

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

Vice President/President-Elect's Report
(Prepared by Tanya Zanish-Belcher)

I began to participate in weekly calls with SAA President Nance McGovern and Executive Director Nancy Beaumont.

I also participated in calls with the CoSA/NAGARA/SAA Joint Working Group on Issues and Awareness and the CoSA/NAGARA/SAA Leadership Group.

Appointments

I made my first appointments by finalizing the 2017 Appointments Committee, comprising co-chairs Jelain Chubb (State Archivist, Texas) and Bill Landis (Yale University) and members Andrea Jackson (Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library), Elena Colón-Marrero (Computer History Museum), Sammie Morris (Purdue University), and Helen Wong Smith (Kaua`i Historical Society).

I also wrote the “call for volunteers,” which appears in the November/December issue of *Archival Outlook* and on the SAA [website](#).

Asociación Latinoamericana de Archivos and Archivo General de la Nación de México

I corresponded with representatives of Asociación Latinoamericana de Archivos (ALA) and the Archivo General de la Nación (AGN) de México and invited them to the May SAA Council meeting in Chicago. ALA and AGN are interested in building closer ties with SAA, and LACCHA facilitated introductions. The ICA will be meeting in Mexico City in 2017 and Dr. de Vega (President, ALA) is interested in building bridges among US, Mexican, and Latin American/Caribbean archival professionals.

Association of Research Libraries Annual Meeting

I attended the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) meeting in Washington, D.C., on behalf of SAA. Some highlights follow below. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have questions.

- The ARL Innovation Lab Advisory Group announced the use of IdeaScale as an idea pipeline for ARL members to submit and vet ideas. The goals are to stimulate innovation and creativity, while focused on capacity and sustainability: <http://www.arl.org/storage/documents/publications/charges/charge-innovationlab-2016.08.17.pdf>
- ARL continues to develop SHARE (<http://www.share-research.org>), which is “building its free, open, data set by gathering, cleaning, linking, and enhancing metadata that describes research activities and outputs—from data management plans and grant proposals to preprints, presentations, journal articles, and research data.” The current issue for SHARE is the variability of its metadata. ARL will be relying on the appointment of Curation Associates, 2016-2017, whose role is to work and add metadata in the following areas: ORCID, Data Dictionary, IRIS Group, Policies for Crowdsourcing. SHARE is also developing an Institutional Dashboard Project with the ability to chart researcher and by institution.
- There were two presentations on ARL statistics, focusing on gender and race, as well as the impact of motherhood and negotiation impact on salary. The presenters found little or negligible gaps in salary, which was a bit surprising. They also analyzed the ARL directorship, and found that 40% are 65 and older. The new hires in ARL libraries are in the areas of Administration and Specialists, with traditional experience such as Cataloging being deemphasized. Finally, they noted the disappearing work of support staff and students.
- There were also a number of open access presentations. One of the most interesting was MIT’s, who presented on the view of campus repositories and the future of research libraries as open global platforms. Their repository is seen as a durable, trusted repository for research objects produced at MIT with a focus on making them available to the world. MIT is also planning a “moon shot” of digitizing all analog content at MIT.

The overall gist of the presentations? Libraries have a responsibility for leadership in the long-term stewardship and sustainability of the scholarly record and must fight off commercial publishers.

More ARL projects in the pipeline that are of potential interest to SAA:

Project 1: Wikipedian Academy: Create an ongoing learning opportunity for cohorts of Wikipedians in Residence and Wikipedia Visiting Scholars.

Project 2: Focus on Diversity: Building the Linked Network in Wikipedia: Leverage linked data to address diversity/inclusivity gaps in Wikipedia. Focus on women as test case:

- Finding aids/EAD
- Strategies for creating linked data in service of specific campaigns

- Explore how to use linked data to create notability in the case of underrepresented content

Finally, Anne Kenney spoke about developing draft principles for Public Content Goods (PCG), a definable set of services and scholarly content that are freely and immediately available on the internet to users worldwide—such as arXiv.

Draft Principles for Determining Public Support

- Contains significant in depth, value, scholarly and creative content
- Longevity
- Deep involvement by user community
- Immediate dissemination
- Globally accessible, 24/7
- No cost to users and submitters
- Institutional home
- Commitment, rights, and wherewithal to provide persistent and perpetual access
- Stable technology base, metadata and services to support submissions, permanency, integrity, security, discovery and use
- Transparency and accountability
- Neutrality and trustworthiness
- Succession plan