

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

**Staff Report: 2014 Joint Annual Meeting
(Prepared by Nancy Beaumont)**

For information about development of the education sessions for the 2014 Joint Annual Meeting, see the Program Committee's report at 0814-1-V-K-ProgComm2014. For more details about conference planning, see my previous report at 0514-VII-E-5-AnnMtg.

Registration

As of the close of Advance registration on July 18, we had registered 2,001 “full paid” attendees (compared with 1,454 in 2013, 1,349 in 2012, 1,449 in 2011, and 1,504 in 2010) and 99 one-day attendees. This is the largest meeting in SAA's history and in the history of our Joint CoSA/NAGARA/ SAA conferences. This success brings with it the challenges associated with very crowded facilities and the concomitant increase in expenses associated with more attendees. We will keep a careful eye on both.

Exhibits/Sponsors

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of staff member Carlos Salgado, we have sold out the Expo Hall booths for a total of more than \$100,000 in exhibits revenue. (This is compared with 58 booths and total exhibits revenue of \$85,700 in 2013.) Sponsorship support totals \$32,300 for SAA (compared with \$30,400 in 2013 and \$32,100 in 2012) thanks to the very generous folks at Preservica (formerly Tessella), Atlas Systems, Hollinger Metal Edge, and Preservation Technologies. CoSA also has sponsorship support for the conference from ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Gaylord, and TheMediaPreserve.

Conference Communication

Since its “go live” date of March 10, the 2014 Host Committee blog (in the capable hands of Andrew Cassidy-Amstutz, with lots of contributors) has tempted prospective attendees with all things DC, from baseball and monuments to neighborhoods and craft breweries. Many tweets and FB posts have commented on the wonderful information provided in the blog.

We launched the smart-phone-compatible conference website in April with the opening of registration.

As suggested in the Annual Meeting Task Force recommendations, we once again included on the conference registration form an opt-out option for the print Onsite Program. As last year, nearly 10% of registrants opted out, and we were able to reduce our print run (and carbon footprint) accordingly. We will track comments on the extent to which the mobile schedule may increasingly obviate the need for a print program going forward.

We were able to negotiate with Conference Recordings to provide MP3 files of all recorded sessions for just \$29.99. (This compares with \$149 for a CD of all sessions in previous years.) As a reminder, session recordings from 2006 to 2011 are now freely available on the SAA website. (Go to <http://www2.archivists.org/conference> and click on “Download Session Audio Recordings” for each conference.)

We updated the “First-Timer’s Guide to the Joint Annual Meeting,” first prepared for the 2013 conference.

Service Project

Inspired by the work of the Archivists of Religious Collections Section in San Diego in 2012, the work of a number of committed volunteers in New Orleans in 2013, and the recommendations of the Social Responsibility subcommittee of the Annual Meeting Task Force, Host Committee member Carole Prietto worked to line up a service project opportunity with the DC Central Kitchen on Tuesday, August 12, from 9:00 am to noon. Our thanks to Carole!

Child Care Options

One of the more challenging additions to this year’s conference has been our work to provide a more robust child care program for attendees. Thirty-eight individuals indicated on their conference registration forms that they would like to be contacted about child care options. Of these, 16 individuals responded to our survey to collect information about number of children, ages, preferred times, etc – information that enabled us to find an appropriate child care provider. We are still working on this project and hope to have a strong experimental program in place that we can refine in future years.

As always, we have enjoyed the opportunity to work with our colleagues at the Council of State Archivists and National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, from the outstanding representatives on the 2014 Program Committee to the outstanding staff members of both organizations!

And as always, I welcome your comments and questions.