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 2022 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 2022 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 should 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

2021: Dorothy Berry
2021: SAA Diversity Committee
2021: SAA Staff
2021: The Blackivists
2020: Archival Metrics Research Investigators (Yakel, Duff, and Tibbo)
2020: Dictionary Working Group (Launch of SAA’s Dictionary)
2020: Lori Lindberg (First independent accredited MARA degree program in US)
2020: Mark Puente (ARL/SAA Mosaic Fellows Program)
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: 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 (20th 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….

2021: Peter D. Carlson
DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Which individuals and organizations have distinguished themselves in 2021-2022 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 2022 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.]