

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
August 1, 2016
Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia**

**Update: SAA Council Working Group
on Diversity and Inclusion
(Prepared by Vice President Nancy McGovern)**

BACKGROUND

As a continuation of the mega-issue discussion of Diversity and Inclusion, the Council's Working Group on Diversity and Inclusion has been working on a set of activities leading up to the 2016 Joint Annual Meeting and beyond. The members are: Nancy McGovern, Amy Cooper Cary, Bergis Jules, Helen Wong Smith, Nancy Beaumont, and Felicia Owens. This document summarizes the efforts of the Working Group since the May 2016 Council Meeting.

WORKING GROUP OBJECTIVE

SAA is expanding our commitment to increasing diversity and encouraging inclusion through the establishment of initiatives that build on our past and present efforts to increase diversity and emphasize inclusion within our organization, in the broader profession, and as reflected in our cumulative collections. The Council's Working Group on Diversity and Inclusion will recommend and coordinate efforts on SAA's behalf to:

- Sponsor and encourage events, activities, and efforts of all kinds.
- Identify relevant policies and practices that are missing or need revision.
- Encourage broad participation by promoting activities and sharing outcomes.

The Working Group is identifying a set of activities that began with the establishment of the Working Group in November 2015 and will continue through 2020, concluding with an assessment of perceived and demonstrated progress and providing recommendations for next steps to move forward.

UPDATE

- Updated the Working Group description page: <http://archivists.org/groups/saa-council/council-subgroups/WG-on-Diversity-and-Inclusion>.
- Created a Diversity and Inclusion resources page: http://www2.archivists.org/advocacy/diversity-and-inclusion-initiatives#.V4kzi_krLIV.
- Continued to coordinate activities for the 2016 Joint Annual Meeting.

- Organizing a facilitated discussion at the November 2016 Council meeting.
- Looking ahead to 2017 Annual Meeting activities.

Overview of Diversity and Inclusion Activities for the 2016 Joint Annual Meeting

- Leadership Forum: Diversity and Inclusion panel discussion. (Amy, Bergis, Kris)
- Plenary 1: Chris Taylor, Department of Inclusion and Community Engagement at MNHS.
- President's Town Hall Meeting: Review and invite feedback on SAA's diversity and inclusion activities (Dennis). [Note: Coincides with the Diversity Forum.]
- Diversity Forum: Coordinate with the Diversity Committee to identify ways in which the Council can help and/or contribute. (Amy and Nancy)
- Pop-up session #211: Deconstructing Whiteness in Archives: Opportunities for Self-Reflection.
- Business Meeting: Report on Council's Diversity and Inclusion Working Group. (Nance)
- SAA affinity groups: Include these activities in the Council update. (All)