Work continues on the first installment of “modules” for the Archival Fundamentals Series II (aka the Fundamental Change Working Group project). Tom Frusciano and Chris Prom have received manuscripts from Gordon Daines, Daniel Santamaria, and Sibyl Schaefer/Janet Bunde, which will comprise the arrangement and description modules. These drafts currently are out for review and revision, and we should have products available later in the year. Helen Tibbo and Nancy McGovern have agreed to prepare a module on “Digital Preservation,” which will form part of a preservation module. Greg Hunter and Michael Shallcross are developing this module, and we should shortly be commissioning additional units to package with the Tibbo/McGovern piece. Over the course of the next few months, it will become essential to transfer responsibility for the modules project from the Fundamental Change Working Group that Council established to the Publications Board itself. There will be discussion about this at the August meeting of the Publications Board, and we currently are planning a joint meeting – tentatively scheduled for the Fall -- to wrap up the tasks of the working group and institutionalize the project within the regular work of the Publications Board.

Several other projects are nearing completion. Judy Luis-Watson, LeeAnn Potter, and Rebecca Martin have submitted a final draft of “Resources for Volunteer Programs in Archives,” a collaborative project with the National Archives. This free online resource will be posted on both NARA’s and SAA’s websites. Anne Gilliland is completing her revision of Conceptualizing the Archive in a Digital Age, a book-length manuscript which should move into production in the Fall. Tanya Zanish-Belcher has received reviewer comments on the Women’s Archives Reader that she is editing; she currently is working on some reorganization. Jessica Lacher-Feldman submitted a revised manuscript on Exhibits for Archives and we are now in the process of collating reviewer comments and developing a plan for bringing that to conclusion. The first SAA Sampler concerning ethical and legal issues for archivists, featuring an introduction by Publications Board member Lisa Mix and including a chapter from three different SAA books, has been completed and will be moving into production. This has been an excellent test case as we plan to develop further “samplers” in this proposed series.

The Publications Board will also be experimenting with a new structure at our August meeting. Based on board input, we will form several subcommittees that will direct sustained attention to three critical aspects of our work: product development, funding sources, and marketing. Our hope is that, by assigning specific responsibilities to each Board member, we will be able to innovate more systematically and keep these functions front and center throughout the year.
Finally, it is important to underscore once again that the work of the Publications Board would be impossible to accomplish without the excellent support and hard work of Nancy Beaumont, Teresa Brinati, and the rest of the staff at SAA, and we can never thank them enough for all they accomplish.