

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
November 14–16, 2016  
Chicago, Illinois**

**Consent Agenda: Ratify Executive Committee Interim Actions  
(Prepared by Executive Committee Member Rachel Vagts)**

**BACKGROUND**

Current parliamentary policy agrees on validating board decisions made remotely, and ratifying the Council's online and conference-call decisions via the Consent Agenda does not conflict with any existing SAA policy.

**DISCUSSION**

Given the Executive Committee's robust use of an e-mail discussion list to function as a group and make decisions remotely, approving interim Executive Committee actions via the Consent Agenda contributes to streamlining the group's work and improves access to the interim decisions of SAA's elected decision makers.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the following interim actions taken by the Executive Committee between August 16, 2016, and November 3, 2016, be ratified:**

- Signed on to a [letter to the House Committee on Armed Services](#), written by OpenTheGovernment.org, opposing the proposed Freedom of Information Act carve-out for the Department of Defense contained in the Senate version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (August 16, 2016).
- Agreed to a \$1,500 sponsorship of the [Cultural Heritage and Social Change Summit](#) to support travel grants for archivists to attend the summit in New Orleans on November 5-6 (September 7, 2016).
- Endorsed an OpenTheGovernment.org "[Proposal to Strengthen Records Accountability](#)" that will be sent to the transition teams of the U.S. Presidential candidates (October 14, 2016).
- Signed on to a [letter](#), written by SAA's Intellectual Property Working Group, to the Copyright Office regarding comments on Section 1201 (October 25, 2016).
- Endorsed a recommendation, written by [OpenTheGovernment.org](#), to the presidential transition teams regarding overclassification (November 3, 2016).