

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
August 24, 2022  
Boston, Massachusetts**

**Report of the *American Archivist* Editor  
May 2022 – July 2022  
(Prepared by Amy Cooper Cary)**

**I. Update on Publication Status**

- [85:1](#) was published in June. One article is outstanding and will be published later this summer.
  - Abigail Christian and Cary continue to gather information about effective ways to leverage flexibility in publishing in a digital environment. Scheduling a meeting with editors of other digital-only publications.
- [TOC](#) for **85:2** is finalized, and content is being sent to copyeditor.
- **Content for 86:1** is being gathered; 2 articles accepted so far, additional 5 to 6 will be accepted [several in revision or editorial review].
  - Tansey, “The Academic Enclosure of *American Archivist*”
  - Meehan, “Taking Our Own Measure: Archival Engagement and Storytelling”
  - Additional content will include A\*CENSUS II reporting (see “Update on Ongoing Conversations” below).

**II. Update on Events**

- **The Peer Review Forum** was held Thursday May 19, 2022. Cary and Publications Editor Stacie Williams collaborated to discuss the peer review process, and to invite members to become involved. *American Archivist* has seen 46 individuals register as new peer reviewers. This kind of information session has a significant impact on how we work with our readership/membership.
- Editorial Board members attending the **Annual Meeting** will be engaging presenters in sections and session presentations which have the potential to become articles. The majority of Board members will be attending virtually. The Editorial Board has scheduled to hold a virtual Conversation Lounge on Thursday August 25 at 5:30 PM.

### III. Update on Ongoing Conversations and Initiatives

- **Special Section Scheduled:** At its meeting on 7/22, the Editorial Board approved a Special Section proposed for 86:2, guest-edited by Board members Sumayya Ahmed and Rebecca Hankins, on Archives and Libraries of the Middle East and North Africa. The [call for papers](#) has just been released.
- **A\*CENSUS II:** Cary is in discussion with the A\*CENSUS II Dissemination Team about the best way to present results from the census in *American Archivist*. Cary will continue to represent the Board with the Dissemination Team and the larger A\*CENSUS II Working Group.
  - **Proposed Timeline:**
    - 86:1: Introduction from Erin Passel-Stoddart (A\*CENSUS II Working Group and CORDA), and Jennifer Gunter King; preliminary reports from Ithaka on the individual survey
    - 86:2: Cluster of Themed Articles [based on identified themes in the grant]
    - 87:1: Cluster of Themed Articles [based on identified themes in the grant]
    - 87:2: Open call – writing from the data
  - **Role of Editorial Board**
    - Assist in brainstorming potential contributors, for consideration by the Dissemination Committee. Dissemination Committee will select authors to write these analyses—Editorial Board is making suggestions only.
    - Much like special articles (such as the Pease Award winner)—articles will be assumed to be accepted, but ALL articles will undergo a peer review and editorial process.
- **Intergenerational Conversations:** Cary, Publications Editor Stacie Williams, SAA staff Abigail Christian, and Reviews Editors Luke and Buchanan discussed a proposal from members Rand Jimerson and John Fleckner. Originally proposed to the Publications Board as a monograph, we collaboratively re-framed this as an opportunity to create a new feature in the Reviews Portal called “Intergenerational Conversations.” This will be a year-long project which engages new voices in the literature with the previously published work of John Fleckner, with context by Fleckner and Jimerson. We are in the planning stages for this project, but this effort has numerous benefits:
  - It engages new voices and contributions, pairing them with publications from highly respected authors. Fleckner has written extensively on Native American archives; Jimerson has written extensively on archives as centers for social justice.
  - It offers an opportunity to expand the work of the Reviews Portal
    - We continue to consider ways to integrate the Reviews Portal more firmly into the digital instance of *American Archivist* and to use the Portal to its fullest advantage.
  - Can offer possibilities for cross-publications cooperation—podcast; *Archival Outlook* feature, etc.

#### IV. Editorial Board Updates

- Shadrack Katuu, International Board member, declined service for a second term on the Editorial Board. I want to take this opportunity to recognize Shadrack, and thank him for his excellent service to the Board.
  - Cary has been working with Board members to identify potential new international members, and has forwarded suggested names to Baxter and Wong Smith for consideration.
- Two Early-Career members were appointed. These new members will assume responsibilities after the Annual Meeting and will begin working on the Hidden Content Project.
  - Bree'ya Brown, Huston-Tillotson University
  - Amanda Greenwood, Union College
- The Board would like to recognize Mario Ramirez, outgoing Council Liaison, and thank him for his support and excellent work for the Board. We're looking forward to working with our new Council Liaison Joyce Gabiola. They recently co-authored an excellent article in the latest issue of *American Archivist*—["It's a Trap': Complication Representation in Community-Based Archives."](#)
- The Editorial Board's next meeting will be scheduled for October 2022 and will be a joint meeting with CODA to discuss the ongoing role of *American Archivist* in contributing to the CODA Research Roadmap and the Dataverse.