

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
November 8-10, 2015
Chicago, Illinois**

**Report: Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy
(Prepared by Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Chair)**

CAPP worked on a number of different projects, dating from the Annual Meeting through October, including the following:

- Continued to review two issue briefs, reviewed by the Council at its May meeting. After much discussion and input from a wide variety of groups, these two briefs are being resubmitted for review. Committee member Frank Boles presented on the Privacy in Public Records brief to numerous Roundtables and Sections at the 2015 Annual Meeting. The Strengthening Federal Records Authority brief was shared with the Congressional Papers Roundtable and NARA (who responded with official comments). (August-October 2015)
- Updated language in the FOIA and FOIL briefs to reflect potential issues relating to public institutions and state employees (based on situations at the University of Illinois and the University of Oregon). Approved by the Council. (September 2015)
- Reviewed an overview created by ProjectAARC, relating to Archivists and Climate Change. The Committee provided in-depth commentary and recommendations for revisions. ProjectAARC will revise and submit to President Meissner for review by the Council at its November meeting. CAPP will be ready and willing to work on a brief which focuses on archival issues and climate change, including sustainability, disaster planning and response, and facilities standards (including Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design [LEED]). (September 2015)
- Reviewed IPWG's Archivists and Term of Copyright brief, submitted for Council review. (September-October 2015)
- Reviewed IPWG brief on TPP, approved by CAPP, then approved by the Council. (September 2015)
- The Chair participated in a conference call with Issues and Advocacy Roundtable Chair Sarah Quigley, SAA Executive Director Nancy Beaumont, Council liaison Bergis Jules, and Past SAA President Kathleen Roe. There will be an effort to better coordinate the advocacy work of CAPP, I & A, COPA, and RAAC. (October 2015)

- Made comments about NCH policy statement regarding oral history, as requested by the Executive Director. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) is seeking comment on proposals to better protect human subjects involved in research, while facilitating valuable research and reducing burden, delay, and ambiguity for investigators. (October 2015)

CAPP also participated in its own conference call in October, and finalized the following goals for 2015-2016 (with changes expected):

- Recommended new language for the reference to CAPP in the "Procedures for Suggesting SAA Advocacy Action":

Please contact the chair of the Committee on Advocacy and Public Policy if you would like to explore an idea or plan to submit an overview requesting a brief to the SAA Council. The Chair and the committee will be glad to assist in a preliminary review – providing initial feedback and recommendations for revision –before the overview is officially submitted to SAA leadership. This additional step may help with the success of your advocacy effort!

- CAPP member Barbara Teague drafted a post for the SAA President's *Off the Record* blog focusing on the "Criteria for SAA Advocacy Statements." The new criteria do not preclude SAA from commenting on social justice issues – but they must be connected with archives issues as that is our area of expertise.
- The CAPP microsite will be updated to link to all SAA position statements and resolutions, in addition to approved briefs.
- Per the Council, CAPP is reviewing the 2009 ALA/SAA Joint Statement on Access to Research Materials in Archives and Special Collections Libraries. CAPP will share with RAO and ERS for their comments and will send a recommendation for the January Council conference call.
- CAPP (with IPWG) will work on a one-page Copyright overview that can be easily handed to legislators, etc.
 - In addition to other possible briefs coming to CAPP after being approved by the Council, CAPP ideas include: Congressional and Judiciary Records (removed from Strengthening Federal Records Brief): Dennis Riley will lead.
 - Declassification work: Jim Cross will conduct research to see if there is enough there to warrant a brief.