

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

**2015-2016 Annual Report: Awards Committee  
(Prepared by Susan Hamburger, Committee Co-Chair)**

**Officers:** Susan Hamburger (Co-Chair, 2014-2016), Gerald Chaudron (Co-Chair, 2015-2017), Steven D. Booth (Emeritus Co-Chair, 2015-2016)

**Report from Annual Meeting:**

- Number of attendees: 21
- Summary of meeting activities: see attached minutes.

**Completed Projects/Activities:**

- The Awards Committee web pages were redesigned by the SAA office to bring the detailed requirements of eligibility into a prominent place consistently across all 21 awards/scholarships.
- The SAA Foundation Board provided an exact dollar amount for awards and scholarships that previously were based on interest earned on investments; the web pages for each of these awards were appropriately updated to detail these exact amounts. For some of the scholarships, they increased the amount to fully cover Annual Meeting registration and travel.
- The nominations form was revised to ask where the nominator learned about the recognitions so the committee can identify the best places to advertise.

**Ongoing Projects/Activities:** The Awards Committee launched the 2016-2017 awards cycle in August 2016 at the Annual Meeting where the co-chairs urged subcommittee members to begin soliciting nominations from attendees. Subcommittees will publicize recognitions and solicit nominations within SAA, the profession, and the archival community through listservs, social media, and in print before the February 28, 2017 deadline.

**New Projects/Activities:** None.

**Initiatives associated with the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan:** None.

**Questions/concerns for Council attention:** None.

**Society of American Archivists  
Awards Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 3, 2016, 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
Room 213 (Hilton Atlanta)  
(Prepared by Susan Hamburger)**

**I. Welcome and Introductions** – Sue Hamburger and Gerald Chaudron, Co-Chairs

Susan Hamburger called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Twenty-one members of the Awards Committee who were present, including Steven Booth (emeritus co-chair) and Gerald Chaudron (co-chair), plus Council liaison Bergis Jules and SAA staff liaison Teresa Brinati, introduced themselves.

**II. Schedule for Awards Presentations in Atlanta**

Sue and Teresa discussed the schedule, lineup, and presenters for the awards presentations:

- Thursday, August 4, 9:00am–10:30am | Plenary 1 (Grand Ballroom, Hilton Atlanta)
  - 5 SAA Fellows presented by 5 members of the Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows
  - SAA J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award (to Lin-Manuel Miranda and Ron Chernow) presented by President Dennis Meissner
  - SAA Distinguished Service Award (to Georgia Archives Institute) presented by President Dennis Meissner
- Friday, August 5, 5:00pm–6:00pm | Plenary 2 (Grand East, Hilton Atlanta)
  - SAA Student Awards (8 recipients for 7 awards: Pease, Ham, Mosaic, Forman, Peterson, Pinkett, Holmes) presented by Awards Co-Chair Susan Hamburger
  - ARL/SAA Mosaic Program Fellows acknowledged by President Dennis Meissner
  - 3 Council Exemplary Service Awards (to William Maher + SAA Business Archives Section + SAA Oral History Section) presented by President Dennis Meissner
  - 2 Council Resolutions (to Geof Huth and Michelle Light) presented by President Dennis Meissner
- Friday, August 5, 6:00pm-7:00 pm | Awards Ceremony (Grand East, Hilton Atlanta)
  - Presented by Awards Co-Chairs Sue Hamburger and Gerald Chaudron: Hamer Kegan, Leland, Preservation Publication, Lane, Spotlight, Diversity, Archival Innovator, and Emerging Leader.

### **III. Awards Cycle**

Sue reported a total of 140 nominations were received for 2016, which is six fewer than last year. Every award, except Coker which received none, received at least one nomination. Most of the recognitions received fewer nominations than last year; only five saw an increase in nominations. One received one more, two received two more, and two received three more while the Spotlight Award received five more and the Ham Scholarship received sixteen more than last year.

Analyzing the sources of advertising for this first year of tracking revealed an overwhelming response to the SAA website, followed by *In the Loop*, targeted section listservs, and graduate school listservs. The Awards Committee will continue to track the sources over the years to analyze where best to advertise and to seek out new venues as appropriate.

The committee co-chairs will continue to coordinate student awards with various selection committees to ensure that no individual will receive more than one recognition in a single awards cycle. For awards that overlap, such as scholarships, the selection committees will choose a recipient and an alternate and submit the recipient's name to the co-chairs who will determine if another committee selected the same person. The recipient will be awarded the higher dollar amount award and the alternate will receive the lower dollar amount award from the other committee.

The SAA Foundation Board established an award amount for cash prizes for select awards to replace the ambiguous interest earned during the year as previous worded. This has greatly decreased the number of questions and concerns from award winners.

### **IV. Committee Communication**

Many committee members valued the emails reminding them of deadlines and the quick response Sue had to their questions. The newly redesigned website and committee microsite is cleaner and clearer, and received favorable comments.

### **V. Revisiting Subcommittee Tasks**

Publicizing awards: One of the committee attendees suggested improving the archival educator listserv by updating it more frequently. Another recommended contacting the Regional Archival Associations Consortium to spread the word about recognitions. One suggested it should be the roundtables' and sections' responsibility to submit at least one nomination. Subcommittee members should actively seek nominations at this meeting and among our colleagues now rather than waiting until December or January when it may be too late to meet the deadlines for submitting publicity. One member suggested recruiting award winners to serve on awards subcommittees.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.