizes that the language will need to be something we can all embrace, whether we are working for for-profit companies or not.

Discussion then moved to general ideas for the BAS section and a call for ideas. The primary topic here was inclusiveness and making sure all with interest in business archives would be included.

A motion was made to close the meeting which was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.