Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
January 23 – 26, 2014
Chicago, Illinois

Annual Report: Intellectual Property Working Group
(Prepared by Chair Heather Briston)

Submitted September 19, 2013

Officers:

• Heather Briston (Chair) Ends August 2013
• Aprille McKay (Vice Chair) Starts August 2013

Report from Annual Meeting:

Number of attendees: 9 members, our SAA Council liaison, and two guests
Election results: Aprille McKay became the Chair of the Working Group at the close of the meeting.

Summary of meeting activities:

• Session ideas for Washington DC 2014.
• Discussion regarding a draft of a “Copyright for Researchers” document.
• Discussion regarding the upcoming World Intellectual Property Organization Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights meetings (SCCR 26 and 27) and the importance of having SAA representation at the meetings to represent archives, along with the International Council on Archives, in discussions about the Library and Archives Exceptions document.
• Discussion regarding seeking funding to send a representative to SCCR 26 and 27.
• Discussion of a proposal to work with the Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy to develop advocacy white papers on specific copyright issues. Project teams to do the writing were formed.
• Legal and legislative developments to monitor: Section 108 and Orphan Works legislation; Fall 2014 DMCA process begins again; Trans-Pacific Partnership discussions; and federalizing of pre-1972 sound recordings.

Completed Projects/Activities:

• Three virtual meetings during this year using Google+ Hangout.
• Recruited a new member, Eric Harbeson, to the Working Group in January 2013.

• SAA 2013 Annual Meeting session proposals
  o Endorsed two sessions – intellectual property update and “Unpublished/Published: The Copyright Status of Archival Documents.”

• Resubmitted the application for Permanent NGO Observer status to WIPO after it was left off of the agenda at the October 2012 General Assembly. Currently pending approval at the October 2013 WIPO General Assembly. [Subsequently approved.]

• Prepared comments for the SAA Council for a response to the Copyright Office call for comments regarding orphan works. http://www2.archivists.org/news/2013/saa-submits-orphan-works-comments-to-copyright-office

Ongoing Projects/Activities:

• Completing the “Copyright for Researchers” document.
• SAA representation at WIPO SCCR by an IPWG member. Putting together funding requests. [Subsequently funded by the Council.]

New Projects/Activities:

• Session ideas for 2014 Joint Annual Meeting.
• Research and writing position papers to have available for any SCCR participation.
• In collaboration with CAPP, SAA advocacy issue briefs on Section 108 and Orphan Works.
  o Section 108 position paper participants – Mark Greene, Peter Hirtle, Bill Maher (all of IPWG), and Mary Ann Hamblen (CAPP)
  o Orphan works position paper participants – Mark Greene, Jean Dryden (both of IPWG), and Mary Ann Hamblen (CAPP)

Strategic Priority / Technology Initiatives: No project in this area over the past year.

Strategic Priority / Diversity Initiatives: No project in this area over the past year

Strategic Priority / Advocacy/Public Awareness Initiatives: Prepared comments for the SAA Council for a response to the Copyright Office call for comments regarding orphan works. Began drafting a “Copyright for Researchers” pamphlet.

Questions/Concerns for Council Attention: Pursuit of funding for IPWG representative at WIPO SCCR meetings.