

SAA Membership Committee
Conference call
October 13, 2016

Agenda

1. Round-robin updates from subcommittees
 - a. Diane Pugh will serve as chair of the Navigator Program subcommittee
2. Directive from council to collect information from SAA members about perceived barriers to participating in the organization
 - a. Discuss any informal feedback received at annual meeting
 - b. Ideas on how to gather information from membership
 - c. Ideas on how to share findings with membership
 - d. Can we involve Racheile in this?
3. Racheile Ricklefs: our 2016-2017 intern
 - a. Working with Career Development subcommittee. What is her role specifically?
Who is her contact?
4. Feedback on combined New Member/First Timer and Mentoring Program meet-and-greet event
5. How can we better support diversity and inclusion in the work of our four programs and the membership committee as a whole?
 - o Committee membership recruitment
 - o Next annual meeting features a day on cultural competency. Can we leverage our position as the membership committee to promote this event to our various connected communities?

Notes

In attendance: Kate Dundon, Tommy Brown, Michelle Sweetser, Jennifer Motszko, Rachel Vagts, Matthew Gorzalski, Gabrielle Spiers

Key Contacts update (Michelle): have been doing some work to fill vacant positions. Now at the point that reports can be distributed. Something to focus on in coming year is improving communication between KCs and DRs, clarifying website.

Mentoring (Gabrielle): put some calls out for new mentors. Currently only 5 proteges that need a mentor.

Career Development: Matt, Laura, and Jennifer will get together on a call to have an orientation for the program and discuss how to move forward.

Council did a status update on strategic plan. Strategic goal 4.2.1. Specific action: collect info on barriers to participation, explore ways to break down barriers. This task represented a significant campaign that SAA staff are not currently equipped to fully address. This came back to council

for ideas about how the membership could investigate this idea. Membership Committee should discuss ideas on how we might do this, without necessarily executing the entire project.

- Matt: survey membership with short easy survey. We could distribute on lists, but maybe SAA could email all members like they do with elections.
- Jennifer: people find it difficult to break into leadership positions on a committee if you don't know anyone- feels like a closed group.
- Gabrielle: difficulties with being an institutional member and funding restrictions
- Tommy: first time he volunteered, he wasn't placed and never heard why.
- Rachel: it is hard to place volunteers who appear generic and don't have specific interests.
- Kate: people have the impression that they cannot serve in leadership roles if they don't come to the annual meeting.

Task: Membership Committee members will informally ask professional colleagues at other institutions about barriers to participating in SAA. We can use this info to create choices for the survey. We can probably ask SAA staff to disseminate survey for us.