

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
May 12-13, 2020  
Virtual Meeting**

**Discussion: Council Exemplary Service  
Award and Council Resolutions  
(Prepared by Nancy Beaumont)**

An important function of most professional associations is to motivate and reward members and supporters by providing professional recognition. For an awards program to serve as a motivator and reward, it is important to ensure that – each year – individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to the profession or the association are singled out for recognition.

The purpose of this discussion item on the May 2020 agenda is to provide an opportunity for Council members to consider for the Council Exemplary Service Award or a Council resolution individuals and/or organizations whose efforts are worthy but may not be recognized in 2020 via the SAA Awards Program. For both types of recognition the Council itself selects the awardee(s).

Given the proximity of the May Council meeting to the August conference, the process of preparing a nomination and voting on it would have to occur online in early June.

**BACKGROUND**

The *Council Exemplary Service Award* was created in 1980, at the request of the Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows, to recognize a special contribution to the archives profession (and especially to SAA) that is not eligible for one of the other awards given by the Society. It is given on an occasional basis at the discretion of the Council or upon recommendation to the Council by the Awards Committee. In recent years the Council Exemplary Service Award has been given at one of the plenary sessions at which awards are presented.

*Council Resolutions* periodically are developed to acknowledge the contributions of individuals to the Society or the archives community. Council resolutions typically are printed on certificate paper and either sent to individuals following a phone call from the President or presented at a Council meeting at which the individual is in attendance. In recent years, Council resolutions have been presented during one of the two plenary sessions or at the Annual Membership (Business) Meeting.

## Exemplary Service Award Recipients

- 2019: Dr. Michael J. Kurtz (Service to the profession)
- 2018: Documenting the Now (DocNow)
- 2017: Sustainable Heritage Network
- 2017: SAA Reference, Access, and Outreach Section's Teaching with Primary Sources Committee
- 2016: SAA Business Archives Section, SAA Oral History Section, William J. Maher (WIPO/SCCR representation)
- 2015: Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy, Digital Archives Specialist Subcommittee (Creation of DAS curriculum and certificate program), Mark Greene (Distinguished service)
- 2014: Solveig De Sutter (Staff service)
- 2013: Peter J. Wosh (Service as SAA Publications Editor)
- 2012: Michael J. Fox (Archival description and descriptive standards)
- 2012: Native American Protocols Forum Working Group (Professional discourse on *Protocols* document)
- 2012: Nancy Beaumont (Service as SAA Executive Director)
- 2011: Mary Jo Pugh (Service as Editor of *The American Archivist*)
- 2010: U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy (Support of FOIA)
- 2010: Kathleen Roe, New York State Archives (Distinguished service, PAHR)
- 2010: David Carmicheal, Georgia Archives (Distinguished service, PAHR)
- 2009: David B. Gracy II (Distinguished service)
- 2009: Intellectual Property Working Group (Distinguished service)
- 2008: Troup County (Georgia) Archives
- 2008: Larry Gates (Hollinger/Metal Edge's long-term support of profession)
- 2008: Teresa Brinati (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on staff)
- 2007: Victoria Irons Walch (A\*CENSUS Project)
- 2007: Trudy Huskamp Peterson (International representation)
- 2006: Robert M. Schmidt (A&A List administration)
- 2005: Robert S. Martin (Service as IMLS director)
- 2004: John Carlin (Archivist of the United States)
- 2003: Brenda Banks (Distinguished service)
- 2003: Carroll Dendler (Staff service)
- 2003: Alexandra Gressitt (Distinguished service)
- 2003: Debra Nolan (Staff service)
- 2001: Carroll Dendler (Staff service)

## Council Resolutions Acknowledging....

- 2019: Ben Goldman and Eira Tansey (Mapping archives at risk due to climate change)
- 2019: Chela Weber (OCLC Research and Learning Agenda)
- 2019: Project STAND, Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, Tamar Chute (Support for the work of underrepresented student communities' engagement in social justice activities on and off campus)
- 2019: Universities Studying Slavery Group (Forum for academic institutions to critically examine their histories)
- 2019: The UCLA Six (Dean, Dedayan, Diaz, Haley, Hughes, McDaniel, and Peltzman) (Advocates for fair labor practices in archives)
- 2019: Meg Moss (Long-time copyediting services to SAA publications)

- 2019: Kelly Sweeney (Long-time design services for SAA publications)
- 2018: Fynnette Eaton (Service to SAA and SAA Foundation)
- 2018: Wilda Logan (Service to SAA and SAA Foundation)
- 2018: NDRFA Review Committee (Response to Hurricanes Maria and Irma)
- 2018: Paul Henning and Conference & Logistics Consultants (Service to SAA)
- 2017: Terry Baxter (Service to SAA)
- 2013: Taronda Spencer (posthumously)
- 2013: John LeGloahec (JAL Tours baseball games)
- 2010: Studs Terkel (Oral historian)
- 2009: National Archives and Records Administration (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
- 2009: Academy of Certified Archivists (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
- 2009: Charles Schultz (Distinguished service, upon retirement)
- 2008: Yolanda Retter Vargas (“Activist archivist,” posthumously)
- 2008: National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC)
- 2007: Dennis Meissner (Service as Publications Board chair)
- 2006: Richard Cox (Service as Publications Editor)
- 2006: Kathleen Roe (Advocacy efforts)
- 2006: Gregor Trinkaus-Randall (Distinguished service related to Hurricane Katrina)
- 2006: Society of Southwest Archivists and SSA-SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance Fund Review Committee
- 2005: Scott Schwartz (Service as Membership Committee chair)
- 2005: Phil Eppard (Service as Editor of *The American Archivist*)

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:**

**Which individuals and organizations have distinguished themselves in 2019-2020 or over time and should be considered for a Council Exemplary Service Award or a Council Resolution?**

Sample motions are provided below.

**MOTION(S)**

**THAT [name] be given the 2020 Council Exemplary Service Award for her/his/their outstanding contributions to the [Society] [profession] ....**

**Support Statement:** [To come.]

**Fiscal Impact:** [To come.]

**THAT the following resolution be adopted in acknowledgment of [name’s] many contributions to the [Society] [profession] ....**

**Support Statement:** [To come.]

**Fiscal Impact:** [To come.]