

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
May 16-17, 2023
Chicago, Illinois (Hybrid Meeting)**

**Standards Committee: Recommendation for a New Liaison to the
Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)/MARC
Advisory Committee (MAC)
(Prepared by: Kira Dietz, Co-Chair)**

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the SAA representative to Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)/MARC Advisory Committee (MAC), a role that is also ex officio on the Standards Committee, recommended ceasing representation at the end of their term, based on an lack of relevant content and discussion at meetings, as well some logistical issues in the way their role was managed. As a result, no effort was made to assign a new liaison at that time. Since then, the Standards Committee and our council liaisons have received requests to appoint a new liaison, as the SAA membership at-large has vested interests and concerns around things discussed in these forums. Standards Committee apologizes for the oversight and seeks to place a new liaison in this role.

DISCUSSION

The Standards Committee has recruited and has confirmation from Becca Wiederhold (BYU) that she is willing to serve in this role.

Past terms for this appointment from SAA have ranged from 1-4 years (see the [historical roster](#)) but average about two years. According to their documentation, candidates for this liaison role need to be recommended to and approved by the Cataloging and Metadata Management Section (CaMMS) of the ALA Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (https://alcts.ala.org/ccdablog/?page_id=1847).

We would request that Ms. Weiderhold be recommended to CaMMS to be appointed for a full two-year term at the start of the next full term and in an interim capacity before that term begins (it is unclear from the documentation above when exactly terms begin, but we will reach out to CC:DA leadership for details). Near the end of the term, the Standards Committee and the liaison can revisit the situation and determine either to extend her term or recruit and appoint a new liaison.

Since we have received requests for updates and interest in having a liaison in this role, even if past liaisons have not felt that all the activities had a strong bearing on SAA, we feel recommending

a new liaison will help to meet the needs of our members who have particular interests in cataloging, description, and access. Given that we have a person willing to serve in this role, the Standards Committee sees no significant downside to having a liaison in this capacity again.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SAA Council recommends Becca Wiederhold as the new liaison from the Standards Committee (ex officio) to Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)/MARC Advisory Committee (MAC) (ex officio) for a two-year term.

Support Statement:

Re-appointing a liaison to CC:DA/MAC will facilitate communication between organizations and place the Standards Committee and other SAA representatives to provide input on issues that impact SAA members and the archives profession. This will improve our efforts to advocate for relevant shared interests, such as RDA and cataloging descriptive practices, and remain up-to-date about how these practices relate to archival practices. Given that we have been asked to replace this liaison role with members of SAA, the committee feels this will reflect our desire to meet member needs where they are requested.

Impact on Strategic Priorities:

No significant impact on strategic priorities, but having an active liaison in this role will facilitate Standards Committee efforts with our technical subcommittees and allow us to improve our role in information sharing about descriptive practices that affect archivists and the profession. We will support Goal 4 by meeting member needs; several member requests have driven this action.

Fiscal Impact:

No fiscal impact