

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
August 11-12, 2014
Washington, D.C.**

**Report of the President
(Prepared by Danna C. Bell)**

This report covers my activities from May 2 to July 18, 2014.

Archives and Archivists List

Responded to member comments about the Archives and Archivists List and also helped draft the statement sent to the A&A List.

Appointed a small working group to study issues regarding the A&A List and determine ways to make it a place of positive discourse. The working group has hit the ground running and will submit a report at the August Council meeting.

Diversity Committee

In light of the changes made to the Committee's description at the May Council meeting, I contacted all members of the Diversity Committee slated to serve past August 2014 to see if they wished to continue on the committee. Two members asked to step down. The remaining members have stated their interest in continuing and have been converted to "regular" members (i.e., as opposed to representatives of other component groups).

2014 Joint Annual Meeting

Continued providing guidance to the Host Committee for the 2014 conference. Also answered questions as needed for LC staff planning to attend the conference. Have been asked to contribute a blog post to the Host Committee blog.

Advocacy

Asked the Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy (CAPP) to review the draft document that discussed the ramifications of the NSA spying scandal on the archival community.

Reviewed and approved the CAPP draft statement on the IRS missing emails.

Helped arrange for a meeting of the leadership of CoSA, NAGARA and SAA during the conference to discuss collaboration on advocacy issues.

Met with Teresa Brinati to discuss a potential National History Day award, which would allow students to show how something found in an archival collection helped move their project forward or had a major impact on their work. Will be meeting with Cathy Gorn (National History Day executive director) on July 30 to talk about the award.

Task Force on Member Affinity Groups

Alerted TF-MAG about the addition of Mark Duffy and Bill Landis as advisors and expressed Council's concern about the group's May 2014 interim report. Will be posting a TF-MAG-written post to *Off the Record* in the very near future.

Off the Record and Archival Outlook

Wrote three blog posts and posted three written by others. The post on the Archives and Archivists List drew the largest number of comments I've seen during my year as coordinator of the leadership blog. I will hand *Off the Record* to incoming president Kathleen Roe after the Washington, D.C., meeting.

I also wrote my final column for *Archival Outlook*.

Final Notes

This year has flown by. It has been an amazing, intense, and wonderful year. I have learned a lot, grown as a person and as a professional, and gained an even greater respect for the Society, its members, leaders, and staff.

I want to thank the Council for a wonderful year. You all are some of the smartest people I know and your dedication to the Society and the profession is beyond measure. I am grateful to the phenomenal SAA staff, especially the incomparable Nancy Beaumont, who hugged me when I needed it, provided answers to questions when I was unsure, and gave me tough love and an occasional swift kick when it was called for.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as SAA's president.