

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
July 24, 2017
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon**

Consent Agenda: Ratify Council Interim Actions
(Prepared by Executive Committee Member Rachel Vagts)

BACKGROUND

Current parliamentary policy agrees on validating board decisions made remotely, and ratifying the Council's online and conference-call decisions via the Consent Agenda does not conflict with any existing SAA policy.

DISCUSSION

Given the Council's use of an e-mail discussion list to function as a group and make decisions remotely, approving interim Council actions via the Consent Agenda contributes to streamlining the group's work and improves access to the interim decisions of SAA's elected decision makers.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the following interim actions taken by the Council between June 12, 2017, and July 13, 2017, be ratified:

- Appointed, at the recommendation of the Journal Editor Search Committee, Christopher "Cal" Lee as the next [Editor of *The American Archivist*](#), for a three-year term to begin on January 1, 2018. (June 21, 2017) (Appendix)
- Approved two Council Exemplary Service Awards and one Council Resolution to be presented at the Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. (June 21, 2017) (To remain confidential until presented —see the July 24, 2017, Council meeting minutes for the associated documents.)
- Approved a [Statement on the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity Request for Voter Roll Data](#) voicing concerns about "the broad range of data requested, the burden it places on states to comply, and the potential impact on and risk to citizens' rights after these data are aggregated." (July 13, 2017)

**Society of American Archivists
Council Interim Action
June 12, 2017**

**(Prepared by the Journal Editor Search Committee:
Nance McGovern [chair], Erin Lawrimore, Christopher Prom,
Jennifer Meehan, Nancy Beaumont, and Teresa Brinati)**

BACKGROUND

The [Editor of *The American Archivist*](#) is appointed by and reports directly to the SAA Council. The term of the current Editor, Greg Hunter, expires on December 31, 2017. Hunter's initial three-year appointment was effective in January 2012 and he was reappointed for a second three-year term beginning in January 2015. Because an individual may not serve more than two consecutive terms as Editor, a Search Committee was formed in early 2017. The Search Committee consists of SAA President Nance McGovern (chair of the committee), Erin Lawrimore (Council liaison to *The American Archivist* Editorial Board), Chris Prom (Publications Board Chair), Jennifer Meehan (Editorial Board member), Executive Director Nancy Beaumont, and Director of Publishing Teresa Brinati.

The Search Committee implemented Council-adopted procedures to publicize the position, interview candidates, and make a recommendation to the Council. The position [announcement](#) first appeared in January in a variety of media outlets, including the SAA website, *Archival Outlook* (January/February 2017), *In the Loop* (successive issues from January through April), social media, the Archives and Archivists List, and component group discussion lists. In addition, McGovern sent messages directly to the discussion lists of the Council, the Journal Editorial Board, the Publications Board, and the Archival Educators Section urging them to use their networks to encourage their peers—and even themselves—to consider the position.

Seven applications were received by the April 14 deadline. All members of the Search Committee participated in screening applications and we agreed unanimously that two finalists would be interviewed. The finalists were invited to participate in telephone conference interviews in May. The Search Committee interviewed each candidate for one hour. Immediately following the second interview, the Search Committee debriefed, discussed the merits of the candidates, and reached consensus on a recommendation.

DISCUSSION

The Search Committee recommends that Christopher A. “Cal” Lee, professor at the University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science, be appointed Editor of *The American Archivist* for a three-year term, from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.

Lee's cover letter and curriculum vitae are attached. He has served SAA in a variety of capacities, including two terms on the Editorial Board of *The American Archivist*, two terms on the Publications Board, and as a member of the 2001-2003 [Task Force on Electronic Publishing](#).

The Search Committee notes that Lee's own scholarship, coupled with his significant history of nurturing the work of students and his knowledge of the intersectionality of archival work with other disciplines, positions him well to lead the journal at this time.

If the Council approves this recommendation, the following steps will be taken:

- The Executive Director negotiates the contract with the new Editor.
- Once the contract is signed, the President notifies the other finalist for the position.
- The President disbands the Search Committee with thanks.
- The President sends a message to *The American Archivist* Editorial Board list announcing the new Editor and thanking the outgoing Editor.
- The Director of Publishing posts an announcement about the new Editor in various outlets.
- The Director of Publishing facilitates transition between the outgoing and incoming Editors.
- SAA hosts an in-person meeting of *The American Archivist* Editorial Board in January/February (included in FY18 budget) to facilitate a full transition with the Editorial Board.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Christopher A. "Cal" Lee, PhD, be appointed Editor of *The American Archivist* for a three-year term, from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.

Support Statement: Following a broad call for applicants, careful review of applications, and interviews, the Search Committee has determined that Christopher Lee is well qualified to lead the Journal for the next three years.

Fiscal Impact: None beyond current budget.