

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
May 12, 2025  
Online  
President's Report  
(Prepared by Derk Mosley)**

I assumed the presidency of SAA in February 2025 abruptly. With no preparation or time to think I have faced a variety of challenges from membership and the Council. The Executive Committee has begun meeting more frequently to deal with the rapid issues.

In February, I attended the SAA Council Meeting and the SAA Foundation Board Meeting as well as a special meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss the transition of the presidency.

In March and April, I spent quite a bit of time working on midterm appointments to component groups. This is a big sign of the reticence and burn out of members who are unable to complete their terms. There were also three new task forces that have been appointed. I am thankful to staff and the Appointment Committee for their diligence in this work. I am hopeful that no more groups will be created during my tenure as president. I am recommending a full review of all the groups and their capacity. This is something to think about as we undergo a new strategic plan later this year which hopefully will be simpler and allow leaders to focus on just a few things over the next several years.

Advocacy has been a big push since January. Thanks to the Council Statements Working Group many statements and resources have been pushed out to membership. Another group of Council members are engaged in reviewing Project 2025 and exploring ways SAA can fight back against things mentioned in the document. The council also approved free memberships for federal workers that terminated. As I write this, we have planned an advocacy webinar for later in April. This work is so important, and it is not done in a vacuum. All of this takes time and resources. We must consider how to fund this work on a much more consistent basis.

I would like to thank Vice President Mario Ramirez for agreeing to serve in this role till the end of August. Mario has been outstanding and has helped me tremendously during the last few months. I will forever be grateful for his leadership and thoughtful insight during difficult times. In late March, Mario and I along with staff met with the Association of Canadian Archivists President, Vice President and Executive Director. We had a great conversation, and they offered to assist SAA in any way they could. It was so nice of them to reach out and offer this support.