

Society of American Archivists
Beyond Borders: San Diego 2012

Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable Business Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2012, 3:15 – 5:15 PM
San Diego Hilton Bayfront – Aqua 306A

Submitted by Steven D. Booth

I. **Welcome**

Courtney Chartier (outgoing senior co-chair) called the meeting to order. She introduced herself, Steven D. Booth (incoming senior co-chair), Rabia Gibbs (newsletter editor), Eugenia Kim (webmistress) was not present, Harrison Inefuku (social media intern), and Susan Gehr (social media intern). A total of 61 members attended the meeting.

II. **Announcements**

- A. **Election Results:** Chartier announced that AAC held its first online election. Considering the cost of travel to attend the annual meeting it allowed all members of the roundtable to vote. She introduced incoming junior co-chair, Derek Mosley (not present at the time of introductions), incoming newsletter editor, Stacie Williams (not present at annual meeting), and incoming webmaster, Harrison Inefuku.
- B. **Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award:** Kapena Shim, a graduate student enrolled in the Library and Information Science program at the University of Hawaii – Manoa, was presented as the 2012 Pinkett Award recipient. Shim was introduced to the roundtable and congratulated for his achievements. Donations were solicited from the membership. A total of \$302.25 was collected for next year's winners. Chartier announced that there was an increase in applicants from 5 (2011) to 23 (2012).
- C. **Mosaic Scholarship:** Aditi Worcester, a graduate student enrolled in the Master of Science in Information Studies program at the University of Texas, was presented as the 2012 Mosaic Scholarship recipient. She was introduced by committee member Cheryl Beredo. The subcommittee received 24 applications.

Chartier mentioned the Awards Committee's decision to discontinue the traditional awards ceremony by presenting the awards throughout the annual conference. Recipients of student awards and scholarships were acknowledged during the All-Attendee Reception.

III. **SAA Council Report**

Deborra Richardson (outgoing Council liaison) reported on Council Meeting highlights:

- A. Introduced Michelle Light (University of California, Irvine) as the new AAC Council Liaison.
- B. Council approved revision to the Pinkett Award "Application Requirements."
- C. Diversity Committee award has been revised to fund two recipients.

- D. SAA President Jackie Dooley started a blog "[Off the Record](#)" to address membership concerns.
- E. Starting in 2014, the cycle for the current [strategic priorities](#) will end. Discussions are set to being in January 2013 to set new strategic priorities. The opportunity to comment and submit ideas will be announced at a later date.
- F. The Annual Meeting Task Force report has been submitted to Council.
- G. Information regarding Council members is available on the website.
- H. The Leadership Resources section on the website will offer information regarding the steps one should take as a SAA leader.

IV. Voting on By-Laws

The by-laws for the roundtable were reviewed and voted on, in accordance with the following mandate: At the June 2012 meeting, Council adopted several changes in the policies and procedures governing SAA sections and roundtables, including the following (SAA Governance Manual, X.V.D.): *Roundtables may operate as formally or informally as suits their needs. At minimum, however, they must adopt bylaws. (Roundtables approved by the Council after January 2012 must adopt bylaws within a year of their first official meeting. Roundtables approved by the Council prior to January 2012 must adopt bylaws by August 31, 2013.)*

Chartier drafted the by-laws and distributed to the membership via listserv for comments, questions, or desired changes. A grammar change and the addition of *Pacific Islanders* to the mission statement were suggested by AAC members before the annual meeting.

Those present voted unanimously to pass the by-laws with the suggested changes.

V. Diversity Committee Report

Michelle Gachette (Diversity Committee Member, LACCHA Representative) reported on Diversity Committee highlights:

- A. **Mosaic Program:** SAA partnered with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) to submit a grant application for funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which would allow SAA to expand the Mosaic Scholarship. The proposed deadline was September 15, 2012. Progress is being made towards the Mosaic Scholarship being a comprehensive program that would include recruitment and retention, mentoring, a symposium, and internships. All previously established student awards and scholarships would fall under this program as well.
- B. **Diversity Award:** Council approved the establishment of a Diversity Award in 2012. The Diversity Committee was charged with developing this award and it is now a part of the SAA awards and scholarships programs. Two awards may be granted, instead of one.
- C. **Diversify the Archival Record:** Council asked the Diversity Committee to work on SAA's Strategic Priority #2: Diversity, Desired Outcome #2: *Identify and promote existing models and develop new methods for assisting archives and archivists to diversify the documentary record within their repositories and to promote archives to diverse communities.*

