

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
February 11-12, 2025
Virtual**

**CEO Report
(Prepared by Jacqueline Price Osafo, MBA, CAE,
Chief Executive Officer)**

Annual Meeting

1. For the 2025 Annual Meeting, the Society received 186 proposals for sessions and 41 proposals for poster sessions. This is compared to 147 proposals and 23 poster session received in 2024.
2. During the November meeting, the Council was informed of discussion for the 2026 Annual Meeting to be held in New Orleans. The contract for this meeting was signed December 31, 2024. The original contract requested a \$180,000 deposit to be collected in 2025. After negotiations, the deposit was removed from the contract. Lastly, the Society will receive \$15,000 vs. \$10,000 credit for this meeting.
3. Based on discussions with SAA's consultant and other meeting planners, the hotel is requiring deposits before the meeting. While negotiations will be attempted, the Society has to plan to budget for these deposits while budgeting for the current meeting. This could potentially be a financially challenging position for the Society.

Anonymity

1. Staff investigated the option to allow speakers to submit proposals "on behalf of" for the 2025 meeting; unfortunately, because presentations had been submitted and the company that supports the portal found it challenging to add this option in the middle, it was not feasible to offer this option.
2. Staff will work with to offer this option for the 2026 meeting. This process will also involve legal's perspective as the SAA's liability must be considered as well as potential speakers.
3. Society is currently in discussion with legal regarding attestation of truthfulness and honesty with respect to Speaker's contracts.

Advocacy

1. The National Coalition of History (NCH) dissolved as of December 31, 2025. A refund of the remaining dues payment is forthcoming.
2. The Council approved interim action for the Society to join the National Humanities Alliances.

Grants

1. CORDA Research Convene – The CEO and Chief Operating Officer has and continues to participate in the organizing and development of the May 2025 Convene. Given SAA's participation at the beginning stages of the grant application process, it is anticipated that there will not be any hiccups/challenges. Thus far, this model has proven to be successful and will be used moving forward.
2. IAT - Staff are in the process of scheduling a meeting with the group to discuss the process of applying for a Mellon grant.
3. iMLS – Staff attended a meeting with librarians and museums organizations to form alliance to support iMLS as the federal government threatens to “shut down” organizations providing federal grants. Based on the audience and need, staff are requesting that a member with policy expertise attend these meetings as well.

SAA Staff

1. SAA's organizational flow chart can be found on the discussion board.
2. At the beginning of the year, Julia was promoted to Marketing & Communication Specialist to Communications Manager, Carlos's title is now Operations Manager. While supporting membership, Carlos will utilize his technology and system expertise to support SAA.
3. SAA is in the process of searching for Membership Marketing Manager. This position appears in the current budget. As the Society's needs shift and the environment changes, the Leadership Team will continue to monitor and evaluate roles and responsibilities.