

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
May 28 - 30, 2015
Chicago, Illinois**

**Vice President's Report
(Prepared by Dennis Meissner)**

Since the November 2014 Council meeting, my work as Vice President has fallen into a few principal areas areas:

- **IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries Planning Grant Application.** Council decided in November to submit a preliminary proposal for a planning grant to identify, and develop a plan to acquire and manage, data that will support a value proposition for archives. I spent a good deal of time in December and January drafting a narrative proposal, which Nancy edited into its final form, following which Peter made the Grants.gov submission in mid-January. I also recruited a principal investigator (Mark Greene) and a core project team of five other archivists.

We received a favorable review in late April and were invited to submit a full application with a June 1 deadline. Unfortunately, as the team was organizing itself to research and draft the application materials, Mark suffered health and related misfortunes that made it impossible for him to drive the application project along. His absence created a hole that could not be filled in the two weeks that remained, and Nancy, Kathleen, and I made a decision to pull back from this funding cycle and pursue the next one, which is about six months away. That will give us time to regroup the personnel, address the few reviewer criticisms, and give more thought to our plan of work.

- **Appointments.** Since the Appointments Committee, chaired by Terry Baxter, finished its work on April 30, I have been tucking into the work of contacting and recruiting members for all of the open positions on SAA's boards, committees, subcommittees and working groups. As of May 20 I have filled 52 out of about 80 positions. I expect to have nearly all of the rest filled by the time Council meets.
- **Council Working Group on Diversity.** At its November meeting, Council constituted a small working group--Helen Wong Smith, Michelle Light, Dennis Meissner (chair)--to study SAA's diversity efforts, to make broad recommendations for defining an agenda moving it forward, and to identify

specific SAA groups to carry out future work. Although we had a conference call in February that started to frame out work, I have not provided effective leadership of the group since then and things have not moved forward. Now that work on appointments is coming to a close and the IMLS grant is sidelined for a bit, I will start to move us towards at least a substantial interim report in August.