VI. Senior Co-Co Report

- A. **Call for website materials:** Chartier requested that the members submit photographs from their collections, or of themselves and other AACR members, for the ongoing “refresh” of the website.
- B. **Social media interns:** At the suggestion of Incoming Senior Co-Chair Steven Booth, AACR successfully recruited two social media interns: Susan Gehr and Harrison Inefuku. These interns were responsible for updating the Roundtable’s Twitter feed and Facebook page.
- C. **Center for Black Music Research petition:** Thanks to former AACR Co-Chair Tamar Evangelista-Dougherty, it was brought to the attention of the Roundtable that the Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College was in danger of closing. The Co-Chairs developed a letter template for members to send to Columbia College, and share with concerned friends, and member Jamillah R. Gabriel volunteered to create a Change.org petition against the closing. The Roundtable was joined by the Theatre Library Association in sponsoring the petition.
- D. **Membership Directory update:** Incoming Senior Co-Chair Steven Booth started a much-needed update of the AACR membership directory. This new version will include social media contact for members, and is an “opt in” for members.
- E. **Summer Reading Club:** Also at the suggestion of Booth, the Roundtable launched a “Summer Reading Club.” As of the meeting, the group was on their second title “Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea” by Barbara Denick. The first book was “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” by Rebecca Skloot.
- F. **Diversity speaker bank:** Another project of the Roundtable was a “Diversity Speaker Bank.” Chartier and Booth created and distributed a survey of student groups, to gauge the interest and need for speakers on professional diversity topics. The results of the survey were that the desire for more diverse speakers is very high. Chartier put out a call for volunteers, who would be matched to student groups by region. No volunteers were received.
- G. **Session endorsements:** Chartier announced the session endorsed by AACR that was included on the program: “Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) Creating Diverse & Collaborative Community Archival Methods.” Another session endorsed by AACR, “Building Collections through Collaboration: A Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora” was not accepted, but presented as a portion of the meeting. She then announced those members who are presenting posters and participating on session panels.
- H. **Emerging Leader Award:** The Roundtable officers drafted and submitted a nomination for Samip Mallick, Director of the Ranganathan Center for Digital Information (RCDI) at the University of Chicago Library to receive SAA’s new Emerging Leader Award.

VII. General Announcements

The Annual Meeting Taskforce stressed the desire of SAA for prospective proposals and presentations to create innovative topics and to utilize new formats (e.g. lightning talks).

A representative from the Mentoring Program solicited volunteers to mentor graduate students. At the time of the annual meeting 15 persons expressed interest in being mentored, however, only two professionals had volunteered.

Susan Gehr announced the AAC Twitter handle.

Florante Ibanez announced the upcoming Joint Conference of Librarians of Color conference in Kansas City.

Dr. Kelvin White from University of Oklahoma announced that the Archival Education and Research Institute received an additional four years of funding to support a second phase. He suggested if anyone was interested in pursuing a doctoral degree in archival science to apply for the program.

Julianne Richardson from the HistoryMakers presented the 2012-2013 IMLS Fellows: Amanda Carter, Alex Champion, Skyla Hearn, Cynthia Lovett, Chaitra Powell and Ardra Whitney.

Michelle Gachette invited AAC members to attend the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Heritage Archives Roundtable meeting, immediately following.

Andrea Jackson from the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center announced the Tupac Shakur Collection conference held on September 28-29, 2012. Chartier recognized Jarrett Drake from the University of Michigan as a presenter.

The International Council on Archives asked for support to promote the Universal Declaration on Archives, which was adopted by the 36th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO.

Karen L. Jefferson, the records manager at the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center, has been named a Presidential Appointee to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission by President Barack Obama.

VIII. Open Discussion

Cynthia Patterson Lewis (The King Center), Rebecca Hankins (Texas A&M University) and others expressed concern that one person received the Pinkett Award this year considering the number of applicants, and the unwritten tradition of awarding two graduate students of color. Lewis mentioned that previous co-chairs and the roundtable had made efforts to ensure there would be two recipients. Booth acknowledged the concerns and stated that this information had not been passed down and was not written in the award description or guidelines. Chartier intervened and volunteered to work with Michelle Light and Deborra Richardson to research, clarify and edit the award language regarding this issue.

Booth announced his plans to do a research project on the roundtable's history and stated he had received records about AAC from the SAA archives at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Wilda Logan (National Archives and Records Administration) made known that AAC records are housed at Howard University. Booth acknowledged he was unaware of AAC materials being housed at two separate repositories. He was recommended to contact Dr. Clifford Muse at Moorland-Spingarn Research Center.

IX. Book Signing

Deborra Richardson from the Smithsonian National Museum of American History Archives signed copies of her new children's book *Treasures at the Museum*, which was released in September 2011.

X. Panel

Yolanda Cooper (University of Miami Libraries), Jameatris Johnson (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and Beatrice Skokan (University of Miami Libraries) presented "Building Collections through Collaboration: A Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora."

The panel focused on the development and outreach efforts of the Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora, which is a free online resource hosted by the University of Miami Libraries for scholars seeking manuscripts and other original cultural materials related to South Florida's historically black communities, with special emphasis on African American and Caribbean collections.

XI. Program Committee

Derek Mosley announced session proposals for 2013 are due October 5, 2012. The annual meeting will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana from August 11th to 17th in partnership with the Council of State Archivists. There is no conference theme so all topics are welcomed.